

Argentina Country Guide - IAM

Country Guide: Argentina

Due to the current coronavirus/COVID-19 situation and restrictions in various countries, the below information may not be accurate. This pandemic is a fluid situation. Check with authorities for local laws and restrictions concerning movements.

Updated: June 19, 2018

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Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents Required

- Original passport with Manifiesta Esperar Equipaje No Acompañado (note stating that the owner of the goods is expecting a household goods shipment), stamped by Customs
- Bill of lading (OBL) / air waybill (AWB)

- Original national identity document (DNI) or original Residencia Precaria (if DNI is unavailable)
- Permanent resident visa, if applicable
- Full contact details (phone, e-mail, and address of delivery)
- Migration certificate (must indicate the entries and departures of the owner of the goods for the previous 2 years)
- Caution policy issued by a local insurance company for air shipments or surface shipments (foreigners holding a temporary visa)
- Clave Unica de Identification Laboral (CUIL) certificate / Clave Unica de Identificacion Tributaria (CUIT) certificate (Argentine and foreign citizens with a permanent visa and foreign citizens with temporary visa)
- Customs guarantee
- Diplomatic franchise from the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs (diplomats and military personnel)
- Residence certificate for returning citizens
- Temporary permit for foreigners with temporary visa

Specific Information

- Owners of the goods must declare to Customs officers upon entry that a shipment is expected and a note must be provided in the passport (diplomats are excluded from this requirement).
- Diplomats must present a full copy of the passport stamped by the diplomatic organization or the official foreign organization where the owner of the goods is employed.
- The origin of the move is the last place of residence of the owner of the goods.
- If the owner of the goods' passport was issued within 12 months, a previous passport must be presented; for citizenship in multiple countries, all passports must be presented.
- Shipments must arrive within 6 months of the owner of the goods' stamped date of entry.
- Owners of the goods should be available upon request for attendance at Customs clearance.
- All shipments are subject to physical inspection.
- Documents must be received by the agent at least 48 hours prior to the arrival of the shipment.
- The residence certificate must be issued by the Argentine Consulate in the origin country and state the time lived abroad; if the owner of the goods has lived in multiple countries during the previous 2 years, certificates are required from each country.
- The diplomatic franchise must be obtained by the diplomatic organization or the official foreign organization where the owner of the goods is officially employed.

- If the owner of the goods has lived abroad for more than 12 months and has not re-entered Argentina for more than 60 cumulative days during the 12 months prior to re-entry, the shipment can be imported duty free.
 - The owner of the goods can import only one shipment duty free every 3 years (Argentine and foreign citizens with a permanent visa).
- If the owner of the goods has been living abroad for more than 2 years, the shipment can be imported duty free.
 - Customs will not consider how many days the customer has accumulated in Argentina during the 12 months prior to re-entry.
 - The owner of the goods can import only one shipment duty free every 7 years (Argentine and foreign citizens with a permanent visa).
- Shipments of foreigners holding a tourist visa cannot be imported.
- All documents written in Spanish must be translated by an official translator and certified by the Colegio Argentino de Traductores.
- All documents must be certified and legalized by the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Foreigners with a temporary resident visa must pay taxes and duties for the importation of household goods and personal effects of approximately 50% of the freight on board (FOB) value or bring them into the country under temporary admission, as follows:
 - The items must be guaranteed (bonded) for the duration of the visa or a period determined by Customs when the shipment is released;
 - The bond must be renewed before the expiration date.
 - The goods can be guaranteed by a local insurance company through a Poliza de Cauccion or, if the owner of the goods' employer is registered as an import / export agent in Argentina, through the signature of a person authorized (most commonly performed).
 - If at the expiration date of the guarantee the visa has not be renewed, the goods must be re-exported before the expiration date of the guarantee and the visa.
 - If a permanent residence visa has been obtained, the goods must be nationalized and the guarantee will be cancelled without paying taxes or duties.
 - The bond system is applicable for all moves arriving by sea, land, or air.

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Owner of the goods' original passport
- OBL / CRT / AWB (2 copies)
- Vehicle title / documentation (foreigners holding a temporary visa)
- Original purchase invoice, certified by the Argentine Consulate at origin country
- Diplomatic franchise (diplomats and military personnel)

- Temporary admission forms, completed and signed by owner of the goods (foreigners holding temporary visa)
- Resident certificate (issued by the Argentine Consulate in the origin country)

Specific Information

- The vehicle title must be under the owner of the goods' name for at least 3 months prior to departure from the origin country.
- Vehicles must arrive within 6 months of owner of the goods' entry date.
- Vehicles must be registered / titles under the owner of the goods' name.
- The importation of new vehicles is subject to the Ministry of Commerce regulations and is limited to certain types of vehicles.
- New vehicles may not be imported.
- Diplomats can import used or new cars with a diplomatic franchise issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs duty free.

The owner of the goods should confirm that diplomatic status will allow the procedure.

- Returning Argentine citizens may import used vehicles only (one car and one motorcycle for each adult member of the family).

The importation will be dutiable, except in very specific cases.

- Foreigners with permanent resident status may import used vehicles only, under the same rules that apply to returning Argentine citizens.
- Foreigners with a temporary visa may import used vehicles under temporary admission and will not be charged duties and taxes.
 - Vehicles are only allowed temporary admission for the duration of the visa and can be renewed upon renewal of the visa.
 - Vehicles must be removed from Argentina prior to the expiration of the visa.
- Vehicles must retain original plates.
- Argentine citizens possessing a residence certificate, issued by the Argentine Consulate from the origin country, and living abroad for more than 2 years can import one car duty free unless the car is valued at more than USD \$15,000, then duties and taxes will be assessed on it.
- The duties and taxes are as follows:
 - Standard autos 81% of the cost, insurance, and freight value (CIF)
 - Diesel 100% CIF
 - Motorcycles 110% CIF
- The residence certificate must state the duration the owner of the goods has lived abroad (Argentine citizens with permanent residence visa).

Pets

Documents Required

- Veterinary health certificate
- Vaccination record

Specific Information

- The veterinary health certificate must be issued within 10 days of arrival and stamped by the nearest Argentine Consulate, if possible.
- All documents must accompany animal for entry.
- Dogs and cats arriving from Asia (except Japan) and Africa must obtain a special import permit prior to arrival.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

- Archeological or paleontological patrimony (fossils, human, remains, collections and sediment geological, etc.)
Once admitted to the country, its export will not be permitted
- Works of art and monuments of recent antiquity (authorization is required)
- Wood or items must be treated specifically for pests
- Weapons (must be declared and authorized by the Registro Nacional de Armas (RENAR))
- Alcoholic beverages (30 liters)
- Items considered commercial (determined through quantity, quality or type)
- Original paintings and works of art (specialized form is required; check with agent)

Prohibited Items

- Items compromising public, animal, and agricultural health
- Organic products (soil, firewood, wood, animal parts, dried insects, etc.)
- Narcotics or illegal drugs
- Pornographic material of any kind
- Dangerous, toxic or flammable items
- Stolen or smuggled items
- Currency (actual or counterfeit)
- Food
- Spare parts or parts of any vehicle

- Items which contain an internal – combustion or outboard engines
- Items that are not considered as part of a move for Argentine Customs

Consignment Instructions

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air / sea shipments.

Cultural and Other Information

[CIA World Factbook](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Argentina](#)