

Gabon Country Guide - IAM

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Country Guide: Gabon

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: August 25, 2016

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Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents Required

- Copy of passport
- Original bill of lading (OBL) / no express release / sea waybill / air waybill (AWB) / electronic cargo tracking note

- Original valued inventory in French, dated, and signed by the owner of the goods
- Invoice for all electrical items less than 6 months old
- Change of residence certificate (available from local native country embassy)
- End of employment letter from employer
- Resident permit / work permit / letter of employment in Gabon (expatriate)
- Exemption certificate and letter from the Gabon embassy (diplomats)
- Non-sale certificate

Specific Information

- All documents must be provided to the destination agent 2 weeks before arrival of the shipment in order to apply and be granted duty free clearance prior to arrival of the shipment.
- The certificate for free entry must be obtained from the Customs head office; when granted, the shipment is duty free.
- All new items less than 6 months old are subject to taxes.
- All owners of the goods must pay a tax on imported items of approximately 3% to 4% of the cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) value (RUSID tax) of the shipment.
- Diplomats do not need to be in Gabon to apply for exemption certificate.

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Original registration card
- Proof of ownership
- Original certificate of title and registration
- Purchase invoice
- Original bill of lading / air waybill
- Interpol authorization
- Cargo tracking note (BIETC – Bordereau d'Identification Electronique de Tracabilite des Cargaisons)
- Roadworthy certificate issued in the country of origin

Specific Information

- Tax is payable on all shipments of approximately 53.4% of the cost, insurance and freight (CIF) value.

- The original bill of lading must identify the chassis number, engine number, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand, and model.
- Car must not be older than 3 years old.

Pets

Documents Required

- Vaccination record
- Veterinary health certificate

Specific Information

- Veterinary health certificate must be issued less than 3 days before departure by a veterinarian.
- Cats and dogs less than 3 months old are exempt from document requirements.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

- Cameras (2)
- Firearms and ammunitions (authorization from the territorial administration is required)
- Alcohol (only “Fond de Cave”) is acceptable and is duty free (20 bottles)
- Some items may qualify for free import if within the limits indicated:
Cigarettes (200), cigarillos (200), tobacco (250 g)

Prohibited Items

- Firearms, ammunitions (submitted to authorization from territorial administration)
- Illegal drugs
- Counterfeit items
- Pornographic materials
- Plants and plant materials

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 Gabon](#)