

## **Customs rules for travellers**

This leaflet gives brief information on the rules that apply when you bring goods into Sweden. Further information can be found at www.tullverket.se.



# Alcohol\* and tobacco from countries outside the EU

You are allowed to bring in a limited amount of alcohol and tobacco from a non-EU country without paying duty and tax. If you are resident in Sweden one of the following must apply: you arrive by a commercial airline, you have stayed abroad for more than 20 hours, or the goods are duty and tax paid in the Åland Islands or in Norway.

Please note that you have to transport the goods to Sweden yourself.

To bring alcohol into Sweden you must be at least 20 years of age. For tobacco, the age limit is 18.

# The amount of alcohol and tobacco you are allowed to bring in from a non-EU country without paying duty and tax is:

- 1 litre of spirits or 2 litres of fortified wine (including sparkling wine)
- 4 litres of wine
- 16 litres of beer

200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos or 50 cigars or 250 g of smoking tobacco or a proportional mixture of these tobacco products.



# How much duty and excise tax you must pay for alcohol and tobacco goods in excess of your traveller's allowance:

	Duty	Tax
Spirits	4 SEK/litre	256 SEK/litre
Fortified wine	2 SEK/litre	72 SEK/litre
Wine	1 SEK/litre	32 SEK/litre
Beer	3 SEK/litre	17 SEK/litre
Cigarettes	0.34 SEK each	1.85 SEK each
Cigars	0.86 SEK each	2.07 SEK each
Smoking tobacco	428 SEK/kg	2 285 SEK/kg
Snuff	104 SEK/kg	680 SEK/kg



# Alcohol\* and tobacco from another EU country

## Importation of alcohol and tobacco for personal use when travelling

You may bring alcohol and tobacco products into Sweden taxfree when travelling from another EU country on condition that:

- the items are intended for your own or your family's use,
- · you transport the items to Sweden yourself,
- you are at least 20 years of age if you are importing alcohol. For tobacco products, the age limit is 18.

There is no maximum limit for how much alcohol or tobacco you may bring, but it must be for your own or your family's use. You may also bring alcohol and tobacco with you that you intend to use at a party, for example a wedding or birthday party where you provide the alcohol for the event. You may not, however, accept payment for the items – even if it is just to cover your purchasing costs.

For certain areas outside the EU VAT area, such as the Åland Islands and the Canary Islands, the same rules apply as for countries outside the EU.

#### Ordering alcohol and tobacco for personal use

It is possible to import alcohol and tobacco products through a professional carrier (a shipping company, for example) or another independent intermediary such as a friend or a neighbour. The purchaser must then notify the Swedish Tax Agency before the transport commences, and provide financial security for the items to the Agency. If you are ordering alcohol or tobacco through someone else, you must pay Swedish alcohol and tobacco tax.

The person who transports the items must also carry a simplified accompanying document that contains details about the sender, receiver, forwarder and a description of the items. More information about notification, financial security and simplified accompanying documents can be found on www.skatteverket.se (Swedish Tax Agency's website).

Swedish alcohol and tobacco tax must be paid; otherwise, the goods will be stopped by Swedish Customs.

#### \*Definitions of alcohol products

**Spirits:** alcohol content over 22% volume. **Fortified wine:** alcohol content over 15% volume, but not more than 22% volume. **Wine:** any wine other than fortified wine, as well as any other alcoholic beverages (apart from beer) with an alcohol content over 3.5% volume but not more than 15% volume. **Beer:** beer with an alcohol content over 3.5% volume.



#### Declare goods from countries outside the EU

You may bring products (for example jewellery, clothes and electronic products) to Sweden from countries outside the EU to a total value of 4.300 SEK without paying duty or tax. The alcohol and tobacco products you may bring duty and tax-free according the tables above are not included in this amount.

You must bring the products into the country yourself and travel by commercial airline or ferry. If your inward

journey is by other means, you may bring items to the value of 3.000 SEK without paying any fees. Please note that even items you buy and use during the journey are counted in the value limit.

If you want to bring products with you in excess of the duty and tax-free amount, you must declare them when travelling into Sweden and pay duty and any other taxes that apply. In order to make an import declara-

tion, you should fill in the form called "Enhetsdokument". If you would like to send home items that you have bought abroad, you have to pay duty and any other taxes that apply for the entire value of the items, including shipping costs and insurance.

When it comes to importing snuff for personal use, there is no limit other than that the value may not exceed the sum mentioned above. You must be 18 or older to import snuff.

#### **Foodstuffs**

In principle, bringing foodstuff into Sweden from another EU country is free for travellers.

If you are travelling from a country outside the EU you are in general not allowed to bring meat or dairy products. Andorra, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino and Switzerland are exceptions since they are subject to the same regulations as the EU countries.

Please visit www.jordbruksverket.se for more information about what applies when importing foodstuffs for personal use (Swedish Board of Agriculture's website).

#### Firearms and ammunition

Firearms and ammunition may not be brought into or out of Sweden without permission from the Swedish Police. If you come from another EU country, you must also have a European Firearms Pass issued by the relevant authority in the country where you are registered. Please visit www.polisen.se for more information about import permission and European Firearms Pass

When it comes to firearms for competition or hunting, weapon owners from Norway, Denmark and Finland are exempt from the requirement for import permission – if their stay in Sweden is to be shorter than three months. This exemption only applies if you can prove the purpose of the entry by presenting a hunting invitation letter, a registration confirmation letter for a competition or similar documents. If you cannot prove the purpose of the entry, import permission from the Swedish Police is required even if you are going to stay in Sweden for less than three months.

The exemption from the requirement for import permission also applies to transit through Sweden carried out by weapon owners from Norway, Finland or Denmark for the purpose of hunting or competition in one of these countries. If the final destination is located outside of Norway, Finland or Denmark, transit permission from the Swedish Police is required.

On arrival in Sweden, you must notify Swedish Customs at the point of entry and fill in our Declaration for Firearms and Ammunition form, which you can download from Swedish Customs' web page about hunting and shooting competitions.

#### **Medicinal products**

If you come from another EU/EEA country, you may bring with you up to a year's supply of non-narcotic medicine. If you are travelling from a country outside the EU/EEA, you may bring up to three month's supply of non-narcotic medicine.

You may bring enough narcotic medicine with you to to last for a certain period of time. The quantity depends on how the medicine is classified, how long your stay will be and whether you have a Schengen certificate.

You must be able to prove that the medicine is for your own personal use.

The rules apply also to medicine that has been prescribed by veterinary surgeons for animals that are accompanying you on your trip.

Please visit www.lakemedelsverket.se for information about regulations when travelling to or from Sweden with medicines (Medical Products Agency's website).

#### **Animals**

It is important that animals crossing the borders do not bring contagious diseases with them. Different rules apply for importing live animals depending on whether they are pets or otherwise and where the animals come from. The Swedish



#### **More information**

Visit www.tullverket.se. You can also contact our helpline, CallCustoms, on +46 771 520 520.

Board of Agriculture is responsible for the rules that apply for importing animals to Sweden, but Swedish Customs carry out the border controls.

When travelling with a dog or a cat you must report it to Swedish Customs when crossing the border. You notify the Customs by choosing the red line when you pass through the customs area. If the checkpoint is unattended follow the instructions on location.

It is forbidden to bring endangered animals or plants across the border without special permission. This rule also applies to products from such animals or plants and is regulated in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

#### **Counterfeit products**

To help prevent trademark infringement, Swedish Customs can hold items suspected of being counterfeit. This applies to items purchased in a country outside the EU, which travellers bring with them in their baggage or have ordered via the internet.

#### Cash

If you travel to or from a country outside the EU with more than 10 000 euros (or the equivalent sum in other currencies, securities or the like), you must notify Swedish Customs on a special form.

#### Have you been inspected?

Part of the work that Swedish Customs carries out is to prevent goods from entering and leaving Sweden illegally.

We help to protect lives, health and the environment, and we do this by preventing goods such as narcotics, weapons and child pornography from entering or leaving Sweden illegally. We also work to prevent the spread of contagious diseases and hazardous substances.

### Even people who have nothing to hide can be checked

Our inspection work is essential in our fight against things like drug smuggling – we hope you understand. We at Swedish Customs aim to treat everyone in a correct and proper way and show respect for personal privacy.

Swedish Customs carries out around 100 000 checks every year. The legal mandate to do this is set out in the Customs Act (2000:1281) and in the Act (1996:701) concerning the powers of custom administration on Sweden's borders with other EU countries

## If you have any questions or complaints, you can contact us in the following ways:

#### By telephone

If you would like to ask questions about the customs inspection, or if you would like help in processing a complaint, you can contact us by telephone. Call +46 771 520 520 and select the option from the automated list that connects you to an operator. Ask to be connected to KUNO, the customer ombudsman. Through KUNO, you will get into direct contact with an official between 08:00 and 16:30 on weekdays. At other times, you can leave a message and we will call you back.

#### By email or letter

If you would like to submit a written complaint, you can send an email to tullverket@tullverket.se or send a letter to:

Tullverket, Rättsavdelningen, Box 12854, 112 98 Stockholm

