

## **CARS AND MOTOR CYCLES**

The importation of motor vehicles into Australia is strictly controlled and all vehicles are subject to duty and/or Goods and Services Tax (GST). The amount of duty and GST will be dependant on when you originally purchased the vehicle and the Customs value of the vehicle. More information on the current rates of duty are shown in a document called 'Guide to the importation of privately owned motor vehicles or motorcycles' which can be found on the Australian Customs Service web site at [www.customs.gov.au](http://www.customs.gov.au)

Also, vehicles entering Australia must comply with Australian Design Regulations, which are very strict. However, concessions are given if a vehicle is a personally imported vehicle. The vehicle will still have to attain a basic level of safety requirements relating principally to lighting, seat belts, child restraint anchorages and glazing. To be eligible for a personally imported vehicle you must meet the following criteria:

- Be of driving age and an Australian citizen or a migrant holding permanent residency in Australia
- Owned and used the vehicle overseas for a continuous period of at least three months
- You must not have imported another vehicle into Australia under this concession in the previous 12 months.

You must also apply for Vehicle Import Approval from the Federal Office of Road Safety in Canberra. It is recommended that approval is sought prior to shipment to prevent any complications when the vehicle arrives in Australia.

Enquiries regarding Vehicle Import Approval should be directed to The Administrator, Vehicle Safety Standards Branch, Department of Transport and Regional Services, GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601. Telephone 0061 (0) 2 6274 7506 or at [www.dotars.gov.au](http://www.dotars.gov.au)

Upon arrival The Australia Quarantine and Inspection Services (AQIS) inspects all vehicles to ensure that they have been properly cleaned. If not, they will arrange for the vehicle to be steam cleaned at your expense. Further information can be found on the AQIS web site at [www.aqis.gov.au](http://www.aqis.gov.au)

Documents required:

- Australian Customs form B357
- Registration papers
- Car condition report
- Copy of Passport
- Receipted sales invoice
- Vehicle import approval

## **PETS**

Cats and dogs may only be imported from AQIS approved countries and must be accompanied by a valid Permit to Import. Application forms for import permits can be obtained from the relevant Animal Quarantine Station where the pet will be held upon arrival. Further information can be found on the web site for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry at [www.affa.gov.au](http://www.affa.gov.au)

## **FIREARMS**

Most firearms can be imported into Australia provided you obtain Police authorisation from the State in which you intend to reside. However, some firearms, primarily automatic weapons, require written approval from the Federal Attorney General prior to import. Upon arrival the firearm will be forwarded to the Commonwealth Police for ballistics inspection. It will only be released provided it passes this inspection and the relative firearm licence has been issued.

You must not import ammunition of any kind.

## **PROHIBITED ITEMS**

You must not import Narcotics, drugs or any items made from endangered species. Australian quarantine regulations also restrict the import of birds, feathers, eggs, fish, dairy products, meat, fruit, vegetables, seeds, live plants and live insects. These items should not be imported without seeking professional advice.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For further information, visit the Australian Customs Service website on [www.customs.gov.au](http://www.customs.gov.au)

## **FINALLY**

Whilst every effort has been made to make sure that the information contained herein is accurate the International Moving Company can accept no responsibility for amendments made to the information supplied prior to or after its publication.

For further information, please contact your local branch of The International Moving Company on 0800 622519