

# Vietnam Country Guide - IAM

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## Country Guide: Vietnam

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***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.***

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Updated: September 02, 2016

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## **Used Household Goods and Personal Effects**

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### **Documents Required**

- Copy of passport (identification pages only) with entry stamp\*
- Packing list in English
- Bill of lading (telex release) / air waybill (AWB)
- Vietnam entry visa (valid at least 3 or more months) / temporary residence card\*
- Original Vietnam arrival-departure card (3 copies shipment)\*\*
- Letter of employment
- Copy of labor contract (Hanoi only)
- Copy of business license
- Vietnam employer's company license copy
- Copy of work permit (for all sea / air shipments over 300 kgs gross)\*
- Application letter
- Owner of the goods' address in Vietnam

### **Specific Information**

- All air shipments are physically inspected by Customs at the air terminal.  
The average time is approximately 1-2 days.
- Sea shipments will normally undergo physical Customs inspection.  
The average time for Customs clearance is 2-3 days for full container load (FCL) shipments and 3-5 days for less container load (LCL) shipments.

- Sea or air shipments of diplomatic status are exempt from Customs inspections (diplomats).
- All shipments undergo cultural inspections.
  - This process takes approximately 3-4 days.
  - Inspection may include, but is not limited to, books, art works, DVDs, CDs, antiques.
- All documents should be signed and stamped by the owners of the goods' registered local employer in Vietnam.
- Antiques shipped into Vietnam should be clearly photographed and well documented.
  - Antiques should be inspected and registered upon entry (takes an additional 2 - 3 days).
  - Details should be clearly noted on packing list and carton.
- 3 copies of each document are required for each shipment.
  - If there are multiple shipments, a separate set of documents (of 3) are required.
- Ho Chi Minh:
  - \*Certified true copies required, this can be obtained by bringing the original document to the People's Committee Office of Ho Chi Minh City
  - \*\*Documents must be signed and stamped (company seal) by the owner of the goods' registered local employer in Vietnam.
- Hanoi:
  - Customs requires labor contract copy in additional to above documents.
- All documents must be signed and stamped (company seal) by the owner of the goods' registered local employer in Vietnam.
  - Certified true copies are only required for passport and entry visa / temporary residence card.

## Motor Vehicles

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### Documents Required

- Original passport
- Residency card
- Proof of ownership
- Original purchase invoice

### Specific Information

Owners of the goods cannot bring / import any type of vehicle into Vietnam unless they are working for an UN organization or an Embassy / Consulate, which are under diplomatic status

## Pets

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### Documents Required

- Owner of the goods' passport
- Vaccination record
- Owner of the goods' entry visa (valid at least 3+ months)
- International health certificate
- Import permit
- Flight arrival details
- Original Vietnam arrival - departure card (3 copies per shipment) (pets traveling as cargo)
- Vietnam employer's company license copy (pets traveling as cargo)
- Application letter and Power of Attorney (pets traveling as cargo)
- Airway bill (pets traveling as cargo)

### Specific Information

- The import permit is required by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.
- Quarantine for pets traveling as cargo is not required.
- Pets should arrive on a weekday (M - F) before 3:30 p.m.

### Restricted/Dutiable Items

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- Duty shall be payable on the following types of liquor at the rate expressed as a percentage of the value of the liquor:
  - Liquor with alcohol by volume of less than 30% measured at 20°C:  
125-150%
  - Liquor with alcohol by volume of more than 30% measured at 20°C:  
125-150%
  - Wine (10-20 bottles duty free):  
125-150%
- Duty shall be payable on tobacco at the following rates:
  - >100 cigars: 150%      prepared tobacco (> 50 grams): 45%
  - >400 cigarettes: 150%      all other manufactured tobacco products: 45%
- Personal computers are charged import duty at 15%.
- Personal printers are charged duty at 10%.

- Non-perishable food items and items in cans and other durable packaging can be imported in small amounts.

## Prohibited Items

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- Weapons
- Ammunitions
- Explosives
- Military equipment
- Radio transmitters
- Satellite dishes
- Poisonous chemicals
- Cultural products
- Articles of anti-government nature
- Fireworks
- Toys and games which affect public moral education and security
- Pornographic or subversive materials
- Motorbikes

## Consignment Instructions

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**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

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[CIA World Factbook](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Vietnam](#)

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***IAM Note:*** Customs regulations can change at any time with or without notice. This document is provided as a guide and for information only. While IAM has exercised reasonable care in publishing this document, IAM makes no representation, either expressed or implied, as to its accuracy or applicability.