



Armenia

CAPITAL

Yerevan

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Armenian

CURRENCY

the Armenian dram (AMD)

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This Country Guide reflects information believed to be correct at the time of publication. Regulations, procedures and charges are subject to change. IAM does not accept liability for errors, omissions, inaccuracies or misinterpretations in this guide. The information provided should not be considered as having been provided or sanctioned by the customs authorities of the country or territory concerned.

Overview

Customs Clearance

- Diplomatic shipments: 1-2 days - Non-diplomatic shipments: up to 10 working days - Returning citizens: approximately 1 month (including duty-free approval process)

Duty-Free Eligibility

Duty-free conditions — Returning citizens and repatriates: Per the Armenian government's official guidance (diaspora.gov.am and hartak.am), persons moving to Armenia for permanent residence can import personal property without customs duties if they meet all of the following conditions: they hold RA citizenship, or special or permanent residency in Armenia; they were absent from Armenia for at least 1,280 days (approximately 3.5 years) out of the 2,550-day period (7 years) before the issuance of these documents; and they have not previously used this privilege. The duty-free exemption covers: used personal items without factory packaging and labelling; household and personal appliances (3 of each type, e.g., refrigerator, TV, washing machine); one full set of each type of furniture; and other personal and household items without quantity restrictions. Items related to work/business activities are not exempt.

Documents

For Foreigners (Non-Diplomatic)

- Air waybill (AWB) or bill of lading (OBL)
- Packing list
- Consignee's passport copy
- Consignee's residence card
- Pro-forma invoice
- Notarised power of attorney (drafts provided by local agent): one for transport from port (sea shipments) and one for local clearance

For Diplomats

- AWB or OBL
- Packing list
- Consignee's passport copy
- Consignee's diplomatic card
- Pro-forma invoice
- Power of attorney (as above)

For Returning Armenian Citizens

- AWB or OBL
- Packing list
- Consignee's Armenian passport copy
- Statement of permanent residency (to obtain duty-free exemption from the State Revenue Committee)
- Social security card
- Pro-forma invoice
- Power of attorney (as above)

For Foreigners Exempted Through Their Organisation

- AWB or OBL

- **Packing list**
- **Consignee's passport copy**
- **Consignee's residence card**
- **Exemption documents/letters provided by the organisation/embassy only**
- **Pro-forma invoice**
- **Power of attorney (as above)**

Household Goods — Specific Information

Returning citizen clearance process: The client must apply to the State Revenue Committee for the duty-free exemption. The process can take up to approximately one month and storage charges will apply during this period. Required documents include a passport, a document confirming permanent residence abroad (with apostille or consular ratification), and a document from the RA Police Passport and Visa Department confirming the move to Armenia. Documents issued by foreign states (except the passport) must be submitted with apostille and notarised translation.

Non-diplomatic, non-exempt foreigners: Subject to import duties of approximately 4.00 EUR per kg. Standard customs duty rates in Armenia are 10% with 20% VAT, though specific rates vary by HS code.

Diplomats: Exempt from all import duties. Clearance takes approximately 1-2 days when all documents are provided.

Foreigners exempted through their organisation: Duty-free import is granted through the employer/embassy. The organisation provides the necessary exemption letters per its own policy.

EAEU single customs territory: Armenia is a member of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), along with Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. Goods moving between EAEU member states are not subject to customs duties. All goods from non-EAEU countries are cleared under EAEU customs regulations.

Customs declaration: All inbound shipments require a customs declaration for each HS code. The cost is USD 100 plus USD 15 per additional page per HS code. The final number of HS codes is determined after clearance.

Electrical appliances: All electrical appliances with serial numbers are subject to certification. The cost is determined at the time of importation.

Customs clearance location: Western Customs Office at Zvartnots Airport. The Araratyan Customs House Department is located at Tsovakal Isakovi Ave., 10 Building, Yerevan 0082. The State Revenue Committee is at 3 Movses Khorenatsi Street, Yerevan 0015.

Storage: Parcels are stored at the transportation company's warehouse for 180 days free of charge. After this period, additional storage fees apply.

Prohibited / Restricted Items

Prohibited Items

- **Weapons of all kinds** — Prohibited without permit
- **Pornographic material** — Prohibited
- **Narcotics** — Strictly prohibited
- **Toxic materials** — Prohibited
- **Radioactive materials** — Prohibited
- **Food or fabrics made in Turkey** — Prohibited
- **Endangered species of plants, live animals, and their products** `CITES` — Prohibited or restricted
- **Counterfeit money and goods** — Prohibited
- **Meat and meat products** — Prohibited without proper documentation
- **Obscene materials** — Prohibited

Restricted / Dutiable Items

Duty-Free Traveller Allowances (per IATA)

- 200 cigarettes
- 2 litres of alcohol
- 6 items of perfumery products (maximum 5 litres)
- Personal goods valued up to USD 10,000 and 50 kg in weight (for both residents and non-residents)

Note: VisaHQ and some sources cite lower allowances (400 cigarettes, USD 500 in goods). The IATA figures are used here as the more authoritative source.

Restricted Items

- **Precious jewellery, stones, and currency** — May be imported only as accompanied baggage; must be declared to customs on arrival
- **Wine and spirits** — 2 litres per person total
- **Cash exceeding USD 10,000** (or equivalent) — Must be declared; amounts over USD 10,000 must be transferred via bank (exempt for passengers to/from EAEU countries)
- **Wild plant and vegetation** `PERMIT REQUIRED` — Special permission from the Ministry of Environment required
- **Pets and wild animals** `PERMIT REQUIRED` — Permission from the Food Safety Inspectorate; veterinary health certificate required
- **Pieces of art for export** `PERMIT REQUIRED` — Must be accompanied by a document from the Agency of Cultural Heritage Preservation
- **Firearms and ammunition** `PERMIT REQUIRED` — Permit or licence required via <http://www.police.am>; must be transported as checked luggage and declared before departure
- **Fruits and vegetables** — Prohibited without proper documentation

Vehicles

Vehicle Documents

- **Bill of lading (OBL)**
- **Original technical passport / title**
- **Consignee's passport copy**
- **Consignee's residence card or diplomatic card**
- **Pro-forma invoice**
- **Power of attorney (as above)**
- **Interpol document confirming the car is not stolen**
- **Documents confirming vehicle registration and ownership in the individual's name, issued by a foreign authority**
For returning citizens importing duty-free:
- **Document from the RA Police Passport and Visa Department confirming the move to Armenia for permanent residence**
For returning citizens importing duty-free:

- **Letter of free temporary import granting permission for 12 months**

For foreigners temporarily importing:

Specific Information

Diplomats: Exempt from import duties on vehicles. Clearance takes approximately 2 days.

Non-diplomats: Must pay import duties. The amount depends on vehicle specifics (model, year, engine power, diesel/petrol). All non-diplomatic vehicles are forwarded to the city of Gyumri for customs clearance, which causes additional transport charges and significantly more time.

Returning citizens: May import one vehicle duty-free under the same conditions as household goods (1,280 days absence from Armenia in the preceding 7-year period, privilege not previously used). A security deposit may be required by customs, with the form and amount determined by customs authorities. The exemption may not be transferred for a period after clearance.

Temporary importation: Foreigners may temporarily import a vehicle for 12 months with a letter granting temporary import permission. Extensions may be available depending on the case.

Vehicle age: No specific age restriction is published for household-move vehicles. However, EAEU regulations may apply.

Driving: Driving is on the right-hand side of the road.

Pets

Requirements

- **Veterinary certificate with notes on clinical examination, made by an authorised veterinarian within 5 days of departure to Armenia**

From EAEU Countries (Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan)

- **International pet passport containing vaccination records (an EU Pet Passport is acceptable; a separate veterinary certificate is not accepted per IATA — the passport itself is the required document)**

From All Other Countries

- **Proof of current rabies vaccination (administered at least 21 days before travel, not expired)**

From All Other Countries

- **For dogs: vaccinations against canine distemper, hepatitis, viral enteritis, parvovirus and adenovirus infections, and leptospirosis**

From All Other Countries

- **For cats: vaccination against panleukopenia**

From All Other Countries

- **All vaccinations must have been given not later than 20 days before departure and within the last 12 months**

From All Other Countries

- **ISO-compliant microchip (strongly recommended; may be required by airlines and for return travel)**

From All Other Countries

- **Health certificate issued within 5 days of travel by a licensed veterinarian, endorsed by the government veterinary authority (USDA/APHIS for US-origin pets)**

From All Other Countries

- **Rabies titer test — required for pets arriving from countries NOT on the list of approved rabies-controlled/rabies-free countries (see below). Not required from approved countries including the US, EU member states, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Canada, and others.**

From All Other Countries

Specific Information

Official authority: The State Food Safety Service (formerly the Food Safety Inspection Body/FSIB) under the Armenian government handles veterinary import controls. Contact: 49/2 Komitas Ave., Yerevan 0051.

Import permit: Not required for 1-2 personal pet dogs or cats travelling with their owners (per PetTravel.com and armenian-lawyer.com). USDA APHIS confirms travellers may import up to 5 pets without requiring special permissions or quarantine. PetRelocation states an import permit from the Ministry of Agriculture is required — this discrepancy may reflect whether pets travel as accompanied baggage (no permit) or as cargo (permit needed). Confirm with the destination agent.

Maximum pets per person: Up to 5 dogs and/or cats without additional special permissions or quarantine (per USDA APHIS). IATA guidance states maximum 2 dogs and cats without an import permit. Use the more restrictive IATA figure unless confirmed otherwise.

Minimum age: Pets under 4 months of age are not allowed entry into Armenia (per PetRelocation). Aggressive animals are also not permitted.

Rabies vaccination timing: Must be current (not expired) and administered at least 21 days before travel. Vaccinations must have been given within the last 12 months and no later than 20 days before departure (per IATA).

Required vaccinations beyond rabies:

- Dogs: canine distemper, hepatitis, viral enteritis, parvovirus, adenovirus infections, leptospirosis
- Cats: panleukopenia
- These are mandatory (per IATA), not just recommended — a significant difference from many other countries.

Rabies titer test: Required for pets from countries not classified as rabies-controlled/rabies-free. Not required from an extensive list of approved countries including the US, Canada, EU states, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and many others. The test must come from a government or accredited laboratory.

Quarantine: No quarantine for pets meeting all requirements. Pets under 4 months may be quarantined.

Entry method: Pets can enter as accompanied baggage (cabin for small pets) or as air cargo. IATA-compliant carriers required. Entry through Zvartnots International Airport (Yerevan).

Banned breeds: Armenia does not publish an official list of banned dog breeds. Pet owners are responsible for their pet's behaviour.

Return to the US: Armenia is classified by the CDC as a high-risk country for dog rabies. Enhanced CDC requirements apply for dogs returning to the US, including a rabies titer test for foreign-vaccinated dogs. Plan the return trip documentation in advance.

Common mistakes: Not having the additional required vaccinations beyond rabies (distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, leptospirosis for dogs; panleukopenia for cats) — these are mandatory in Armenia. Confusing veterinary certificate requirements between EAEU and non-EAEU origins. Not allowing 21 days after rabies vaccination before travel.

Consignment Instructions

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

Inventory requirements: A detailed inventory, valued, in English or Russian. Pro-forma invoice and packing list required for all shipments.

Power of attorney: Notarised powers of attorney are required — one for transport from port (sea shipments) and one for local clearance. Drafts are provided by the local agent.

Owner presence: The owner should be available for customs clearance, particularly returning citizens who must personally apply to the State Revenue Committee for the duty-free exemption.

Routing / transit: Armenia is landlocked, bordered by Turkey (closed border), Georgia, Azerbaijan (largely closed), and Iran. Most international freight arrives via Georgia (the Poti/Batumi ports on Georgia's Black Sea coast, then overland to Armenia) or by air via Zvartnots International Airport (Yerevan). The closed borders with Turkey and Azerbaijan create significant routing constraints. The Iran border at Meghri is open but less commonly used for household goods.

Customs clearance location: Western Customs Office at Zvartnots Airport. Non-diplomatic vehicles are forwarded to Gyumri for clearance (additional time and cost).

EAEU transit: Goods from EAEU member states (Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan) do not require customs duties. However, Armenia does not share a land border with any EAEU member, so all goods must transit through Georgia (a non-EAEU country), which adds logistical complexity.

Storage: 180 days free at the transportation company's warehouse. Additional fees thereafter.

Currency: The Armenian dram (AMD) is the official currency. Cash over USD 10,000 equivalent must be declared.

Cultural & Other Information

- **OpenFactBook (replaces CIA World Factbook):** <https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/armenia/>
- **Wikipedia:** <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenia>
- **State Revenue Committee (Customs):** <https://www.petekamutner.am/>
- **National Services Gateway — Import Guide:** <https://english.hartak.am/life-events/imports/>
- **Diaspora Affairs — Moving Your Belongings:** <http://diaspora.gov.am/en/pages/102/movingyourbelongings>
- **State Food Safety Service:** <https://snund.am/en>
- **USDA APHIS — Pet Travel US to Armenia:** <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/pet-travel/us-to-another-country-export/pet-travel-us-armenia>
- **trade.gov — Armenia Import Tariffs:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/armenia-import-tariffs>
- **trade.gov — Armenia Import Requirements:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/armenia-import-requirements-and-documentation>

- **trade.gov — Armenia Customs Regulations:** <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/armenia-customs-regulations>

Key country facts: Armenia is a landlocked country in the South Caucasus, bordered by Turkey, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Iran. The capital is Yerevan. The official language is Armenian; Russian is widely spoken and accepted for customs documents. The currency is the Armenian dram (AMD). Armenia has been a member of the EAEU since 2015, which substantially governs its foreign trade regime and customs regulations. Armenia's borders with Turkey and Azerbaijan are largely closed, creating routing challenges for freight. Driving is on the right-hand side.

Important notes for movers: The EAEU membership is the defining feature of Armenia's customs regime — it means no duties on goods from Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, or Kyrgyzstan, but harmonised tariffs apply to all other imports. The landlocked geography and closed borders with two of four neighbours (Turkey and Azerbaijan) make freight routing critical; most shipments transit through Georgia. The returning citizen duty-free process takes approximately one month and requires applying to the State Revenue Committee after shipment arrival. Non-diplomatic vehicles must be cleared at Gyumri, not Yerevan, adding time and cost.

Regulatory Updates

- **2024:** Duty rate confirmed at approximately 4 EUR/kg for non-exempt foreign shipments.
- **April 2024:** De minimis threshold for duty-free imports adjusted to 200 EUR and 31 kg per item.
- **2022:** New de minimis rules for personal imports via carriers: items under 200 EUR and 31 kg are duty-free; excess is taxed at 15%.
- **2015:** Armenia joined the EAEU, harmonising tariffs with EAEU members and adopting the common external tariff based on Russia's WTO commitments. Average applied tariff rose from near-zero/10% to over 10%.
- **2026:** HACCP enforcement tightened by the Food Safety Inspectorate.

Quick Links & Resources

- [Find Movers in Armenia](#)

<https://iamovers.mobilityex.com/index.html#/search?loc=Armenia&lat=40.1792&lng=44.4991&range=50&asso cs=800&fvw=c&ctry=Armenia>

- [Foreign Embassies in Armenia](https://www.embassypages.com/armenia)
<https://www.embassypages.com/armenia>
- [Armenia's Embassies Abroad](https://www.mfa.am/en/bilateral-relations)
<https://www.mfa.am/en/bilateral-relations>
- [OpenFactBook \(replaces CIA World Factbook\)](https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/armenia/)
<https://www.openfactbook.org/countries/armenia/>
- [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenia)
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenia>
- [State Revenue Committee \(Customs\)](https://www.petekamutner.am/)
<https://www.petekamutner.am/>
- [National Services Gateway \(Import Guide\)](https://english.hartak.am/life-events/imports/)
<https://english.hartak.am/life-events/imports/>
- [Diaspora Affairs — Moving Your Belongings](http://diaspora.gov.am/en/pages/102/movingyourbelongings)
<http://diaspora.gov.am/en/pages/102/movingyourbelongings>
- [State Food Safety Service \(Veterinary/Pet Authority\)](https://snund.am/en)
<https://snund.am/en>
- [USDA APHIS — Pet Travel US to Armenia](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/pet-travel/us-to-another-country-export/pet-travel-us-armenia)
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/pet-travel/us-to-another-country-export/pet-travel-us-armenia>
- [trade.gov — Armenia Customs Regulations](https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/armenia-customs-regulations)
<https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/armenia-customs-regulations>