

Democratic Republic of the Congo Country Guide

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Updated: November 15, 2016

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Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents Required

- Passport
- Original bill of lading (OBL) / air waybill (AWB) (2 copies)
- Packing list
- Detailed valued inventory in French, signed, and dated by the owner of the goods
- Work permit issued by Ministry of Labor
- Certificate of first settlement issued by Immigration Department
- Work visa
- Fiche Electronique de Renseignements al l'Importation (FERI)
- Exemption certificate, if applicable (diplomats)

Specific Information

- Diplomatic shipments can be imported duty free provided that the diplomatic organization has received the exemption certification from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- To apply for the exemption, original documents are needed including original AWB for air shipments to the destination agent at least 14 days prior to shipment arrival.
- All original documents must be received by agent at least 14 days prior to arrival of the shipment.

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required

- Original registration card
- Original purchase invoice
- Non-sale certificate
- Original certificate of title / registration
- OBL

Specific Information

- The taxes on motor vehicles depend on the age, weight, power, etc., and range approximately between 8% to 46% cost, insurance, and freight (CIF).
- The OBL must show chassis number, engine number, cubic capacity, year of manufacture, brand, and model.

Pets

Documents Required

- Certificate of vaccination
- Veterinary health certificate
- Import permit

Specific Information

- The veterinary health certificate must state the animals are free from ticks and have not been exposed to contagious diseases and must be issued within 15 days of import.
- An additional rabies certificate must prove vaccination against rabies more than 30 days but less than 12 months prior to arrival if an inactivated or Kelev vaccine was used or 36 months prior to departure if an avianized (Flury) was used; if an avianized vaccine was used, the certificate must be issued within 15 days prior to departure.
- Pets are subject to inspection upon arrival.
- Pets may enter as accompanied baggage or in cargo.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

- The following items may qualify for free import within the limits indicated:
 - Cigarettes (100), cigars (50), tobacco (1/2 lb.)

- Alcoholic beverages (1 bottle)
- Perfume (a reasonable amount for personal use)
- Cameras (may be temporarily imported by tourists)
- Radios, tape recorders, record players (subject to duties)
- Satellite and radio communications equipment (authorization is required)
- Arms and ammunition (an Import License is required)

Prohibited Items

- Firearms and ammunitions (authorization from the territorial administration is required)
- Drugs
- Alcohol (only “Fond de Cave”) is acceptable and is duty free (20 bottles)

Consignment Instructions

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

Helpful Website(s):

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/congo-kinshasa.html>

<https://cd.usembassy.gov/embassy/kinshasa/>

Cultural and Other Information

[CIA World Factbook Entry for Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)