



COSTA RICA

Items	Needed Documents	Customs Regulations	Notes
Moved Goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill of Lading or A.W.B. • Packing list in English or Spanish. • Passport or copy of the passport certified by a lawyer 	<p>Partial tax exemption for Costa Rican citizens who have lived abroad a minimum of 24 months.</p> <p>Returning Costa Ricans wanting to apply for partial tax exemption, need to bring a certification from the Costa Rican consulate at the origin country, indicating number of years lived abroad.</p> <p>Other formalities for this status must be made in Costa Rica.</p>	<p>Customs clearance will take approximately 10 working days once shipment has arrived to the port.</p> <p>It is a requirement that the number of pieces and weight reported on the B/L matches with the real number of pieces and weight; otherwise, Customs will apply a fine of 250 USD and there will be a delay in Customs process from 4 to 6 weeks.</p> <p>A physical inspection (examen previo) of your cargo will be scheduled, to verify that there will be no differences between the quantities and weights declared in the shipping documents and the real ones. These tasks are done by our own personnel, highly qualified and with wide experience in the handling of your goods.</p>
Diplomatic goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill of Lading or A.W.B. • Packing list in English or Spanish. 	Entry is free from duty.	
Bridal Clothes	Same as household goods removal.	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Heirlooms/ Bequest	Same as above.	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Household effects and New Furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packing list or inventory. • Original invoices or an under oath statement of value • B/L or AWA. 	Liable to payment of taxes, except those with tax exemption (when applies).	
Artwork and Antiquity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invoices if any (not needed if part of household goods shipment). • Packing list or inventory. • AWB or Bill of Lading. 	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Wooden goods (furniture, ornaments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit of Ministry of Agriculture. 	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Valued metal articles (jewels, money)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A.W.B. or Bill of Lading. • Invoices if any. 	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Household devices	SEE MOVED GOODS	Liable to payment of taxes.	Detailed list indicating brand, serial number and



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			model of all electronic articles
Electrical devices	SEE MOVED GOODS	Liable to payment of taxes.	Detailed list indicating brand, serial number and model of all electric appliances
Gifts, Memorabilia	SEE MOVED GOODS	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Automobiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property justification. Proof of Purchase Original property title. Vehicle emission certificate in Spanish or translated version. Certificate or translated version to be certified by the Consul at the origin country. 	Liable to payment of high taxes except those with tax exemption	The amount of duties to be paid on vehicles depends on value, year, model, cubic centimeters and extras.
Other vehicles (bicycle, water vehicle)	Same as above.	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Machines, appliance, spare pieces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proof of Purchase Bill of Lading or A.W.B. 	Liable to payment of taxes except those with tax exemption.	
Liquor, Wine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits of Ministry of Health and Ministry of Economy. AWB or B/L and receipt 	Liable to payment of high taxes.	
Canned foods and Foodstuff	Permits of Ministry of Health. (3 copies)	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Arms, munitions, dangerous items	Permits of Ministry of National Security "Seguridad Publica" (only for Costa Rican citizens or residents).	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Medications, narcotics, drugs	Permits of College of Pharmacy and Ministry of Health.	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Rugs	Proof of Purchase Bill of Lading or Airway Bill	Liable to payment of taxes.	
Plants	Phytosanitary certificate. Permit of Ministry of Agriculture.	Liable to payment of taxes.	Documentation needed before shipment's arrival.
Pets (Cats and Dogs)	Anti-rabies vaccination and health certificate both authenticated by the Costa Rican consul & Import Ministry of Health.	Liable to payment of taxes.	Documentation needed prior to animal's arrival.
Pornographic material, rebellious material, drugs, any item not being part of the normal household and		Not allowed.	



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personal effects			
Fumigation of wood packaging			Since January 1st, 2005 a new regulation to import shipments packed in wood will be implemented. Each wooden crate that comes into the country must have identification on the treatment provided to avoid plagues.