

TRAVELLERS' GUIDE



"RAK Customs Department has a duty to protect the United Arab Emirates from all items/goods that may be harmful to the country and society".

And, we do this by stopping smugglers illegally importing goods that could create harm to society and we collect the relevant customs duty to fund vital public services. Our duties include carrying out checks on travellers. If we stop you and ask you about your baggage, please co-operate as we need your help to prevent smuggling.

HOW TO GO THROUGH CUSTOMS

At RAK Customs points of entry/exit, our inspectors are authorised to examine and search passengers and all items they carry or which belong to them. You must immediately declare to the inspector any: goods listed as prohibited or restricted, commercial goods or quantities of tobacco or alcohol that exceed the limits stated below. If unsure, always declare the goods to an inspector.

WHAT YOU CAN BRING IN:

When travelling into the UAE you may bring the following items for your own use:



- 400 (No) cigarettes or
- 50 (No) cigars or
- 500 (grams) tobacco for smoking.
- 4 litres alcoholic beverages or two cases of beer

(Persons under 18 years of age, are not entitled to the tobacco or alcohol allowances).

Gifts & souvenirs whose value does not exceed AED 3000.00.

Baggage and personal effects exempted from customs duty include all mobile musical devices, one radio, TV, multi-media camera/device, mobile telephones, sporting equipment & accessories, laptop computers/tablet devices, printer and accessories, Pushchairs & buggies for children.

DECLARING CASH WHEN ENTERING OR LEAVING THE UAE

Cash, cheques and other financial and bearer instruments carried with a value exceeding AED 100,000, or the equivalent in other currencies **must be declared**. Persons under 18 years are not entitled.

WHAT YOU CANNOT BRING IN PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED GOODS

PROHIBITED GOODS

(GOODS WHICH ARE BANNED COMPLETELY):

- All narcotic drugs, such as heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, hallucination pills, cannabis, hashish, poppy straw, seeds, hemp etc. . All drugs & medicines listed in Schedule IV of Narcotic Law 14 of 1995 of UAE & Schedule IV of the 1961 Convention of International Narcotic Control Board and Psychotropic substances included in Schedule 1 of the 1971 Psychotropic Convention.
- Paan and Naswar.
- Offensive weapons, such as swords, swordsticks, flick knives, butterfly knives, push daggers, belt-buckle knives, death stars, stealth (non-metallic) knives, knives disguised as everyday objects, knuckle-dusters, blowpipes, truncheons and other martial arts equipment.
- Air pressure weapons, electric shock devices,
- Fireworks.
- Non commercially produced cooked foods, meats and slaughtered birds.
- Radioactive materials.
- Gambling tools and equipment.
- Printed publications which contradict Islamic teachings, or deliberately imply immorality, such as within photographs, cards, books, magazines, films, videos, DVDs
- Items considered to be involved with Black Magic and Witchcraft.
- Goods of Israeli manufacturing origin.
- Counterfeit, fake and patent infringing goods e.g. watches, CDs, DVDs, medicaments, designer goods and clothing.
- Certain goods are prohibited or restricted to protect health and the environment. For advice call the RAK Municipality 00971 (0) 7 2332422 or visit www.rakmunicipality@rak.ae

RESTRICTED GOODS

(GOODS WHICH YOU CANNOT IMPORT WITHOUT OFFICIAL AUTHORITY SUCH AS A LICENCE or IMPORT PERMIT):

- Military weapons, explosives and ammunition.
- Passengers (resident and non resident) can bring into the UAE a maximum of three month supply of Prescription only Medicines (POM), for their personal use, provided that he/she is able to produce a valid medical prescription from a registered medical practitioner. All the medications should be in original packaging and not expired. Drugs listed in Schedule IV of Narcotic Law 14 of 1995 of UAE & Schedule IV of the 1961 Convention of International Narcotic Control Board, cannot be carried by international travellers to the UAE. No psychotropic medicines are allowed without prior approval from the Ministry of Health (www.moh.gov.ae) even for personal use, in small quantity and/or with prescription. Any such medicine will be seized and the person/s carrying them liable to prosecution.
- Endangered species, including animals, birds and plants, whether alive or dead, and any parts or goods made from them. This includes such things as fur, ivory or leather taken from endangered species. For advice contact UAE Ministry of Environment and Water (MoEW) tel: 800-3050 or view www.moew.gov.ae.
- Certain plants and their produce, including trees, shrubs, potatoes, certain fruit, bulbs and seeds. For advice, contact / view MoEW website as above.
- Pets or domestic animals may travel in to or from the UAE if they meet the necessary regulations that apply, including a valid import permit being granted by the UAE MoEW in advance of travel. For online application and advice, please view www.moew.gov.ae

SMUGGLING

Never carry anything into the UAE for someone else.

Never bring prohibited goods into the UAE.

If you are driving, make sure that everyone travelling with you knows what goods are prohibited or restricted. If you are found to be smuggling goods in a vehicle, the vehicle may be seized.

If you are in doubt, always speak to a Customs inspector

Heavy penalties apply for smuggling.

CUSTOMS AND TRAVELLERS' RIGHTS

Customs' RIGHTS

Customs Inspectors expect to be able to do their job with the co-operation and support of the travelling public. We have the right to stop, inspect and question people travelling into and out of the UAE, for prohibited or restricted goods, such as drugs or firearms, or where we have reasonable grounds to suspect someone may be carrying goods or any other items which are liable to seizure/forfeiture.

YOUR RIGHTS

You have a right to expect Customs Inspectors to be courteous, impartial and behave with complete integrity.

If you have goods or a vehicle seized by Customs we will give you a form listing the seized items and explain the reasons.

How to appeal if you think the seizure

was unlawful – any such appeal must be received at RAK Customs Head Office, in writing within fifteen days of the date of seizure, and could subsequently be heard at the Court of the First Instance.

How to ask for the return of your goods (providing they are not prohibited or restricted) or vehicle

- even if you accept that RAK Customs department had a legal right to seize them/it. This is called Conciliatory Settlement (Compromise) and involves a separate appeals process for persons dissatisfied with decisions about returning items. Your request for the return of your goods must be received at RAK Customs Head Office, in writing within fifteen days of the date of seizure.

Further details of offences and procedures can be found within the RAK Customs Offences Manual.

SMUGGLING INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMS

If you have any information about smuggling in RAK or the UAE, including illegally imported drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, tobacco and all other prohibited or restricted goods, please call RAK Customs Risk Management team on :

072333733 ext.999

Or you can email:- Aawin@customs.rak.ae

We will treat your information as confidential.

If you have any questions about this Notice or if you need further general advice, or require copies of our Notices, please contact RAK Customs Department.

Lines are open from 8.00am to 2.30 pm Sunday to Thursday.

Address:

RAK Customs Department
Head Office
P.O. Box 8
RAK, UAE.

Telephone: 00 971 (0) 7 2333733

Fax: 00 971 (0) 7 2330233

Email: info@customs.rak.ae

Other information is available from our website at www.rakcustoms.rak.ae

This notice is approved by RAK Customs Department who reserves the right to amend or cancel any of the information contained within.

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