

# MOVING TO NEW ZEALAND

## SHIPPING TO NEW ZEALAND

If you are relocating to New Zealand and plan on bringing your personal and household items with you, there are a few things you'll need to know. Strict biosecurity laws mean there are some items you cannot bring to New Zealand, and some other items will require inspection on arrival.

All personal effects including household goods and unaccompanied baggage are subject to inspection on arrival. In order to obtain your goods faster, and avoid costly delays, it's important you follow this simple advice.

### PROHIBITED GOODS

The following items are prohibited in New Zealand, unless accompanied by official certification :

- Any packets of food
- Honey, pollen, propolis, honeycombs and other bee products
- Plants, bulbs, cuttings, corms, rhizomes or tubers, commercially packed seeds and seeds for planting
- Prohibited packaging such as straw or used fresh food cartons
- Items restricted under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) such as coral, ivory, snakeskin, whale bone items, turtle shell and some sea shells.

Importing certain types of weapons such as flick knives, knuckle-dusters, or any weapon disguised as something else is also prohibited, as are smoking and drug utensils.

### 21 MONTH RULE

As a returning NZ resident, you may be entitled to tax free concessions if you've been overseas for 21 months or more.

To find out more visit:



[www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/sendingitemstonz/householditems/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/sendingitemstonz/householditems/Pages/default.aspx)

If you plan on bringing firearms (including airguns) into New Zealand, you will need to obtain a police permit prior to arrival.

A full list of prohibited items can be found at:



[www.customs.govt.nz/news/resources/factsheets/Documents/Fact%20Sheet%202005.pdf](http://www.customs.govt.nz/news/resources/factsheets/Documents/Fact%20Sheet%202005.pdf)

### RISK GOODS

There is no law against bringing risk goods into New Zealand as long as you declare them. Any declared items will be inspected. They may be treated and returned when considered safe. It is your responsibility to ensure that all items that have been in contact with food, soil, plants, animals, or their products, be cleaned and free from any contamination.

Items which could pose a risk, need to be declared, include:

- Foods (fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, honey, ingredients used in cooking, and all dairy products)
- Animals (alive or dead) or their products
- Traditional or herbal medicines
- Soil, seeds and plant materials
- Wooden items
- Used outdoor, camping and sports equipment, hiking boots any other sporting footwear
- Veterinary equipment, bee-keeping equipment, saddles, bridles, bird cages and pet beds
- Gardening equipment and outdoor furniture.

For a full list of risk goods that must be declared visit:



[www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/declare](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/declare)





## CUSTOMS

Your household or other related effects (excluding motor vehicles, boats, and aircraft) will be admitted duty-free (including GST) for a reasonable time after you arrive, provided you meet Customs requirements.

Full information can be found at:



[www.customs.govt.nz/news/resources/listsandguides/Documents/advice%20to%20travellers.pdf](http://www.customs.govt.nz/news/resources/listsandguides/Documents/advice%20to%20travellers.pdf)

## WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO DO

To get clearance for your goods you will need to supply the following:

- ✓ A copy of your passport.
- ✓ An Unaccompanied Personal Baggage Declaration (NZCS 218) form. This form is a declaration for both Agriculture and Customs.
- ✓ A Personal Effects Supplementary Declaration form. This supplementary declaration is not mandatory; however the information on it will assist inspectors in deciding the biosecurity status of your goods.

The Unaccompanied Personal Baggage Declaration and Personal Effects Supplementary Declaration forms can be found at:



[www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/sendingitemstonz/householditems/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/sendingitemstonz/householditems/Pages/default.aspx)



## TIPS IF PACKING YOURSELF

These tips are applicable if you are packing yourself.

- All items that have been in contact with food, soil, plants, animals, or their products, to be cleaned and free from any contamination.
- Consider the items that may be of interest to customs and biosecurity officers. Pack these items together and put them in boxes separate to those that you consider clearly not to be of quarantine concern.
- Beware of used boxes. Some second hand boxes that were intended for other uses may pose a risk to quarantine. Do not use any packing boxes that have already been in contact with an organic substance such as cartons or inserts used previously with fruit, meat, eggs, flowers, pot plants, or fertiliser bags.
- If second hand boxes are being used, the chances are that they have old numbering or labelling on them. To avoid confusion which may lead to misunderstandings or delays, ensure that any previous labelling on your packing boxes is covered or removed completely. Make sure you use a permanent marker/felt pen to write on boxes in preference to labels that can fall off in transit.
- It is important that the numbers on packing boxes match with the numbers on the packing list. Only write one number for each box or large item.

For more information on packing your personal/household effects see:



[www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/cont-carg/what-you-need-to-know.pdf](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/files/regs/cont-carg/what-you-need-to-know.pdf)