

### LEAFLETS

The following leaflets with additional important information on crossing the border are available (only in German, French and Italian):

- Written self-declaration in tourist traffic
- Plants
- Import of private motor vehicles
- Motorway tax stickers (vignettes)
- Travelling with pets
- Import of belongings (moving)
- Import of food, tobacco and alcohol
- Import of jewellery and watches for one's own use

### ENTERING AND STAYING IN SWITZERLAND

Additional information on entering and staying in Switzerland (regulations on documents and visa) can be obtained at the Federal Office for Migration.

This leaflet is not intended to be all inclusive and contains merely general information. It does not give rise to any right.

### SPECIAL IMPORT REGULATIONS

The importation of certain goods is **restricted** and is only possible in certain specific conditions (e.g. with prior authorisation), in the case of certain products even **complete import bans** are applicable.

The following goods in particular are subject to import restrictions (not a full list):

- weapons (e.g. fire arms, knives, electric shock devices, tear gas sprays, truncheons, etc)
- radar warning devices
- narcotics and drugs containing narcotics
- medicines
- doping substances
- indecent and obscene material (containing extreme violence and any other pornography)
- pirated products
- counterfeited trademarks and designer articles
- animals or goods made from them which are subject to the Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
- direct imports of animals and animal products originating from countries outside the EU

### District Directorates of Swiss Customs

- Basle  
Tel. 061 287 12 87  
kdbs.zentrale@ezv.admin.ch
- Schaffhausen  
Tel. 052 633 11 11  
kdsh.zentrale@ezv.admin.ch
- Geneva  
Tel. 022 747 72 72  
kdge.zentrale@ezv.admin.ch
- Lugano  
Tel. 091 910 48 11  
kdti.zentrale@ezv.admin.ch

Or simply inquire at any customs office.

**Have a pleasant journey!**

We may have further reading resources relating to this subject in our library. You can search for material on our website or ask any customs office. If you would like further help, you can call the Free Phone no. +41 (0)800 222 040.

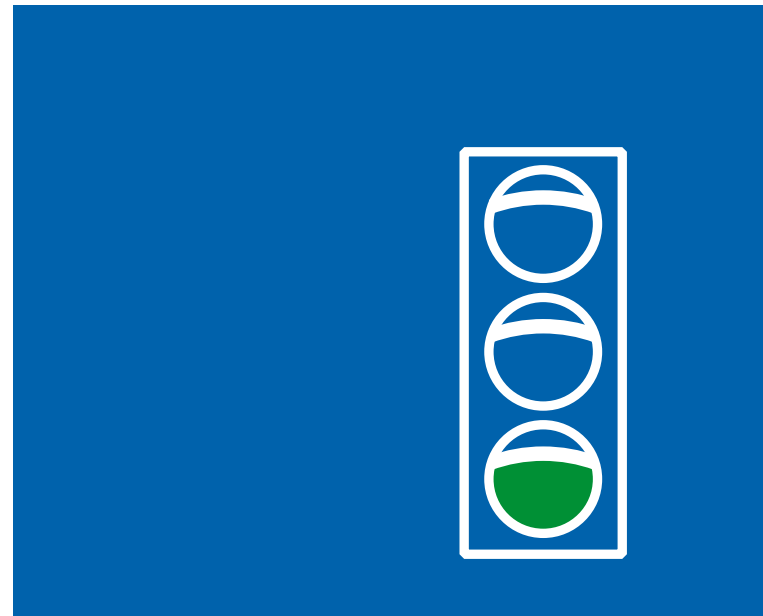
### Information concerning entry and residence

- Federal Office for Migration  
Quellenweg 6  
3003 Bern  
Tel. 031 325 11 11  
info@bfm.admin.ch  
www.bfm.admin.ch

### Information concerning pirated products and counterfeited articles

- Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property  
Stauffacherstrasse 65/59g  
3003 Bern  
Tel. 031 377 77 77  
info@ipi.ch

# Clearing Swiss Customs without Delay



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Finance FDF  
**Federal Customs Administration FCA**

## Clearing Swiss Customs without Delay

Switzerland has manifold relations worldwide. Therefore, we aim at keeping the Swiss borders open for you.

### When entering our country you can contribute to a clearance without delay by

- keeping the required, recognised and valid travel documents ready, and,
- declaring carried goods and animals.

### If you have nothing to declare you may

- use the green channel e.g. at airports, or,
- display the green sign "nothing to declare" printed overleaf on the dashboard of your car.



Thank you for your co-operation.

### CARRYING CASH

In the case of the importation, transit and export of cash (currency notes, coins, bankers' draft and cheques, securities, amongst others) with a value of more than CHF 10,000, upon request information must be given on the origin, the intended use and the beneficial owner. The right is reserved to take other measures linked to combating crime.

### DUTY- AND TAX-FREE

The following allowances and limits apply only to goods in tourist traffic which you import **personally** and which are intended for your own use or as gifts.

Allowances and limits are granted once a day and per person only. The goods in question may be imported free of customs duty and tax:

#### ■ Personal effects

Personal effects<sup>1)</sup> such as: clothing, underwear, toilet articles, sports gear, photo and film cameras, cam-corders, portable computers, musical instruments, and other articles for general use.

1) Such as items which travellers living in Switzerland took along when going abroad or travellers living abroad use during their stay in Switzerland and take back when leaving.

#### ■ Travelling provisions

Foodstuffs ready to eat and non-alcoholic beverages for the day of travelling.

#### ■ Tobacco and alcohol

These limits apply only to persons aged at least 17 years.

*Tobaccos:*  
Cigarettes ..... 200 **or**  
Cigars ..... 50 **or**  
Cut tobacco ..... 250 grams<sup>2)</sup>

#### *Alcoholic Beverages:*

up to 15 % vol..... 2 litres **and**  
over 15 % vol..... 1 litre

#### ■ Other goods

For other goods in tourist traffic there is a total value limit of CHF 300 per person.

This limit does not apply to alcohol, tobaccos and sensitive agricultural products such as meat and meat products, dairy products (not including cheese and curds), oils and fats exceeding a certain maximum amount.

2) including pipe-tobacco, chewing tobacco and nasal snuff

If you import goods worth more than CHF 300.–, you must pay duty and tax **on the full value**, not just the value above the allowance. You cannot group individual allowances together.

Diverse goods which constitute one unit (sets e.g. as in model railway kits, 4 summer tyres, a dismantled bed or cutlery sets) may not be shared out between several people. Sets of this nature are, if they exceed the CHF 300 ceiling value, liable to tax as a unit.

### DUTIES AND TAXES

Goods in tourist traffic which exceed the tax-free limit of CHF 300 and thereby in principle are liable for duty, may by imported duty free (exceptions: alcoholic beverages, tobacco goods and sensitive agricultural products). However, VAT of 2.4 % or 7.6 % of the value of the goods has to be paid.

Producing a receipt or any other proof of the value certainly helps clearing customs.

Dutiable goods must be declared for assessment verbally or in writing without any request having to be made (c.f. fact sheet 18.60 "Written self-declaration").

## The easier way



With the green declaration sign you declare that you and all persons travelling with you have recognised and valid travel documents to cross borders and only carry goods within the exemptions and limits.

The green declaration sign is binding and customs staff can carry out checks without asking.