



Fact sheet

for lorry drivers

1 Importation

If you are bringing goods to Switzerland from abroad, you must spontaneously declare them at the border customs office. This also applies to goods which have to be cleared in Switzerland. In this case, a valid transit document is required.

2 Exportation

If you are exporting goods from Switzerland abroad, you must declare these goods for exportation at a customs office.

If the export customs declaration occurs in Switzerland, you will require a transit document for the journey to the Swiss border customs office.

3 Transit

Transit goods (uncleared and duty-free) are to be transported through Switzerland with a valid transit document.

The transit goods must be declared at the border customs office upon entering and leaving Switzerland.

4 Goods checks

If the customs office orders a check to be carried out, you are obliged to cooperate. This covers all requisite activities (e.g. loading and unloading, packing and unpacking, etc.) at your own expense and risk.

5 Traffic police controls

Customs staff have the authority to carry out checks on you and your vehicle within the scope of the current road traffic law.

6 Travel regulations / personal goods

To enter Switzerland, foreign citizens must be in possession of a valid travel document that is recognised by Switzerland (passport, identity card). In certain cases, a visa is also required.

Personal goods must be declared at the border customs office. In this regard, the same regulations are applicable as for tourist traffic (cf. the brochure entitled «[Clearing Swiss Customs without delay](#)»).

7 Performance-related heavy vehicle fee (HVF)

The performance-related heavy vehicle fee has to be paid for all motor vehicles and trailers (up to 3.5 tonnes) registered in Switzerland and abroad. It is linked to the total weight, the emissions category and the kilometres driven by the respective vehicle.

The collection of charges is made:

- via the on-board unit (obligatory for Swiss vehicles): or
- by means of an ID card at the clearance terminal (only foreign vehicles).

If you are driving a foreign vehicle, you must register at the border customs office for the performance-related heavy vehicle fee (ID card) when you enter Switzerland for the first time.

Further information can be found at www.lsva.ch.

8 Fuel reserves

You can import the following quantities of fuel duty-free in the tanks connected to the engine:

- vehicles with domestic number plates: maximum of 400 litres:
- vehicles with foreign number plates: no restriction.

Quantities of fuel exceeding these limits must be declared and taxed at the border customs office.

Fuel imported in reserve fuel cans for the vehicle is duty-free up to 25 litres.

9 Road cabotage

Internal transportation (loading and unloading of goods in Switzerland) is prohibited with vehicles with foreign number plates.

10 Contacts

The [customs offices](#) will gladly provide you with assistance should you have any questions.

Further information can be found at www.ezv.admin.ch.