

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

Duty Free Concessions for Returning Nationals General Conditions

Who Qualifies?

Vincentians who have lived abroad for at least ten (10) years and have returned to take up permanent residence in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

What can be imported?

Personal or household effects (whether new or used) and one motor vehicle excluding trucks. The goods may be purchased abroad and shipped here or may be bought locally from a supplier in SVG who operates a private (tax free) warehouse.

What is the Concession?

For motor vehicles, qualifying persons pay only 25% of the normal Import Duty, Excise Tax and VAT. The Customs Service Charge (currently 4%) is payable in full. If the vehicle is more than four years old, a vehicle surcharge is also payable in full. Household items and personal effects can be brought in completely free of all taxes but some conditions apply (**see below**).

What are the Conditions?

The conditions applied are as follows:

- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they resided abroad for at least ten (10) years. You may be required to show proof of this. Documents relating to your time abroad will support your claim e.g. pay slips; records of school; college or university attendance; bank statements; employment records; visas; work permits; residence permits; pension letter.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they intend to make a permanent home in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. You may be required to show evidence of these documents such as house purchase contracts; mortgage agreements; land titles; planning permission for house construction; documents showing the setting up of a business or employment contracts will help your claim.
- One motor vehicle only is allowed under the concession for each household.
- The vehicle must be owned by you and registered in your name.

- The items must be for your own use and kept by you. None of the items must be sold, traded, bartered, given away or disposed of in any way to any other person for a period of four (4) years. Permission must be granted by the Comptroller of Customs before any goods (including vehicles) may be disposed of within the four year period and all normal taxes must be paid. ***Failure to do so is a serious offence and may incur fines, imprisonment and seizure of the goods.***
- Only one set or item of a particular type of household goods and personal effects that you would reasonably need to equip your home may be brought in under the concession. For example, you may bring in one (1) television, one (1) microwave, one (1) DVD player etc. ***Additional items may be charged at the full rate of duty.***
- You must apply within one year of returning or moving to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

How do I apply?

Applications should be made in writing on the attached form to the Comptroller of Customs at the following address.

**Mr. Grenville John
Comptroller of Customs and Excise
Custom House
Upper Bay Street
Kingstown
St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Telephone: (784) 456-1083
Fax: (784) 456-1851**

What happens then?

Your application will be considered by the Comptroller and you will be informed of his decision. You may be called to attend an interview. If you are called for an interview it is in your interest to bring with you documents that will support your case.

WARNING! There are severe penalties (including fines, imprisonment and seizure of goods) for making false declarations to Customs

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES
CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT
Application for Duty Free Concessions for the import of
Household and Personal effects and Motor Vehicles

*(For guidance on how to complete this form and to see if you qualify, please see
 Notice on "Duty Free Concessions for Returning Nationals – General Conditions)*

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| Surname: | | First Name: | |
| Address in SVG: | | | |
| Contact Telephone: | | E-mail Address: | |
| I.D. Number: | | Passport Number: | |
| Date of Issue: | | Issuing Authority: | |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Date of Arrival: (to take up residence) | | Date of Departure from SVG: (to reside abroad) | |
| Address Abroad: | | | |

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|---|--|---|--|
| Vehicle Make (e.g. Toyota): | | Model: (e.g. Hi-Lux) | |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Colour: | |
| Type: (e.g. Double cab pick-up): | | Engine cc/type: (e.g. 2.9 Diesel) | |
| Engine Number: | | | |
| Chassis Number: | | | |

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Household / Personal Effects: | <i>Attach separate list, packing list or manifest if necessary – please include make, model and serial numbers where available.</i> |
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| Name of agent/ broker: | | Contact Telephone: | |
| Entry/ Bill of Sight Nos: | | | |

Declaration: *(to be signed by applicant)*

- I declare that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I have read the notice “*Duty Free Concessions for Returning Nationals – General Conditions*” and agree to abide by the restrictions on disposal of the goods listed on this form.
- I understand that there are severe penalties (including fines, imprisonment and seizure of the goods) for making false declarations to customs and for failing to abide by the conditions of this concession.

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date of Application:

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|---|--|----------------------|--|
| This section is for customs use only: | | Include notes of documents produced to show residence overseas and of permanent move to SVG; and notes of other relevant information. State whether application approved/disapproved and reasons for decision. | | | |
| Interview date: |/...../200..... | Time Start: | | Time End: | |
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| Officer(s) Dealing: | | | | | |