

Sao Tome and Principe Country Guide

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Country Guide: Sao Tome and Principe

Due to the current coronavirus/COVID-19 situation and restrictions in various countries, the below information may not be accurate. This pandemic is a fluid situation. Check with authorities for local laws and restrictions concerning movements.

Updated: November 22, 2016

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Used Household Goods and Personal Effects

Documents required:

- Original AWB / OBL
- Sao Tomean tax card (cartao de contribuinte) from the owner of the goods or their company / organization
- Copy of valid passport
- Copy of residence permit
- Original valued inventory list in Portuguese, dated, and signed (in Euros or USD)

- Packing list in Portuguese or French / English
- Letter of employment in Portuguese and stamped from the company or organization in Sao Tome
- Original certificate of change of residence
- Letter of exemption (returning citizens)
- Diplomatic exemption stamped by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (diplomats)

Specific Information:

Extra charges cannot be avoided (rent, demurrage) payable at destination.

Motor Vehicles

Documents Required:

- Car registration document
- Attestation of not resale
- Declaration of value
- Copy of vehicle purchase invoice
- Descriptive inventory of car
- Diplomatic exemption or concession allowed by Customs authorities, if applicable

Specific Information:

- Full or partial suspension of taxes and duties for the period of stay.
 - Concession granted for 12 months, renewable, maximum 4 years.
 - At the end, definitive import with payment of remaining taxes and duties or re-export free of taxes and duties.
- In all cases, payment of general Customs fees.
- In all cases, payment of “taxa do porto” – 3% on CIF value.
- Guarantee or bank guarantee.
 - The amount of security is the amount of Customs duties and charges incurred
- Request for the concession.
- Foreign company domiciled in Sao Tome are excluded from duty-free or duty-suspension arrangement.

Pets

Note: Contact local agent for more specific information.

Restricted/Dutiable Items

Note: Contact local agent for more specific information.

Prohibited Items

- Drugs, narcotics, weapons, ammunitions, and explosives are prohibited
- Distilled beverage as ether, wormwood, isopropyl alcohol, benzyl alcohol
- Tobacco: 250 g / 200 cigarettes / 50 cigars
- Alcohol: 1 L of spirits / 2 L of wine
- Pharmaceutical products permitted in reasonable quantities
- Perfume 50 ml – toilet water / eau de toilette 250 ml
- Pornographic film, drawing, picture
- Foodstuffs containing some saccharin

Consignment Instructions

Recommended: Contact the destination agent to ensure all requirements have been met prior to import, especially for differences regarding air / sea shipments.

Cultural and Other Information

[CIA World Factbook](#)

[Wikipedia Entry for Sao Tome and Principe](#)