



Importing/Exporting Duty Free Vehicles to and from Cyprus

Importing

How do I find a company who will ship my car to Cyprus?

There are many companies that ship cars to and from the UK. The full list of suppliers can be found on the following website: The Shipping Site at www.shipping.plus.com.

Some companies will collect from Brize Norton where you will connect with your flight for Cyprus. This is a personal choice and you must make your own private arrangements.

The shipping company will be able to give you details of the correct forms to complete to import the vehicle.

NB: Do not load up your car with belongings - you may be liable for import tax on any electrical or other goods in the vehicle.

What do I have to do on arrival in Cyprus?

On arrival in Cyprus, the "entitled" member of the household (i.e. member of the British Forces Cyprus or a UKBC who is posted or attached to Cyprus for longer than 6 months) must obtain a customs form C104A. This can be obtained from your local admin office. You will need to have your entitlement documents (military ID and/or status stamp), passport and V5 (log book), proof of car insurance (from the date you want to collect your car) to obtain form C104A. Once you have all these documents, you can arrange to collect your vehicle from the port.

You will have to pay port fees and handling charges at the port. The vehicle will then be released to you.

The procedure at the port is very time consuming and be prepared to be there for a full morning.

How do I register and road tax my car?

The car **must** be registered within 28 days of arriving in Cyprus. Registration fees and road tax will need to be paid at the Dept of Road Transport in Polemedia, Limassol Tel: 25 870468. Again, this procedure can be very time consuming so be prepared to be there for several hours. Failure to register your car may render it liable for forfeiture by SBA Customs.

N.B. Vehicles often arrive with a flat battery. It is worthwhile taking a set of jump leads with you.

Where do I get local car insurance?

You can obtain car insurance from your local Hellenic or Laiki Bank or from local insurance companies.

If you need further help you may wish to contact SBA Customs at the following locations:

SBA Customs RAF Akrotiri BFPO 57	Fiscal Office HQ SBAA, Episkopi BFPO 53	SBA Customs Dhekelia BFPO 58
Tel: 2527 6762 Fax: 2595 2101	Tel: 2596 2039 Fax: 2596 3342	Tel: 2474 4226 Fax: 2472 3533

No Claims Bonus (NCB) earned in Cyprus:

When you leave the island to return to the UK, you will need request a letter from your insurance provider, on company headed notepaper, stating the policy number, NCB earned in years (not by percentage) and dates covered. The letter should be written in English.

You may wish to contact the Brokers' Association (BIBA) who can provide a list of motor insurance companies who will recognise No Claims Bonus earned whilst in Cyprus. Their contact details are as follows:

British Insurance Brokers' Association
14 Bevis Marks
London EC3A 7NT
Tel: 0044 870 950 1790
Fax: 0044 207 626 9676 E-mail: enquiries@biba.org.uk

Exporting

What paperwork do I need to take my duty free vehicle out of Cyprus?

About a month before you are due to leave Cyprus you need to ask your Unit Admin Office for a BFC414A form. The Unit Admin Office needs to send your Republic of Cyprus log book with this request to the SBA Customs. The log book will be sent back to you with your certified BFC414. Log books must show you as the sole registered owner of the vehicle. If the log book includes the name of a bank or finance company your application should be accompanied by a letter from them stating that the vehicle is free to be removed from Cyprus.

Can I take my duty free vehicle to the UK without paying tax?

Yes, but there are some rules that have to be followed.

1. You must have a BFC414 from SBA Customs.
2. You must have owned and used the vehicle in Cyprus for at least 28 days.
3. You must keep the vehicle for at least six months.
4. You must keep the vehicle until it has travelled at least 6,000km under its own power.
5. When you arrive in the UK you must notify DVLA immediately.

N.B. Failure to do this may result in having to pay tax on the vehicle.

Can I take my duty free vehicle home to the UK in the middle of my tour?

No - you may only take your duty free vehicle home at the end of your tour of duty.

How many duty free vehicles can I take home?

Each "entitled" person can take home one duty free vehicle for each adult member in their immediate household at the end of their tour.

When can I sell my duty free vehicle in the UK?

You can sell your duty free vehicle in the UK when:

1. It is registered with the DVLA.
2. You have owned it for six months.

3. The vehicle has travelled at least 6,000km under its own power.

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BFPO 57

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