



## Some important things you should bear in mind when travelling to Germany

You may be offered to buy certain items at your travel destination that cannot be brought to Germany as a holiday **souvenir**. They include, inter alia, narcotics, live animals and protected animal and plant species, protected cultural assets, and weapons.

If you travel to Germany carrying **cash** in an amount equal to or exceeding 10 000 euros, you must declare these funds when entering the country, either in writing or verbally upon enquiry, depending on the country from where you cross the German border. The term cash comprises, inter alia, hard cash, precious metals, precious stones, and certain securities (such as cheques). For more details about your tax-free allowances please visit our website at [www.zoll.de](http://www.zoll.de).



- If you have specific questions on the provisions of customs law, our central information unit will be pleased to assist you further:

Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm

Carusufer 3 – 5 Phone: +49 (0)3 51 / 4 48 34 - 5 30  
10199 Dresden Fax: +49 (0)3 51 / 4 48 34 - 5 90  
Email: [enquiries.english@zoll.de](mailto:enquiries.english@zoll.de)

- For further information on all of these questions, please visit our website at

**Customs on the Internet:**  
[www.zoll.de](http://www.zoll.de)



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Central Customs Authority



It's travel season:

# How to sail smoothly through customs





Items you acquire during your travels can be brought back to Germany duty-free on the following conditions:

### The goods are intended for personal use or consumption.

The items you bring back into the country must be intended for your own personal use or consumption, for members of your household, or as gifts. This means that you may not bring items with you if you intend to give them to someone else in return for money or other consideration. The goods must not be destined for commercial use.

### You are bringing the goods with you when returning from your travel.

Any goods carried on the same means of transport (your train, for example) as yourself are considered as being brought with you. However, if your luggage is forwarded before or after your trip, shipped as freight, sent by post or by express or courier service, it does not count as being brought with you.

Provided the above conditions are met, the following limits apply to the quantity and value of the goods you bring back to Germany:

### Duty-free allowances when entering the European Union from non-EU countries

**Tobacco products** (only for persons aged 17 and over):

- 200 cigarettes or
- 100 cigarillos (cigars weighing not more than 3 g each) or
- 50 cigars or
- 250 g of smoking tobacco or (including water pipe tobacco)
- a combination of these goods, with the maximum quantity for each reduced proportionally to its share of the total.

**Alcohol and alcoholic beverages**

(only by persons aged 17 and over):

- 1 litre of alcohol or alcoholic beverages with an alcohol content of over 22% by volume or undenatured ethyl alcohol with an alcohol content of 80% by volume or higher or
- two litres of alcohol or alcoholic beverages with an alcohol content of no more than 22% by volume or
- a combination of these goods, with the maximum quantity for each reduced proportionally to its share of the total
- four litres of non-sparkling wine and
- 16 litres of beer

**Medicinal products:**

- the quantity required for the traveller's personal needs

**Fuels** (for any motor vehicle):

- the amount in the vehicle's standard tank and
- up to 10 litres in a portable container

**Other goods:**

- goods up to a total value of € 300
- for passengers travelling by air or sea, goods up to a total value of € 430
- for travellers under 15 years of age, goods up to a total value of € 175

Goods subject to a specific maximum quantity do not count towards this total value.



### Duty-free allowances when entering Germany from other EU countries

With the exception of certain special areas (in particular, the Canary Islands, the French overseas departments, and the British Channel Islands), all goods from other EU countries may be brought back to Germany duty-free as long as they are intended for your personal use and as long as they comply with the limits listed below.

Goods from the special areas are subject to the duty-free allowances for goods from non-EU countries. Up to the quantities indicated below, private use will be assumed:

**Tobacco products**

- 800 cigarettes
- 400 cigarillos (cigars weighing not more than 3 g each)
- 200 cigars
- 1 kg of smoking tobacco (including water pipe tobacco)

**Alcohol and alcoholic beverages**

- 10 litres of spirits
- 20 litres of intermediate products (e.g. sherry, port, marsala)
- 60 litres of sparkling wine
- 110 litres of beer

**Coffee**

- 10 kg of coffee or products containing coffee

For additional information please go to our website: [www.zoll.de](http://www.zoll.de)

