

Controlled and Restricted Items

The items listed below will be allowed entry only when you produce the import permit or authorisation from the relevant authorities.

If you do not have the import permit or authorisation, Customs will detain the item and refer it to the relevant authority for approval.

Item	Authority
Animals, birds and their by-products Endangered species of wildlife and their by-products Meat and meat products Fish and seafood products Fruits and vegetables	 Agri-food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore 5 Maxwell Road #02-00/#03-00 Tower Block, MND Complex Singapore 069110 Tel: 6222 1211
Arms and explosives Bullet-proof clothing Toy guns, pistols and revolvers Weapons, kris, spears and swords	 Singapore Police Force Licensing Division Police Cantonment Complex 391 New Bridge Road Block B, #02-701 Singapore 088762 Tel : 6835 0000
Films, video and video games Publications and audio records	 Media Development Authority 45 Maxwell Road #07-11/12 URA Centre East Wing Singapore 069118 Tel: 6372 2800
Pharmaceuticals	 Health Sciences Authority Centre for Pharmaceutical Administration No 2 Jalan Bukit Merah Singapore 169547 Tel: 6325 5609
Medicines/ Poisons	 Health Sciences Authority 11 Outram Road Singapore 169078 Tel: 1800 2130 800
Telecommunication and radio communication equipment Toy walkie-talkies	 The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore 8 Temasek Boulevard #14-00 Suntec Tower Three Singapore 038988 Tel: 6211 0888

Tax Refund

Visitors to Singapore can apply for a refund of the GST on their purchases of S\$300 or more, made at shops displaying the Tax Refund and Tax Free Shopping logos.

All you need to do is to present a GST Claim Form/Global Refund Cheque (obtainable from the retailer) together with the goods for Customs inspection at the Tax Refund Counter at the Departure Hall at either Terminal 1 or 2, Changi Airport and Seletar Airport.

Travellers making refund claims using the Global Refund Cheque will receive the refund in cash immediately whereas travellers using the GST Claim Form will need to mail the form to the retailer for processing and will receive their refund in the form of a cheque (by mail) or a credit to their bank account.

Further Information

A traveller who has medicines which may only be obtained through prescriptions under the Singapore law, especially sleeping pills, depressants, stimulants etc., must possess a prescription from a physician confirming that the medicines are used for the traveller's physical well-being while travelling.

This pamphlet is designed as a guide and does not contain a complete list of customs procedures and requirements. The lists of prohibited, controlled, restricted or taxable goods are not exhaustive. Information in this pamphlet is valid at the time of printing. If you need further information, please contact:

Duty Office Terminal 1

Tel: 6542 7058 &
6545 9122

Fax: 6542 7059

Email: CED_Airports@ced.gov.sg

Duty Office Terminal 2

Tel: 6543 0754 &
6543 0755

Fax: 6543 0766

Customs Call Centre

Tel: 6355 2000

Feedback

Singapore Customs is committed to providing a high standard of service to the public. We welcome feedback on the quality of our services. You may

- Call our toll-free QSM line at 1800-253 3866
- Write to:
Director-General of Customs & Excise
55 Newton Road, Revenue House
#10-01, Singapore 307987
Fax No: 6250 8663
- E-mail to us: CED_Feedback@ced.gov.sg
Homepage: <http://www.customs.gov.sg>

[January 2003]



A Guide Through Customs For Air Travellers



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CUSTOMS FORMALITIES

This pamphlet provides information on Customs clearance procedures and duty/GST-free concessions for travellers arriving by air.

Red and Green Channels

To expedite Customs clearance, Singapore Customs operates the dual channel system - the Red and Green Channel system for travellers.

When to use the Red Channel



If you have prohibited, controlled or dutiable goods and goods exceeding your duty/GST-free concession, you should seek Customs clearance at the Red Channel. If in doubt, always enquire at the **Red** Channel.

Declaration to Customs

When you are at the **Red** Channel with your baggage, please:

- declare orally to Customs the goods in your possession; or
- produce to Customs the prohibited or controlled items together with the import permit, if any.

Please, however, note that your baggage may be examined by Customs whether you take the Red Channel or the Green Channel.

When to use the Green Channel



If you do not have any prohibited, controlled or dutiable goods and goods exceeding your duty/GST-free concession, you may leave the Arrival Hall through the Green Channel.

WARNING: It is an offence under the law to proceed to the Green Channel with any goods which exceed the duty/GST-free concessions or for which no duty/GST-free concessions is granted.

Dutiable Goods

- Intoxicating liquors, including wine, beer, ale, stout and porter.
- Tobacco products, including cigarettes and cigars.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

There is a 4% Goods and Services Tax levied on all goods imported into Singapore.

Duty-free & GST Relief Concessions

A bona fide traveller, other than a traveller below 18 years of age or arriving from Malaysia, who has spent not less than 48 hours outside Singapore immediately before his arrival, will be granted the following duty-free concessions:

- 1 litre spirits (brandy, whisky, gin, rum, vodka, etc.)
- 1 litre wine
- 1 litre beer or stout or ale or porter.

There is no duty-free concession on cigarettes and tobacco products. The items may be brought in only on payment of duty and GST.

In addition, a bona fide traveller, other than a person who is the holder of a work permit, employment pass, student pass, dependent pass or long-term pass, will be given GST relief on the following total value of new articles, souvenirs, gifts and food preparations, **excluding intoxicating liquors and tobacco:**

- **Away from Singapore for less than 24 hours:**
 - 18 years of age and above - S\$50.00
 - Below 18 years of age - no relief
- **Travellers away from Singapore for 24 hours or more:**
 - 18 years of age and above - S\$150.00
 - Below 18 years of age - S\$50.00
- **Travellers away from Singapore for 48 hours or more:**
 - 18 years of age and above - S\$300.00
 - Below 18 years of age - S\$100.00

Your duty/GST-free concessions are granted for your personal consumption only. It is an offence to sell or give them away.

Travellers will have to pay tax on goods brought in for commercial, business or trade purposes and on goods carried on behalf of other persons.

Excess Goods

If you have goods exceeding your Duty-free/GST-Relief concessions, the excess items are allowed to be brought in only on payment of duties and GST.

If you are a transit passenger, the excess items may be kept in the Customs Bond pending your departure through either Terminal 1 or 2 of Singapore Changi Airport. Warehouse rent is chargeable.

**WARNING:
DEATH FOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS
UNDER SINGAPORE LAW**

Prohibited Items

The following items are not allowed to be brought into Singapore:

- Intoxicating liquors and cigarettes marked with the words "SINGAPORE DUTY NOT PAID" on the labels, cartons or packets.
- Cigarettes with the prefix "E" printed on the packets.
- Chewing gum
- Chewing tobacco and imitation tobacco products
- Cigarette lighters of pistol or revolver shape
- Controlled drugs and psychotropic substances
- Firecrackers
- Obscene articles, publications, video tapes/discs and software
- Reproductions of copyright publications, video tapes, video compact discs, laser discs, records or cassettes
- Seditious and treasonable materials

Currency

There is no restriction on the amount of currency that you may bring in.

Our Service Standards

- **Clearance of Passengers**
We are to clear passengers arriving in Singapore within 4 mins for 95% of the time.
- **Processing of GST Tourist Refund claim forms**
We are able to process GST Refund claims forms within 10 mins for 95% of the time.
- **Assessment and collection of Duty/GST**
We are able to assess and collect Duty/GST from an arriving passenger within 8 mins for 95% of the time.
- **Bonding of goods**
Bonding of goods under a Warehouse Deposit receipt is done within 10 mins for 95% of the time.
- **Release of detained items from Customs Bond at Changi Airport**
We are able to release detained items from the Customs Bond within 10 mins for 95% of the time.

Travellers Tips

- **Do not be tempted to carry goods for other people**
If the goods are, or contain prohibited, controlled, restricted or taxable items, you will be held liable.
- **Declare your items fully and correctly to Customs**
Making an incorrect declaration is an offence under the law. Declare any goods which you think may fall under the category prohibited or controlled and any item in excess of your duty/GST-free concessions. If in doubt, always refer to the officers at the **Red** Channel.
- **Faster baggage examination**
Pack your baggage in a manner that will make inspection easy. Under the law, you are required to produce, open, unpack your baggage for Customs examination and to repack it thereafter.