

## 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	 <b>Agri-food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore</b> 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	 <b>Singapore Police Force</b> 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	 <b>Media Development Authority</b> 45 Maxwell Road #07-11/12 URA Centre East Wing Singapore 069118 Tel: 6372 2800
Pharmaceuticals	 <b>Health Sciences Authority</b> Centre for Pharmaceutical Administration No 2 Jalan Bukit Merah Singapore 169547 Tel: 6325 5609
Medicines/ Poisons	 <b>Health Sciences Authority</b> 11 Outram Road Singapore 169078 Tel: 1800 2130 800
Telecommunication and radio communication equipment Toy walkie-talkies	 <b>The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore</b> 8 Temasek Boulevard #14-00 Suntec Tower Three Singapore 038988 Tel: 6211 0888

## Traveller Tips

- **Don't be tempted to carry goods for other people**  
If the goods are, or contain prohibited, controlled, taxable or dutiable items, you will be held responsible and liable.
- **Declare your items fully and correctly to Customs**  
Making an incorrect declaration is an offence. Declare any item which you think may be prohibited or controlled, or exceed your GST-free/duty-free concession. If in doubt, always refer to the officers at the **RED** Channel.
- **Faster baggage examination**  
Under the law, you are required to produce, open, unpack your baggage for examination and to repack it thereafter.

## Further Information

Under the law, if you need to bring in medicines (especially sleeping pills, depressants, stimulants, etc.) for your physical well-being while travelling, you must possess a physician's prescription certifying so.

This brochure serves only as a guide and does not contain a complete list of Customs procedures and requirements. The lists of dutiable, prohibited and controlled/restricted items are also not exhaustive. Information in this brochure is valid at the time of printing.

For further information, please contact:

Changi Ferry Terminal	6545 0980
Singapore Cruise Centre	6278 6422
Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal	6545 5293

## 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, #10-01,  
Revenue House, Singapore 307987  
Fax: 62508663
- E-mail to us: [CED\\_Feedback@ced.gov.sg](mailto:CED_Feedback@ced.gov.sg)  
Homepage: <http://www.customs.gov.sg>



# A Guide Through Customs For Sea Travellers



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# CUSTOMS FORMALITIES

This brochure provides information on Customs clearance procedures and duty-free/GST Relief for all travellers arriving by sea.

## Red and Green Channels

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

You will be able to see the **Red** and **Green** Channel directional signs above the Customs Examination Counters, after you clear through Immigration:

## When to choose the Red Channel



Proceed to the **Red** Channel if you carry:

- Prohibited items
- Controlled/restricted items
- Taxable/dutiable items exceeding your GST Relief or duty-free concession
- Items for which no GST Relief or duty-free allowance is granted.

At the **Red** Channel, please:

- Declare orally to the officers any of the above-stated items that you carry
- Produce the prohibited items, and for restricted/controlled items, produce the items together with the import permit if any.

## When to choose the Green Channel



Proceed to the **Green** Channel if you do not carry any of the 4 types of items stated above. However, Customs officers may still conduct selective checks at the Green Channel. If in doubt, always enquire at the **Red** 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, including cigarettes and cigars
- There is **NO** duty-free and GST Relief concession on cigarettes and other tobacco products.
- If you have goods exceeding your GST Relief/duty-free concessions, the excess items can be brought in upon payment of GST and Customs duty.

## Goods and Services Tax (GST)

A **4%** Goods and Services Tax (GST) is levied on all goods imported into Singapore.

## GST Refund

Refund claims under the GST Tourist Refund Scheme can only be made at Changi Airport and Seletar Airport.

## GST Relief and Duty-free Concessions

A 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:

- **New articles, souvenirs, gifts and food preparation (excluding intoxicating liquors and tobacco)**, up to the following value if he has been away from Singapore:
  - **for less than 24 hours:**
    - 18 years of age and above - S\$50.00
    - below 18 years of age - Nil
  - **for 24 hours or more but less than 48 hours:**
    - 18 years of age and above - S\$150.00
    - below 18 years of age - S\$50.00
  - **for 48 hours or more:**
    - 18 years of age and above - S\$300.00
    - below 18 years of age - S\$100.00
- In addition, if you are a bona-fide traveller not below 18 years of age, have arrived from countries other than Malaysia, and have spent 48 hours or more outside Singapore immediately before your arrival, you are given the following duty-free concessions for **liquors**:
  - 1 litre spirits (brandy, whisky, gin, rum, vodka, etc.),
  - 1 litre wine, and
  - 1 litre beer or stout or ale or porter.

## Important Notes

- Your GST Relief/duty-free concessions are granted for your personal consumption only - it is **an offence** to sell or give them away.
- You will have to pay tax on goods brought in for commercial, business or trade purposes and goods carried on behalf of other persons.

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

## Prohibited Items

- Intoxicating liquors and cigarettes marked with **“SINGAPORE DUTY NOT PAID”** or **“SDNP”** on the labels, cartons or packets, are **NOT** allowed to be brought into Singapore;
- Cigarettes with the prefix **“E”** printed on the packets are also **not** allowed to be brought in
- Chewing gum
- Chewing tobacco and imitation tobacco products
- Cigarette lighters of pistol or revolver shape
- Controlled drugs and psychotropic substances
- Fire-crackers
- Obscene articles, publications and video tapes/disc and software
- Reproductions of copyright publications, video tapes/discs, records or cassettes
- Seditious and treasonable materials

## Our Service Standards

- **Clearance of Passengers**  
We are able to clear passengers arriving in Singapore within 4 mins for 95% of the time.
- **Collection of Customs Duty/GST from passengers**  
We are able to assess and collect Customs 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.