



Country Instructions

Souda Bay (Greece)

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NAVY PERSONNEL

- Personnel assigned to NAVSUPPACT, Souda Bay, Crete who serve an accompanied tour are authorized to ship their full JFTR weight allowance.
- Members in pay grades E5 and above that serve an unaccompanied tour are authorized to ship a household goods allowance of 2500 lbs. or 25 percent of their full weight allowance whichever is greater. They can make an unaccompanied baggage shipment of 600 lbs. which is part of the household goods allowance.
- Members in pay grades E1-E4 reside in base housing and are authorized to make an unaccompanied baggage shipment of 600 lbs. Members are advised to ship minimum essential items due to limited space in the base housing.

CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND RESTRICTIONS

- Members assigned to NSA Souda Bay have to report to FLCSI Customs Control Office prior to the delivery of their shipment/s to sign all necessary customs clearance documents for the clearance and issuance of a customs booklet for each shipment.
- In the Customs booklets are listed all the controlled items shipped in the member's shipments. Controlled items include but are not limited to, all electrical items, cameras, watches, bicycles, furniture items, televisions, VCRs, stereo equipment and appliances. Customs booklets remain in the FLCSI Customs office until members export all the controlled items.
- Greek government officials have very strict controls on the importation and exportation of controlled items. Unauthorized sale or gifts of controlled items to unauthorized personnel is a crime. **IMPORTANT:** The FLCSI Customs Control Office must be notified in advance of any sale or disposal of any controlled items.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

- Greek customs regulations limit the duty free importation of alcoholic beverages to 2 liters of wine for each active duty member, DOD civilian and adult family member.
- If members or employees are considering shipment of additional alcoholic beverages, above 2 liters, they should consult with their sponsor, command or destination PPSO prior to shipment of additional alcoholic beverages.
- All inbound alcoholic shipments above 2 liters are subject to Greek duty fees.

CIGARETTES/TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Greek customs regulations limit the duty free importation of tobacco products to 200 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos (cigars of a maximum weight of 3 grams each) or 50 cigars or 250 grams of smoking tobacco or a proportional assortment of these products.

COSMETICS

Limited to 50 grams perfume and 0.25 liters cologne.

MEDICATION (NARCOTICS)/PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

Limited to prescription medication required to meet member's personal medical needs.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

- The Greek Government is very strict on the importation and exportation of electrical items.
- All electrical items are controlled items and are listed in the member's custom booklet issued by the Greek Customs Authorities.
- **IMPORTANT:** The FLCSI Customs Control Office has to be notified, in advance, for the sale or disposal of any and all electronic items.

OTHER (I.E. COMPATIBILITY, ETC)

- Base quarters have 110V, 60 cycles and 220V, 50 cycles.
- Voltage in off-base quarters is 220V, 50 cycles.
- American appliances can be operated in off base quarters by using transformers.
- American televisions cannot be used off-base. Multi-system television is required.

PETS/QUARANTINE

- All pets (cats and dogs) must have a rabies certificate, dated within 6 months of CONUS departure date.
- A health certificate is also required that certifies that the pet is in good health and free from infectious disease, not more than 6 days before arrival or departure.
- The certificate must be validated by the appropriate medical authority in the country, where the travel begins.
- Animals entering should have:
- Either a clearly readable tattoo or an electronic identification system (transponder).
- In the U.S., validation is performed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (DOA), in Washington, D.C. Members can take the documents to the Greek Consulate for validation. Health clearance will be given at the port of entry.
- There is no quarantine period upon entry into Greece. Personnel should be counseled that they must make arrangements for boarding their pets upon arrival, as most hotels do not allow pets. Greece has a limited amount of boarding kennels available, so booking must be made in advance.
- No military veterinarian facilities are available. Only commercial Veterinary Services are available.
- Birds are prohibited.

HAND GUNS

Importation of hand guns is strictly prohibited. Personnel should store their privately owned firearms at origin or dispose of accordingly. **DO NOT SHIP IN HHGs!**

RIFLES/SHOT GUNS

Mainland

- Greek law prohibits importation of rifles of any kind. The only firearms permitted are smooth bore shotguns. Greek law restricts importation to one shotgun per adult family member. No advance approval is necessary for importation of shotguns. However, they must be registered with the security police upon arrival.
- **DO NOT SHIP RIFLES OR SHOTGUNS to NSA Souda Bay. IMPORTATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Personnel should store their privately owned firearms at origin or dispose of accordingly.
- Other (i.e., Ammo, Explosives, etc.)
- **PROHIBITED! DO NOT SHIP ANY AMMO OR EXPLOSIVES.**

PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES (POVS)

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Member must possess driver's license, "paper" vehicle title, vehicle registration and insurance valid for Greece at the time the POV arrives at the port of entry. If any of these documents are not available, member's vehicle is held at the port. Greek customs does not accept electronic titles.
- **TO EXPEDITE CUSTOMS PROCESS MEMBER SHOULD E-MAIL IN ADVANCE VEHICLE INSPECTION FORM (DD Form 788), ORDERS, TITLE AND REGISTRATION TO ppso-souda@eu.navy.mil**
- **LIEN:** If there is still a lien on the vehicle, member must request bank issue a paper title, prior to departure from the old duty station.

POVS (INCLUDES DATA ON PROHIBITED VEHICLES, COLOR, ETC.)

- DOD military and civilian members assigned to Greece that serve an accompanied tour are authorized to import free of duty taxes two
- (2) Vehicles, including motorcycles, for personal and/or dependent's use. Greece considers motorcycles as POVs.
- Members/Employees can **ONLY** ship 2 vehicles. **DO NOT SHIP 2 VEHICLES IN ADDITION TO A MOTORCYCLE!**
- Members that serve an unaccompanied tour are limited to one (1) duty free vehicle importation (car OR motorcycle) Note: If shipping a car, **DO NOT SHIP ADDITIONAL MOTORCYCLE IN HHGs shipment.**
- A POV shipped at owner's expense must clear customs at the port of entry. Customs clearance must be arranged through a customs broker and owner has to pay all associated fees. The fee is approximately 150 US dollars.
- There is no host country vehicle licensing requirements.

- Any item listed on the Greek customs booklet issued by the Greek Customs authorities at the time of importation of the vehicle, must remain in the vehicle or be produced at the time of sale or re-exportation from the country.
- For POVs shipped to NSA Souda Bay Crete (LD9), add 10 days to the transit time for Greece listed in the Global POV Contract. POVs are trans-shipped from the port of entry Piraeus (LD1) to the port of Souda Bay (LD9) on the island of Crete.

MOTORCYCLES/MOPEDS

- The Greek Government defines all motorcycles, mopeds, mini-bikes as POVs. Motorcycles can be shipped as POVs or may be included in HHGs shipments. (2) Members that are not authorized to import two duty free vehicles (see para 8.a) should not ship a motorcycle in their hhgs in addition to a car.
- Greek Customs authorities will confiscate the second vehicle 40 days after the importation, unless members ship the vehicle out of the country at their own expense or register one of the vehicles with the Greek Motor Vehicle Department and pay import taxes.
- IMPORTANT NOTE: Motorcycles cannot be registered with the Greek Motor Vehicle Department if the manufacture year exceeds 5 years from the arrival day to Greece.
- The requirements listed in the Note of para 8 apply for motorcycles.

GASOLINE/CATALYTIC CONVERTERS

Members are not required to remove catalytic converters prior to shipment. Unleaded fuel is available at local service stations.

INSURANCE AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- Members must possess a valid driver's license and proof of insurance valid in Greece at the time the POV arrives at the port of entry. Current minimum insurance coverage is required for vehicles. (a) 100.000 Euros for property damage and 500.000 Euros for bodily injury. Local auto insurance is relatively inexpensive.
- US Forces regulations require a complete vehicle safety inspection of the POV immediately upon receipt of the POV from the port in Souda Bay and registration with the NSA Motor Vehicle Registration Office.
- Greek law requires each automobile to be equipped with a first aid kit, a safety triangle, and a fire extinguisher. A complete vehicle safety inspection of the POV by the Greek Customs Authorities is required after receipt from the port in Souda.

SEXUALLY EXPLICIT/PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

Importation of pornographic material is prohibited.

STUFF WILD LIFE/ANIMALS AND PLANT RESTRICTIONS

Importation of plants and plant products is prohibited.

SEPARATEES/RETIREEES ENTITLEMENTS/LIMITATIONS

- DO NOT CONSIGN SHIPMENTS FOR RETIREEES, SEPARATEES OR FAMILY MEMBERS RELOCATING TO GREECE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY/CONSULATE GREECE OR DESTINATION GBLOC UANA. DO NOT PROCESS THESE SHIPMENTS IN DPS. PROCESS THESE SHIPMENTS USING MANUAL GBLs.
- Personnel contemplating retirement, separation or relocating family members to Greece should be counseled that all customs entry requirements to include payment of duties and taxes remain the responsibility of the member and is a personal matter between the member and the government of Greece. Personal Property shipments incident to retirement, separation or designated relocation for family members, must be consigned to the member at the selected destination address or when unknown, consigned to the address of the destination moving agent facility.
- All shipment containers and documents must be marked as RETIREMENT SHIPMENT. SEPARATION SHIPMENT or DESIGNATED RELOCATION SHIPMENT. Preferably consign HHGs shipments as Code 4 and/or Unaccompanied Baggage (UB) as Code J.
- Retirees and/or separatees are not authorized U.S. Government arranged customs clearance and duty free importation of personal property or POVs into Greece. Customs clearance must be personally arranged by the separatee/retiree through a licensed Greek customs broker.
- Retired and/or Separated Uniformed Service members who elect to reside in Greece as Ordinary Residents upon retirement or separation from service, MUST obtain a Greek resident visa from a Greek Embassy or Consulate. The resident visa must be obtained prior to arrival in Greece and must be stamped in the member's and/or family member's passports, if accompanied.
- If a visa is not obtained prior to arrival in Greece, member cannot apply for residency permit in country. A residency permit must be obtained prior to clearance and release of personal property shipments. Personal Property shipments should be placed in Non-temporary Storage (NTS) at origin until residency permit is obtained by member. Members could be responsible for excess storage costs of NTS, if storage entitlement exceeds Service guidance.
- Imported personal property inventory must be translated to Greek language. The PPSO does not provide translation services. Members must obtain commercial translation services prior to visiting Greek Customs Office.
- Shipments shipped via DPM must be personally cleared by the member. The DD Form 1299, Application for Shipment and/or Storage of Personal Property must include the following statement: Member counseled clearance through Greek Customs and any related duties, fees levied, are personal responsibilities.

Property will not be released until fees are paid and customs requirements completed.

- Additionally, HHG/UB shipments are immediately impounded by Greek customs authorities pending the property owner's arrival.
- In the interim, the Greek Government automatically assesses handling and storage charges based on the weight and duration of demurrage of the shipment. Assessed charges can be extremely expensive if not properly coordinated with a broker. Property owners are fully responsible for payment of all Greek customs related handling and storage fees, NOT the U.S. government.
- Any government authorized storage in transit of personal property shipments at U.S. Government expense cannot commence until the property owner has personally arranged for the release of his/her property from the possession of the Greek customs authorities.
- POVs imported into Greece in conjunction with retirement or separation from service are subject to extremely high import duties, which can be as much as 200 percent of the assessed value by Greek customs authorities (i.e., POV value is assessed at \$10,000; import duties would be \$20,000).
- Retirees/Separatees are advised to plan accordingly for potential expenses and are strongly encouraged to contact the nearest Greek Embassy/Consulate to obtain the latest information and any required documents related to the importation of personal property/POVs into Greece prior to effecting such shipments.
- **DESIGNATED RELOCATION FAMILY MEMBERS:** Family members relocating to Greece as a designated relocation area are subject to the same Greek customs restrictions as that of retirees and separatees.