

## **\*Information**

Customs service operates at all border-crossing points of the Republic of Azerbaijan (airports, seaports, road and railway crossing points). Customs officers have special uniforms and identification badges. (Flag and identification marks of customs authorities).

Crossing points operate on the borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan with Georgia, Russia, Turkey and Iran. In addition, there are sea borders with Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Russia and Iran, from which there is only a ferry to Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

- *Conveyance of goods not intended for production or commercial purposes by natural persons through the customs border is regulated on the basis of Decision N 305 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated October 14, 2013 "Preferential and simplified rules for the movement of goods not intended for production or for commercial purposes across the customs border by the natural persons".*
- *More detailed information can be obtained from customs authorities operating at border crossing points.*

### **1. When natural persons cross the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan:**

1.1 Goods not intended for production or commercial purposes by natural persons are declared in a preferential and simplified manner.

1.2 The purpose of goods shall be determined by the customs authority proceeding from their nature, quantity, as well as frequency of conveyance of goods with consideration of all circumstances of travel of the natural person and by confirming that the goods are passed through the customs border for the purposes of personal use and consumption of an individual and his family members. Natural person has the right for preferential movement (without paying customs payments) across the customs border of 2 (two) identical and (or) similar goods intended for personal use and consumption by the natural persons and members of his family, within the limits defined by sub clause 2.2 of these Rules. If natural person conveys more than 2 identical and (or) similar goods across the customs border, then the customs authorities, on the basis of the specifics mentioned in this paragraph establish the number of goods in excess of 2 goods transported across the customs border on a preferential basis (without paying customs duties), and for identical and (or) the similar goods conveyed in excess of the established amount, customs payments are made without taking into account the limits provided for in subparagraphs 2.2 and 2.4 of these Rules.

1.3 "Green channel" and "Red channel" release systems are applied at the customs border checkpoints for natural persons to use the preferential and simplified procedure for declaring goods conveyed through the customs border.

1.4 The "Green Channel" release system is intended for verbal declaration of goods by individuals (except goods carried in unaccompanied baggage and sent in postal shipments) to customs authorities.

1.5 The "Red channel" release system is intended for the declaration of goods in written form by submitting a declaration to the customs authorities.

1.6 When natural persons convey goods not intended for production or commercial purposes across the customs border in hand baggage and (or) accompanied baggage, the declaration is submitted simultaneously with the submission of the goods to the customs body.

1.7 The declaration on the goods brought to the customs territory in unaccompanied baggage shall be submitted no later than 15 (fifteen) days after the date on which those goods are submitted to the customs authority where customs clearance will be carried out, and the declaration on the goods carried out of the customs territory in unaccompanied baggage shall be submitted simultaneously with the submission of the goods to the customs authority.

1.8 The declaration is filled out by a legal age natural person.

1.9 The goods contained in the unaccompanied baggage and belonging to a minor shall be subject to declaration by his parents, adoptive parents, tutors, trustees or other persons acting by attorney of the stated persons.

1.10 Natural persons can submit a declaration in advance about the goods and means of transport they will convey through the customs border using the electronic customs service section of the official website of the State Customs Committee (customs.gov.az) or by using the electronic kiosk installed at the customs border checkpoint they can fill it in, print it out and submit it to the border customs authority they cross at that time.

1.11 Natural persons can obtain information about the relevant legislative acts by using the "Information for Travelers" column of the electronic kiosk installed at customs border checkpoints.

**2. The following goods (except for excise goods and motor vehicles) which are not intended for production or commercial purposes by natural persons can be conveyed through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan on a preferential basis (without paying customs payments):**

2.1 personal belongings intended to meet the requirements of the individuals during the trip;

2.2 with the exception of goods specified in sub clause 2.1 of these Rules, goods imported into the customs territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan once during each calendar month, with a total customs value not exceeding the amount equivalent to 800 US dollars;

2.3 goods exported from the customs territory, taking into account the restriction specified in sub clause 2.12 of these Rules;

2.4 goods imported into the customs territory in the name of one and the same individual by international mail or by a transport company, during each calendar month, with a total customs value not exceeding the amount equivalent to USD 300;

- 2.5 Subject to the limitation set out in sub-clause 2.12, goods sent from the customs territory via international mail or carrier;
- 2.6 fuel, in the volume of the fuel tank, intended for by the car design;
- 2.7 drugs required for personal consumption including drugs not registered in the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- 2.8 goods temporarily conveyed through the customs border, with the exception of goods imported for production and commercial purposes, for tourism, sports, business meetings, culture, health care, education, etc., taking into account all the conditions of travel intended for personal the use of a foreign traveler the volume of which exceeds the limit defined by sub clause 2.2 of these Rules
- 2.9 items acquired on the basis of inheritance law, filed according to the rules defined by the Civil Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan (with the presentation of an appropriate confirming document)
- 2.10 *taking into account the excise tax exemption set out by Article 188.1.1 of the Tax Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, once per calendar month, 1.5 liters of alcohol, 200 pieces of cigarettes and 20 grams of gold, jewelry and other household products made of it, processed, sorted, framed and fixed 0.5 carats of diamond imported into the customs territory by each individual who has reached the age of 18 years once during each calendar month for personal use*
- 2.11 *Up to 30 kilograms of various food products imported into the customs territory once during each calendar month;*
- 2.12 *Up to 5 kilograms of sturgeon and up to 125 grams of sturgeon caviar exported from the customs territory once per calendar month.*
- 2.1. personal belongings, household equipment, tools necessary for labor activity in the following cases:
- when a foreign migrant worker crosses the customs border to begin work in the Republic of Azerbaijan and return after the expiration of his activity;
  - when a migrant who is a citizen of Azerbaijan crosses the customs border to start his work in the territory of a foreign state and return after the expiration of his activity.
- 2.2. Restrictions associated with the period intended for in subparagraphs 2.1.2 and 2.1.10 - 2.1.12 of these Rules shall not be applicable to accompanied baggage moved across the customs border by an air transport.
- 2.3. For bringing into the customs territory in a preferential manner of the goods provided for in subparagraphs 2.1.2, 2.1.10 and 2.1.11 of these Rules (without paying customs duties), the total customs value of these goods shall not exceed the limits set by subparagraph 2.1.2 of these Rules. Otherwise, subparagraph 2.2 of these Rules shall be applicable.
- 2.4. If the customs value of goods brought by the individuals to the customs territory not intended for production and commercial purposes exceeds the value specified in subparagraphs 2.1.2 and 2.1.4 of these Rules (with the exception of excisable goods

and motor vehicles), customs clearance of goods shall be implemented in a simplified form, by collecting customs duties in accordance with the tariff and non-tariff regulation of foreign economic activity less the value specified in the clauses from the total customs value of goods.

2.5. For bringing into the customs territory by employees of the diplomatic service of the Republic of Azerbaijan who have served in the diplomatic missions and consulates of the Republic of Azerbaijan for at least two years and by persons performing administrative and technical services for the diplomatic service bodies, representatives of the State Security Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan in foreign countries and international organizations, by military personnel who protect diplomatic missions and consulates of the Republic of Azerbaijan operating in foreign countries and international organizations, of funds and property, as well as one vehicle with a total customs value not exceeding an amount equivalent to 40,000 US dollars, and with an engine capacity of not more than 3,000 cubic centimeters (with the submission of a document confirming payment of the cost of a vehicle, a document of obligation of the owner of a vehicle own a motor vehicle without alienation for one year, and also not dispose of it, with the exception of the right to drive a motor vehicle), purchased by them during the period of work abroad, after presenting to the customs authority the corresponding certified copies of orders on the appointment and recall of an employee seconded to a foreign state by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the State Security Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the governmental body, protecting diplomatic missions and consulates operating in foreign countries and international organizations, customs fees are not levied.

### **3. Rules for bringing currency to the Republic of Azerbaijan and its taking out of the Republic of Azerbaijan:**

3.1. Resident and non-resident natural and legal persons can bring foreign currency into the Republic of Azerbaijan without restrictions, observing customs procedures.

3.2. Resident and non-resident natural and legal persons can take out foreign currency up to 10000 (ten thousand) USD equivalent in cash from the Republic of Azerbaijan by verbally declaring it to the customs authority.

3.3. Resident and non-resident natural and legal persons can take foreign currency in an amount equivalent to from 10000 (ten thousand) USD up to 50000 (fifty thousand) USD in cash out of the Republic of Azerbaijan, submitting customs documents confirming earlier bringing of foreign currency into the Republic of Azerbaijan and written declaration to the customs body.

3.4. Except for the cases provided for in subparagraphs 3.2 and 3.3, in all other cases, taking out of foreign currency from the Republic of Azerbaijan by resident and non-resident natural and legal persons can be carried out only by transfer through designated banks and the national operator of postal communication.

3.5. Resident and non-resident legal persons may take cash national currency (banknotes and coins), national currency denominated securities and national

currency denominated jubilee and commemorative coins out of and bring into the Republic of Azerbaijan by declaring to customs authorities irrespective their nominal amount.

3.6. Resident and non-resident natural persons may take out of and bring into the Republic of Azerbaijan cash national currency (banknotes and coins) and national currency denominated securities up to 20000 (twenty thousand) manats upon verbal declaration to the customs authorities, and 20000 (twenty thousand) manats and over national currency (banknotes and coins) and national currency denominated securities by declaring to customs authorities in full amount in writing.

3.7. Resident and non-resident natural persons may take out of and bring into the Republic of Azerbaijan national currency denominated jubilee and commemorative coins irrespective their nominal amount by declaring to customs authorities in writing.

3.8. Resident and non-resident natural and legal persons may take out of and bring into the Republic of Azerbaijan the national currency without any limits by transfer through designated banks or the national operator of postal communication.

**4. Goods conveyed across the customs border under simplified rules and received (sent) through international customs shipments by submitting the written permits by the state authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan:**

4.1. Types of wild fauna and flora under threat of extinction (CITES species), as well as marine introduction, on the basis of a CITES permit/certificate issued by the administrative authority of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) - by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

4.2. Service and civilian weapons, as well as their ammunition by submitting a permit from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Special Service of State Protection of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the bringing to the Republic of Azerbaijan and taking out of the Republic of Azerbaijan of weapons and ammunition by state security officers and organizations accompanying the heads of state and government members of their families, heads of international organizations, as well as officials of foreign states and international organizations during their visits to the Republic of Azerbaijan to perform official duties).

4.3. Based on the international veterinary certificate issued by the Food Safety Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan, if required by the importing countries, animals, animal products and raw materials; on the basis of the certificate of state registration of pesticides, biological products and agrochemical substances, phytosanitary (re-export phytosanitary) certificate, plants, plant products, as well as plant protection products and agrochemical substances.

4.4. Based on the consent of the State Committee on Affairs with Religious Associations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, religious literature (on paper and electronic media), audio and video materials, goods and products, as well as other information materials of religious content.

4.5. Cultural property included in the protected list by submitting the certificate of protection on the possibility of export, issued by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan and complying with its requirements.

## **5. Goods prohibited for transportation by natural persons across the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan:**

*(According to the Articles 214-215 of the Customs Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan № 564 dated December 23, 2003 "On the list of items not allowed for civil circulation (excluded from civil circulation)", the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan № 565 dated December 23, 2003 "On the list of items that may belong to certain participants of civil circulation and civil circulation of which is allowed by special permission (with limited civil circulation)", the Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan № 42 dated February 9, 2006 on approval of the "List of works, services, results of intellectual activity according to the codes corresponding to the nomenclature of goods subject to export control" and "List of goods and items prohibited to be sent in postal shipments" approved by the Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan № 191 dated December 9, 2004).*

### **5.1. Goods prohibited to be brought into the territory of the country:**

- service and civilian weapons, all items of military purpose, explosives, military equipment, the circulation of which is prohibited by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- radioactive substances;
- narcotics, psychotropic substances and their precursors, equipment for their use;
- materials promoting and advertising immorality, violence, terrorism;
- materials related to the technology of preparation of narcotics, psychotropic, poisonous, explosive substances;

### **5.2. Goods prohibited for purchase through international mail:**

- goods prohibited to be brought into the territory of the above-mentioned country;
- equipment for issuing money and postage stamps;
- human organs and (or) tissues;
- live animals;
- volatile substances;
- poisonous and toxicological substances;
- biological and infectious substances;
- mercury, chemical reagents and acids;
- perishable food products;
- shipments that, due to their characteristics or packaging, may pose a danger to postal workers, cause damage, spoilage or contamination of other postal items and postal equipment;
- coins, banknotes and travel vouchers

### **5.3. Goods prohibited to be carried out of the territory of the country:**

- zoological collections, their parts or separate objects, including animal world objects, which are not allowed to be carried out or sent, imported or bought by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- valuable tree species (walnut, chestnut, linden, oak, beech, ironwood);
- service and civilian weapons, all items of military purpose, explosives, military equipment, the circulation of which is prohibited by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- radioactive substances;
- narcotics, psychotropic substances and their precursors, equipment for their use;
- immorality, violence, propagating and advertising materials;
- materials related to the technologies of preparation of narcotics, psychotropic, poisonous, explosive substances;
- literature about special confidential means of communication, their codes and operation;
- Information systems, documents and archives of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the State Security Service, the State Border Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs on operative investigative activities;
- state important documents, inventions, projects;
- rare plants, deer and roe deer horns included in the Red Book of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- objects that are national cultural property included in the State List of national cultural property of the Republic of Azerbaijan, except for use for temporary exhibitions, tours, restoration works, presentations, international cultural events;
- if it is impossible to read the content of data carriers, they are not released from the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- it is not allowed to send weapons and their ammunition by individuals.

#### 5.4. Goods prohibited to be sent by international mail;

- goods prohibited to be carried out from the territory of the above-mentioned country;
- equipment for issuing money and postage stamps;
- human organs and (or) tissues;
- live animals;
- volatile substances;
- poisonous and toxicological substances;
- biological and infectious substances;
- mercury, chemical reagents and acids;
- materials that humiliate a person's honor and dignity, insult his national and religious feelings;
- perishable food products;
- shipments that, due to their characteristics or packaging, may pose a danger to postal workers, cause damage, spoilage or contamination of other postal items and postal equipment;
- coins, banknotes and travel vouchers;
- goods and items prohibited by the country of destination;

- firearms and their ammunition;
- original documents with the state coat of arms engraved on them;
- standards of state quantitative units;
- documents of the State Archive Fund.

5.5. Goods restricted to be conveyed through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan by natural persons.

- equipment for producing military weapons and ammunition;
- equipment for producing combat military equipment;
- service and civilian weapons;
- space-satellite means of communication, special confidential means of communication and ciphers, equipment intended for the production of these means and ciphers;
- mining of precious stones, mining and processing of gold and other precious metals, oil, oil products and natural gas, means of processing oil and oil products waste;
- ionizing radiation sources, including radioactive substances, equipment intended for the production of such sources and substances, irradiating devices, with the exception of household and medical devices;
- equipment for printing securities and equipment for the production of such equipment;
- narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances which circulation is restricted in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan by law, psychotropic substances which circulation is controlled in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, equipment used in the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and which circulation is controlled;
- explosive substances and devices, flammable substances and pyrotechnic products;
- ozone depleting substances and products containing such substances;
- powerful or toxic substances that do not belong to narcotics and psychotropic substances, equipment for preparing or processing those substances;
- technical means intended for receiving information secretly;
- radio receiver devices with a wide frequency range for conducting radio surveillance and radio control;
- radio transmitters that exceed the power criteria determined by the relevant executive authority;
- military and special uniforms with distinguishing badges of operational-search activity subjects, military personnel and prosecutor's office employees;
- genetically modified plants intended for scientific research, testing and exhibition purposes, as well as agricultural plant materials created by modern biotechnological and genetic engineering methods;
- food products produced using genetic materials of genetically modified plants intended for scientific research, testing and exhibition purposes;
- remotely controlled drones.



## **6. Rules for customs clearance of vehicles passing through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

6.1. When vehicles are brought to the customs territory by natural persons, customs clearance is carried out in a simplified manner by receiving customs payments in accordance with the tariff and non-tariff regulation of foreign economic activity, other requirements established by law, and supporting documents.

6.2. It is prohibited to bring and register vehicles with the steering wheel on the right side in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

6.3. Motor vehicles that are not permanently registered in foreign countries or have been deregistered are not allowed to be temporarily brought into the customs territory (except for vehicles in transit).

6.4. Temporary import of motor vehicles and their trailers (semi-trailers) belonging to goods headings 8703 and 8711 permanently registered in foreign countries to the customs territory by non-residents is allowed for a period of 90 days and for the extension of this period, the period specified in the person's visa or the permit card for temporary residence in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, provided that it does not exceed 1 year or in the decision on extending the period of temporary stay of a foreigner or stateless person in the Republic of Azerbaijan with the application of security methods for ensuring the payment of the customs debt determined by Article 258 of the Customs Code.

6.5. Temporary bringing of motor vehicles permanently registered in foreign countries to the customs territory by residents is permitted for a period of not more than 1 year by applying security methods to ensure the payment of the customs debt determined by Article 258 of the Customs Code, and the period of temporary registration of those motor vehicles is not increased.

6.6. One of the following conditions must be met before the temporary importation of the vehicle expires or while the vehicle is in transit within 72 hours:

6.6.1. the vehicle is returned from the customs territory;

6.6.2. Security methods are applied to ensure the payment of the customs debt determined by Article 258 of the Customs Code;

6.6.3. the motor vehicle is kept under customs control in the places determined by the customs authority;

6.6.4. a confirmation document issued by the Chief State Traffic Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the breakdown of the motor vehicle as a result of an accident, and by the state body that made a decision on the arrest of the motor vehicle is submitted;

6.6.5. customs clearance is carried out in a simplified manner by receiving customs payments in accordance with the tariff and non-tariff regulation of foreign economic activity.

6.7. In the cases provided for in subsection 6.6.3, the operations related to bringing or transporting the vehicle to the places specified by the customs body, as well as its storage, should not cause additional costs to the customs bodies.

Until the expiration of the specified periods, a non-resident who temporarily brings or transits a motor vehicle must comply with one of the conditions stipulated in that paragraph when leaving the territory of the country.

6.8. Non-residents are responsible in accordance with the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Republic of Azerbaijan for taking temporarily imported motor vehicles out of the customs territory in violation of the established terms or not taking them out of the customs territory in violation of the requirements of these rules.

6.9. Motor vehicles permanently registered in the Republic of Azerbaijan may be temporarily taken out of the customs territory for a period of 2 years or permanently taken out of the customs territory by individuals.

6.10. Transit of motor vehicles through the customs border by natural persons or delivery to the customs body where customs clearance will be carried out must be carried out within 72 hours, provided that these motor vehicles are not given to the use or disposal of other persons.

6.11. Provision of a temporary state registration certificate and registration marks to motor vehicles temporarily brought to the customs territory for more than 30 days is carried out by the body that carries out the state registration of vehicles in accordance with the "Traffic" Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan, with the owner taking an undertaking to return the vehicles and drawing up a customs card (relevant authorization document) by the relevant customs body.

## **7. Rules for customs clearance and customs control of service and civilian weapons and their ammunition carried by natural persons through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan.**

7.1. The validity period of the special permit granted to natural persons to bring civilian weapons and their ammunition to the Republic of Azerbaijan is six months.

7.2. Service and civilian weapons, their ammunition can be brought to the customs territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan by residents.

7.3. Non-residents may temporarily bring civilian weapons to the Republic of Azerbaijan only for the purpose of hunting and using them at weapon exhibitions or sports competitions in accordance with the legislation.

7.4. The special permit issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan for service and civilian weapons cannot be given to another individual or legal entity by power of attorney.

7.5. Non-residents can acquire civilian weapons and their ammunition on the condition that they are taken out of the customs territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan no later than five days from the time of acquisition, based on the special permit issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs at the request of the representation of the states of which they are citizens. If the period of removal of purchased weapons and their ammunition from the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan is violated, those weapons and ammunition are confiscated.

## **8. Rules for the transfer of cultural resources through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan:**

8.1. Cultural assets that are transported through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan must be declared in writing to the customs authority.

8.2. National cultural assets are released outside the customs territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan only during temporary exhibitions, tours, presentations, restoration works and international cultural events, as a rule, for no more than six months a year.

8.3. The originals of the documents included in the national archival fund or their replacement copies may be removed from the borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan for a maximum period of three months in accordance with the established procedure.

8.4. A person who temporarily transfers cultural assets through the customs border of the Republic of Azerbaijan must submit an obligation to return them to the customs authority in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.