

IMPORT

Everything you need to know about importing.

Import is the transfer of goods across state borders, from a foreign source.

The one who carries out the importation is called the importer. Goods enter/exit to/from the Albanian customs territory from/to a foreign country on the way:

Land: Goods are subject to customs supervision from the moment they enter the Albanian territory. These goods must be sent without loss of time by the person transporting them:

- a) in the customs office designated by the customs authorities or in any other place designated or approved by them; OR
- b) in a free zone, if the goods must be brought into that free zone directly by water, air or land.

Airways designated by the authorities responsible for international traffic, and can land and take off from international airports approved for air traffic with foreign countries.

Vessels that transport goods entering or leaving the customs territory of the Republic of Albania and sailing in the border customs area in the sea, lakes and navigable rivers, must have the goods manifest on board.

Railway, which is allowed only through the railway company that agrees to introduce goods accompanied by a delivery document into the customs territory, and is the body responsible for carrying out the relevant customs formalities.

Wondering how your overseas order is arriving? Follow the whole process.



PLACE OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

The ordered shipment arrives at designated places of declaration of goods and their customs clearance - Post customs office, or if it arrives by air transport - customs office, Rinas Tirana.

CUSTOMS DECLARATION

The shipment is taken care of by companies that carry out fast or regular delivery - based on the data declared in the shipment, it is determined whether the shipment is subject to import duties or is exempt from import duties and duties.

Shipments with a value of 22 euros (including shipping costs) are released immediately after the shipment arrives; there is no obligation to submit a customs declaration for them.

For all other shipments that have a value above 22 euros (together with shipping costs), there is an obligation to submit a customs declaration in written form.

This declaration can be presented by the carrier of the shipment (post or express mail) or by another customs agent. It can also be presented by a natural person receiving the shipment.

This is a matter of choice for the importer (legal or natural person) - he must decide for himself who will present the customs declaration.

One of the easiest ways defined by the Customs Administration is the submission of a simplified customs declaration by the importer fulfilling the following conditions:

The value of the shipment (together with shipping costs) must not exceed an amount of 800 euros and a net mass of up to 1,000 kg. This is the easiest way for customs clearance of shipments coming from import.

If these conditions are not met, it is mandatory to present a customs declaration in a regular customs procedure. This declaration can be presented by the importer (individual or legal entity), customs agent - commissioner of goods, or by post or express mail.

This type of declaration is presented only in electronic form, without paper for all shipments containing goods of a commercial nature, the value of which is 450 euros in particular: for goods of a commercial nature that are part of a regular series of similar shipments, for goods that are subject to restrictions, prohibitions and other import formalities. If it exceeds the value of 450 euros, then for its import it must be a company with NIPT, it cannot be done by an individual.



DOCUMENTATION

Often, from the place where the shipment is ordered, they mark it with a statement that says what it contains, its value, and where it comes from. This statement is valid evidence describing the goods ordered.

If other documentation is required, the responsible person from the customs office contacts the consignee. If he does not provide the necessary data, the value for which the order must be cleared is calculated by the customs officials.

If he does not agree with the determined value, he has the right to submit an objection to it.

If a shipment is sent from one person to another, the sender must be careful to indicate the value of the goods, to more easily determine whether it has undergone proper customs clearance and payment of duties.



EXTRA COSTS

Costs that are included in the value for which an order must be subject to customs include postage costs that occur outside of Albania.

This means if the order is 50 euros, and the postage to arrive costs 10 euros, the total value of the order is 60 euros.

The customs value does not include other possible additional costs arising in our country, which are calculated and charged by the public post office of Albania and

After determining the customs value of the shipment, the customs officials calculate the additional amount of duties to be sent.

If the customs value of the shipment is less than 22 euros, it is exempt from customs and VAT. This does not apply if the shipment is an alcoholic beverage, tobacco product, perfume.

If the customs value of the shipment is over 22 euros, then import duties must be paid, ie. customs and VAT. In this case, the additional costs for handling and handling are paid, which are sent by the Rinas customs branch and the post office of Albania.

These handling and handling costs are often charged to shipments that are exempt from paying customs duties and VAT on importation, and citizens often think they are customs duties.

*This only applies if the shipment is sent by a legal entity, and does not apply if the shipment is received by another natural person.



THE ARRIVAL OF THE SHIPMENT

At the moment when the shipment arrives in the territory of Albania until the treatment with it is determined, it is under customs supervision and treated as goods temporarily stored in a customs office.

After the whole process is completed, the shipment arrives at the post office and you will be notified to go pick it up at the nearest point!

