

If you need further help or advice, or if you have any suggestions regarding the contents of this notice, please contact SBA Customs at the following locations:

**SBA Customs
RAF Akrotiri
Akrotiri
BFPO 57**

**Fiscal Office
HQ SBAA
Episkopi
BFPO 53**

**SBA Customs
Dhekelia
BFPO 58**

Tel (2527) 6762

Tel (2596) 3337

Tel (2474) 4226

Fax (2595) 2101

Fax (2596) 3342

Fax (2472) 3533



SBA CUSTOMS & IMMIGRATION

TRAVELLING TO NORTHERN CYPRUS

(Turkish Controlled Areas)



Travelling to the Turkish Controlled Areas (TCA)

Cyprus is divided by a United Nations buffer zone, more commonly known as the Green Line, which divides the Republic of Cyprus (RoC) and the TCA. The TCA is not formally recognised as a part of the European Union (EU) and therefore customs allowances differ when crossing the Green Line. It is possible to travel to the TCA via several crossing points within the RoC and the Sovereign Base Areas (SBAs)

You will need your passport to travel between the RoC/ SBAs and the TCA and you must have entered the island through a recognised port or airport in the RoC/SBA

If you are a non-EU national, require a visa to enter the RoC and travel to the TCA, you will need the correct visa to re-enter the RoC. Any non-EU nationals attempting to enter the RoC/SBAs having arrived through a port (Kyrenia/Famagusta) or airport (Ercan) in the TCAs will be refused entry. If you are in any doubt of your requirements of travel you should ask a RoC/ SBA Customs & Immigration Officer before you travel

Driving

Any insurance and breakdown cover for your vehicle in RoC is not valid in the TCA. You need to purchase separate motor insurance for any vehicle you may take. This can be purchased at most crossing points before entering the TCA immigration control; however it may be cheaper to purchase it from a local insurance agent. It is also usually cheaper in the long-run to purchase a TCA car insurance policy for a year if you are planning to make multiple trips to the TCA

Any foreign registered vehicle imported through a TCA port will not be allowed entry into the RoC/SBA. Temporary permission to import may be allowed provided the owner is not resident in the RoC/SBA/TCA and can provide sufficient evidence the vehicle will only be in the RoC/SBA for a short period

Shopping

You will find that certain goods are cheaper in the TCA. You are restricted to the quantities you can buy and return to the RoC/ SBAs. The following restrictions apply:

Customs Allowances

40 Cigarettes or 50 grammes of Tobacco

1 Litre of Spirits

Goods that do not exceed €260 in total

If you exceed these allowances then all of your goods and /or vehicle are liable to seizure and subsequent destruction. There are heavy penalties for persons caught smuggling

Prohibited Items

Subject to Green Line Regulations the following items are prohibited: *(This list is not exhaustive)*

Counterfeit Products

Controlled Drugs

Firearms, ammunition and any kind of offensive weapons

Indecent and/or obscene material

Goods of commercial quantity and nature

Plants, seeds and soil

Animal Products or Live Animals –

Please note; live animals that are taken to the TCA from the RoC will not be permitted to re-enter the RoC. This includes family pets with pet passports

Useful Tips for Travellers

- Be aware of the contents of the vehicle at all times
- Always declare the contents of your vehicle and anything you have purchased or obtained in the TCA
- Be prepared to answer any questions asked by SBA Customs & Immigration at the crossing point
- Present receipts or invoices for any purchases made in the TCA
- Commercial consignments need to have the correct authorisation and documentation
- Please ask SBA Customs & Immigration Officers before crossing to the TCA if there is anything that you are unsure of