

Bringing Regulated Products for Personal use into the Philippines

(Per Joint Circular No. 1 dated 22 June 2015 of the Department of Health, Food and Drug Administration, and the Bureau of Customs), accessed in Nov 2017.

Regulated Products

Philippine authorities consider the following items as **Regulated Products** which travellers **may bring into the Philippines** without prior clearance from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) **only in limited quantities and** on the conditions that the items:

- are for personal use only
- do not exceed the quantity indicated below
- are brought into the Philippines either (a) in the traveller's personal baggage, (b) in a balikbayan box, or (c) in parcel sent through mail or delivery service

The regulated products and respective quantity limitations are as follows:

1. Assorted cosmetics: 5 kilograms
2. Bar soap: 2 kilograms comprising different variants (only up to 500 grams of the same variant allowed)
3. Childcare articles: 5 kilograms
4. Household hazardous substances (detergent: fabric conditioner: fabric softener: dishwashing liquid): 5 kilograms
5. Insulin needles and lancets: up to 100 pieces
6. In-vitro diagnostic products: 1 piece of each type
7. In-vitro maintenance test strips: up to 100 pieces
8. Lipstick: 10 pieces comprising different variants (only up to 3 pieces of the same variant allowed)
9. Lotion: 2 kilograms comprising different variants (only up to 1 kilogram of the same variant allowed)
10. Medical devices: 1 piece of each type
11. Over-the-counter drugs: 50 grams
12. Perfumes: 5 pieces
13. Prescription drugs, quantity or volume indicated in physician's prescription (actual prescription must be presented, indicating physician's license or practice number)
14. Processed food (including cooked food): up to 10 kilograms
15. Shampoo: 2 kilograms
16. Toys: 10 pieces of different variants (only up to 2 pieces of the same variant allowed)
17. Vitamins: supplements: health supplements intended as maintenance medicine: 500 grams total
18. Wines, liquor: 2 bottles, but not exceeding 1.5 liters

Any quantity of the above-cited products, whether declared or undeclared, beyond the specified limits which do not have the required Bureau of Customs or FDA-DOH (Food and Drug Administration – Department of Health) Clearance, will be seized and forfeited by the Bureau of Customs.

Fresh or Frozen Unprocessed Foods

Fresh or frozen unprocessed foods – including fresh fruits, frozen meat, fresh fish – even in quantities for personal use, may NOT be brought into or sent to the Philippines without the prior clearance from the Department of Agriculture of the Philippines.

Pesticides

Importation of any household urban pesticides shall require prior FDA (Food and Drug Administration) release.

Dangerous Drugs, Controlled Precursor and Essential Chemicals

Dangerous drugs, controlled precursor and essential chemicals, and other similar or analogous substances are subject to the regulations of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).