

# IMPORTING INTO SAMOA

How to import food, animals and animal products, plants and plant products, and vehicles, machinery, and equipment into Samoa for private and commercial use.

## IMPORT PERMIT

If an import permit is required, you can apply for one via email or in person. The fees will be confirmed at the time of application.

## RECEIVE DOCUMENTATION

If you are bringing the product with you into Samoa, you must declare it on your passenger arrival card and have all the required documentation with you. If you are importing or sending products to Samoa, documentation must be provided to the Biosecurity Samoa Main Office.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Border clearance helps prevent the entry of unwanted pests and diseases when importing goods into Samoa.



## CHECK THE REQUIREMENTS

Check the import requirements with Biosecurity Samoa. These can be found on the website or by contacting the Biosecurity Samoa Main Office. If you want to bring your household pet to Samoa, contact Biosecurity Samoa in the first instance.



## EXPORT CERTIFICATION

Biosecurity Samoa may require a certificate issued by the appropriate government agency of the exporting country. These certificates contain assurances about the health of the animal or plant, or their products. If you need an export certificate, it will tell you in the import permit.

## HOUSEHOLD PETS

Contact Biosecurity Samoa in the first instance for information about importing household pets into Samoa.



## INSPECTION

Once Biosecurity Samoa have received both the regulated articles and the required documentation, then inspection may begin. Articles must be inspected according to the appropriate clearance procedure.

## INCOMPLETE DOCUMENTATION OR FAILED INSPECTION

### HOLD / FINE / DESTROY

If the documentation is incomplete or the regulated article fails inspection then the regulated article will be seized and destroyed, or held for a non-compliance fee.

False or incomplete declaration or lack of an import permit may result in a fine or prosecution at the discretion of the Inspection Biosecurity Official.



## COMPLETE DOCUMENTATION & BIOSECURITY INSPECTOR APPROVAL

### ITEM RELEASED INTO SAMOA

If the documentation is complete, the regulated article passes inspection and all fees are paid then the article is released into Samoa.



**BIOSECURITY SAMOA**  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES



🌐 [www.maf.gov.ws](http://www.maf.gov.ws)  
✉ [biosecurity.info@maf.gov.ws](mailto:biosecurity.info@maf.gov.ws)  
☎ (685) 20924 ☎ (685) 27011



## HONEY

HONEY IS PROHIBITED AND NOT ALLOWED INTO SAMOA. OVERSEAS HONEY CAN CARRY DISEASES THAT COULD HARM SAMOA'S BEES



DISPOSE  
OR  
DECLARE

**DO YOU HAVE UNWANTED  
GUESTS IN YOU BAGS?**

## LITTLE FIRE ANT

THE LITTLE FIRE ANT IS A HIGHLY INVASIVE PEST THAT CAN BE FOUND IN FRESH FLOWERS AND ULA. THEY COULD BE VERY HARMFUL TO OUR ISLAND ECOSYSTEM

DISPOSE  
OR  
DECLARE



[biosecurity.info@maf.gov.ws](mailto:biosecurity.info@maf.gov.ws)



[www.maf.gov.ws](http://www.maf.gov.ws)



(685) 27011 (685) 20924





# HELP US PROTECT OUR WAY OF LIFE

Food, plant materials, and animal products from other countries can introduce pests and diseases that threaten Samoa's agriculture and environment. Everyone travelling to Samoa must follow biosecurity regulations to prevent the spread of pests and diseases.



## BIOSECURITY AT THE AIRPORT

All passengers are required to declare any biosecurity risk items on their arrival card. Declared items may be inspected to ensure that they can be safely brought into Samoa. Biosecurity Samoa has the authority to hold, reship, or destroy goods that do not comply with Samoa's importing requirements. Penalties may also apply.



## PLANT & ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Travellers are required to declare all plant and animal products, including food, on their arrival card, and present these items for biosecurity inspection upon arrival. All food items must be commercially packaged. Only fruits, vegetables, dairy, and meat from approved sources can be imported into Samoa. These items may have additional requirements, such as needing a permit to import. Food provided by the airline should be left on the aircraft upon arrival. If you plan to bring any of these items, contact Biosecurity Samoa before you travel to confirm the biosecurity requirements.



## TRADITIONAL GIFT EXCHANGE

Travellers are advised to plan ahead if they intend to bring gifts made from plant or animal materials to Samoa. Including handicrafts, fine mats, animal hides, ula, herbal medicines, and traditional clothing made from fresh leaves, flowers, seeds, or feathers. These items may pose a biosecurity risk and must be declared and presented for biosecurity inspection upon arrival. If you plan to bring gifts, contact Biosecurity Samoa before you travel to confirm the biosecurity requirements.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BIOSECURITY SAMOA**

🌐 [www.maf.gov.ws](http://www.maf.gov.ws)  
 ☎ **Main Office** (685) 27011 (685) 20924  
 ✉ [biosecurity.info@maf.gov.ws](mailto:biosecurity.info@maf.gov.ws)



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# EXPORTING FROM SAMOA

## COMMERCIAL

How to export goods to sell overseas, including fresh and frozen products and handicrafts.

### FARM REGISTRATION

Agricultural products for export must be sourced from a registered farm. Contact the MAF Crops Division to register your farm.

### EXPORT LICENCE

All commercial exporters must hold a valid export licence for each country they export to. Apply for an export licence via email ([biosecurityinfo@maf.gov.ws](mailto:biosecurityinfo@maf.gov.ws)) or in person at the Biosecurity Division main office (Beach Rd, Matautu-tai).

### PRE-EXPORT TREATMENT AND INSPECTION

Some goods may need treatment and inspection before leaving Samoa. The required treatment will depend on the destination country.

### CERTIFICATION

Some goods may require certification before leaving Samoa. The certification requirements will depend on the destination country.

### SECURELY STORE THE ITEMS UNTIL EXPORT

Once certified, goods must be stored in a manner to prevent reinfestation until export.

### EXPORT



## PRIVATE

How to take goods overseas for private use.

### PLANT PRODUCTS

le toga, handicrafts, fresh produce.



### CHECK COUNTRY REQUIREMENTS WITH BIOSECURITY SAMOA

There are certain requirements that must be met to take goods to other countries. The requirements will depend on the country the goods are being taken to.

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### EXPORT

### ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Household pets, reef fish, fresh meat to American Samoa, canned sausages.



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### HOUSEHOLD PETS

- Check if your pet needs to be microchipped.
- Ensure your pet meets all of the import requirements set by the destination country. Each destination country has different requirements.
- Use a pet transporter.
- Ensure necessary documentation is completed correctly.
- Check whether you require an animal welfare certificate from a government veterinarian.
- Get an export certificate from a government veterinarian.
- If you are planning to bring your pet back to Samoa, check the requirements for bringing household pets to Samoa before you leave.



## WHAT IS BIOSECURITY?

Biosecurity is the first line of defense in protecting Samoa's agriculture, wildlife and fishing industries from exotic insects, pests and diseases found in other countries.

## UNWANTED PESTS

Keep an eye out for these pests when packing your belongings to bring to Samoa.



### CANE TOAD

Cane toads are one of the most invasive species in the world. They threaten our communities and native wildlife. These toads can enter Samoa on pallets or in packaging materials, where they often hide and lay their eggs.



### KHAPRA BEETLE

Khapra beetles are smaller than a grain of rice but are one of the most destructive pests of grains and seeds. They are found in food products, food storage containers and packaging material.



### LITTLE FIRE ANT

The Little Fire Ant (LFA) is very small and aggressive. They are highly invasive and can rapidly establish and spread in new areas, where they feed on native insects. Flower lei's from American Samoa can harbour LFA.



### CRB-G

Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Guam biotype (CRB-G) is a new and more aggressive type of CRB devastating the Pacific Islands. The beetle damages a range of tropical plants, including Coconut palm, Banana, Papaya and Sugarcane.

## REGULATED ITEMS



Any items pictured here either require an import permit or need to be declared on your arrival card when entering the Samoa. Contact the Biosecurity Division to learn specific requirements.

### LIVE ANIMALS

You may be able to bring live animals to Samoa if you meet the quarantine and animal health requirements. You will need to contact the Biosecurity Division at least 3 months ahead of your arrival in Samoa.

### FRESH CUT FLOWERS

You may be able to bring fresh-cut flowers for decorative purposes into Samoa if you meet the quarantine and plant health requirements. Contact the Biosecurity Division to learn these requirements.

## WARNING

**FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN A FINE OR PROSECUTION.**

DISCLAIMER: The information in this brochure is correct at the time of publication (2024). The requirements are subject to change at any time without prior notice. If in doubt ask at your local Biosecurity Office.

# IMPORTING INTO SAMOA

FROM APPROVED COUNTRIES



APPROVED  
COUNTRIES



SAMOA

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## WHAT TO EXPECT UPON ARRIVAL INTO SAMOA

### ARRIVAL CARD + DECLARATION

Every traveler into Samoa will be given a passenger arrival card before entering the country. It is important to read and fill it out carefully and declare any risk items in your possession.

### DISPOSE

Discard any risk items in the amnesty bins that are provided at our borders before you go through the Biosecurity clearance process.

### DON'T BE SHY TO ASK

Biosecurity officers on duty at all points of entry and can assist, when you are unsure. Please seek their assistance when you are in doubt.

### ENSURE YOU ARE SOIL FREE

Sports, gardening and outdoor equipment and any wooden items must be clean and free from any traces of soil.

### HONEY

You are not allowed to bring honey into Samoa due to the country's freedom from many bee diseases.

**BEE INFORMED, BEE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELER**

## ARE YOU BRINGING PLANTS OR ANIMAL PRODUCTS?

THERE ARE IMPORTANT BIOSECURITY STEPS TO FOLLOW

