



**Britannia**  
Movers



# Switzerland

ALL THE RIGHT MOVES

# Importing Goods to Switzerland



## Importing Personal Effects

The importation of household goods and personal effects is duty free, provided the goods have been owned and used by you for at least 6 months prior to importing.

The importation of used goods and personal effects to Switzerland is usually duty and tax free. You will need proof of identity, an employment contract or work permit, and a Swiss Customs Declaration to fulfil the stringent entry regulations. Britannia can provide the necessary customs forms and other information on importing household effects.

If you're importing your belongings by shared load (groupage), all consignments will be bar coded before they are loaded into the shipping container. This will ensure that no items are left at origin and will allow Britannia to check the status of your goods in transit.

## Documentation

As Switzerland is not a member of the EU it will be necessary to clear your goods through customs on arrival. In general, you will have to satisfy the authorities that you have the necessary status to be domiciled in Switzerland. You will have to prove you have obtained accommodation, a work permit if you are intending to take up employment and complete a Swiss Customs Declaration. Britannia can provide the necessary customs forms and other information on importing household effects.

## Transit Times

Transit times can vary subject to the method of transport chosen, size of your consignment for part or dedicated load, and where you are moving to. Britannia will be able to advise you of timings once this information is established.

## Prohibitions and Restrictions

The following items are prohibited or restricted and we strongly advise you not to include them in your consignment:

- Firearms, ammunition & weapons
- Inflammable goods & substances
- Plants, plant material & animal products
- Foodstuffs, perishables or otherwise
- Alcohol, tobacco & narcotics
- Dangerous goods
- Objectionable, indecent and offensive material

There are restrictions in transporting some classes of goods across borders and within some countries. Several countries restrict the value or volume/weight of such goods as alcohol, tobacco and cigarettes. Recent changes to legislation in Europe mean that it is now forbidden to travel through France on route to other countries in any vehicle carrying more than a minimal quantity of cigarettes or alcohol.

If a vehicle is stopped and searched and alcohol and tobacco are found amongst household effects, large fines may apply plus the cost of delays to the vehicle and costs to any third parties whose consignments are also affected.





# Welcome to Britannia in Switzerland

## Britannia Moving To/From Switzerland

Switzerland has always been a popular European destination for people looking to move overseas. Consequently, Britannia has been providing a regular removal service between the UK and Switzerland for many years and can offer a door-to-door service if required.

Many of Britannia's network of companies specialise in moving to Switzerland. With the support of our relationships with local Swiss removal companies, we can also offer site surveys, access to additional resources, as well as storage facilities in Switzerland. This allows Britannia to offer you a complete moving package.

## Storage

Should you require storage prior to delivery this can be arranged. You should expect to pay a one-off storage handling fee plus a monthly storage charge. Please note that these charges are payable locally.

It is vitally important that you ensure that your marine insurance policy is extended for the period of the storage.



## Motor Vehicles

Importation of cars to Switzerland will be subject to compliance, and duty tax may apply. Any car sold in the European Community is normally automatically in accordance with Swiss law, you will however need to register your car and request license plates once you arrive in Switzerland. Shipment of right-hand vehicles is not recommended.

## Additional Services

Britannia can provide a range of additional moving services when moving to Switzerland. We are authorised to provide comprehensive insurance, arrange international storage, help you with relocating your family pets, and can also recommend a convenient way to transfer your money. For further information about Britannia's partner companies please scan this QR code.



# Your Moving Guide Checklist

## Three Months Before

- Arrange for a pre-move survey with Britannia
- Have a clear idea what you would like to take with you
- Arrange for a quote for the transportation of your family pet

## Six Weeks Before

- Book move date and agree moving plan
- Make a list of any items to be moved which will need particular care
- Book pet transport carrier and confirm logistics
- Advise of new school addresses so that education records can be passed on quickly
- Doctor – de-register. If undergoing hospital treatment, notify a new doctor as soon as possible

## Four Weeks Before

- Advise schools/nurseries of movement and obtain records
- Cancel memberships including gym, library etc
- Arrange financial affairs: foreign exchange, pension transfers and bank accounts

## Three Weeks Before

- Confirm childcare arrangements for moving day
- Plan the best way to look after pets on moving day and confirm itinerary for transportation
- Clear out unwanted belongings
- Start using up food from the freezer

## Two Weeks Before

- Contact service providers to arrange final accounts and meter readings
- Telecoms/digital/cable TV provider
- Electricity supplier
- Gas/Oil supplier
- Water Rates
- Local Council Taxes
- Credit card/store card or credit card protection companies
- TV Licence
- Notify all hire purchase/lease/standing orders or loans companies

## Notify plans of movement:

- Dentist
- Optician
- Amend insurance cover on buildings, household contents, motor, life etc
- National Insurance
- Child Benefit
- Motor vehicle registration
- Driving Licence (DVLA)
- Pension company
- Redirection of mail via the Post Office (visit your local Post Office for details)
- Send out change of address cards to friends, relatives, clubs, and organisations
- Organise the disconnection and reconnection of domestic appliances: washing machine, cooker, dishwasher

## Two Days Before

- Defrost the fridge and freezer
- Cancel any regular deliveries (milk / newspapers)

## The Day Before

- Check drawers and trunks/chests for any fragile items
- Take down curtains and blinds
- Put together a pile of 'do not remove' essentials: passports, tickets, itineraries, coats, handbags, snacks, cleaning materials
- Pack small valuables separately and leave with essentials pile e.g. jewellery, watches, money, bonds, coins, stamps etc
- Separate your airfreight consignment from your sea freight if applicable

## The Big Day

- Confirm service meter readings and keep a spare copy of readings
- Switch off power and water supplies (if necessary)
- Lock all windows and doors
- Drop keys off with estate agent
- Confirm you have provided all required documentation for your sea freight/airfreight consignment

