

Swiss customs regulations

Basic information

As Switzerland is not part of the European Union, different rules apply to the import and export of commercial goods than within the EU.

When goods are imported for sale at a market, the basic procedure for customs formalities is as follows:

- Products imported for sale in Switzerland must be declared upon importation and the fees (mainly VAT) and customs duties due for them must be deposited as security. The security deposit can be made by guarantee of a customs agency or as a cash deposit when crossing the border.
- When items that have not been sold are re-exported, they must again be declared. Subsequently, the security deposit already paid or guaranteed for the unsold items will be released.

The above formalities can be handled either by the trader/importer or by a customs agency. Customs formalities can be completed during the opening hours of the customs offices.

The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 7.7% is significantly lower than in neighboring countries. Since Switzerland is outside the EU, the higher VAT of the country of origin can usually be reclaimed. The lower VAT costs usually the customs clearance costs.

Customs agencies

We recommend using the services of a customs agency to simplify the complex customs process. Customs agencies will do all the necessary paperwork and can also provide the guarantee for the security deposit.

The following customs agency can assist you with the import and re-export of your goods:



Alto Transver
Rheinsichtweg 8
CH-8274 Tägerwilen
info@alto-transver.com
www.alto-transver.com
+41 (0) 71 622 66 00

You can find many other customs agencies on the Internet:
<https://www.google.com/search?q=zollagentur+schweiz>

Carry out customs clearance by yourself

Of course, customs clearance can also be carried out by yourself. In addition to the correct declaration of the goods on import and export, the cash deposit for the fees must be paid in cash or by credit card when crossing the border.

The following links will lead you to the official information about the customs regulations and the customs clearance procedure:

- English: <https://www.bazg.admin.ch/bazg/en/home/informationen-firmen/einfuhr-in-die-schweiz/besondere-einfuhrverfahren/voruebergehende-einfuhr/zavv.html>
- French: <https://www.bazg.admin.ch/bazg/fr/home/informationen-firmen/einfuhr-in-die-schweiz/besondere-einfuhrverfahren/voruebergehende-einfuhr/zavv.html>
- Italian: <https://www.bazg.admin.ch/bazg/it/home/informationen-firmen/einfuhr-in-die-schweiz/besondere-einfuhrverfahren/voruebergehende-einfuhr/zavv.html>
- German: <https://www.bazg.admin.ch/bazg/de/home/informationen-firmen/einfuhr-in-die-schweiz/besondere-einfuhrverfahren/voruebergehende-einfuhr/zavv.html>

For further information please contact the customs information center:

- Phone: +41 58 467 15 15 (DE, EN, FR, IT)
- Contact form: <https://www.kontakt-formular.bazg.admin.ch/home>

Unfortunately, the forms for the customs declaration are only provided by the customs administration in paper form. A sample of the forms can be viewed at the links above.

For dealers participating in the 2CV World Meeting 2023, we will be happy to send the necessary forms by mail upon request. Please contact traders@2cv2023.ch (do not forget your postal address).

Additional remarks

- All information in this information sheet is provided without guarantee of correctness or completeness.
Only the official customs regulations of Switzerland apply, which can be found on the website of the Federal Office of Customs and Border Security BAZG:
<https://www.bazg.admin.ch/bazg/de/home/informationen-firmen.html>
- The correct handling of customs formalities is the sole responsibility of the importer. In case of doubt, please use the services of a customs agency.