

# All the right moves – United Kingdom



**Britannia**

REMOVALS, STORAGE AND INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING

## Importing Goods To The United Kingdom

### Importing Personal Effects

Shipments of household goods and personal effects are allowed duty free entry into the UK, provided that they have been owned and used for at least six months prior to importation.

It is possible to have your goods cleared by customs before you arrive in the UK, providing they do not arrive more than six months before your own arrival and that all necessary documents are completed correctly and received by Britannia in advance of the shipment.

### Documentation

Assistance can be given to help you with the customs formalities. We shall provide you with the correct customs form to complete and return before the arrival of the shipment in the UK.

It is essential that all documentation is completed and returned promptly to Britannia or our agent before the shipment arrives.

### Prohibitions and Restrictions

It is in your best interest not to import the following items:

- Firearms & ammunition
- Inflammable goods & substances
- Plants & plant material
- Foodstuffs, perishables or otherwise
- Alcohol, narcotics and dangerous goods
- Offensive material



### Transit Times

Sole use containers are usually the fastest way of sending your shipment by sea. Groupage or shared load containers have a longer overall transit time than a sole use container.

There is a regular service to all major UK ports and as soon as we know your removal date and method of shipment, we can provide you with advice on when the shipment should arrive at the port and be available for delivery in the UK.

### Motor Vehicles

You can bring your vehicle with you without payment of customs duty and tax in the UK, providing you have paid all local taxes and owned and used the vehicle for more than six months overseas. Equally importantly you must be able to prove you have lived outside the UK for more than twelve months. The vehicle must arrive no more than six months after your own arrival.

If you are planning on shipping a motor vehicle to the UK, you should ensure you can provide Britannia with evidence of both ownership and use of the vehicle. This information should be kept with you and must not be packed in your shipment or sent with the vehicle.

Should you be unable to meet all of the requirements, you can still bring your vehicle, however, it will be subject to payment of customs duty and tax on its arrival.

Any vehicle which is less than ten years old is subject to inspection and testing in the UK, to determine and ensure it meets with current legislation. Britannia will be able to guide you and offer further assistance on this and the registration process. You can find further information on shipping vehicles on the following websites: [www.dvla.gov.uk](http://www.dvla.gov.uk), [www.hmce.gov.uk](http://www.hmce.gov.uk) and [www.via.gov.uk](http://www.via.gov.uk).

## Welcome To Britannia UK

### Tracking Consignment

All shared load consignments will be bar coded before they are loaded into the shipping container. This will ensure that no items are left at origin and allow Britannia to check the status of your goods in transit.

### Customs clearance

It normally takes on average 5 to 7 working days for customs clearance and delivery for a sole use container within the mainland on the UK, and generally 7 to 14 working days after arrival at the Britannia customs approved warehouse for a groupage consignment. The time taken to clear goods through customs can be affected by Government policy, X-raying of goods, physical inspection, volume of traffic and the levy of any import duties or taxes. Charges raised by Customs and port authorities will be paid for by Britannia and collected from you prior to arranging the delivery.

### Britannia in the UK

Britannia has established and developed a long standing successful relationship with a global network of dedicated international movers who can assist you with your move to the UK. Britannia has over 40 offices across the UK who are part of the extended Britannia family. Meetings and training programs are held regularly to ensure standards of service are maintained.

### Storage

Should you require storage prior to delivery this can be arranged. You should expect to pay locally a one off storage handling fee, plus a monthly storage charge. Please ensure that your marine insurance policy is extended for the period of the storage.

### Destination Services

If you have paid for a door to door service, following customs clearance, your shipment will be delivered to your home on a mutually convenient and agreed date. Goods will be delivered into your new home and placed in the relevant rooms as directed by you.



Professionally wrapped and packed goods will be unwrapped and cartons unpacked onto a flat surface.

All used packing materials will be removed from site on the delivery day.

Although, there will be insurance implications, you do reserve the right not to have some or all items unpacked or unwrapped should you so choose.

### Insurance

We strongly recommend that you insure your goods for the duration of their journey to the UK. We are able to provide you with an insurance pack for you to complete.

### Additional Services

Britannia can provide a variety of complementary services to make your moving experience as efficient and easy as possible. From International foreign exchange to helping you relocate your family's pets. For further information about Britannia's partner companies please visit - <http://www.britannia-movers.co.uk/additional-services>

### On Arrival

Britannia can offer advice on a variety of issues related to living in the UK, just speak to your Britannia representative or consult the appropriate pages of our website at [www.britannia-movers.co.uk/country-information/moving-to-europe/united-kingdom](http://www.britannia-movers.co.uk/country-information/moving-to-europe/united-kingdom) .





# 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 quote for the transportation of your family pet

## Six Weeks Before

- Book move date with Britannia
- Agree moving plan with Britannia
- Make a list of 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/Day-care centres 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 through the Post Office to family or friends (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
- Place any liquids, oils and paints to be moved in sealed containers
- 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

## 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
- Exchange contact numbers and agree meeting time with removals team
- Confirm you have provided all required documentation for your sea freight/airfreight consignment

**Britannia Sandersteads** Tel: **0800 998 1910** [www.sandersteads.com](http://www.sandersteads.com)

