

## WHY DO WE HAVE PHYTOSANITARY REGULATIONS?

The current regulations are intended to safeguard the European Union against numerous diseases and parasites harmful to humans, animals and plants.

They apply to all animal or animal-origin foodstuffs, products of animal origin, plant-based foodstuffs, plants and minerals.

### Products of animal origin can carry bacteria that can cause infectious diseases

Due to the risk of introducing these types of disease into the European Union, imports of animal-origin foodstuffs are subject to very strict veterinary checks and procedures.

All animal products that do not comply with these rules must be relinquished on arrival in the EU for official disposal.

Any undeclared products will be confiscated by the customs services and destroyed and you will have to pay a fine.

### Plants and plant-based products are possible vectors of contamination

Certain plants and plant-based products (fruits, vegetables, plants, flowers, etc.) are possible vectors of contamination from harmful organisms.

They are therefore subject to a compulsory phytosanitary inspection when they enter the European Union.

There are nevertheless a few exceptions on condition that the imported product meets certain conditions.

## ENTERING THE EUROPEAN UNION: **BANNED** AND **AUTHORISED** FOODSTUFFS

| TYPE OF GOOD  | ORIGIN: NON-EU COUNTRY   | SPECIFIC ORIGIN   |
|---|--|---|
| Meat, offal, meat products, animal-origin products, dairy products and products containing milk | <b>BANNED</b>  | Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland<br><b>AUTHORISED</b><br>Up to 10kg / pers<br>Andorra, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland<br><b>AUTHORISED</b> |
| Fish, fresh fishery products, prepared or processed fishery products                            | <b>AUTHORISED</b><br>Up to 20kg / pers   | <b>AUTHORISED</b>   |
| Other animal-origin products (honey, snails, etc.)  | <b>AUTHORISED</b><br>Up to 2kg   |   |
| Special foodstuffs, food for pets and food required for medical purposes                        | <b>AUTHORISED</b><br>based on the following conditions<br>— maximum of 2kg authorised<br>— the products must not require refrigeration before opening<br>— packaged proprietary brand products for direct sale | Andorra, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland<br><b>AUTHORISED</b><br>Up to 10kg / pers   |
| Powdered infant formula, infant foods   | <b>AUTHORISED</b><br>Up to 2kg / pers  | Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland<br><b>AUTHORISED</b><br>Up to 10kg / pers   |
| Plants and plant-based products)x   | <b>AUTHORISED</b> based on the following conditions<br>— small quantities — stored in personal luggage — no danger of spreading harmful organisms — no import ban — must not contain genetic material          |   |

### Products of animal origin



**The following products are BANNED from importation**

#### Meat

- **Standard meats:**
  - beef, chicken, lamb, rabbit, pork, etc.
- **Bushmeat:**
  - porcupine, monkey, antelope, snake etc.



#### Meat products

- foie gras
- pâté
- terrine
- kofta meatballs
- sausage...



#### Milk and dairy products

- milk
- cream, butter
- yoghurt...



For all other products of animal origin, such as honey or snails for example, travellers can import up to a maximum of 2kg into the EU



**The following products are AUTHORISED for importation based on certain conditions**

#### Dried or fresh fish

- **Certain crustaceans:** prawns, etc.
- **Shellfish:** mussels, oysters, etc.

Authorised maximum: 20kg / person



# ENTERING THE EUROPEAN UNION: BANNED AND AUTHORISED FOODSTUFFS

## Plant-based products

### BANNED from importation

- potatoes
- soil and other substrates
- seeds



### The following products are AUTHORISED for importation based on certain conditions

#### Fruits

- apples
- pears, etc.

#### Vegetables

- salads
- peppers
- cabbages, etc.



#### Herbs

- mint
- peppers
- turmeric, etc.

#### Certain flowers

- such as roses,
- orchids, etc.

#### They must meet all of the following conditions

- be stored in personal luggage
- be intended for personal consumption
- not pose a health hazard
- not be banned from importation

## NB

- Personal luggage is the luggage you present to customs upon arrival.
- It also comprises luggage presented at a later date on condition that the luggage items were checked in at the time of departure by the company you flew with.
- The potential health hazard and risk of spreading harmful organisms varies depending on the country of origin and the type of plant.



THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SIMPLIFIED OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. IT IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE OFFICIAL REGULATIONS.

To obtain more detailed information and avoid committing an offence, consult the following websites,

#### Contact:

- website  
[www.douane.gouv.fr](http://www.douane.gouv.fr)  
[www.alimentation.gouv.fr](http://www.alimentation.gouv.fr)
- free application for travellers : douane fr

#### Contact our information centre: Infos Douane Service

- From France  
**0 811 20 44 44**  
Coût d'un appel local depuis un poste fixe
- From outside metropolitan France or abroad  
+33 (0) 1 72 40 78 50

#### Photo crédits

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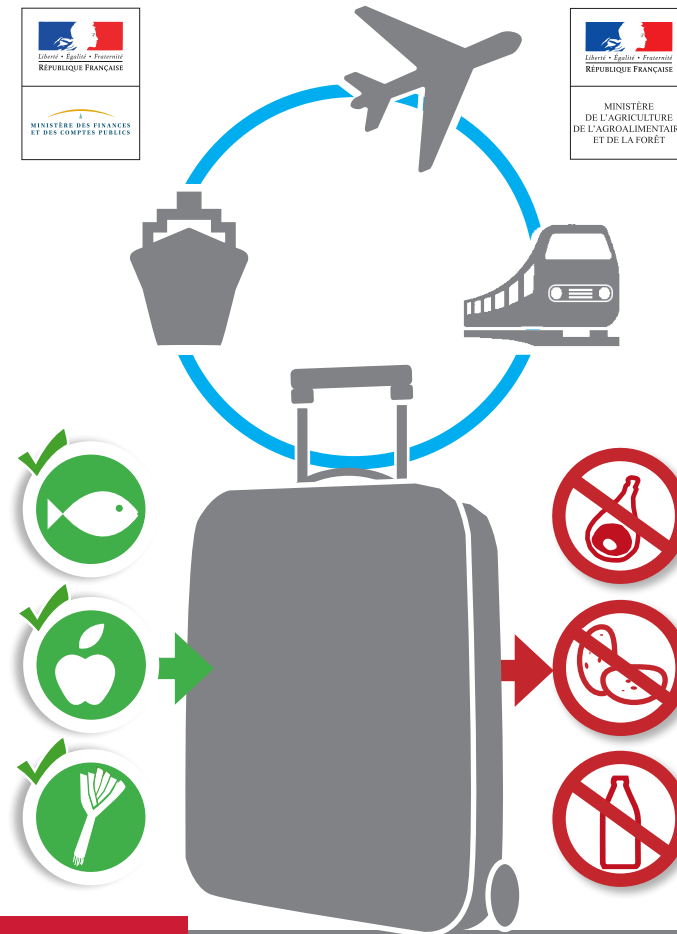


web : douane.gouv.fr



Direction générale des douanes et droits indirects  
Bureau de l'Information et de la Communication  
General Directorate of Customs and Excise  
Information and Communication Office  
11, rue des deux Communes - 93558 MONTREUIL Cedex  
Website: [www.douane.gouv.fr](http://www.douane.gouv.fr)  
Infos Douane Service: 0 811 20 44 44 (billed at local rates)  
Smartphone: douane fr (free app for travellers)  
Twitter: @douane\_france

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## ENTERING THE EUROPEAN UNION

Which foodstuffs am I allowed to carry in my luggage?

