



Douane
Belastingdienst

residents

What am I allowed to bring with me?

import rules for residents of
Bonaire, Sint-Eustatius or Saba

What am I allowed to bring with me?

for Residents

Articles you already have

You return to the island where you live. Probably you carry personal articles with you, which you took with you when you left your island, such as clothes, a photo camera or toiletries. At your entry you do not need to pay General Consumption Tax ABB (Algemene Bestedingsbelasting), since there is an exemption applicable on so-called returning articles.

Articles you purchased during your travel

With regard to the articles you purchased or received during your travel the rule is that you are entitled to import these with exemption from ABB as far as the value of the articles is USD 500 or less (see Exemption Table for Travellers in this folder).

6% for import in Saba or Sint-Eustatius

8% for import in Bonaire

What should I do?

At the entry location you report to Customs that you have articles with you, for which you will not receive exemption from ABB. It is mandatory that you report this. Customs will request the invoice of the articles and will calculate the ABB due. You pay Customs the ABB and you receive a receipt.

What is prohibited to bring along?

The import of medicines (not intended for your own use), narcotics and weapons is prohibited. The same counts for protected animals, plants and shells, and the like.

If you bring along articles for which a special permit is required from the government, on arrival you have to report this immediately to Customs.

Exemption Table for Travellers

The exemption is only applicable for articles intended **for your personal use**. Thus not for commercial goods or goods of an apparent commercial character. The exemption is only applicable for articles acquired outside the island of entry. This regards all articles, with the exception of alcoholic products, tobacco and tobacco products.

- Exemption of ABB up to a value of maximum USD 500 per person
- For persons younger than 15 years the exemption is limited to USD 150 per person

The exemption applies for articles up to the amounts mentioned above. In the event an article cannot be split, and it has a higher value, it will not be exempt. In the table here below there are some examples.

Examples of ABB exemption

Articles bought abroad	Price	Is ABB due?	Tariff Bonaire	Saba and Sint-Eustatius
1) Photo camera	USD 520	Yes, only on the entire amount	8%	6%
2) Watch Fountain pen	USD 480 USD 120	Yes, only on the entire amount of the Fountain pen	8%	6%
3) Game consoles	USD 300	No	-	-



Alcoholic products, tobacco and tobacco products.

Exemption overview for tobacco, tobacco products and alcoholic products.

Article	Exemption in the case of amounts equal to or less than the quantity, weight or liter mentioned	Tariffs Bonaire in the case of higher amounts, larger weight or more liters	Saba and Sint-Eustatius
Cigarettes or Cigarillos, or Cigars or Tobacco for smoking	200 50 25 125 gram	8% 8% 8% 8%	6% 6% 6% 6%
The various smoking products should be observed separately.			
Strong liquor or alcoholic beverages with an alcohol level higher than 22% vol., for example whisky or Strong liquor or alcoholic beverages, or sparkling wine or liqueur wine, with an alcohol level of 22% vol. or less, for example sherry/champagne	1 liter 1 liter	8% 8%	6% 6%
The various beverages should be observed separately.			
Non sparkling wine	2 liter	8%	6%
Beer	8 liter	8%	6%

Attention: The exemption for tobacco, tobacco products and alcoholic beverages (no strong liquor) is applicable exclusively for persons of 17 years and older. The exemption for strong liquor is applicable exclusively for persons of 18 years and older.

The exemption of excise (accijns) is applicable exclusively on Bonaire.

With the exception of gasoline, no excise is levied on Saba and Sint-Eustatius.

Overview of excise tariffs

In the event the articles surpass the size or the quantity, the following tariffs are applicable for the excise articles.

Excise articles	Tariff	Applicable for
Cigarettes (import)	Per 100 pieces USD 8,69	Bonaire
Cigars	Per 100 pieces USD 9,78	Bonaire
Cigarillos	Per 100 pieces USD 4,89	Bonaire
Tobacco for smoking	Per kilogram USD 30	Bonaire
Distilled	Per hl USD 12,85 per vol % alcohol	Bonaire
Wine	Per hl USD 128,50	Bonaire
Beer	Per hl USD 67,04	Bonaire

When excise is payable, ABB will be levied on the value of the articles, as calculated by Customs, and on the excise. You will thus pay ABB on the excise as well.

