

# All the Right Moves – USA



**Britannia**

Removals, Storage and International Shipping

## Importing Goods To USA

### Importing Personal Effects

Shipments of household goods and personal effects are allowed duty free entry, provided that they have been owned and used for at least 12 months prior to importation.

### Documentation

We will provide you with the correct customs forms that must be completed prior to the goods leaving the UK, however, unless you are a US passport holder (or have a valid Green Card), you must ensure you have the appropriate visa for entry into the USA.

To avoid additional charges it is essential that documentation is completed and returned promptly.

### Prohibitions and Restrictions

In general it is in your interest not to import the following items.

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



### Transit Times

Groupage or shared load consignments usually take 8 to 11 weeks to destinations via the East Coast, and 11 to 14 weeks if going via the West Coast, door to door. However, this can vary depending on volumes being shipped, customs or immigration delays and prevailing weather conditions.

Sole use containers usually take 2 weeks to the East Coast and 4 weeks to the West Coast port to port, and there is a weekly service to all major ports.

### Computer Tracking

Through satellite and computer technology we are able to monitor the progress of your consignment.

### Bar Coding

All Groupage consignments will be bar coded before they are loaded into the shipping container. This will ensure that no items are left at origin.

### Domestic Pets

Britannia can recommend a specialised shipper of animals to assist you in sending your family pets from home to home. They will coordinate all documentation and necessary veterinary procedures.

### Motor Vehicles

There are few countries outside the EU where it is practical or possible to send motor vehicles. Your local Britannia member will be able to guide you further on this.



## Welcome To Britannia USA

### Customs clearance

It normally takes 5 to 14 days for customs clearance and delivery. 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 or Homeland Security officials will be paid for by our Britannia agents, who will seek reimbursement from yourselves prior to delivery.

### Britannia in the USA

Britannia has established a long standing successful relationship with a network of dedicated removers, who will assist you with your destination services. Their full contact details will be provided at the time of the forwarding of your consignment. Our agents are part of our extended Britannia family and we meet with them on a regular basis to ensure high standards of service are maintained.

### 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 N.B. 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.



### Destination Services

Following customs clearance your consignment will be delivered to your home, on a mutually convenient date - please note this is only for customers who have paid for a 'Door to Door' service. 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 may be insurance implications, you do retain the right not to have some or all items unpacked or unwrapped should you so choose.

### Insurance

Britannia Movers International is regulated by the Financial Services Authority and accordingly is authorised to provide fully comprehensive marine insurance cover. An insurance pack will be forwarded to you if requested.

### On Arrival

Britannia can offer advice on a variety of issues related to living in the USA.







# YOUR MOVING GUIDE CHECKLIST

## Well in advance

### Have you done the following?

- Booked your move date with Britannia
- Ensured your removal plan fits with your schedule
- Discussed any potential changes with Britannia
- Made us aware of any items requiring extra care
- Made arrangements to ship your pets with a specialist company
- Booked your flights to your new country (if applicable)
- Disposed of items not to be shipped

## In advance

### Have you notified the following of changes to your personal details?

- Telecoms provider (Mobile + Landline)
- Satellite company
- Electricity supplier
- Gas/Oil supplier
- Water company
- Local Council
- TV Licencing
- Bank & Mortgage providers
- HP/Credit Cards/Loan Companies

### Have you considered the following?

- Doctor – Have you taken advice on transferring your medical records, or advice on medical care in your new country?
- Dentist/Optician – As above
- Education – Transferred or obtained academic records of your children and investigated educational services in your new country
- Insurance – Have you discussed your emigration with all of your insurance providers?
- Income Tax/National Insurance – Have you informed your local tax office of your emigration?
- Pension(s) – Have you informed your Pension provider(s)?

- Motor vehicles – If you are leaving or selling your vehicle in the UK you must notify the DVLA to avoid complications. If you are shipping your vehicle ensure all relevant paperwork is complete. Please ask Britannia for guidance on this matter
- Driving Licence – Notify DVLA of your emigration and investigate driving licence requirements in your new country
- Currency Exchange\* - Have you considered the most efficient and cost effective way of transferring your money to a new country? Please ask us to provide you with a leaflet on our special scheme for Britannia customers
- Do you need to have your mail forwarded to a friend/relative's address in the UK?
- Passports - Have you provided Britannia with copies of passports/visas (if required) for all family members/people moving with you?

## Shortly before you go

### Have you completed these final tasks?

- Disconnected all appliances
- Defrosted and cleaned fridges and freezers
- Cancelled all regular deliveries (papers/milk)
- Picked up all items from dry cleaners
- Ensured all vaccinations and medication have been acquired from your GP
- Checked drawers/trunks/lofts for any items that have been overlooked
- Taken down any curtains or blinds
- Created a 'do not remove' area in the house for personal baggage items not to be included in your shipment such as handbags, keys, passports, tickets and all luggage
- Packed small valuables separately and left with essentials pile in a secure location e.g. jewellery, watches, money etc.
- Confirmed service meter readings and keep records
- Switched off power and water supplies (if necessary)

Tel: 0845 6006661

www.britannia-movers.co.uk

\* Britannia's currency exchange scheme is via our partners Currencies Direct – please ask for more details.

