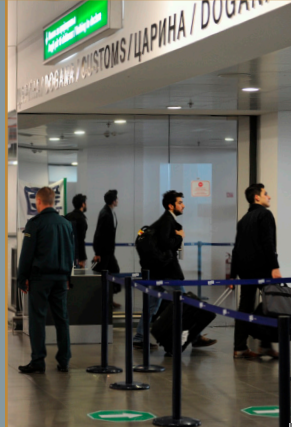




**WHAT YOU NEED TO  
KNOW WHEN YOU ARE  
DEPARTING FROM AND  
ARRIVING IN MACEDONIA**

INFORMATION BOOKLET

The Customs Administration of the  
Republic of Macedonia wishes you  
a pleasant journey and a nice holiday!



## GOODS WHICH YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DECLARE AND WHICH ARE RELIEVED FROM IMPORT DUTIES

Macedonian and foreign citizens are granted relief from import duties (customs duty, VAT and excise duty) for:



1. Goods for personal use during the stay (personal luggage) \*
2. Tobacco products:
  - 200 cigarettes, or
  - 100 cigarillos (cigarettes with maximum weight of 3 grams per item), or
  - 50 cigars, or
  - 250 grams of smoking tobacco, or
  - equivalent amount of different tobacco products
3. Alcohol and alcoholic beverages:
  - distilled alcoholic and spirituous beverages with alcohol percentage over 22% - 1 litre or
  - distilled alcoholic and spirituous beverages and aperitifs of wine or alcohol base, the alcohol percentage of which does not exceed 22% - 2 litres and
  - wine: 2 litres

Passengers less than 18 years of age are not granted relief from import duty payment for tobacco products, alcohol and alcoholic beverages.

4. Perfumes: 50 ml and Eau de toilette: 250 ml.

Residents are granted relief from import duties on goods of non-commercial nature the value of which does not exceed EUR 350. However, the relief for goods up to EUR 350 value does not apply for alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, perfumes and eau de toilette.

\* Use not related to any business of professional or commercial nature, goods in the personal luggage of the passenger means items for personal use, necessary for the journey.

## CASH



### ENTRY IN MACEDONIA

Residents <sup>1</sup>	Non-residents <sup>2</sup>
up to 10,000 EUR and 120,000 MKD – free	up to 10,000 EUR and 120,000 MKD – free
over 10,000 EUR – must be declared to Customs	over 10,000 EUR – must be declared to Customs, who shall issue a certificate in writing
over 120,000 MKD – prohibited	over 120,000 MKD – prohibited

\* When crossing the state border, residents may also declare to the customs authority effective foreign currency and cheques in foreign currency in an amount less than 10,000 EUR.

### EXIT FROM MACEDONIA

Residents <sup>1</sup>	Non-residents <sup>2</sup>
Up to 2,000 EUR and 120,000 MKD – free	Up to 10,000 EUR and 120,000 MKD – free
From 2,000 to 10,000 EUR – must be declared to Customs and a certificate from an authorized bank or exchange office must be presented	over 10,000 EUR – must be declared to Customs and the Certificate where that amount was registered upon entry in Macedonia must be presented.
Over 10,000 EUR and 120,000 MKD – prohibited	over 120,000 MKD – prohibited

<sup>1</sup> Legal entities registered in the Republic of Macedonia and their representative offices abroad, foreign companies' subsidiaries, registered in the Republic of Macedonia, natural entities with permanent residence in the Republic of Macedonia, natural entities with temporary resident permits in the Republic of Macedonia and diplomatic and consular offices of the Republic of Macedonia abroad.

<sup>2</sup> All other legal and natural entities not having the status of residents.

## LIVE ANIMALS, PETS, ANIMAL AND PLANT PRODUCTS

Special licenses and permits are required for pets, live animals, animal and plant products and plants.



### PETS

When travelling with pets, both within and outside Macedonia, the owner, i.e. person responsible must have appropriate documentation for identification:

- Veterinary – health certificate issued by an authorized vet from the country of departure
- Passport issued by an authorized vet from the country of departure, which is mandatory for all dogs, cats and ferrets, or
- Statement given by the owner or person responsible, mandatory for all birds, provided they come from a country member of the World Organisation of Animal Health (OIE).

Customs shall allow import of pets in the Republic of Macedonia that are not intended for trade, no matter their number, provided the Veterinary Inspectorate, following previous examination and health check, gives consent for import, i.e. issues a Veterinary Entry Document – VED.

### ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Due to risk of disease spreading, all consignments containing meat, meat products, milk and milk products, with the exception of certain goods, are prohibited for import and are subject to mandatory veterinary inspection. For more information, please visit [www.fva.gov.mk](http://www.fva.gov.mk)

### PLANTS, FLOWERS, FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

If you bring plants, flowers, fruit and vegetables into Macedonia, you will need an authorisation issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy - Phytosanitary Agency confirming that these products are healthy and free from diseases.

In addition, these products must be inspected by phytosanitary inspection services. For more information, please visit [www.mzsv.gov.mk](http://www.mzsv.gov.mk).

## MEDICINES



1. The import of medicines is subject to special license issued by the Bureau for Drugs (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Macedonia). This import prohibition is not applicable if you bring in medicines intended for your own use.
2. If the medicines are intended for personal use, you need to have:
  - Certificate issued by your health institution identifying the medicine and the patient, type of health condition, and
  - A signature of your general practitioner which is proof that the medicines you are carrying with you are for your own use.
3. Medicines containing narcotics and psychotropic substances are subject to a special license issued by the Agency for drugs and medical means (MALMED).
4. Failure to observe the regulations on import of medicines, medical aids and psychotropic substances is punishable.

## WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION



1. No fire arms or other weapons and ammunition may enter or cross the border of Macedonia. These include:
  - fire arms
  - collector weapons
  - pneumatic weapons
  - gas weapons
  - explosive weapons
  - cold weapons (for example, knives, knuckle dusters, swords etc.)
  - archery weapons
  - weapons for audio-visual signalization
  - electrical paralyzers
  - ammunition
2. You may only bring weapons and ammunition into Macedonia if you are in possession of a special permit/authorisation issued by the Macedonian Ministry of Interior. This applies to weapons used for hunting or shooting.
3. The following are not considered weapons:
  - Decorative weapons
  - Weapons imitations
  - Vintage weaponry
  - Permanently disabled weapons
  - Replicas of antique weapons
  - Weapons for industrial use and
  - Harpoons for underwater fishing.
4. Failure to observe the Law is punishable.

## GOODS THAT VIOLATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Import, export, transit and storage of counterfeit products and pirated goods is prohibited by law.



Counterfeits and pirated goods are hazardous for the health and safety of people and they contribute to lower budget revenues and increase of shadow economy.

They are recognizable by the low price, poor quality, bad look of the package, technical errors in the text of the labels and markings.

Counterfeits may include a sign, logo, letters, numbers, pictures, labels, user manuals or warranty document even if they are imported or exported separately from or together with the goods.

Pirated goods are goods which are or embody copies made without the consent of the holder of the copyright or the related rights.

Customs shall seize counterfeits and pirated goods, and following

confirmation of their counterfeit nature, they will be destroyed.

Exception from the above-mentioned are goods which are part of the personal luggage of the passenger, objects of non-commercial nature with low value which are occasionally received from abroad, and which are relieved from import duties.

Perpetrators shall be sanctioned.

For the achievements in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy, in competition with 174 Customs Administrations, members of the WCO, in 2009 the Customs Administration of the Republic of Macedonia received the prestigious award of the World Customs Organisation - **Yolanda Benitez WCO Trophy 2009 Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy.**



## ENDANGERED ANIMALS AND PLANTS

No endangered animal and plant species or products derived from them may be brought to or taken out from Macedonia. In line with CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), the import and export of endangered animal and plant species and their products is prohibited by Law.



Trade in endangered and protected wild plants, fungi and animals and product derived from them is subject to appropriate document - license issued by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning. This license must be obtained in advance.

Illegally imported animals and plants are often infected with dangerous diseases and parasites.

Examples of protected animal and plant species and products derived from them:

- Brown bear, grey hawk, Hipparchia semele butterfly (critically endangered), wolves, snakes, lizards and tropical animals,

- corals and shells,
- exotic plants such as orchids and cactuses etc,
- all products and articles derived from endangered plant and animal species, such as:
  - > musical instruments
  - > coral or ivory artifacts
  - > clothing, footwear and accessories etc.

Customs and police officers or inspectors will confiscate any illegal shipment. Besides paying fines, perpetrators shall cover all other expenses for the care or storage of such shipments.

Be a careful buyer and protect nature and species!

## OBJECTS OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL WORTH



1. The following objects and goods of cultural and historical worth are subject to regime of special licenses and certificates for export or temporary export from Macedonia:

- **Archeological objects** (dug out from land or taken out from water, originating from a certain period),
- **Ethnological objects** (object witnesses of a life-style, tradition, customs etc.),
- **Historical objects** (originating from certain historical events or were used by historical persons, as well as old coins – money),
- **Objects of art** (paintings, drawings, sculptures, etching, engravings and other artistic pieces),
- **Technical objects** (machines, tools, instruments, equipment etc. originating from a certain stage of technical progress),
- **Archive materials** (selected, original or reproduced documented materials of permanent worth),
- **Library goods** (old manuscripts produced up to the end of XIXth century, old and rare books and other publications),
- **Cinematographic goods** (recorded cinematographic pieces, films – cartoons documentaries, scientific and popular films etc.),

- **Audio-visual goods** (original materials and sound copies of films or animated films, film scripts, photographs, slides, posters etc.) and
- **Objects from sound archives** (original materials of recorded sounds, i.e. original musical and other type of sound recordings).

2. Cultural heritage of particular significance (such as protected museum collections) must not be exported.
3. Cultural heritage which is not under general prohibition for export, as well as goods which are considered as national treasure may only be exported with a license issued by the Cultural Heritage Protection Office.

### CULTURAL GOODS WHICH ARE NOT SUBJECT TO SPECIAL REGIME OF PROTECTION

1. Passengers may freely take out objects and goods such as:
  - reproductions
  - copies of museum exhibits (antiquities and other museum objects), accompanied with a certificate, acknowledging the copy, the origin of the original and the institution - issuer.

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MACEDONIAN CUSTOMS

Within the last few years, the Customs Administration, as a result of the achieved results in the area of revenue collection, fight against illegal trade and improvement of its institutional and administrative capacity, has received several awards, prizes and acknowledgements.

- 2007** 10th place in the world for the number of actions for prevention of infringements of intellectual property rights, according to the WCO Report. In 2007, the Customs Administration carried out 325 such actions.
- 2009** Yolanda Benitez WCO Trophy 2009 Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy for achievements in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy in competition with 174 administrations, members of the WCO.
- 2010** 1st prize for the EXIM - Electronic Single-Window System for issuance of import and export licenses and tariff quota (Single Window/One Stop Shop) at the official Annual Awards Competition in the area of information and communication technology for solutions in the public sector. EXIM is an innovative approach for issuing licenses for import, export and transit.
- 2015** The Republic of Macedonia is the first South-East European country, member of the Convention on a Common Transit Procedure of the EU, EFTA and Turkey



### World Bank's Doing Business Report, indicator Cross-Border Trade



Out of 189 world countries covered in the Report



### EC Progress Report on Macedonia, Chapter 29: Customs Union

**2013**  
Some progress (2)

**2014**  
progress (3)

**2015**  
good progress and good level of preparedness (4)



Highest level of realization of the State Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption and Conflict of Interest 2011-2015 compared to 11 government sectors



## REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA - FACTS

Macedonia is a country of sacred mysteries and unique beauties, that has no sea access, no world-wide known ski resorts, but Macedonia has wonderful lakes, untouched mountains, great history and wealthy cultural heritage.

Macedonia is the fatherland of the Cyrillic script and of the first Slavic University in the world.

**Visit Macedonia - the undiscovered Europe!**

Macedonian national flag



Coat of arms



### Macedonian national anthem

- "Today over Macedonia - Denes nad Makedonija - Денес над Македонија" - The song which was later chosen to be the National Anthem of Macedonia, was composed by Todor Skalovski and the lyrics were written by Vlado Maleski in 1943.

### Republic of Macedonia establishment:

- August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1944 (As a Federal Republic in Yugoslavia).

### Proclamation of independence of Macedonia:

- September 8<sup>th</sup> 1991.

### Membership of Macedonia

- United Nations - since April 8<sup>th</sup> 1993;
- World Trade Organisation - since April 4<sup>th</sup> 2003;
- NATO - gained invitation on April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008.  
Not admitted due to the Greek veto;
- EU - awaiting invitation.

**Population:** 2,100,000

**Land:** 25,715 km<sup>2</sup>

**Language:** Macedonian (uses the Cyrillic script).

**Currency:** Macedonian Denar (MKD),  
since April 26th 1992.

**Geoposition:** South-Eastern Europe,  
central part of the Balkan Peninsula.

**Capital city:** Skopje

### Terrain:

- Mountainous territory covered with deep basins and valleys; three large lakes (Ohrid, Prespa and Dojran), each divided by a frontier line; country bisected by the Vardar River.
- lowest point: Vardar River 44 m
- highest point: Golem Korab 2,764 m

### Climate:

- Moderate Mediterranean. Warm, dry summers and autumns; relatively cold winters with heavy snowfall.