

# Mexico Relocation Guide



By Appointment To  
Her Majesty The Queen  
Removals and Storage Contractor Abels

# ABELS™

THE ART OF MOVING

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INTERNATIONAL  
MOVER



Memb No: A001



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<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	Country code (0052) + Area code.
<b>STANDARD TIME:</b>	GMT – 6 Central Standard Time GMT – 7 Mountain Time GMT – 8 Pacific Time
<b>WEIGHTS &amp; MEASURES:</b>	Metric.
<b>ELECTRICITY:</b>	The standard voltage is 127V and the frequency is 60Hz.
<b>INOCULATIONS/VACCINATIONS:</b>	Hepatitis A and B, Typhoid and Malaria and possibly Rabies.
<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:</b>	1st January – New Year’s Day, 1st Monday February – Constitution Day, 3rd Monday in March – Benito Juarez’s Birthday, Maundy Thursday – Thursday before Easter, Good Friday – Friday before Easter, 1st May – Labour Day, 16th June – Independence Day, 3rd Monday in November – Revolution Day, 12th December – Day of the Virgin of Guadalupe, 25th December – Christmas Day.
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	08.00 hours and 18.00 hours.
<b>BANK HOURS:</b>	09.00 hours to 16.00 hours. Monday to Friday with some banks opening on Saturday.
<b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:</b>	911 for all emergency services.
<b>UK EMBASSY:</b>	Calle Rio Lerma 71 Cuauhtémoc 06500 Ciudad de Mexico (Mexico City) Tel: +52 55 1670 3200
<b>MEXICAN EMBASSY IN LONDON:</b>	16 St George Street Mayfair, London W1S 1FD Tel: 0207 499 8586

## Part 1 – Background Information on Mexico

### Background

The site of several advanced Amerindian civilizations - including the Olmec, Toltec, Teotihuacan, Zapotec, Maya, and Aztec - Mexico was conquered and colonized by Spain in the early 16th century. Administered as the Viceroyalty of New Spain for three centuries, it achieved independence early in the 19th century. Elections held in 2000 marked the first time since the 1910 Mexican Revolution that an opposition candidate - Vicente Fox of the National Action Party (PAN) - defeated the party in government, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). He was succeeded in 2006 by another PAN candidate Felipe Calderon, but Enrique Pena Nieto regained the presidency for the PRI in 2012, and served as president until December 2018. Left-leaning anti-establishment politician and former mayor of Mexico City, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, from the National Regeneration Movement became President in December 2018.

### Geography and Climate

Mexico is at the southern extremity of North America and is bordered to the north by the USA, northwest by the Gulf of California, west by the Pacific, south by Guatemala and Belize, and east by the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean.

Mexico's geographical features range from swamp to desert, and from tropical lowland jungle to high alpine vegetation. Over half the country is at an altitude greater than 1000 metres. The central land mass is a plateau flanked by ranges of mountains to the east and west that lie roughly parallel to the coast. The northern area of this plateau is arid and thinly populated and occupies 40% of the total area of Mexico.

### Population

As at February 2019 the population was estimated to be 131,724,775.

### Economy

Mexico's \$2.4 trillion economy – 11th largest in the world - has become increasingly oriented toward manufacturing since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) entered into force in 1994. Per capita income is roughly one-third that of the US; income distribution remains highly unequal.

Mexico has become the US' second-largest export market and third-largest source of imports. In 2017, two-way trade in goods and services exceeded \$623 billion. Mexico has free trade agreements with 46 countries, putting more than 90% of its trade under free trade agreements. In 2012, Mexico formed the Pacific Alliance with Peru, Colombia, and Chile.

### Language

Spanish is the widely spoken language in Mexico, other languages spoken are Nahuatl, Yucatec Maya, & Mixtec.

### Religion

Roman Catholicism is the dominant faith. It is estimated over 80% of the population identifies as Catholic.

### Currency

Is the Mexican Peso, and the symbol is \$. To distinguish this from the US Dollar, it is normally presented as MX\$.

Bank Notes:- 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1000 Pesos

Coins: 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents and 1, 2, 5, and 10 Pesos

### Healthcare

Mexico has universal healthcare. Mexico has two public healthcare systems. The largest is the Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS), and everyone who works full time receives coverage by the IMSS. The second is Seguro Popular, which is available to all people who aren't covered under IMSS and can't afford private insurance.

In Mexico, both public and private healthcare plans come with their own doctors, pharmacies, physicians and health care centres.



## Education

Pre-school (which is optional and privately-funded) is available for children starting at age three. Primary school is mandatory from ages six to twelve, after which middle school (also mandatory) is for children aged twelve to fifteen. Mandatory schooling finishes with high school, after which attendance at University is possible.

*Although every care is taken to ensure that all information in the Abels Relocation Guide is accurate and up to date Abels cannot accept liability for any inaccuracy.*

## Part 2 – Mexico Import Customs Regulations

**To the best of our knowledge the following is required to import household goods and personal effects into Mexico.**

### General Information

- For Returning Mexican Nationals and Permanent Visa Holders prior to shipping effects to Mexico you must have your detailed inventory, in Spanish, legalised and stamped at your origin Mexican Consulate. All electronic items inventoried must mention the serial number, model and make. All items being shipped must be included on the inventory, and any item not included can be expropriated by the Mexican Government. Your legalised Inventory is only valid for six months, and your effects must arrive in Mexico prior to this
- Items less than 6 months of age are not considered to be used and must be imported separately from used household and personal effects
- Your effects cannot be shipped until all documentation has been forwarded to Mexico and the “Green Light” is received
- Returning Mexican citizens and permanent resident visa holders must show proof of having lived abroad for a minimum of 6 months before being able to import their effects duty free
- Visa Holders must import their effects within six months from the date their Visa is issued
- Please note you are advised not to ship effects in original packaging (even if they are over six months of age)

### Documentation Required for Returning Mexican Nationals

- Two copies of Passport
- Original legalised and stamped (Visaed) Inventory
- Copy of CURP (Clave Única de Registro de Población)
- Copy of RFC (Clave en el Registro Federal de Contribuyentes)
- Authorisation Letter (Power of Attorney) to allow our partner company to act for you at Customs (a draft will be sent to you)
- Declaration of Value (draft will be forwarded to you)
- Letter stating that all items in the shipment have been owned and used for at least six months

### Documentation Required for Permanent Visa Holder

- Two copies of Passport
- Original legalised and stamped (Visaed) Inventory
- Two copies of FM-2 Visa / Permanent Resident Card
- Authorisation Letter (Power of Attorney) to allow our partner company to act for you at Customs (a draft will be sent to you)



- Declaration of Value (draft will be forwarded to you)
- Customs may require a Compromise Letter and if necessary a draft will be forwarded
- Letter stating that all items in the shipment have been owned and used for at least six months

#### **Documentation Required for Temporary Residents Visa**

- Two copies of Ordinary Visa (First Visa issued and Stamped in your Passport at Mexican Consulate)
- Two copies of Passport
- Authorisation Letter (Power of Attorney) to allow our partner company to act for you at Customs (a draft will be sent to you)
- Detailed Inventory in Spanish which must show the address where you will be establishing your residency
- Compromise Letter acknowledging that when your assignment is over or you change your residency out of Mexico you will re-export your shipment
- A letter of guarantee from your company stating they will be responsible for duties and taxes should the shipment not be re-exported when you leave Mexico (Solidation Letter)
- Declaration of Value (draft will be forwarded to you)
- FMM – Entry Form given by immigration when arriving in Mexico
- Letter stating that all items in the shipment have been owned and used for at least six months

#### **Documentation Required for Foreigners with Diplomatic Status**

- An Import Permit “Diplomatic Franchise”. This has to be obtained by your corresponding Embassy in Mexico City, or your International Organization from SRE/Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Inventory list in Spanish
- Photocopy of Diplomatic Passport
- Origin and Destination addresses
- Authorisation Letter (Power of Attorney) to allow our partner company to act for you at Customs (a draft will be sent to you)

Wines, Liquors, Canned Food, Tobacco can be imported, but must be shipped completely separate, and a separate inventory prepared as it is not considered part of your household and personal effects.

#### **Documentation Required for Returning Mexican Diplomats**

- “Diplomatic Franchise” This has to be obtained from your Embassy or your corresponding International Organization from SRE/External Affairs authorities
- A Visaed Inventory List in Spanish (even though you can return with Diplomatic Status, you must get in contact with your Embassy/Consulate at origin and present your Inventory, and you will be awarded a special Visaed Inventory, with which you can proceed to obtain your Diplomatic Franchise at SRE)
- Photocopy of Diplomatic passport
- Origin and Destination addresses
- Authorisation Letter (Power of Attorney) to allow our partner company to act for you at Customs (a draft will be sent to you)

Wines, Liquors, Canned Food, Tobacco can be imported, but must be shipped completely separate, and a separate inventory prepared as it is not considered part of your household and personal effects.



### **Motor Vehicles**

Cars can only be imported by persons with a Temporary Visa, Foreign Diplomats and Returning Mexican Diplomats. Please contact us for further information if you wish to take your vehicle.

### **Wedding Trousseaux**

If included as part of household goods and effects and declared on your legalised list these effects can be imported.

### **Inheritance**

Permission must be obtained from the Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Promotion (secretaria de Comercio y Fomento Industrial) in the Federal District of Mexico. May be subject to payment of tax.

### **New Items**

All subject to duties and taxes. Please do not include with your household and personal effects. These items must be shipped separately and can only be imported through certain ports.

### **Works of Art and Antiques**

Can be imported if part of your household goods and are declared on your legalised list of effects.

### **Prohibited Items**

- Machines, appliances, spare parts
- Wine and Alcohol
- All food stuffs (even tins)
- Arms, ammunition and explosives
- Weapons, Knives and Swords (even Toy guns)
- Medicines, drugs and narcotics
- Plants
- Pornography

### **Fumigation of Imported and Exported Wooden Crates**

The Mexican Government has established the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures – ISPM Number 15, with the purpose of almost eliminating in its totality the risk of entrance of most of pests that are in quarantine and considerably reducing the risk of other pests.

Please contact us for the treatment specification if you are going construct your own crates.

### **Pets (dogs, cats, etc.)**

We work with a number of Pet Relocation Companies who can help you import you pet to Mexico.

Please contact us if you wish to be put in contact with our partners.

### **Endangered Species**

A CITES certificate is normally required. There is a worldwide ban on the movement of Ivory without a CITES Certificate. **Please note old pianos usually have ivory keys and a CITES certification will be required.**

For information on obtaining a CITES certificate please visit:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/endangered-species-application-for-import-and-export-permit>

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