



Private Importations of Liquor

In an effort to assist in bringing private liquor imports into Nova Scotia and answer questions around the fees, here is some useful information.

Shipping of Private Imports of Liquor into Nova Scotia

To assist with the private importation of liquor products into Nova Scotia, please ensure the following is completed:

- Ship the product via courier, DHL or Air Canada
- Ship the products destined for the NSLC; these must clearly be labeled on the invoice with the recipient's name, phone number and be noted directly on the case.
- The package must be addressed as follows:

Consignee: **Recipients' Name and Phone Number**

- Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation
 - 93 Chain Lake Drive, Halifax, NS B3S 1A3
 - Attention: NSLC Customs
- Mislabeled importations without a supplier invoice will be treated as belonging to the NSLC

Required Paperwork for Products

All Products are to be routed through the Finance Business Unit of the NSLC.

The following paperwork is required in order to clear the private importation:

- Documentation indicating recipient(s) name and phone number of enclosed products
- Invoice stating the wholesale value
- Waybill/Manifest

If products are not correctly shipped with all pertinent information the clearing time will increase and maybe impossible to clear.

NSLC is not responsible for product where the Name and Phone number of the private importer is not clearly identified

Permitted Amounts for Private Importation and Associated Fees

A. Returning Travelers (maximum 9.1 litres)

Travelers may hand carry up to 9.1 litres without a NSLC permit when re-entering Nova Scotia after an absence of 48 hours or more.

Federal excise taxes and duties in effect at the time of entry must be paid, along with applicable container deposits and Provincial Fees – see Schedule 1 for Provincial Fees.

B. Returning Travelers - Private Importations (maximum 135 litres for casual imports)

Nova Scotians traveling abroad may import up to 135 litres of product utilizing a NSLC Personal Import Permit. The permit is available from the NSLC Head Office and the cost of the permit is \$10.00.

Federal excise taxes and duties in effect at the time of entry must be paid, along with applicable container deposits and Provincial Fees – see Schedule 1 for Provincial Fees.

C. Returning Residents

Nova Scotia residents who have been living abroad for a period exceeding one year may apply for a permit allowing up to 500 litres of wine, beer, spirits or coolers to be imported into Nova Scotia as part of their personal effects. The cost of the permit is \$10.00.

Alcoholic beverages imported under the permit can be either hand-carried or shipped to arrive at a later date. Hand-carried importations can enter Canada through any province but must be forwarded in bond to Nova Scotia.

Federal duties and taxes in effect at the time of the importation must be paid along with applicable container deposits and a Provincial Fees – see Schedule 1 for Provincial Fees. HST will also be applied based upon the total cost of the products.

NSLC Personal Import Permit

Conditions for issuance of the permit are as follows:

- a) The permit is valid only for importations made within one year of issue.
- b) Only those products purchased/ordered in the countries noted on the travel dates indicated on the permit are eligible for importation.
- c) Proof of travel, along with invoices, receipts, or the supplier's official order acknowledgments must be presented to the NSLC within 10 working days following the return to Nova Scotia.
- d) Products imported are for personal use only; any third party transactions are prohibited.
- e) Products imported must arrive in Nova Scotia within six (6) months of the travel dates of the importer. Shipments received after six (6) months will be charged full retail markup.
- f) The NSLC must be identified as the importer of record and all products imported under this permit must be consigned to the NSLC.
- g) Products imported under this permit may be subject to appraisal by the NSLC, and the NSLC appraisal shall apply to the calculation of fees payable.
- h) All Provincial Fees due to the NSLC must be paid prior to NSLC authorization for release of the product.
- i) All supplier invoices, freight charges, customs broker fees, and other costs associated with importation of the product are the responsibility of the permit holder.
- j) Products imported utilizing the permit will be subject to federal excise taxes and duties applicable at the time of entry, along with provincial container deposits and Provincial Fees.

Clearing Personal Importation Packages

The NSLC requires a **minimum of 10 days** from the day the personal import arrives at the NSLC warehouse to process the import for clearance. If the personal import is not correctly shipped with all pertinent information the clearing time will increase or the imports will be impossible to clear.

Communication on Personal Imports

After the imports are cleared and are ready for pickup, the recipient will be contacted.

Picking up Personal Imports

Personal Imports will only be available for pickup from the mailroom between 1pm and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Kathy Pritchard
Sr. Customs Clerk
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Fax: (902)450-6092
Email: katherine.pritchard@myNSLC.com

Schedule 1 – Provincial Fees

A. Returning Travelers - Hand Carrying (maximum 9.1 Litres)

Product	Provincial Fees
Spirits/Sparkling Wine/Champagne	\$0.15/oz or \$5.25/L
Still Wine/Fortified Wine	\$0.10/oz or \$3.50/L
Beer/Stout Ale	\$0.01/oz or \$0.35/L
Coolers	\$0.05/oz or \$1.75/L

Note: NSLC Personal Import Permit is not required

B. Returning Travelers - Private Import (maximum 135 Litres)

Product	Provincial Fees
Wine	
Duty Paid Value (Cdn \$)	
\$5/bottle	\$4/bottle
\$10/bottle	\$8/bottle
\$15/bottle	\$12/bottle
\$20/bottle	\$16/bottle
\$25/bottle	\$20/bottle
Greater than \$25/bottle	\$25/bottle
Spirits	100% of Duty Paid Value (Cdn \$)
Beer	
500ml bottles or less	\$4/dozen bottles
greater than 500ml bottles	\$1/bottle
Coolers	
500ml bottles or less	\$4/dozen bottles
greater than 500ml bottles	\$1/bottle

Note: NSLC Personal Import Permit is required; cost \$10

C. Returning Resident

	Provincial Fees
All Products	30% of Total Value
	(Total value includes duty and tax)

Note: NSLC Personal Import Permit is required; cost \$10