



Private Importations of Liquor

As of October 1, 2013, CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) requires additional information over and above the CBSA information to import liquor into Canada. Therefore the process for shipping private importations of liquor into Nova Scotia had to be revised to provide the required information.

In an effort to assist in shipping 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 shipping of private importation of liquor products into Nova Scotia, please ensure the following is completed:

- Ship the product via courier, DHL Express, UPS 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
- Ensure the NSLC is provided the completed [Private Liquor Importation Form](#) (Appendix A)

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:

- Completed Private Liquor Importation form (Appendix A)
- Documentation indicating recipient(s) name and phone number of enclosed products
- Invoice stating the wholesale value
- Waybill/Manifest
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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 Private Liquor Importation form must be completed and forwarded to the NSLC **within 5 days of the sample goods entering Canada**. If the completed form is not provided, the samples will not be authorized to move into Nova Scotia and will be destroyed.

The NSLC requires a **minimum of 5 days** from the day the private import arrives at the NSLC warehouse to process.

Communication on Personal Imports

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

All communications around samples should be via email to customs@mynslc.com

Picking up Personal Imports

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

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

Appendix A

Private Liquor Importation

Forward the completed form to: customs@mynslc.com

The Private Liquor Importation form must be completed and forwarded to the NSLC within 5 days of the goods entering Canada. If the completed form is not provided, the samples will not be authorized to move into Nova Scotia and will be destroyed.

Courier Company	
Package Tracking #	

Product Information (must be completed for all products in the package)

Product 1:

Product Name	
Product Type (select from drop down)	
Quantity	
Alcohol %	
Size (mL)	
Country of Origin	

Product 2:

Product Name	
Product Type (select from drop down)	
Quantity	
Alcohol %	
Size (mL)	
Country of Origin	

Product 3:

Product Name	
Product Type (select from drop down)	
Quantity	
Alcohol %	
Size (mL)	
Country of Origin	

Product 4:

Product Name	
Product Type (select from drop down)	
Quantity	
Alcohol %	
Size (mL)	
Country of Origin	

Product Type
Ale
Porter or stout
Lager beer
Malt liquor
Other beer made from malt
Champagne
Other sparkling wine
Icewine, holding 2 L or less
Red wine, holding 2 L or less
White wine, holding 2 L or less
Rose wine, holding 2 L or less
Other still wines, holding 2 L or less
Port, holding 2 L or less
Sherry, holding 2 L or less
Other wines fortified with alcohol, holding 2 L or less
Other wines, holding 2 L or less
Icewine, holding more than 2L
Red wine, holding more than 2L
White wine, holding more than 2L
Rose wine, holding more than 2L
Other still wines, holding more than 2L
Port, holding more than 2L
Sherry, holding more than 2L
Other wines fortified with alcohol, holding more than 2L
Other wines, holding more than 2L
Other Grape Must
Wine Cocktail
Vermouth, holding 2L or less
Flavoured Wine, holding 2L or less
Aperitif Wine, holding 2L or less
Wine Cocktail, holding 2L or less
Other wine of fresh grapes flavoured with plants or aromatic substances, holding 2L or less
Vermouth, holding more than 2L
Flavoured Wine, holding more than 2L
Aperitif Wine, holding more than 2L
Wine Cocktail, holding more than 2L
Other wine of fresh grapes flavoured with plants or aromatic substances, holding more than 2L
Honey Wine (mead)

Product Type
Cider
Perry
Prune Wine
Sake (Rice Wine)
Ginger and Herbal beer
Other, fermented beverages not else where specified
Undenatured ethyl alcohol 80% vol or higher
Ethyl alcohol and other spirits, denatured, any strength
Brandy
Cognac
Armagnac
Other spirits obtained by distilling grape wine or grape marc
Canadian Whisky
Irish Whisky
Malt Whisky
Scotch Whisky
Bourbon Whisky
Other Whisky
Rum
Other spirits obtained by distilling fermented products of the sugar cane
Gin and Geneva
Vodka
Chocolate liqueurs
Coffee liqueurs
Cream liqueurs
Fruit Liqueurs
Herbal Liqueurs
Nut-flavoured liqueurs
Other liqueurs and cordials
Fruit Brandy
Fruit spirit
Tequila
Angostura Bitters
Other: Other undenatured ethyl alcohol less than 80% vol; spirits, liqueurs and other spirituous beverages