

Import and Export Restrictions for Travellers

Objects of cultural value

Exportation to another EU Member State

An export permit is required for the exportation of objects having cultural history value. These are such works of art, applied arts, and handicraft that are of Finnish origin, as well as other Finnish objects 50 to 100 years old, and likewise objects of foreign make which have been at least for 50 years in Finland. Regardless of the age of the object, an export permit is also required when the object is related to national history or nationally prominent persons, or when it is a valuable manuscript or a scientifically important collection.

Export permits are issued by the National Board of Antiquities and Historical Monuments, State Art Museum, Museum of Ostrobothnia (Vaasa), War Museum, Pietarsaari City Museum, Turku Provincial Museum, K. H. Renlund Museums (Kokkola), Museum of North Ostrobothnia (Oulu), Museum of Satakunta Province (Pori), Provincial Museum of Tornio River Valley (Tornio), National Archives, and the various Provincial Archives.

Exportation to countries not in the EU

A licence prescribed by the EU legislation shall be acquired for the exportation of objects the age and value of which exceed the limits defined by the relevant EU Regulation. The export licence is issued by the National Board of Antiquities and Historical Monuments. For other objects, a permit specified is required which is specified by the Finnish export legislation as explained under the heading Exportation to another EU Member State.

Further information: Finnish National Board of Antiquities and Historical Monuments, tel. +358 9 40 501.

Goods requiring export licences according to the EU regulation, with respective age and financial thresholds

Category of Cultural Object	Financial Threshold in EUR
1. Archaeological objects more than 100 years old which are the products of: excavations and finds on land or under water archaeological sites archaeological collections	0
2. Elements forming an integral part of artistic, historical or religious monuments which have been dismembered, of an age exceeding 100 years	0
3. Pictures and paintings executed entirely by hand, on any medium and in any material(1)	150 000
4. Mosaics other than those in categories 1 or 2 and drawings executed entirely by hand, on any medium and in any material(1)	15 000

5. Original engravings, prints, serigraphs and lithographs with their respective plates and original posters(1)	15 000
6. Original sculptures or statuary and copies produced by the same process as the original(1), other than those in category 1	50 000
7. Photographs, films and negatives thereof(1)	15 000
8. Incunabula and manuscripts, including maps and musical scores, singly or in collections(1)	0
9. Books more than 100 years old, singly or in collections	50 000
10. Printed maps more than 200 years old	15 000
11. Archives, and any elements thereof, of any kind or any medium which are more than 50 years old	0
12.(a) Collections(2) and specimens from zoological, botanical, mineralogical or anatomical collections;	50 000
(b) Collections(2) of historical, palaeontological, ethnographic or numismatic interest	
13. Means of transport more than 75 years old	50 000
14. Any other antique items not included in categories 1 to 13	50 000

(a) between 50 and 100 years old:

- toys, games
- musical instruments
- tapestries
- glassware
- articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares
- articles of wood
- clocks and watches and parts thereof
- wallpaper
- furniture
- pottery
- carpets
- arms
- optical, photographic or cinematographic apparatus

(b) more than 100 years old.

(1) Which are more than 50 years old and do not belong to their originators.

(2) As defined by the Court of Justice in its judgment in Case 252/84, as follows: "Collectors' pieces within the meaning of heading No 97.05 of the Common Customs Tariff are articles which possess the requisite characteristics for inclusion in a collection, that is to say, articles which are relatively rare, are not normally used for their original purpose, are the subject of special transactions outside the normal trade in similar utility articles and are of high value."