



Biosecurity St Helena

Guidelines for new residents in St Helena

Welcome to St Helena!

There are strict controls on what you can bring in to St Helena. As a remote oceanic island, St Helena is very vulnerable to the harmful impacts of introduced pests, weeds and diseases. In order to protect the Island please note the following restrictions on the personal effects you can bring in.

It is **against the law** to import the following:

- Honey, bees, unrefined beeswax, any other bee derived substance that may have been exposed to bee diseases, used bee keeping equipment.
- Sunflower seeds from South America.
- Monkeys and psittacine birds (parrots, parakeets, etc)

Honey isn't processed and can carry bee diseases, as can many other unrefined bee related products and used bee equipment. St Helena has no bee diseases and local bee keepers are trying to develop honey production.

You need a **licence** to bring in the following:

- **New bee keeping equipment;**
- **Fresh produce** such as fruit and vegetables;
- **Live plant material;**
- **Animals** such as pets or livestock;
- Any item listed under CITES Appendix I and II without the necessary export permit from the country of origin; see www.cites.org for further information.

These restrictions cover honey and fresh fruit brought in **from the ship, yachts or plane.**

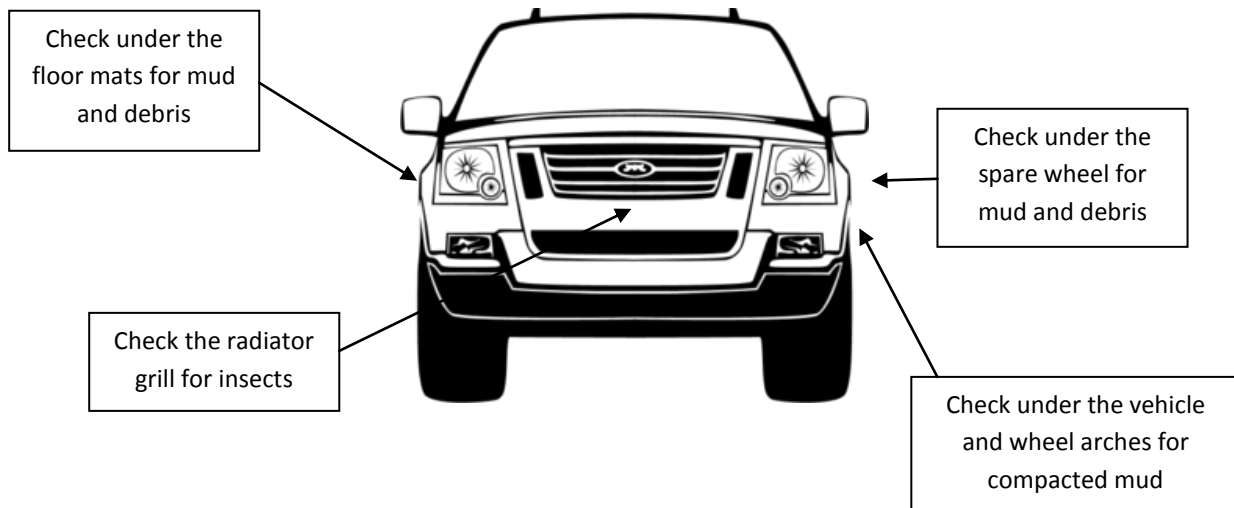
Dogs and cats can be brought in via the UK if they comply with the requirements of the DEFRA (UK) agreed Export Health Certificate. Other pets will be considered on application. There is currently no access route for livestock.

In addition, the following items can damage the islands agriculture or environment by harbouring pests, weed seeds or diseases:

- **Equipment** contaminated with mud, compacted dirt or weed seeds, including:
 - Farming or gardening equipment;
 - Hiking gear such as walking boots, jackets, tents and groundsheets;
 - Sports gear, canoes, fishing rods;
 - Children toys used outdoors and in the garden;
 - Vehicles, motorbikes and bicycles;
 - Machinery;

- Construction materials or equipment;
- **Unprocessed wood** and any wood with bark still intact;
- **Raw unprocessed** leather, hair, wool, bone and horn, including game trophies.

We ask you to please make sure that **all equipment is thoroughly cleaned** before shipping. All **vehicles should be pressure cleaned both inside and out**, paying particular attention to the following:



Permitted items include the following:

- **Commercially produced and packaged food**; for example biscuits, preserves, cereals, tinned goods, chocolates, spices, dried herbs, etc. Packages should be unopened and clearly from a commercial source, such as a supermarket chain;
- **Commercially produced and packaged seeds**. Packets should be unopened from, for example, Stark Ayres or Johnsons Seeds;
- **Wood, wooden items and handicrafts** where the wood is bark-free, dried, treated or varnished;
- **Processed or otherwise treated leather, hair, wool, bone and horn.**

All goods and personal effects entering St Helena are **inspected** by Customs and Biosecurity on arrival using a combination of detector dogs, x-ray machines and visual checks. Any prohibited or restricted goods found will be seized. If you have brought in such goods you must hand them over to Customs, Biosecurity, or place them in the quarantine bin on arrival.

For any questions or further information please contact julie.balchin@enrd.gov.sh or joe-hollins@enrd.gov.sh or call ANRD on (00 290) 24724. Further information, import health standards and licence applications can be found at <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/st-helena-biosecurity-service/>

Thank you for helping to protect St Helena Island