



HAMILTONS

An essential guide to relocating in

Turkey



If you are relocating to Turkey, there is a lot more to consider than choosing an international service. Our relocation guide below provides additional information on obtaining visas and work permits, the Turkish health care system and choosing schools, moving your pet and more. Please note this information is believed to be accurate at the time of writing, but please check with our international removals department prior to your moving date.

Visas

If you wish to live in Turkey, you will need to obtain a residence visa. Application forms to apply for this can be downloaded from the Turkish Consulate web site.

It is advisable to move to Turkey on a three-month tourist visa, and then apply for a full residence visa. As soon as you arrive, take quick action to obtain your residence visa as fines are imposed if you overstay the tourist visa.

In order to legally work in Turkey, a person must hold a work permit. Applications for these should be made to the Turkish Consulate, once an offer of work has been received. If a person is already living in Turkey, it may be necessary for them to leave the country and make the application for the work permit before returning.

Finances

Some foreign banks such as HSBC have branches in the cities of Turkey. Check to see if your current bank has a dedicated expatriate division, or consider opening a new account.

Alternatively if you are moving to a more rural area, you may be better off opening an account with a Turkish bank, which will have a larger number of branches. Turkish banks include the Turkish Central Bank, Akbank, Is Bankasi and Yapi ve Kredi Bankasi.





Schools

Most expatriates living in Turkey send their children to private International schools. This is because state schools teach in Turkish, and the standard of education can be quite low due to a lack of available teaching materials.

Private independent schools are only available in Turkey's major cities, such as Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir and Antalya. Therefore this can cause a problem for expatriates living in other areas. If a child is over seven, then it could be hard for them to adjust to a Turkish speaking school - and potentially quite disruptive to their education.

Health care

Whilst the cost of health care in Turkey is lower than in other countries, it is still of a very high standard. There are a good number of private clinics and hospitals with English-speaking doctors as well as chemists that will sell you a large range of medicines without prescription.

Most expatriates living in Turkey take out a private insurance policy, to ensure that their medical bills are covered. It is also possible to pay for services as you use them, although this is likely to work out more expensive. Different levels of insurance care can be taken out depending on your personal requirements.

Moving your pet

Pet cats, dogs, birds and fish can be brought with you to your new home in Turkey. However you are only allowed to take one dog, cat or bird per person and up to ten aquarium fish each.

Your animal must be vaccinated for Rabies prior to departure and micro chipped. It must also hold a pet identification card, a vet certificate stating that it is more than 3 months old and an International Certificate of Health. 96 hours before you leave, you will need to have your animals checked by a DEFRA approved vet, who will ensure they are fit to travel and stamp your export permit.

Turkey Customs Information

International removals to Turkey and other overseas destinations are more complicated than moving house within the UK due to the Customs & Excise regulations applied to importing your belongings.

Below is a guide to current Turkish Customs & Excise regulations. Please note that information is correct at time of publishing but may change at any time. Hamilton's international removals department will guide you through all relevant Customs & Excise regulations prior to your overseas move.

There is no duty payable on household and personal effects for all new residents to Turkey. However, there is a band-roll fee payable locally levied on TV's, hi-fi's and video equipment (for which you will need to provide serial numbers). It is worth noting that only one of each type of electrical equipment is allowed. Effects must arrive within 6 months of your arrival into Turkey.

If you are entering Turkey under a work visa, you may import effects duty free under the obligation that the goods will be exported out of the country when you leave. However, after five years that condition ceases.

For returning Turkish citizens, there is no duty payable on effects provided that you have been living outside of Turkey for more than two years.

Small quantities of food, beverage and alcohol are permitted but are subject to duties.

We will require the following documentation to clear your goods through customs.

- Passport showing last entry stamp into Turkey
- Permanent residence form or temporary residence permit and work permit
- Guarantee documents to be provided by Turkish employer (if on work visa)
- Inventory of goods (completed by our removal team)

Importing Cars and Motor Vehicles

All non-Turkish residents who do not hold a work visa are not permitted to import a vehicle, unless moving for marriage reasons. You can however, import a vehicle if travelling to Turkey on a work contract but only on the condition that the car is not sold to a Turkish citizen. A bank guarantee is then required which is calculated on the year and weight of the vehicle.

If you are a returning Turkish citizen you may import a vehicle but the import will be subject to duties and taxes. In this case, the car must not be older than three years and must have been used for at least six months prior to importation.

We will require the following documentation for motor vehicles:

- Vehicle registration papers
- ID card (if a returning Turk)

Additional Information

Electrical supply	220 volts - adapters are necessary for UK plugs
GMT	+ 2 hours
Dialling code	+90



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NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL REMOVALS

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