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## Temporary Importation of a Vehicle into South Africa

### *Information about importing a vehicle into South Africa on a temporary basis...*

Tourists may import a vehicle into South Africa, provided all qualifying criteria are met. Importation for tourists is exempt from VAT for a period of up to three months. This may be extended to up to six months, but may be subject to a provisional payment to Customs to secure the VAT on importation. After six months the vehicle has to be re-exported and the owner may apply for a rebate on any taxes/duties paid.

Vehicles which have been temporarily imported do not need to be registered in South Africa but must be registered in the owner's country of residence.

Foreign vehicles may be brought into South Africa without incurring any import duty or requirement to be registered in South Africa by obtaining a Carnet de Passage, which is usually valid for up to one year.

- For details about obtaining a Carnet de Passage: [Click here](#)

Temporary residents are also able to import foreign vehicles to South Africa. They must pay a cash Customs Bond to cover full duties and taxes. A refund of the bond can be applied for from the South African Department of Customs and Excise. Proof of re-export must be provided for this refund.

The maximum amount of time a vehicle is allowed to be imported to South Africa on a temporary basis is usually two years. The vehicle may not be sold or disposed of in the Republic.

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## Carnet de Passages en Douane

### Travel Services

The Carnet de Passages en Douane (CPD) is the international customs document, which covers the temporary admission of motor vehicles.

### AA Quality

### Assured

The CPD is still required today, in numerous countries around the world, for temporary admission of private automobiles, commercial vehicles or other categories of motor vehicles. It facilitates the temporary importation of motor vehicles by providing security for the payment of any customs duties and import taxes chargeable, should the vehicle not be re-exported.

### Route Planner

The Automobile Association is the only institution in South Africa that is able to issue carnets.

### Into Africa

[CLICK HERE \(https://www.aa.co.za/travel/into-africa/carnet-requirements-pricing.html\)](https://www.aa.co.za/travel/into-africa/carnet-requirements-pricing.html) for requirements and pricing.

### Going Overseas

[CDP Application Form](#)

### Tips and Advice

[Bank Indemnity Form](#)

## Extensions of Carnet de Passages en Douane

### Visiting South

Carnets issued for vehicles entering South Africa on a temporary basis are normally valid for one year. If the carnet holder wishes to keep the vehicle in SA for a further year, permission must be granted by the South African Revenue Service. This is arranged for you by the AA's Head Office. The process is known as substitution.

### Africa

[Requirements](#)

[Substitution Application Form](#)

Journeys Namibia



get out there



**THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA NPC**

Denis Paxton House, Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit

Allandale Road, Kyalami

PO Box 596, Johannesburg, 2000

Tel (011) 799 1000, Fax 086 524 2251

E-mail: [aasa@aasa.co.za](mailto:aasa@aasa.co.za)

**PROCEDURES FOR FOREIGN SUBSTITUTION**

- Step 1: Member complete "Substitution" application form and fax back together with a copy of the validated page of carnet (carnet counterfoil showing entry in South Africa) & copy of passport, to (011) 799-1041.
- Step 2: Application will be faxed to SA Customs -- they will then inform me via fax if application has been approved or declined.
- Step 3: If approved, fee for substitution is payable immediately -- AASA is to send the Issuing Club letter showing confirmation of the carnet extension from SA Customs.
- Step 4: Member needs to contact their issuing club to make arrangements for the issuing of the new carnet.
- Step 5: Once the member has both the old and new carnet, and the substitution approval letter from SARS, the member can go ahead and make an appointment for the carnet endorsement at an SA Customs office-with the vehicle present.

If application is declined, AASA will advise the applicant alternative steps to follow.

Kind regards,

Cleodene Sauls

Foreign Travel Department

Tel: (011) 799-1009

Fax: (011) 799-1041

Email: [cleodenes@aasa.co.za](mailto:cleodenes@aasa.co.za)

DIRECTORS: HC Turner (Chairman)\*, K Bryden (Managing), NP Crous  
L Dixon\*†, SAH Kajee\*, MP Madi\*, MML Mokoka\*, C Soobramoney\* (\*Non-executive †British)  
EJ Willis (Company Secretary)

THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA NPC REG NO 1932/004001/03

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**APPLICATION TO SUBSTITUE CARNET DE PASSAGE EN DOUANE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential address (Country where citizenship /  
Permanent residency is held) \_\_\_\_\_

SA Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell No: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax No: \_\_\_\_\_

Status in S.A (Tick applicable block):

- Applying for permanent residency  
 Tourist  
 Work Permit

Carnet De Passage No: \_\_\_\_\_ Valid to: \_\_\_\_\_

Issued by: \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle Registration No: \_\_\_\_\_

How long has the vehicle been in S.A: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of when vehicle is to be exported: \_\_\_\_\_

State reason why vehicle has not been exported from South Africa (Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho &  
Swaziland)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CVV No: (last three digits on the back of the card): \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby confirm that all information given is true and correct. I also understand, that should the application be declined, I will have no option but to export the vehicle from S.A. or any of the common customs area (Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho & Swaziland). If permanent residency comes through, I will regularize the permanent importation thereof and bring import duties to account.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTORS: HC Turner (Chairman)\*, K Bryden (Managing), NP Crous  
V Jack\*, D Konar\*, JB Meiring\*, (\*Non-executive)  
EJ Willis (Company Secretary)