



MEAT, SEAFOOD AND EGG ITEMS THAT INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS MAY BRING IN TO SINGAPORE

1 During the festive season, many people will be travelling overseas and may bring back with them eggs, meat and fish products. As the national food safety authority, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority's (AVA) mission is to ensure a resilient supply of safe food, and safeguard the health of animals and plants for the well-being of both Singaporeans and our visitors.

2 As such, we care about the type of food and the amount that is brought into Singapore. We want to ensure that food safety standards are not compromised and food-borne diseases are kept under control. We seek to minimise any negative impact that exotic pests and diseases can have on our plant, animal and human health, as well as the environment.

3 In this regard, we would like to seek the co-operation of travellers in adhering to the following guidelines on food imports.

Small amounts for personal consumption - no permit required

4 Under Singapore laws, a person is required to obtain a permit from AVA before importing food into the country. AVA however, recognises that travellers both from Singapore and overseas, may wish to bring certain food items for personal consumption when they travel. Therefore, travellers are not required to have a permit for small quantities of food items meant strictly for personal consumption. Travellers must however, be aware of the risks associated with consuming such food items, which have not undergone checks by AVA. **Meat and eggs from some countries are not part of this exemption. For instance, beef from the US, poultry and eggs from Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia are prohibited. Pork, chicken and beef, in all forms including bak kwa, from Malaysia and Thailand are not allowed.**

MEDIA RELEASE



**MEAT, SEAFOOD AND EGG ITEMS THAT INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS
MAY BRING IN TO SINGAPORE**

5 The food products and the amounts that can be brought into Singapore without a permit from AVA are indicated in the table below:

Product	Country from which the product may be imported	Personal Allowance (Maximum amount which may be imported without a permit from AVA)
Meat Items		
Beef (chilled, frozen, processed or canned)	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden) A total of 5 kg per person of beef,) mutton, pork and poultry) (provided that the) total quantity of all meat items does not exceed 5 kg per) person)
Mutton (chilled, frozen, processed or canned)	Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA))))
Pork (chilled, frozen, processed or canned)	Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA)))))))
Poultry (chilled, frozen, processed or canned)	Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, The Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA)))))
Seafood Items		
Fish products (except frozen cooked crabmeat, frozen cooked prawn meat and live or frozen oysters)	All countries) 5 kg per person (provided that the) total quantity of all seafood) products does not exceed 5 kg per) person))
Live or frozen oysters	Australia, Canada, France, Ireland, The Netherlands, New Zealand, United Kingdom, USA)))
Frozen cooked crabmeat and frozen cooked prawn meat	All countries	2 kg per person (provided that the total quantity of all seafood products does not exceed 5 kg per person)

MEDIA RELEASE



MEAT, SEAFOOD AND EGG ITEMS THAT INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS MAY BRING IN TO SINGAPORE

Product	Country from which the product may be imported	Personal Allowance (Maximum amount which may be imported without a permit from AVA)
Egg Items Fresh Hen Eggs	Australia, France, New Zealand	Up to 30 eggs per person

Larger amounts require permit

6 A traveller may bring in larger quantities of these products if he has an import permit from AVA. The import must comply with the various prevailing import conditions, for example, the submission of health certificates, and the requirement for the product to be inspected and sampled, among others.

Not sure? Seek advice

7 It is always advisable to check the list of food items that individual travellers may bring in before travelling to Singapore. When in doubt, it is advisable to declare your food items to the Customs officers. In any case, it is a good practice to declare food items brought in from overseas.

8 Alternatively, travellers can also contact AVA for further information:

Hotline: 1800-2262250

Fax: (65) 62235383

Website: www.ava.gov.sg

Email: AVA_Email@ava.gov.sg

9 If any disallowed products are not declared, the travellers may be liable to a penalty. Under the Wholesome Meat and Fish Act, the penalty for import of meat or fish products without a licence is a fine of up to \$50,000 or jail of 2 years or both.

**Issued by Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
Ministry of National Development
on 18 Jan 2005**

\\c\pro05hcgfin2web

MEDIA RELEASE