



# France

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## National Guaranteeing Association

Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Région Paris Ile-de-France

## Date of accession to the ATA system

20/12/1962

## Field of application notified

ATA Convention

"Professional equipment" Convention

"Exhibitions and Fairs" Convention

"Commercial samples" Convention

"Private Road Vehicles" Convention

"Commercial Road Vehicles" Convention

"Istanbul Convention" and all its Annexes

## Territorial coverage

The various parts of the French Customs territory are the following:

### Mainland France

- Corsica
- The Principality of Monaco. Even if Monaco is an independent and sovereign city State, it constitutes one single fiscal entity with France as far as VAT is concerned. ATA Carnet is not necessary for goods coming from the European Union

### Overseas Departments or Areas (DROM-COM-POM-TOM)

- Overseas Departments and Regions (DROM): French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Reunion and Mayotte.
- Overseas Communities (COM): French Polynesia, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Island of Saint Martin, Island of Saint Barthelemy, Wallis and Futuna
- Overseas Countries (POM): New Caledonia,

### ATA Carnets are accepted in all the above territories.

However, in the case of definite importation, Customs authorities in these territories will require the payment of an "octroi de mer" ('sea import duty'). Moreover, a set of white forms is needed for each destination in case of multiple trips.

- *Overseas Territories\* (TOM): New Amsterdam Island, Saint Paul Island, Crozet Islands, Kerguelen Islands, Adelle Land.*
- *Public State Domain\*: Juan de Nova, Clipperton Island, Bassas da India,*
- *Malagasy Islands of Glorieuses, Europa, Tromelin Island*

*\* given the size and customs practices of these territories, the benefit of the carnet is not guaranteed*

## Other applications

ATA Carnets **are** accepted for transit operations in the following cases:

1. To cover the transportation, through the French Customs territory, of goods exported under the provisions of the ATA Convention from the country where the carnet was issued to another country.
2. Where, by reason of the special features of the operation, the goods covered by an ATA carnet must necessarily be taken from the frontier Customs office to an inland office, to be declared there for temporary admission under cover of the ATA carnet

This is only valid for:

- Gemstones and precious stones, even unassembled
- sensitive material (war, dual-use, protected species...)

ATA Carnets **are** accepted for postal traffic.

## Languages in which Carnets should be completed

French. The Customs may require a translation when the ATA Carnets are completed in any other language

## Replacement carnet

Yes, in accordance with Article 716a of EU Customs Code

## Regularization fee requested by Customs

French Customs reserve the right to impose penalties or regularization fees in cases where only indirect proof of the re-exportation can be provided.

## Customs offices

All full-service offices.

ATA Operations can be conducted during the official hours for commercial operations, i.e. at most offices, 8.00. to 12.00 and 14.00 to 18.00.

However, surveillance officers, permanently on duty at frontier offices (including on Sundays and public holidays), are empowered to authenticate ATA carnets both at importation (foreign carnets) and temporary exportation (French carnets), except for operations:

- subject to specific regulations (samples of articles of precious metals and articles of jewellery, goods subject to health controls, war material), which fall under the competence of the commercial operations service;
- involving the following goods: furskins, knotted carpets, natural pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, diamond dust and powder, works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques (all of Chapter 99), live or dead specimens of endangered species of wild fauna and flora covered by some Appendices of the Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

## Special observations

### Specific regulation for the handling of gemstones in the Paris region

A specific regulation applies to the handling of **gemstones**<sup>1</sup> under cover of Carnets in the Paris region, where a specific Customs office (**Paris Principal**) is the only competent Customs office for gemstones.

30 rue Raoul Wallenberg / 75019 PARIS / 09 70 27 19 66  
[controles-paris-principal@douane.finances.gouv.fr](mailto:controles-paris-principal@douane.finances.gouv.fr)

This means that ATA Carnets covering articles containing precious stones or gems - whether mounted or not – which pass through Orly or Roissy Charles-de-Gaulle airports must imperatively contain two sets of blue transit sheets which will allow to move the goods from the border customs office to the customs office "Paris Principal".

However, in the rest of the French Customs territory, all Customs offices are entitled to process any kind of ATA Carnets.

<sup>1</sup> A gemstone is a piece of mineral, a rock (such as Lapis Lazuli) or an organic material (such as Amber or Coral), whether mounted or not. It is a rough stone which is, most of the time, cut, polished and used to make jewellery or other adornments. A gem can be natural, treated or artificially manufactured (synthetic stone).