

## FRANCE

**National Guaranteeing organization**

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General: <http://www.cci-paris-idf.fr/>

ATA: <http://www.entreprises.cci-paris-idf.fr/web/international/exportation-temporaire-carnet-ata>

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**Date of accession to the  
ATA Convention** 20 December 1962

**Territorial application** The various parts of the French Customs territory are the following:

- Mainland France including the free zones of Gex and Haute Savoie
- 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. Therefore, an ATA Carnet is not necessary for goods coming from the European Union.
- Overseas Departments and Regions (DOM/TOM): French Guiana, Guadeloupe; Martinique and Reunion
- Overseas Countries: New Caledonia, French Polynesia
- Overseas Communities (COM): Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Island of Saint Martin, Mayotte, Island of Saint Barthelemy, Wallis and Futuna
- Public State Domain: Juan de Nova, Clipperton Island, Bassas da India, Malagasy Islands of Glorieuses, Europa, Tromelin Island
- Overseas Territories (TOM): New Amsterdam Island, Saint Paul Island, Crozet Islands, Kerguelen Islands, Adelie Land.

It should be noted that, outside Mainland France, the most well-known and visited territories are the following: French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Reunion, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Island of Saint Martin, Mayotte, Island of Saint Barthelemy and Wallis and Futuna.

ATA Carnets are accepted in all the above territories. However, in the case of definite importation, Customs authorities in these territories will require

<b>Field of application</b>	<p>the payment of an “<i>octroi de mer</i>” (‘sea import duty’). Moreover, a set of white forms is needed for each destination in case of multiple trips.</p> <p>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</p>
<b>Other applications</b>	<p>ATA Carnets <b>are</b> accepted for transit operations in the following cases:</p> <p>(a) 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.</p> <p>(b) 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</p> <p>ATA Carnets <b>are</b> accepted for postal traffic.</p>
<b>Languages in which Carnets should be completed</b>	<p>French. The Customs may require a translation when the ATA Carnets are completed in any other language</p>
<b>Replacement carnet</b>	<p>Yes, in accordance with Article 716a of EU Customs Code</p>
<b>Regularization fee requested by Customs</b>	<p>French Customs reserve the right to impose penalties or regularization fees in cases where only an indirect proof of the re-exportation can be provided.</p>
<b>Customs offices:</b>	<p>All full-service offices.</p> <p>ATA Operations can be conducted during the official hours for commercial operations, i.e. at most offices, 8 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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;</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>

## 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.

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.

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<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).