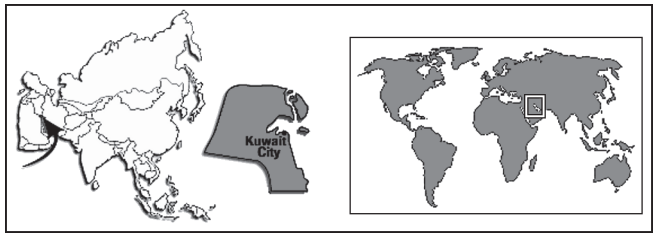
Kuwait (KW)
Amounts shown are expressed in Kuwaiti Dinar (KWD)



0. General Information

- IATA Area : 2
- Capital : Kuwait (KWI)
- Local Time : GMT + 3
- Daylight Saving Time : Kuwait does not observe DST.
- ☎ Country Code : + 965
- Local Currency : Kuwaiti Dinar (KWD)
- Bank Information : Closed on Friday and Saturday, open on Sunday.
- Public Holidays :

Date
01 Jan 2015
03 Jan 2015
25 Feb 2015
26 Feb 2015
16 May 2015
18 Jul 2015
23 Sep 2015
13 Oct 2015

- **Cargo Claims Information**
  The following Protocols / Conventions have been ratified:
  1. Warsaw Convention (1929)
  2. Hague Protocol (1955)
  3. Montreal Protocol MP4 (1975)
  4. Montreal Convention MC99 (1999)

  For further details, explanation and how to apply these Protocols / Conventions see paragraph 2.1.5. (General Rules) including list of countries.

- **E-freight and e-AWB status of airports**
  For e-freight and e-AWB implementation status of airports please refer to chapter 6.4.

- **E-Customs**
  Advance Electronic Information (AEI) requirements
  - Status: Mandatory filing of advanced cargo information is not yet required in Kuwait. Cargo and goods declaration are filed after the arrival of the carrier via the e-Gate Customs system
  - E-Customs system name: e-Gate
  - Deadlines: For imports, within 24 hours of arrival
  - How to submit information: Via Kuwait e-Gate system
  - Further information: www.customs.gov.kw, email to tl.edan@customs.gov.kw

  E-Customs information and Advance Electronic Information requirements are subject to change. Readers should check for the latest information available from relevant country authorities.

  For additional information on E-Customs and Advance Electronic Information, please refer to chapter 6.5.

1. Airport Information

1.1. Customs Airports
Kuwait - KWI.

1.2. Airport Facilities
Two Ground Handling Agents (KAC & NAS) are operating in Kuwait.
1.2.1. Loading/Unloading equipment
Ramp forklift available; 10 tons heavy duty forklift available after prior arrangement.
IVR phone number: 1807070.

1.2.2. Storage
At the airport Customs Warehouse.
Time limit: 90 days. Thereafter uncleared goods will be auctioned
Cold storage: Available, capacity *Freezer*: 140 m³ (L9.36 × W4.02 × H3.72) capacity *Fridge*: 2130 m³.
Strong room: Available: For high valuable cargo, capacity 50 m³; For semi valuable cargo, capacity 300 m³.
Room for radio-active material: Available.
Room for explosives: Available.
Volume Scan.
Cooled warehouse for storing ULDs with PER cargo.
1.2.3. Clearance
At Customs Warehouse by broker: except personal effects, samples and diplomatic mail.
Clearance possible 24 hrs., provided all Customs documentation formalities completed in advance.
1.2.4. Customs hours
At the airport, documentation for:
- General cargo, Sunday to Thursday 07.30 - 20.00 hrs. Saturday 07.30 - 14.00 hrs. Friday and public holidays closed.
- Live animals and perishables 24 hrs. all week round.

1.2.6. (Re)-Forwarding
Prior permission required from Customs Authorities.

2. Import

2.1. General
2.1.1. Packing
Parcels must be properly secured. Valuable cargo must be strongly packed and marked with red wax seals, or secured by wire and lead seals.
2.1.2. Marking
Each package must have an AWB number on it as well as identification marks. Packages without AWB number will not be released by Customs.
For consolidated shipments each parcel must show both Master AWB (MAWB) and the House AWB (HAWB), to enable quick identification and delivery.
2.1.4. Language on Documents
Arabic or English.
2.1.5. Other requirements
- Country denomination on all transportation documents and packages: “State of Kuwait” is the only additional indication which may be used.
- Addresses in Kuwait on transportation documents must also mention P.O. Box, Postal Code, telephone and/or full residence address.
  Each item must bear a fixed label showing brand and country of origin.
- AWB: Must indicate the actual and complete name, contact address, telephone numbers, fax and e-mail address of consignee.
- In case of a DGR Shipment, not being delivered, the Carrier/ Station are responsible to return the shipment back.
- For special Cargo such as AVI/DGR/PER/VAL, telex must be flashed at least 24 - 48 hrs. in advance to enable the Consignee to obtain the necessary approvals.

2.2. Documentary Requirements
All imports: Import Licence, granted only to registered importers.
Exemption: foodstuffs and goods for government bodies, political or international organizations and diplomatic representatives.
2.2.1. Commercial consignments
- One original commercial Invoice to be signed and stamped by vendor, containing specific description of goods, value per unit, total value, net and gross weight, trade mark and Harmonised System Code for each item.
- Packing list containing: Commercial Invoice number, quantity of items and net and gross weight.
- Certificate of Origin, (certified by Chamber of Commerce) containing: country of origin, composition of raw materials, component parts, manufacturer name, commercial invoice(s) number, and declaration that goods are not of Israeli make or origin.

2.2.2. Sample consignments
No documents required.
2.2.3. Gift consignments
No documents required.
2.2.4. Unaccompanied baggage
No documents required.

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2.3. Restrictions

2.3.2. Live animals

All live animals: Health Certificate and prior permission from the public Authority for Agriculture Affairs & Fish Resources Kuwait required.

Birds:

1. Must be examined prior to their shipment and should be free of any symptoms of infectious or contagious diseases (Newcastle, Gumboro, Mycoplasmosis, Salmonellosis, Chlamydiosis diseases, Influenza Viruses diseases and Bird Flu);
2. Must be accompanied by a Veterinary Heath Certificate stating the health status and all vaccinations which have been administered;
3. Must be isolated from any other bird at least 72 hrs. prior to their shipment and before the final health examination;
4. Must be treated and preventively dosed against internal and external parasites 2 weeks before departure;
5. All kinds of Birds are absolutely not allowed to be entered into the state of Kuwait (whether for commercial/personal purposes or otherwise) unless the prior written approval is obtained from the Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Kuwait;
6. None of the live animals shipments should contain extinction species.

Honey bees: Agricultural Health Certificate required stating that they are from a pure progeny and free from any bee diseases.

2.3.3. Plants and plant material

Agriculture Certificate required.

Nursery plants, offsets, grafts and tubers in sand/soil or organic fertilizers not permitted unless same imported in artificial soil or sterilised packing.

2.3.4. Arms, ammunition and explosives

Import Permit from Ministry of Interior required. See also 2.4.

- The prior written consent of Kuwait Ministry of Interior and Kuwait Directorate General of Civil Aviation are required for accepting, processing and transporting class (1) of explosive materials.
- The prior written consent of Kuwait Ministry of Health (radiation protection section) and Kuwait Directorate General of Civil Aviation are required for accepting, processing and transporting class (7) of radio active materials.

2.3.6. Human remains

Death Certificate certified by Government Authorities.

2.4. Prohibitions

- Shipments of guns, weapons, ammunitions, cartridges, explosives, air rifles and dangerous goods Class 1
  Permitted provided the carrying airline, obtains prior approval from Kuwait DGCA, through its GHA and KAC security (KWIDWKU).
  Class 7, Radio Active Material, imperative prior approval obtained from Kuwait DGCA, and Radiation protection authority MOPH.
- Live chickens, except one day old chicks.
- Monkeys and wild animals of all kinds.
- Alcohol and intoxicating liquor (incl. wines, spirits and beer).
- All goods from Israel.
- Consolidated shipments to/from Kuwait:
  Consolidated shipments are permitted to/from Kuwait under the following conditions:

  Inbound air cargo consolidation

  1. The Kuwait Customs Authorities have informed that Consolidation on MASTER AWB should NOT cover Single HOUSE AWB. ONLY multiple HAWBS should cover shipments under a consolidated Air Waybill. If a single House Air Waybill is issued under a Consolidation Master Air waybill, the same will be REJECTED by the Customs. The nature of goods on the Consolidation Master Air Waybill will be amended to the actual nature of goods and the Air Waybill will be treated as GENERAL CARGO shipment.
  2. A copy of the master air waybill along with the original manifest to be submitted by the carriers to the handling agent at Kuwait International Airport upon arrival. Handling agent in turn will submit documents to customs authorities.
  3. Carriers operating at the Kuwait International Airport have to submit original copies of House Air Waybills along with the original consolidation manifest to the handling agent upon flight arrival to enable them to process documents and in turn to submit required documentation to customs authorities.
  4. a. Handling agent has to collect KWD 5.000 (Kuwaiti Dinar Five) for each Master Air Waybill containing one or more consolidated shipment(s) for providing extra services required for executing inbound air cargo consolidation procedures at Kuwait International Airport.
     b. Handling agent has to collect storage and handling charges for each House Air Waybill for providing services associated with cargo consolidation such as segregation, location, warehousing and follow up according to rule chapter 2.5. with regard to handling charges at Kuwait International Airport.
     Handling agent has to fill in and submit inbound sheet for every Master Air Waybill with relevant information required by Customs authorities. Handling agent is responsible to Customs authorities for any irregularity appearing in the inbound sheet.
  5. Freight forwarder has to release the following documents to the consignee for the completion of customs clearance formalities along with other required documents by Customs Authorities.
     a. A copy of the Master Air Waybill showing the Handling Agent Delivery Order Stamp or their authorised agent's stamp authenticated by the Customs authorities
     b. The original House Air Waybill issued by freight forwarders showing the agent's Original Delivery Order Stamp officially authenticated by the Customs authorities.
  6. Freight forwarders have to issue Delivery Order on each House Air waybill showing freight charges according to IATA rates. If such rates are not indicated on the House Air Waybill, the freight forwarder has to mention rates on the House Air Waybill, sign and stamp it with his official stamp.
  7. Upon completion of customs formalities and prior to the release of shipment, the freight forwarder shall release the copy of HAWB stamped with the agent's Delivery Order stamp to the consignee to be presented to the Handling Agent for the purpose of settlement of handling and storage charges.
  8. House Air Waybill is considered as the official negotiable document by the Customs authorities.
  9. The Handling Agent shall consider the Master Air Waybill as the official negotiable document for claim settlement.
  10. In the event of a claim, freight forwarders are required to issue a letter of authorisation to actual consignee based on both Master Air Waybill and House Air Waybill to enable them to receive the supporting documents from handling agent to process their claim with the carriers transporting the shipment from Kuwait International Airport.
  11. Master Air Waybill. The number of the House Air Waybill must appear on each certificate.
  12. Inbound air cargo consolidation is confined to airfreight agents who are in possession of valid airfreight licence from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for practicing airfreight activities in the State of Kuwait.

  Outbound air cargo consolidation

  1. Master Air Waybill has to be issued by the freight forwarders showing their company name and address in the shipper column and name and address of their destination agent in the consignee column.
  2. Master Air Waybill has to show description of the shipment in the nature and quantity column as "Consolidation as per attached Manifest".
  3. Consolidation manifest should be prepared by the freight forwarders and attached to Master Air Waybill showing following details:
     a. Date of issue and flight number.
     b. Master Air Waybill number.
     c. Airport of departure & arrival.
     d. Name of Shipper at origin & Consignee at destination.
     e. Total number of pieces & total gross weight of each Air Waybill according to Master Air Waybill.
     f. House Air Waybill numbers, its origin and destination.
     g. Description of goods.
     h. Number of pieces for all House Air Waybills.
  4. Freight forwarders have to prepare and submit original House Air Waybills to Customs authorities, showing the following information to Customs authorities:
     a. Name and address of actual shipper.
     b. Name and address of actual consignee.
     c. Number of pieces.
     d. Gross weight.
     e. Description of goods.
     f. Freight charges.

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5. Freight forwarders have to prepare and submit checklist to Handling Agent at Kuwait International Airport with the following details:
   a. Master Air Waybill number and total number of packages and total gross weight of the shipment.
   b. House Air Waybill numbers.
   c. Gross weight for each House Air Waybill.
   d. Number of pieces in each House Air Waybill.
   e. Nature of goods for each House Air Waybill.
   f. Final destination for each Master Air Waybill.
6. Freight forwarders have to formulate export permit approved by the Customs authorities.
7. As the sole shipper, freight forwarders have to submit export Customs Clearance Formalities (Bayan) for each House Air Waybill to the Customs authorities. The Customs clearance formalities (Bayan) must bear the number of the Master Air Waybill and House Air Waybill and must include all information required by the Customs authorities.
8. a. Handling agent has to collect KWD 3.000 (three Kuwaiti Dinars) for each Master Air Waybill containing one or more consolidated shipment(s), for providing extra services required for executing outbound air cargo consolidation procedures at Kuwait International Airport.
   b. Handling agent has to collect storage and handling charges for each House Air Waybill for providing services associated with cargo consolidation, according to rule chapter 2.5. with regards to handling charges at Kuwait International Airport.
9. House Air Waybill is considered as an official negotiable document by Customs authorities.
10. The handling agent shall consider Master Air Waybill as the official negotiable document for claim settlement.
11. In the event of a claim, freight forwarders are required to issue a letter of authorisation to actual consignee based on both Master Air Waybill and House Air Waybill to enable them to receive the supporting documents from Handling Agent to process their claim with the carriers transporting the shipment from Kuwait International Airport.
12. Consolidation is confined to freight forwarders who are in possession of valid airfreight licence from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for practicing airfreight activities in Kuwait.

For other goods contact Kuwait Embassies/Consulates.
See also 2.3.

2.5. Charges

2.5.2. Handling

Up to 1000 kg., per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.500
From 1001 kg. up to 5000 kg., per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.250
5001 kg. and over, per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.150
Minimum charge	2.000

2.5.6. Storage

First 3 days, including Fridays but excluding public holidays	Free
Shipments up to 250 kg., per day	2.000
Thereafter from 250,1 kg., per day, per kg.	0.010

No storage charges will be levied for cargo weighing less than 5 kg., with exception of valuable cargo.

Valuable Cargo:

Flat charge per day from date of flight arrival for shipments stored in strong room	10.000

Cold storage charges:

Free period only from time/date of arrival of the shipment including Fridays and Public Holidays	24 hours
Stage 1:	
First day, per kg.	0.010
Stage 2:	
From the 2nd day till the 5th day, per kg.	0.020
Stage 3:	
From the 6th day onwards, per kg.	0.035
Minimum for all stages, per day	3.000

2.5.10. Others

- Forklift charges:

Per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.750
Minimum charge	1.500

- Loading charges:

Loading charge: per 100 kg. or part thereof	0.750
Minimum charge	1.500

- Import Service charge:

Service charge per AWB will be collected for all incoming shipments into Kuwait at the time of the delivery	7.000

- Dangerous Goods:
  1. For Explosives (CL1.4.S):

Fils per kg. from date of arrival	0.050
Minimum, per day	20.000

  2. For DGR Shipments all Classes:

After arrival, for the 1st 48 hours (including Fridays & Public holidays	Free
From the 3rd day onwards after arrival & upon delivery, flat rate as follows:	
For shipments weighing 0 - 100 kg. per shipment	5.000
For shipments weighing 101 - 1000 kg. per shipment	10.000
For shipments weighing 1001 kg. onwards per shipment	20.000

- Customs Manifest Fee:

Per AWB/Shipment, including part-shipments	3.000

3. Transhipment/Transit

3.1. General

Transhipment (from one flight to another) permitted provided:

a. The delivering carrier advises the ground handling Agent in advance of all shipment details, arrival and departure data, and any other special requirements.
b. Consignment arrives with firm onward booking, and
c. is separately manifested; and
d. is subject to minimum transit time between arrival and departure flights
   (I) 2 hrs. for through ULD connections.
   (II) 6 hrs. for transfer from bulk to bulk.
   (III) 8 hrs. for transfer from bulk to ULD.
   (IV) 6 hrs. for transfer ULD to bulk.
e. If no instruction/Flight Booking is mentioned on AWB, shipments shall be carried on 1st available flight upon coordination between the ground handling agent and the delivering carrier.
f. If the outward carriage is refused by the carrier on date of which booking was made, storage charges at KWD 0.005 per kg. per day shall be levied on the delivering carrier, subject to a minimum charge of KWD 1.500 per day.
g. Guns, weapons, shipments of ammunition, cartridges, explosives and dangerous goods acceptable to transit Kuwait, provided the station of origin obtain prior approval from Kuwait DGCA, through GHA, co-ordinating with Kuwait Customs Authorities.
h. Transhipment of consignments containing: alcohol and intoxicating liquor (including wines, spirits and beer) is prohibited.
i. The ground handling agent shall designate an area for storage of transhipments to be distinguished by proper signs.
j. Customs procedures to be applied to the transiting of transhipments through Kuwait International Airport shall be merely confined on general supervision of the shipments.
k. The ground handling agent shall inform the Air Customs Directorate of the departure of each transhipment properly.

Facilities for cargo (Air to Surface or v.v.)

Permitted subject to:

a. Customs charges, and
b. AWB reflects the word “TRANSIT”.

3.3. Restrictions

Animal hostel: Not available.
Animal attendant: Not available.
Feeding/watering facility: Not available.

4. Export

4.1. General

Exporter shall apply the regulation laid down by the Government Authorities.

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4.5. Charges

4.5.2. Handling

Up to 1000 kg., per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.500
From 1001 kg. up to 5000 kg., per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.250
From 5001 kg. and over, per 50 kg. or part thereof	0.150
Minimum charge	2.000

4.5.4. Documentation

AWB preparation fee	2.500
Preparation of Export Permit	1.000
Presentation to Customs of Export Permit	5.000
Customs fee CGC	2.000
Change/Amend Consignee's name for KU Export Air Waybills after departure of the shipment	3.000

4.5.10. Others

Per consignment DGR fee	24.000
Per consignment for Saudi Arabia DGR fee .....KWD	34.350

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