

Filming In South Africa

Temporary Import

It is not necessary to pay customs duty or VAT if the goods are going to be re-exported out of the country. A deposit does have to be lodged with customs, which is refunded upon export of the goods. Some examples of temporary imports are audio visual or photographic apparatus, musical instruments, and lighting equipment... to name but a few.

ATA Carnet

The ATA carnet is similar to the temporary import. The only difference is that the security deposit is lodged in the country of origin. The ATA carnet system eliminates the need for customs declaration, by giving instant recognition and acceptability by customs officials. The ATA carnet system is more expeditious than the temporary import. For more information consult the website of the South African Revenue Service www.sars.gov.za or contact Simon Daynes at Pioneer Freight www.pioneerfreight.co.za / simon@pioneerfreight.co.za

All production companies applying for permission to film in the greater Durban or Cape Town area must register with the [Durban Film Office](#) or the [Cape Film Commission](#) as the case may, be and submit the following documents

- Film Job Registration Form.
- Location Application Form.
- Application for traffic assistance (where applicable).
Applications for road closures or ANY obstruction to traffic or pedestrian, use of any special effects / stunts / weapons must be made through the DFO, who will, in granting such permissions, provide the production company or person acting on their behalf with written confirmation from the relevant authority.
- Signed copy of the location code of conduct.

[Click here to download these forms](#)

- Copy of Liability Insurance.
- Indemnity Form with R2 revenue stamp
- Neighbourhood Notification.
Depending on the nature of the shoot, the Durban Film Office may request signed proof of notification of the proposed activity to shop owners / vendors / adjacent properties within a 100 meter radius of the intended location.

Time Frames

All location applications should be submitted at least 7 days prior to the proposed shoot date. Applications for shoots involving more than 30 crew and/or 15 vehicles should be submitted at least 14 days in advance. Similarly, applications for film shoots involving construction and /or road works should be made not less than 14 days in advance. Applications for traffic assistance, road closures, use of any special effects / stunts / weapons, should be submitted at least 14 days prior to the proposed shoot date.

Visas & Work Permits?

Recent changes to South Africa's Immigration Act 19 of 2004 and Act 13 of 2002, states that all foreigners require a working visa to work in South Africa. Under section 11 (2) of the Immigration Act (Act 19 of 2004 read with Act 13 of 2002) the Director General can grant an exemption so that the client can enter on a visitors visa as before.

In the case of clients from exempt countries, namely European and North American countries, applications for exemption can be made by the South African facilitating company on behalf of the client. Clients from non-exempt countries will however, need to visit their local South African Embassy or Consulate. For more information please consult

www.home-affairs.gov.za or contact the [Durban Film Office](#).