Naval Families
FEDERATION

Top Tips

Removals, Storage and Packing





Removals, Storage and Packing

You need to think about this early bearing in mind transit times to USA and Falkland Islands can be at least 12 weeks.

As soon as you know you are going overseas:



1. What you need overseas – size of property, allowance of furniture, length of time it will take for your furniture/goods to travel overseas. Consider Removals Service Overseas (RSO) and Self Pack Service (SPS) option if available for initial things required.
2. Think about what you may need in the future whilst you are overseas (particularly if it is not easy to purchase goods, post goods or order goods). Items such as children's clothing, shoes etc. Can these be put in shipping containers?
3. What you will store – what you need to put in storage be mindful that anything you place in storage comes with risk of potential loss or damage.
4. What you will need overseas until your furniture arrives (see above RSO and SPS options).

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Removals

1. Inventory each box – put something on the outside so you know what you are packing and unpacking. Take photos too! Particularly of high value items. Also make a note of identifier numbers etc. Think about using vacuum packing for clothes, towels etc.
2. Make a list of unaccompanied goods – this will help with Transfer of Residency forms on return to the UK (customs). Also keep anything from your removal supplier to confirm this.
3. Insurance – please read the JSP 752 Chapter 12 article 0406 which states "SP are strongly advised to obtain private insurance to ensure comprehensive coverage."

Storage

1. Where you will store it – Check the Nelson Relocation Guide for any official allowances. If you haven't received your guide please contact NAVYNBCP-CoB-LogsRelocations@mod.gov.uk
2. If you have anything that is sentimental/ irreplaceable it may be worth considering asking a family member in the UK to store for example photos. (Caveat this still comes with some risk).
3. Think carefully about storing any white goods – will they definitely be free from water (damp and mould risk) and perishability of rubber etc. If you decide to store white goods think about silicone gel sachets/collectors etc.
4. When you are putting things in storage ask yourself will you still want this in 2 years time? Especially if there is the possibility that you may move from an overseas to another overseas assignment.
5. Inventory each box.
6. Insurance – as per Removals paragraph 3.

Hold Luggage

1. Think about what time of day, time of year, festivals, holidays etc. - you may not be able to buy/access goods easily on arrival.
2. Think about packing for a months holiday plus but balance that with what you can survive on minimally if your goods don't arrive straight away.
3. Will you be met on arrival by a Sponsor or point of contact? Will you have a welcome pack (crockery, cutlery available) when you get there? If not will you be able to buy things? Possibly put plastic camping type crockery, utensils and towels in your luggage?
4. Make a list of what is in your hold luggage – you will be invariably taking things with you that you wouldn't normally take on holiday – just in case you get separated from your luggage at all.
5. Finally make a list of where everything is!

Returning to the UK

Be careful packing for return as the shipping company may want boxes kept open to check contents (check with Agility) https://grms-external.agility.com/

See below for information of transfer of residence:

1. Application for transfer of residence relief (ToR1)
2. Agility also have a good information booklet under the help button Agility GRMS
3. If your removals happen to leave your overseas location before you, do think about where they will go if they get back before you! Can you put them in storage? If moving to SFA can you ask a proxy to do your March In (MI) and open the property for your removals to be placed inside?

There is a lot to think about but hopefully this list will get you thinking and help to consider all eventualities!

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