

# Moving Overseas?



## Make sure your plans include a professional moving company

*As an Overseas Group (OG) Member we set the benchmark in overseas relocations and are certified & inspected annually to ensure strict standards are met. We are experienced in handling consignments worldwide, offering a professional service. What's more, your pre-payment will be fully protected...*



For more information on the Overseas Group please visit:  
[www.bar.co.uk/moving-to-another-country](http://www.bar.co.uk/moving-to-another-country)





# Make the BAR Overseas Group the first destination for your overseas move

**The Overseas Group (OG) is a dedicated group of companies within the British Association of Removers (BAR) that specialises in all aspects of overseas relocations.**

All OG Members have years of experience and knowledge in dealing with overseas moves and are inspected annually by BAR to make sure they meet the association's exacting standards. The stringent membership criteria and high standards required means that every OG Member must be certified to the British Standard **BS 8564 Overseas Moving standard** or **FIDI - FAIM** (a seal of quality within the international moving industry) or an **equivalent approved externally audited standard**.

So, from the initial survey to the moment you arrive at your final destination you can be certain your belongings are in safe hands.

**But more than that, every single Member of the OG must belong to an approved Advanced Payment Guarantee (APG) Scheme.**

## *Customer Protection - what does this mean for you?*

When you move overseas you will normally have to pay your removal company in advance for the whole shipment, however if your mover is a Member of the OG, **you can be assured that your pre-payment is fully protected**. Cover relates to prepaid international removals for private individuals and does not extend to commercial shipments, corporate shipments or inheritance.

So when considering other quotations and before committing to any pre-payments, it is worth remembering that Overseas Group Members renew the APG annually. Each one is strictly financially vetted and you can ask to see their current membership certificate, so there is no safer way to carry out your overseas removal.

## *Overseas Moving - a global business*

BAR OG Members have trusted partners all over the world. No matter what country you're moving to you can be sure they will appoint the most reliable Destination Partners who are familiar with the local conditions, regulations and culture.





## Choosing the right removals company can take the headache and the heartache out of an overseas move...

**All OG Members are specialists in moving people to destinations throughout the world and meet the exacting standards set by BAR. So whether you're going to Buenos Aires or Bangkok, Tokyo or Tasmania you can be certain that the company you choose will take good care of you and your possessions.**

### Getting ready for your move

The earlier you get your removal company involved the better. Moving abroad can throw up unexpected problems and talking to an expert early on can avoid trouble later. For example, some things in your home might not be permitted in the country you're moving to; your mover will know the rules and will help you decide what to take and what to leave behind.

Timing is very important and your BAR OG Member will do everything possible to make sure your things arrive when you want them. Your mover will discuss with you the best and most economic method of shipment - sea, air, road, or perhaps a combination of all three. The company will then tell you how much it will all cost and give you an estimate of the expected time of arrival at your new home. If there are any particular difficulties or common delays at your destination country, your removals company will tell you and take all possible steps to keep them to a minimum.

### Getting the packing right

If you are moving to another continent, your possessions will probably be packed in a shipping container for the voyage and the cost of your move will be calculated on the amount of space you use. Making the best use of that space and making sure your possessions are properly protected is a highly skilled task and your BAR OG Member will have the expertise and the specialist materials needed to do a professional job. In addition, all staff are trained to meet industry standards ... giving you peace of mind.

A poorly-packed container wastes money and can increase the chances of damage to precious possessions during a long sea voyage. When you've decided what to take, and what to leave behind, your moving company will arrange to carefully export pack your belongings ready for the trip. All packed cartons and packages will be listed. If you use the whole container the shipment will probably be loaded at your house and taken straight to the ship. Smaller shipments go back to the warehouse for loading as a 'part load'.

You don't have to use a whole container; most overseas moving companies run very efficient 'part-load' services to popular destinations such as Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and the USA. You just pay for the space you use.

### Airfreight

It's sometimes a good idea to send a few things by air to arrive ahead of the sea shipment. It's expensive and based on the weight as well as the volume, but some items, such as equipment for work, baby clothes or sports equipment, might be best sent by air if you don't want to be without them for long. But remember, even by air it can take possessions several days to reach their destination so don't send anything by air that you'll need immediately on arrival.

If you want to send an air consignment your BAR OG Member will handle all the packing and make the arrangements for you.





### Payment

Your removal company will pay the freight charges to the shipping line and so will ask you to settle your bill before the shipment is collected. This advance payment policy is standard practice throughout the overseas removal industry, but to safeguard customers, **Members of the BAR Overseas Group provide an Advanced Payment Guarantee (APG).**

Having paid in advance for your move, you'll want to be sure that your possessions arrive at your destination as promised. In the unlikely event of your moving company ceasing trading while your possessions are in transit, the APG will ensure that any outstanding charges are paid and that your possessions are delivered wherever they are in the world – just as planned.

### When you arrive at your destination

Your removal company will appoint a Destination Partner to look after your possessions when they arrive. They will organise customs clearance and delivery to your new home. The company will also arrange temporary storage if required. The Destination Partner is a reliable international moving company that works with your chosen BAR OG Member regularly on shipments both to and from the UK. Trust them: they are familiar with the local regulations, conditions and culture.

### Insurance

Even though your removals company will take every care to protect your property during the move, there are many risks associated with moving overseas, some beyond the control of the moving company, and adequate cover is highly recommended. Some moving companies offer insurance and some provide extended liability. Make sure you know exactly what service you are being offered and the cover it provides. You should cover your possessions against all risks of physical loss and damage in transit.

## Top Tips

- Ask your mover for advice on what to take: they have probably done it thousands of times before and really do know what they are talking about.
- Sending possessions by air is faster, but will be much more expensive than a sea shipment. Even airfreight can take several days so if you can't live without it, carry it with you, or buy again when you arrive. Ask your removal firm for more information.
- Make sure you have your travel tickets and passports with you. It may seem crazy but people can and do send them with the shipment by accident.
- Don't plan the move for the same day of your flight. Move a day or two before you fly and arrive at the airport relaxed.
- Involve children in the moving process right from the start: it helps them get used to the idea - and their opinions matter too.
- Shipping pets is a specialist business: ask your BAR OG Member to recommend a reliable animal shipping company to help.
- Give your BAR OG Member as much notice as possible of your preferred moving date, particularly if you move in the summer when it's really busy.



## Contact us

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