

**UN
PACKED**

A series supporting your
relocation from the UK



Smartmoves

The Crown guide to getting
the most from your move



Go knowing

CROWN
RELOCATIONS

Any move can be daunting. But an international move can seem even more so.

From navigating all the forms and permits to moving your life to a new country with new ways of living, it's understandable if you're feeling uncertain.

That's why we've put together this guide. Created with the help of our experts, it's full of tips and advice that will help you move smarter, for less, and with everything in place to get your new life started.

Happy travels.



What happens next?

From the moment you sent us a quote request, you were assigned a dedicated Crown Consultant. They'll get in touch with you in the next few days to discuss your move.

They'll confirm the details of your current location and where you're moving to, as well as the specifics of your move. They'll also book in a virtual survey of your home to help calculate exactly how much you need to move.

By detailing your move with this precise survey, rather than relying on measurements from a third party, you'll get a precise quote and avoid the extra costs and unexpected charges that are hidden behind other businesses' guesstimates.



Take a look through this guide to help get prepared for this survey so you can get the most accurate quote and get your new life started as quickly as possible.

Take a look around

Look around your home and you'll see a lifetime of treasured possessions, gadgets and, yes, clutter.

The first step towards a smart move is to take a critical look at your possessions and figure out just what you want to bring with you.

Starting this process now can save you time, money, and space.



As you sort through your possessions, think about:

- > the cost of moving it
- > the space it will take up
- > and how much will you miss it.

Take a look around

Cost

Using this opportunity to declutter is a great way to reduce the cost of your move.

Remember, too, that it can often be cheaper to replace things than move them.

On the other hand, the cost of moving a beloved car might be worth every penny if you love your Sunday drives!

Tell your Crown Consultant what's important to you, even if you think it's too big to move. We've a number of tricks up our sleeves, from working with specialist partners to sharing shipping containers that can bring down the cost of moving that item that means so much to you.

Crown's jewels

Balance the cost of moving a thing and the space it takes up with your happiness and well-being. If something makes you happy, that's more than enough reason to bring it with you.

Michaela Hotova, Senior Relocation Consultant



Take a look around

Space

Depending on where you're moving from and to, you may want to leave behind certain items.

If you're moving into a smaller space, think about just how much you can realistically bring with you.

It might be best to leave behind that large piece of furniture or any large collections, whether they be books, coins, or kitchen gadgets!

Of course, space concerns work both ways. If you are moving into a larger home, it might not make sense to move a chair when you'll have room for a larger sofa, or a double bed when you've got the space for a King Size!



Crown's jewels

Be aware that house sizes vary from country to country. The average floor area in the US is a generous 201m², but a much cosier 45m² in Hong Kong!

Sezai Akbiyik, Sales Team Manager



Take a look around

How much will you miss it?

If it's been sat in a box for a year, is it really worth moving?

This is a perfect opportunity to Marie Kondo your possessions. If you take a long, hard look at something and realise you won't miss it, don't move it.

Of course, some of our most treasured possessions spend most of their time in storage.

Photo albums, old letters, heirlooms and mementos are worth moving even if you don't look at them often.



Crown's jewels

Don't worry about packing; we'll provide the packing materials and pack your possessions to international standards, all as part of the service.

Clementine Duseyau, Team Success Coordinator



Take a look around

Pack your bags

When you're planning what to bring with you on your move, don't forget about the bags you'll take on the plane.

Use these bags to pack the items you'll want as soon as you land, before we arrive with the rest of your possessions. Consider paying any reasonable fees to increase your luggage allowance.

Packing for a relocation is a little different from packing for a holiday. You'll want to make sure you have things you'll want to keep your day-to-day life moving as soon as you land. This is more than swapping sun cream for socks.



Crown's jewels

Some airline credit cards offer extra luggage on their flights at no extra cost, effectively providing free transport for more of your things!

Marketa Kotvova
Sales Consultant



Take a look around

For example, use your carry-on bag to keep your important documentation with you.

You won't want to spend time searching through boxes if you need a vital document shortly after you arrive.

So pack documents such as your birth and marriage certificates, driving licences, medical and tax documents, and any other forms of ID.

Decide what's flying with you early in your planning process. When our packing team arrives, make sure those bags and items are all together and clearly marked as something our packers should ignore.



What to do with the things you won't move

Leaving something behind doesn't mean giving it up forever.

Depending on whether your move is permanent or temporary, you can ask friends or family to look after things for you; they can either get some use from your possessions until you return, or you can ensure they're well taken care of.

Selling possessions you don't need is an excellent way of helping to finance your move. Make the most of the various marketplaces, and make sure you list your items early in your planning process. If something sells quickly, you can live without it for a few weeks. But it'll be stressful to shift furniture the day before you move.

And if you don't want to leave possessions with your family but you don't want to sell them, you can put them into storage.



What to do with the things you won't move

Many of our customers use our safe and secure facilities to store items that aren't practical to take with them but that they can't bear to part with.

We can look after them until you return, or until you're ready for us to send them on to you at a later date.



Crown's jewels

One thing to remember is that you'll need insurance cover to protect your possessions while they're in transit.

Our Crown Care Transit Protection can offer additional cover to protect you against any damage or loss outside of our control.

Neil Watkinson,
Customer Services Manager



Your move is more than your possessions

**You need to move more than just your things.
You need to move yourself, too.**

Depending on where you are in your move, you may need to find anything from a new home or a new school, all the way down to a new gym or supermarket.



Your move is more than your possessions

Home

Knowing where you're moving to makes it easier to plan your move.

Get the floor plan of your new home and plan your layout. This will give you an idea of what you'll need to bring with you and what you can leave behind.

If you've not yet found your new home, don't worry; our local offices are filled with experts who know the neighbourhoods and what sort of homes are on the market. Tell your Crown Consultant what you need and those experts will know just the home for you.

Those same experts can support you while you're settling in, too, helping you find everything from a doctor to a gym. So be sure to tell your Crown Consultant what you'll be looking for when you arrive in your new home!



Your move is more than your possessions

Schools

Choosing a school can be tricky when you don't know how they measure up against local standards (or even the reputation amongst locals).

Prepare for your first conversation with your Crown Consultant by agreeing what's important to you in a school. Your Crown Consultant can pass this criteria onto an expert in our local office who can help find the school that will be best for your child and will best mesh with your new life.

We can then liaise with the school to help you and your child apply and get everything in place so they have everything they need for their first day.



Crown's jewels

Start the school finding process sooner rather than later. That way, your child can start looking at their new school's website and social media to get a feel for it. This will make the move less daunting and give them more confidence for their first day.

Michaela Hotova, Senior Relocation Consultant



Your move is more than your possessions

Pets

Pets are family. And from dogs to cats, snakes to horses, there's no reason they have to be left behind. You just need to make sure they're allowed into the country and that you have the right sort of paperwork!

What shape this paperwork takes depends on your destination, and we can tell you exactly what you'll need.

You'll often need things like up-to-date vaccination records, so getting those as soon as you can will make your move that much smoother.

We can also help you plan for the move itself; pet carriers need to conform both to international regulations but also to individual carrier's requirements.

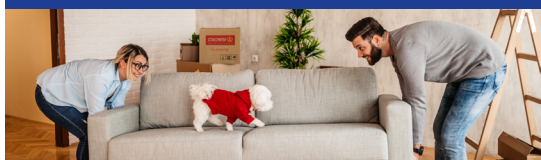
We'll work with you to make sure your carrier meets these criteria as well as providing a comfortable journey for your pet.

Crown's jewels

Help your pet cope with the move by maintaining the same routine after you arrive. Get them used to taking journeys inside their carrier well before the move.



Neil Watkinson,
Customer Services Manager



Your move is more than your possessions

Paperwork

Do you know what you need to complete your move? Customs forms and visas seem like obvious candidates.

But you'll also need your health and dental records; they make it much easier for a new doctor to understand and continue your healthcare without interruption.

You might also need tax records, and even a will. Not only do the specific requirements change all the time, but failing to fill in the right form can delay your move, or even stop it altogether!

Don't worry. Your Crown Consultant can tell you which permits you'll need to bring certain things into a country, which records you'll need to register with a local doctor, and which visas you'll need to be able to work.



Your move is more than your possessions

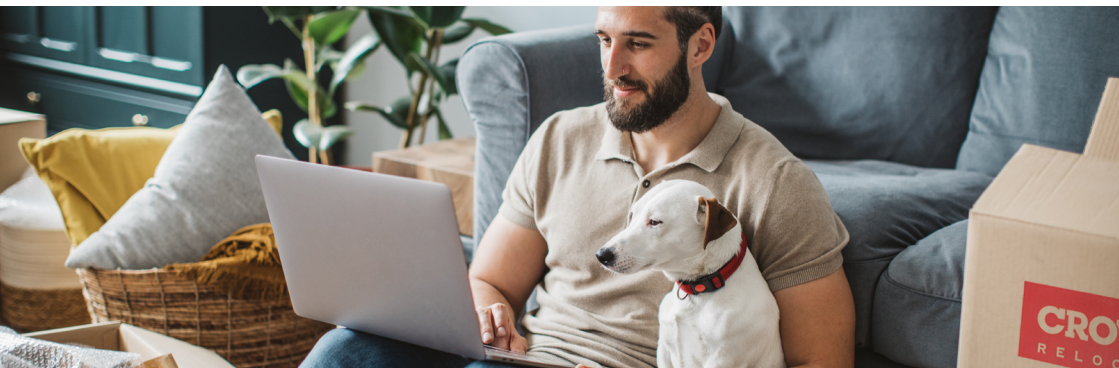
Letting people know

It's considered polite to let your friends and family know that you're moving, but an international move means you need to notify a few extra parties.

For example, you'll need to notify HMRC so they can finalise your taxes for the year.

Notifying the Student Loans Company is a must if you have a student loan; they can't deduct your repayments automatically while you're abroad, so you'll need to set up your own repayments with them. You'll also need to inform your GP that you're deregistering from the NHS.

We can advise you of who you need to notify, as well as how to best go about it and when you need to do it by.



Let's get ready to move

There's a lot to do and a lot to think about when you move abroad. It's much more than moving boxes from one country to another. Which is why we don't believe in a budget service.

Your move is the beginning of a new adventure! A budget quote might seem like a great idea until boxes go missing and you don't have the right paperwork. Start your journey on the right foot!

Your Crown Consultant will be with you every step of the way throughout your move, offering advice when you need it and helping in any way they can.

The experts at your local Crown office will help you settle in and support you, helping you build your new life even after the last box is unpacked.

And, if there's anything they can't help with, they'll know the trusted partner who can.

With over 55 years experience, we know exactly what you need for a smooth, stress-free move.

So let's get you moving.

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A series supporting your
relocation from the UK



Useful contact information:

enquiries.uk@crownrelo.com

0204 579 2017

www.crownrelo.com

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