



UK Buyer's Guide: Importing a Velomobile from the EU

Introduction

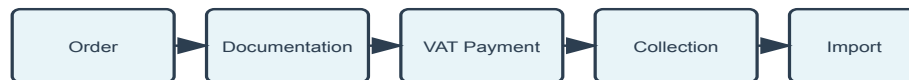
This guide outlines the process of importing a velomobile from the European Union to the United Kingdom for personal use. It covers direct collection methods and important customs considerations to ensure a smooth importing process.

Pre-Purchase Considerations

Understand the total costs involved:

- Base price of the velomobile
- UK VAT (currently 20%)
- Transportation costs if using a shipping agent
- Potential storage costs if needed

Step-by-Step Import Process



1. Ordering and Initial Setup

1. Place your order with the chosen dealer
2. Agree on a collection date
3. Obtain a formal invoice from the dealer 10 days before the collection date to finalize the payment

2. Documentation Requirements

The invoice should include:

A customs authorization statement (for EU-based dealers)

Example statement: "The exporter [Company Name] is authorized by [Country] Customs (custom authorization no. [Number]) to establish certificate of origin with unlimited value according to EU regulation nr 952/2013 00"

3. VAT Payment Process

1. Complete the UK VAT payment no earlier than 5 days before collection
2. Submit payment through the official UK government portal: <https://www.gov.uk/bringing-goods-into-uk-personal-use/declaring-goods>
3. You will receive an official email receipt from noreply@confirmation.tax.service.gov.uk containing:
 - Your reference number (e.g., XEPR0000003250)
 - Personal details and travel information
 - Itemized breakdown of declared goods
 - Complete payment breakdown (VAT, Customs, Excise)
4. Send a copy of this VAT receipt to your supplier

4. Collection and Import

When bringing the velomobile into the UK:

- Use the Green "Nothing to Declare" channel
- Keep copies of all documentation readily available:
 - Original invoice
 - VAT payment receipt
 - Any customs authorization documentation

Important Notes and Warnings

- **VAT Payment Timing:** Must be completed before collection but no earlier than 5 days before
- **Documentation:** Always keep copies of all paperwork during transit
- **Supplier Requirements:** Reputable suppliers will not release the velomobile without proof of VAT payment
- **Verbal Agreements:** Do not accept promises to "declare it when I get to the UK" - proper documentation must be in place

Important VAT Receipt Information

If you receive a VAT payment confirmation email:

- Keep it accessible on your mobile phone or tablet for border inspection
- Save the reference number separately as backup
- Verify the email comes from the official noreply@confirmation.tax.service.gov.uk address
- Be aware that you can amend your declaration before arrival if needed
- For refunds, search for 'C82' on GOV.UK and look for 'Request a refund of overpaid VAT or duty'

Additional Resources and Support

- Contact the dealer or Velomobile World for specific guidance on their process
- Consult with UK customs for updated regulations
- Join velomobile communities for peer support and advice

Note: This guide is based on 2025 regulations. Always verify current import requirements as they may change.

Contact Information

For shipping agent inquiries or alternative import methods, consult with Velomobile World directly at sales@velomobileworld.com.

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