

PACKAGING UNIT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

SCOPE

Conditions on packaging of alcoholic beverages (beer, fermented beverages, intermediate products and other alcoholic beverages) for retail trade.

LATVIAN REGULATIONS

[Handling of Alcoholic Beverages Law](#), which provides conditions on a packaging unit of alcoholic beverages in retail trade.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not required

CONTACTS

AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR REGULATIONS

The Ministry of Finance

Web: www.fm.gov.lv

Phone: +371 67095689, +371 67095578

Email: pasts@fm.gov.lv

MARKET SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY

The State Police

Web: www.vp.gov.lv

Phone: +371 67122689; +371 67829445

Email: pasts@vp.gov.lv

The State Revenue Service

Web: www.vid.gov.lv

Phone: +371 67122689

Email: vid@vid.gov.lv

MAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR ECONOMIC OPERATORS

According to Section 6 (1³) and (1⁴) of [Handling of Alcoholic Beverages Law](#):

It is prohibited to sell beer, fermented beverages, the intermediate products, and other alcoholic beverages in a packaging unit the volume of which exceeds:

- 1) 0.5 litres if the quantity of absolute alcohol in the abovementioned alcoholic beverages exceeds 5.8 percent by volume;
- 2) 1 litre if the quantity of absolute alcohol in the abovementioned alcoholic beverages does not exceed 5.8 percent by volume.

The above mentioned restriction on the volume of packaging shall not be applicable to the trade of alcoholic beverages if:

- 1) the packaging unit is made of glass, ceramic, wood, metal or multipack, consisting of a polymer or laminate bag, packaged in a cardboard box;
- 2) beer, fermented beverages, the intermediate products, and other alcoholic beverages are sold at the place of the production thereof or in a territorial unit of the producer.

REGISTER OF SALES POINTS FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

A special permit (licence) shall be required for retail trade of alcoholic beverages (Section 2 (6)(5) of [Law "On Excise Duties"](#), Section 3 (1) of [Handling of Alcoholic Beverages Law](#) and Sub-paragraphs 11.5 of [Cabinet Regulation No.662 "Procedures for the Circulation of Excisable Goods"](#)).

Retail trade in alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited from 22.00 to 8.00, except for such retail trade points in which alcoholic beverages are sold on tap only and their consumption is ensured on the spot, as well as duty-free shops (Section 6 (1)(5) of [Handling of Alcoholic Beverages Law](#)).