

Cross-Border Food & Beverage Guide- NEW

# Turkey

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Additions		
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Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages		
Is it regulated?	The food and non-alcoholic beverages sectors in Türkiye are regulated.	
What are the regulatory agencies and what do they regulate?	The General Directorate of Food and Control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry ("Ministry") is the authority in charge of regulating the food and non-alcoholic beverages market.	
	The General Directorate of Food and Control regulates the standards for the food products, food additives and their labeling to protect consumer and human health, consumer rights; nutrition claims on foods supplied to the end consumer; the manner in which advertisements and declarations regarding food or non-alcoholic beverages shall be made; how inspections shall be carried out for compliance with the regulations; and the administrative fines to be imposed in case of non-compliance with the regulations.	
What are the relevant statutes/regulations?	The primary legislations and regulations are listed below:  I. Law  (i) Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed Law No. 5996  (ii) Law No. 6585 on the Regularization of Retail Trade  (iii) Law No. 6502 on Consumer Protection  II. Regulation  (i) Turkish Food Codex Regulation (published in the Official Gazette dated 19.02.2020 and numbered 32338 Repeated)  (ii) Food Hygiene Regulation (published in the Official Gazette dated 17.12.2011 and numbered 28145)  (iii) Food Additives Regulation (published in the Official Gazette dated 13.10.2023 and numbered 31044)	

(iv) Regulation on Nutrition Declarations (published in the Official Gazette dated 20.04.2023 and numbered 32169)

- (v) Regulation on Official Controls on Import of Plant Food and Feed (published in the Official Gazette dated 17.12.2011 and numbered 28145)
  - (vi) Regulation on Registration and Approval Procedures of Food Businesses (published in the Official Gazette dated 17.12.2011 and numbered 28145)
  - (vii) Regulation on Special Hygiene Rules for Animal Products (published in the Official Gazette dated 27.12.2011 and numbered 28155)
  - III. Communiqué
  - (i) Turkish Food Codex Communiqués (separately for more than number of 90 different type of food product and non-alcoholic beverages)
  - (ii) Communiqué on Import Control of Products Subject to the Control of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

#### Any unique aspects of regulation?

Regulations include product and labeling standards; obligation to establish a tracking system of food or any substance to be added to food at all stages of production, processing and distribution by natural or legal persons conducting activities at any stage of the production, processing and distribution of food.

Importers, exporters and producers must be registered in the Food Safety Information System (G1da Güvenli i Bilgi Sistemi, GGBS).

Food imports require a food import permit. Additionally, food imports that do not comply with regulations are prohibited from entering the Türkiye.

Businesses engaged in food production, storage, food sales and other retail activities must register and/or approve its operating facility and are required to obtain a "Business Registration Certificate".

Permission must be obtained from the Turkish Medicines and Medical Devices Agency to use health claims on the label, promotion or advertisement of food and food additives.

The Ministry supervises the compliance of the business with the regulations.

### Alcoholic Beverages

Is it regulated?

The alcoholic beverage sector and market in Türkiye is strictly regulated.

# What are the regulatory agencies and what do they regulate?

The current regulatory agency on alcoholic beverage market in Türkiye is the Department of Tobacco and Alcohol of the Ministryof Agriculture and Forestry, which replaced the Tobacco and Alcohol Market Regulatory Authority after the amendment of the Law No. 4733 on the Regularization of Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Alcohol Market.

The Department of Tobacco and Alcohol regulates the permits required for the establishment and operation of facilities for the production, processing, export or import and marketing of alcoholic beverages; the standards for the products in order to ensure that products are prepared in a hygienic and technically appropriate manner; and imposes administrative fines on those who do not comply with the regulations.

#### What are the relevant statutes/regulations?

Although there are numerous legal provisions on alcoholic beverages, the primary legislations and regulations are listed below:

Law

I.

- (i) Spirits and Spirit-Based Beverages Law No. 4250,
- (ii) Law No. 4733 on the Regularization of Tobacco, Tobacco Products and Alcohol Market,
- II. Regulation
- (i) Regulation on the Procedures and Principles Regarding the Sale and Presentation of Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages (published in the Official Gazette dated 07.01.2011 and numbered 27808)
- (ii) Regulation on the Technical Requirements of Alcohol and Alcoholic Beverage Facilities and the Procedures and Principles Regarding their Establishment, Operation and Supervision (published in the Official Gazette dated 26.09.2002 and numbered 24888)
- (iii) Regulation on the Procedures and Principles Regarding the Internal and External Trade of Alcohol and Alcoholic Beverages (published in the Official Gazette dated 06.06.2003 and numbered 25130)
- III. Communiqué
- (i) Turkish Food Codex Communiqués (separately on beer; wine; distilled alcoholic beverages; aromatized wine, aromatized wine-based beverage and aromatized wine cocktail)
- (ii) General Communiqués on Bandrolled Product Monitoring System for Tobacco Products and Alcoholic Beverages
- (iii) Communiqué No. 2024/19 on Import Control of Tobacco, Tobacco Products, Alcohol and Alcoholic Beverages (published in the Official Gazette dated 11.08.2013 and numbered 28732)
- (iv) Communiqué on Warning Messages to be Placed on Alcoholic Beverage Packaging (published in the Official Gazette dated 31.12.2023 and numbered 32416 4th Repeated)

Any unique aspects of regulation (including whether a license is needed for manufacturing/wholesale/retail and what is the timeline for issuance)?

Ministry requires manufacturers, importers and sellers to obtain many permits, principally:

- For producers: ethyl alcohol import certificate, distribution conformity certificate, facility establishment permit, production permit, distribution authorization certificate
- For importers: distribution authorization certificate, banderole obtaining process
- · For wholesalers: wholesale certificate
- · For retail sellers: retail sales certificate
- For sales in hotels, restaurants and bars etc.: open alcoholic beverage sales certificate.

In addition, regulations also include product and labeling standards, prohibitions and restrictions on the sale of alcoholic beverages in terms of time and place.