



Saint Lucia

General	Types of indirect taxes (VAT/GST and other indirect taxes).	In 2012, VAT was introduced in Saint Lucia. The Commissioner of Inland Revenue, supported by the Inland Revenue Department, administers the tax. The Customs and Excise Department collects VAT payable on imports on behalf of the Commissioner.
	Are there other indirect taxes?	All imports are subject to customs duties, and home-produced goods (mainly liquor, beer and cigarettes) and fuel imported by a wholesaler.
	What are the standard or other rates (i.e. reduced rate) for VAT/GST and other indirect taxes?	12.5% effective 1 February 2017; VAT (reduced) 0%, and 10% for the hotel sector.
	Who is required to register for VAT/GST?	Registration is required where the registrant has annual sales turnover of XCD400,000. Voluntary registration is permissible.
VAT/GST registration	Is voluntary registration for VAT/GST possible for an overseas company (e.g. if the annual turnover is below the relevant VAT/GST and other indirect taxes registration threshold)?	Yes through an agent.
	Does an overseas company need to appoint a fiscal representative?	Yes, depending on the supply where the company is regarded as a taxable person.
	Which forms and supporting documentation does an overseas company need to submit for VAT/GST and other indirect tax registrations?	The taxable activity period is a 12-month period. A period in the VAT Act represents 1 month. Taxable persons are required to complete a VAT Tax Remittance Form and Return.
	Is grouping* for VAT/GST and other indirect taxes possible?	No.
VAT/GST compliance	How frequently are VAT/GST and other indirect tax returns submitted?	One return per month. The VAT return for each tax period should be filed by the 21st of the month following the end of the taxable period.
	What are the exchange rate rules in your country?	Fixed exchange rates (USD1=XCD2.6882).
VAT/GST recovery	Can an overseas company recover VAT/GST and other indirect taxes if it is not registered for VAT/GST and other indirect taxes locally?	No; unless through an agent.
	Are there any exemptions with the right to recover or deduct input VAT?	Yes.
	Are there any restrictions to the deduction of input VAT?	Yes.

* By 'grouping' we mean: either a consolidation mechanism between taxpayers belonging to the same group (payment and refund are compensated but taxpayers remain distinct) or a finding of unity for VAT/GST purposes (several taxpayers are regarded as a single taxpayer).

Invoices	Is a business required to issue tax invoices?	Yes.
	Is it possible/mandatory to issue invoices electronically?	Yes, however, an audit may require the presentation of physical invoices to the authorities.
	Is it possible for the vendor to issue an invoice, i.e. is self-billing possible?	No.
Audits	Do tax audits take place on a regular basis?	Yes, audits are conducted; different selection criteria apply.
	Are audits done electronically in your country (e-audit)? If so, what system is in use?	No, physical audits are conducted with the use of electronic data.
	What penalties can arise from non-compliance?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Late filing penalty of XCD250 for each month in which the return remains outstanding. — Late payment penalty of 10% of the tax due where the payment is not made by the due date. — Interest at the rate of 1.25% per month, or part thereof, for the period during which the payment remains unpaid. — Other penalties may apply.
Special indirect tax rules	Are there any special rules for the sale of a company by one taxpayer to another where VAT is not due on the sale?	Special provisions apply in respect of exempt supplies, governmental activities, public entertainment, etc.
	Are there unique, specific indirect tax rules that you would not expect to find in 'standard' VAT jurisdictions?	Various provisions apply.
	Does a reverse charge mechanism apply for goods or services?	Yes.
Rulings	Are there indirect tax incentives available (e.g. reduced rates, tax holidays)?	Yes, reduced rate with respect to the provision of the hotel sector. Zero rated provisions also apply.
	Are rulings and decisions issued by the tax authorities publicly available?	Court rulings are public, but rulings issued in respect of individual requests are not usually made public. However, as a result of an issue the authorities may issue a policy note.