

Top 10 Traveler Tips

1. Check that you have all the required travel documents for the countries you're visiting, as well as identification for re-entry to the U.S. Passports are required for re-entry to the U.S. by air as of January 23, 2007. Visit www.travel.state.gov for destination information.
2. Declare everything you are bringing in from abroad, even if you bought it in a duty-free shop. (Items sold there are subject to U.S. duty fees and other restrictions.)
3. If you buy something from a street vendor, keep in mind that it may be counterfeit and/or unsafe. You may have to surrender it to U.S. Customs and Border Protection when you get home.
4. If you bought things abroad for personal use or as gifts, they are eligible for duty exemptions. If you are bringing them back for resale, they're not.
5. Shipped goods are not eligible for your personal duty free exemption, and it may cost more than you think to clear them through U.S. Customs and Border Protection. See CBP's "International Mail Imports" brochure for more information.
6. Regarding medicine, many foreign-made medications are not FDA-approved and cannot be brought into the U.S. Also, when traveling abroad, bring only the amount of medication you'll need during the trip.
7. Don't try to bring any Cuban-made products into the U.S., no matter where they were purchased.
8. Don't try to bring any food into the U.S. without first checking to see if it is permitted. Also, any and all live birds and bird products, whether for personal or commercial use, may be restricted and/or quarantined.
9. CBP officers can inspect you and your belongings without a warrant. This may include luggage, vehicle, and personal searches, and is meant to enforce our laws as well as protect all legitimate travelers.
10. Read our helpful brochure, "Know Before You Go," before traveling. Print copies may be requested online, or view the web version at www.cbp.gov under the Travel section.

Enjoy your trip!