



## **BON VOYAGE, BUT...**

Canadians love to travel. Each year we make more than 90 million trips abroad. The vast majority of these excursions go off without a hitch.

But unfortunately all trips don't come with a hassle-free guarantee. Accidents, illnesses, legal problems and linguistic and cultural difficulties can occur when you're travelling.

Most problems are minor, and you can usually solve them yourself. But if you run into more serious obstacles, our Canadian missions are there to help you out.

If you're sick, in trouble or have lost your passport, our missions will do all they can to smooth your way.

*Bon Voyage, But...* will help you plan ahead. Read it before you book your next vacation or business trip abroad. And pack it in your luggage — it's a handy reference book of travel tips and addresses of Canadian missions around the world.



## **PART ONE: BEFORE YOU GO**

Preparation is the key to a successful trip. By doing your homework before you leave, you minimize your chances of having something go wrong.

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### **Learn About Your Destination**

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Before you board that airplane or train, take the time to learn about the political, cultural and economic environment of your destination. Learn at least a few key phrases in the country's language. Even a modest command of the local language will go a long way.

When you're travelling, the laws of the country you're visiting apply to you too. **Never** assume that because you're a Canadian citizen, you're immune to foreign laws.

Many countries around the world are experiencing ongoing wars, insurgencies or sporadic unrest. Find out if your destination is known to be dangerous for foreigners. Check with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade before you leave:

- ❖ Call the Department's Consular Operations and Emergency Services Division in Ottawa at **1-800-267-6788**. You can call this number for information on conditions in specific countries seven days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Someone is always there to answer your questions. If you would like to receive this information by fax, dial **1-800-575-2500** from the handset of your fax machine and follow the instructions.
- ❖ If you're not in Canada, contact the nearest Canadian mission. Addresses and telephone numbers are listed at the back of this booklet. Or, call the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Consular Operations and Emergency Services Division in Ottawa at **(613) 996-8885**.