

- Obtain a letter of introduction from your bank manager to the manager of a bank in each of the cities you plan to visit. The letter can be helpful in checking references of potential customers and agents and if you run into unexpected financial difficulties.
- Ensure that the funds you carry are more than adequate to meet your expected needs and that they are readily convertible. Travelling is a costly business — plan accordingly.
- Background reading on the countries you plan to visit will smooth the trip by providing advance information on the history, economy and social scene. Little things like knowing the local dress codes, meal times, how to address people, and other customs will eliminate small problems and win you the good will of your hosts.