

criminal convictions in Canada. Canadian pardons and for that matter any pardons are generally not recognized by U.S. authorities. Canadians who are inadmissible to the U.S. for any reason may be able to visit the United States if they obtain a Waiver of Excludability beforehand from the United States Embassy or the nearest United States consulate in Canada.

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## CANADA CUSTOMS AND IMPORT CONTROLS

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### Upon Return to Canada

You must declare everything acquired abroad, whether purchases or gifts, including goods bought at a Canadian or foreign duty-free store. They should be easily accessible for inspection.

It's wise to have with you receipts for goods purchased, for accommodation while you were away and for repairs done (or parts added) to articles you had when you left Canada. Such parts and repairs may be subject to duty and taxes, unless they were essential to your safe return to Canada.

Before you leave, ask Canada Customs to identify and list the serial numbers of all your valuables on a wallet-sized card (form Y-38). This can be done at your local customs office or at your point of departure. It establishes that you owned the articles before departure and so can reimport them duty- and tax-free.

Jewellery and other items which are not uniquely identifiable will not be documented. Ask your local customs office about identification procedures.

For more details and a list of regional customs offices, see the brochure *I Declare*, available at border points, airports, passport offices, customs offices, Canadian missions abroad or from Communications Branch, Revenue Canada, Customs and Excise, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0L5.

Call your local customs office in Canada if you need information on importation of goods acquired outside of

Canada. Canadian missions cannot give you more than very basic information on this subject.

### Restrictions

Many hazardous products such as firearms, explosives, detonators and pyrotechnic devices are not allowed to be imported into Canada or are restricted. Ask your local customs office for details.

The importation of living species or their by-products is strictly controlled. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) prohibits the import or export of more than 1,000 plant and animal species and their by-products without permits. For more information, contact the Administrator, CITES, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H3.

Agriculture Canada controls or prohibits the entry into Canada of animals, birds, insects, plants and soil and their by-products. This is done to prevent the introduction into Canada of viruses and other causes of disease. For more information, consult Agriculture Canada's pamphlet *Don't Bring It Back*, available at airports.

### Motor Vehicles

There are many restrictions on the importation of motor vehicles. Under Canadian customs law, for example, used or second-hand vehicles of other than the current model year are, in most cases, prohibited. This means you cannot import them even if you are willing to pay the applicable import assessments. There are some exceptions and to find out more, pick up a copy of the booklet *Importing a Motor Vehicle into Canada* from your local customs office.

In addition to the customs restrictions, motor vehicles must conform to Canadian safety and emission standards in order to be eligible for importation into Canada. Only the original manufacturer can certify that a vehicle meets these standards. For more information, contact Transport Canada, Road Safety and Motor Vehicle Regulations Directorate, Canada Building, 13th Floor, 344 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N5.