



New U.S. Entry Requirements

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) is a new U.S. law requiring all travellers, including Canadians, to carry a passport or other appropriate secure documentation when travelling to the United States.

- **Air Travel:** As of January 23, 2007, **Canadians entering or transiting** the United States by air must present a valid **Canadian passport** or **NEXUS card** (at kiosks at designated airports) to confirm their citizenship and identity.
- **Land and Sea Travel:** The same entry requirements for land and sea travel to the United States will come into effect at a later time. Canadians can continue to use such documents as their birth certificates and driver's licences to cross the Canada-U.S. border by land and sea until the WHTI is fully implemented.
- **Canadian Passport:** The Government of Canada continues to recommend that travellers carry a valid **Canadian passport** when visiting all destinations abroad, including the United States. A passport is the only universally accepted identification document, and it proves that you have a right to return to Canada.
- **NEXUS Card:** The **NEXUS** program is designed to expedite the border clearance process for low-risk, pre-approved travellers into Canada and the United States by air, land and sea. NEXUS members can use self-serve kiosks at designated airports, employ dedicated lanes at land borders and report by telephone at marine ports of entry. For details on NEXUS, visit www.nexus.gc.ca or call **1-866-NEXUS-26**.

For up-to-date information on the WHTI and travel to the United States, visit www.voyage.gc.ca or www.cbsa.gc.ca.

use your Canadian passport to enter that country due to personal choice or legal requirements.

If you are considered a national of another country, you may be compelled to do military service, required to pay special taxes or subject to increased scrutiny by immigration and security officials.

To avoid unpleasant surprises, confirm whether you, your spouse or any other family member is a citizen of another country.

Where permitted by the laws of the country in question, the Government of Canada encourages Canadians to use their Canadian passport when travelling abroad and to present

themselves as Canadians to foreign authorities.

If you have questions or concerns regarding dual citizenship, contact the nearest Canadian government office or refer to our booklet *Dual Citizenship*.

Persons with a Disability

Many countries do not have facilities to provide access to people in wheelchairs or make allowances for those with special hearing, visual or other requirements. Detailed information on international travel by disabled persons can be found under "Frequently Asked Questions" in the "Before You Go" section of our website.

TRAVEL IN EUROPE

The member states of the European Union (not including the United Kingdom and Ireland), along with Norway and Iceland, make up the Schengen Area, which aims for common rules regarding visas, asylum rights and controls at external borders.

Controls remain in place at the borders of some Schengen countries: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

In the Schengen Area, Canadian travellers do not need visas for short-term visits (up to 90 days),

but some countries require you to register with local authorities within three working days of your arrival. It is important to get your passport stamped when entering the Schengen Area. The absence of an entry stamp from the initial Schengen port of entry could create difficulties during subsequent encounters with local police or other authorities.

It is important to confirm up-to-date entry requirements with the embassy or high commission of each destination country before departure from Canada.