

## Introduction

Canadians love to travel. Each year, millions of Canadians travel to cities, beaches and rural areas throughout the world. In many of these countries, illegal drugs are readily available and openly used. Nonetheless, they remain illegal. Canadians get into serious trouble for buying, selling, using or transporting drugs.

Over 3,000 Canadians are languishing in jails throughout the world – many of them for drug-related offences. Being Canadian doesn't exempt you from local laws regarding illegal drugs. If you break the law in another country, you are subject to that country's judicial system. Canadian consular officials can provide assistance and support to Canadians in jail abroad, but they cannot arrange for their release.

### Before You Go

Travel can be a wonderful and rewarding experience. But careful preparation is key to any successful trip abroad. Before you leave, research your destination. Its culture, customs and regulations may differ from those of Canada. Consult the Country Travel Reports and the other travel advice available at [www.voyage.gc.ca](http://www.voyage.gc.ca).

This brochure provides information and advice to help you make the most of your holiday and avoid difficult and dangerous situations related to illegal drugs. Getting involved with narcotics could put your health at risk and jeopardize your whole future, so don't take any chances. Before you go, make sure you get the facts and take the necessary precautions.