

the vessel is longer than 4.5 metres, a temporary import permit — *solicitud de importación temporal* — must be obtained. The cost depends on the size and weight of the vessel, and is twice as much outside regular hours. Upon docking, you must go to the harbour master's office (called the *Capitanía del Puerto*), immigration and customs, and present, in writing, the name of the boat and the name of all persons travelling on board; proof that the boat is registered to a foreign resident, or a lease agreement for a rented boat; and your destination. You will also need an official document showing departure clearance from Canada. Every person on board must also complete a tourist card. If you place your boat in the care of a marina in Mexico when you leave the country, you must return at least twice a year. A departure clearance (with 24 hours' notice) is required when you take the vessel out of Mexican waters.

Mexican Citizens

Mexicans who have immigrated to Canada and become citizens are entitled to enter Mexico on the same basis as other Canadians. They may, however, have additional rights as Mexican citizens. The New Mexican Nationality Law, which went into effect on

March 20, 1998, after amendments to articles 30, 32 and 37 of the Mexican Constitution, recognizes dual nationality for the first time. Further information is available from the Mexican Embassy in Ottawa or from consulates across Canada (see the section "Mexican Government Offices in Canada"). You can also find more information on the Web site of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (www.sre.gob.mx/english/default.htm).

Customs

All persons entering Mexico must present a customs declaration and may be subject to an inspection. In the major ports of entry, travellers who have "nothing to declare" are selected for inspection at random. In the customs area, you will be asked to either press a button or enter your declaration form into a machine. If a light turns red, your baggage will be inspected.

Visitors arriving by air or sea are permitted to bring in US\$300 worth of goods. Those arriving by land are allowed only \$50 per person. Travel-related items, such as clothing, may be brought in duty-free, although there can be differences of opinion over the quantity of baggage that a tourist should have when crossing by land. Goods beyond the duty-free limits may be