

Visits

Arrangements to visit a Canadian in prison abroad should be in place before departure. Certain countries allow visits only at specific times of the year, or place restrictions on the number of visits a prisoner may receive, or on who may visit. Common-law spouses, for example, may not be recognized. In some cases, language may be a problem and you will need to be accompanied by an interpreter. It is also important to note that prison authorities are unlikely to grant any special treatment to visitors from Canada, such as exempting them from regular visiting hours regulations.

You should discuss the details of any proposed visit with officials in Ottawa early in the planning stages. Your itinerary will be forwarded to the diplomatic or consular mission, which will make the necessary arrangements for the visit to the prison.

Transfer of Offenders Treaties

Canada has signed international Transfer of Offenders Treaties with a number of countries. These allow Canadians convicted of offences in other countries to serve their sentences in Canadian penal institutions where they can more easily prepare for their return to Canadian life.

The countries with which Canada currently has treaties are: Austria, the Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany,