

### ***Illegal Souvenirs***

Before you purchase an animal or plant, or a product made from animals or plants, be sure you know what rules and regulations apply. Many attractive items sold in foreign countries are made from endangered plants or animals. Live cactus and orchid plants, ivory bracelets and carvings, marine turtle shells and turtle-shell products, whalebone carvings, and cat skins, teeth and claws are some of the more common items illegally brought back to Canada. These items are included in the more than 30,000 species of wild animals and plants regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). A violation of CITES could lead to seizure of your purchase, as well as a fine and/or prison term.

Since many other countries also have strict laws protecting wildlife, it is often wise to leave any items you already own at home.

*When in doubt, don't buy it!*  
Contact Environment Canada for details.

### ***Health Concerns***

If you become sick or feel unwell on your return to Canada, see a doctor promptly. Inform the doctor that you have been living outside Canada, and where. Likewise, if you were ill while you were abroad, see your doctor on your return and explain your medical history and any treatment you received.

If you were in a malarial area and develop fever during the first year after your return (especially in the first two months), see your doctor immediately and inform him or her that:

- anti-malarial pills do not guarantee protection against malaria; and
- malaria must be ruled out by one or more thick and thin blood film examinations.