

Illegal Drugs

While recreational drugs may be readily available in some countries, their purchase, consumption, import, and export are prohibited almost everywhere. Buying and using drugs, even in countries where such practices are common, can lead to criminal charges, heavy fines, and long prison sentences. If you break the law in another country, you are subject to that country's judicial system.

Choose your travel companions wisely. Never cross a border with a hitchhiker or as a hitchhiker. Although you may not be carrying anything illegal, your companions may be. And never take a package that is not yours across a border. For details, consult the "Drugs and Travel" section of our website.

Crime and Punishment

Thousands of Canadians are currently imprisoned abroad for a wide range of offences. The laws and customs of other countries can be very different from those in Canada, and ignorance is no defence when a crime is committed.

While in a foreign country, you are subject to its laws and regulations. **Your Canadian citizenship offers no immunity.**

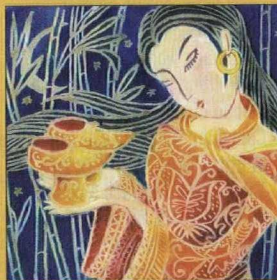


LOST OR STOLEN PASSPORT

If your passport is lost or stolen while you are abroad, you should immediately report the incident to the local police. Make sure you get a copy of the police report or the report number. Then contact the nearest Government of Canada office. Before a new passport can be issued, you must complete an application form, present documentary evidence of your Canadian citizenship (e.g., a birth or citizenship certificate), submit new photographs, pay the required fee, and complete a *Statutory Declaration Concerning a Lost, Stolen, Inaccessible or Destroyed Canadian Passport or Travel Document* form (PPTC 203). If you subsequently find the missing passport, it must be returned to Passport Canada, so that it can be inspected and destroyed to prevent fraudulent use.

Bad Trips Abroad

Get the facts about drugs and travel at www.voyage.gc.ca



Sylvia, actress, arrested upon arrival in Singapore with 300 grams of crystal meth hidden in her shoes, now facing execution.



Nicolas, engineer, charged with cocaine possession in Spain, now serving five years behind bars.



Marie, librarian, duped into bringing wine home from Australia as a "gift" for a friend of a friend, serving 18 years in prison for smuggling liquid heroin.



Daniel, college student, caught with ecstasy during a police raid in Daytona Beach, sentenced to three years in a Florida jail.