

Illegal Drugs

Drug use and trafficking are prohibited in all countries, even though drugs may be readily available and openly used in some areas. Most countries impose heavy fines and long prison sentences for possession and trafficking. In some countries, possession of even small amounts of drugs carries a prison sentence. **Never take any parcel that is not yours across a border.**

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. 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.**

Due to recent changes in Canadian law, Canadians may be prosecuted in Canadian courts for certain acts committed against significant cultural sites and objects outside Canada. In addition to foreign laws protecting

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, produce documentary evidence of your Canadian citizenship (e.g., a birth or citizenship certificate), present new photographs, pay the required fee and complete a "Statutory Declaration Concerning a Lost, Stolen, Inaccessible or Destroyed Canadian Passport or Travel Document" (form PPT 203). If you subsequently find the missing passport, it must be returned to Passport Canada for inspection and destruction.

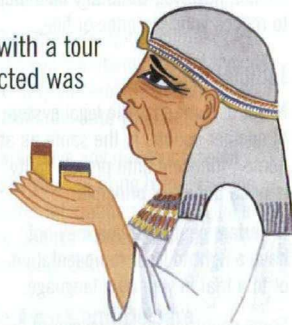


Bad Trips Abroad



Daniel was all gung-ho about spending spring break in Daytona Beach. Then, during a police raid of an oceanfront club, he was caught with methamphetamine and charged with "possession of narcotics with intent to distribute." His endless beach party ended with three years in a Florida jail.

All set to celebrate her retirement with a tour of Egypt, the last thing Sylvia expected was to be detained in Cairo for illegal drug possession. She should have kept her prescription medications in their original labelled containers, with a doctor's note explaining their use.



Anne-Marie's new boyfriend convinced her to bring three bottles of wine from Australia to Canada as a gift for his cousin. What a shock when her bags were searched at Sydney airport and she was charged with smuggling liquid heroin! She now faces an 18-year prison sentence far away from home.



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