



travelling abroad and to present themselves as Canadians to foreign authorities.

Note that you cannot use a Certificate of Canadian Citizenship instead of a Canadian passport to travel abroad. **A Certificate of Canadian Citizenship is not a travel document.** A Canadian passport is the only reliable and universally accepted travel and identification document available to Canadians for the purpose of international travel. Canadian citizens returning to Canada who present other documents, such as a Certificate of Canadian Citizenship, birth certificate, provincial driver's licence, or foreign passport, instead of a

Canadian passport, may face delays or be denied boarding by transport companies.

If you have questions or concerns regarding dual citizenship, contact the nearest Canadian government office or refer to our booklet *Dual Citizenship*.

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TRAVEL IN EUROPE

The member states of the European Union (EU) (not including Romania, Bulgaria, the United Kingdom, and Ireland), along with Norway, Iceland, and Switzerland, make up the Schengen Area, which has common rules regarding visas and controls at external borders.

The external land, air, and sea border controls of nine countries that joined the EU in 2004 (the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia) have been removed. Bulgaria, Romania, and Cyprus are not yet part of the Schengen Area.

In the Schengen Area, Canadian travellers do not need visas for short-term visits (up to 90 days within a six-month period), but some countries require you to register with local authorities within three working days of your arrival. It is important to get your passport stamped when entering the Schengen Area. The absence of an entry stamp from the initial Schengen port of entry could create difficulties during subsequent encounters with local police or other authorities throughout the Schengen Area.

If Canadians overstay the permitted 90 days in the Schengen Area, they may be fined or deported. To visit longer than 90 days, Canadians must either obtain a long-stay national visa or have been outside the Schengen Area for at least 90 consecutive days before re-entering.

It is important to confirm up-to-date entry requirements with the embassy or high commission of each destination country before departure from Canada. See our Travel Reports for country-specific information.