

Bon Voyage, But ...**Avoiding Customs Difficulties**

Before travelling abroad with valuable items, you can take advantage of a free identification procedure at any Canadian Customs office. This service is available for items that have serial numbers or other unique markings. Alternatively, if you request it, Customs can apply a sticker to any item to give it a serial number.

Jewellery often has significant value and can be difficult to identify. To make it easier to re-enter the country with jewellery, contact your nearest Customs office to find out the steps to take before your departure.

Transport of Dangerous Goods

Passengers are not permitted to transport dangerous goods on board an aircraft in carry-on or checked baggage or on their person. Dangerous goods are articles or substances that are capable of posing a risk to health, life, property or the environment when transported. Before travelling to any destination, consult the airline or Transport Canada's Web site to find out what you can and cannot transport.

Women Travelling Solo

Our booklet *Her Own Way: Advice for the Woman Traveller* provides information specifically for women travellers.

Travel with or by Children

Remember that since December 11, 2001, Canadian children need their own passport (see "Important Changes" above). However, if you hold a valid Canadian passport issued before December 11, 2001, that bears the name of your child, the passport will remain valid for both you and your child until it expires. Before any travel by a child, contact the embassy or consulate of the countries the child will be visiting to inquire about entry requirements.

If you or your partner are travelling to another country with your child and there is a possibility that a custody dispute might develop, you should talk to a lawyer before the child leaves home. Our special publication, *International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents*, contains further information.

Your child custody arrangements in Canada may not be recognized in another country. In extreme cases, you or your child may not be allowed to leave that country. Check your status with the country's embassy or consulate in Canada before you travel. If you have custody questions, contact the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Consular Case Management division at 1-800-387-3124 (in Canada) or (613) 943-1055.

If a person younger than 18 is travelling alone or with only one parent or another adult, certified documentation proving that the trip is permitted by both parents should be carried. For an example of a certified consent letter, visit the Frequently Asked Questions section of our Web site.

Remember that customs officials are looking for missing children and may ask questions about the children travelling with you. Make sure you carry the proper identification for yourself and any children travelling with you, including any documents required by the country you intend to visit. Proper identification includes birth certificates, baptismal certificates, passports, citizenship cards, records of landing and certificates of Indian status. These will help prove your citizenship and residency when you return to Canada.

Seeking Assistance**Registering at a Canadian Government Office Abroad**

It is recommended that you register at the nearest Canadian government office abroad. This will help us contact you in case of an emergency. Registration is voluntary, and the information you provide is protected and used in accordance with the

International Adoptions

Provincial and territorial authorities in Canada are responsible for authorizing international adoptions. If you are thinking of adopting a child from another country, you must first obtain information about the adoption regulations of the province or territory in which the child will reside. While adoption is a provincial/territorial responsibility, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is responsible for allowing an adopted child entry into Canada. Entry can be refused if the child does not hold the appropriate immigrant visa. A visa may be denied even if the adoption has already been completed.

For more information, contact your provincial/territorial authorities or the CIC call centre nearest you.

provisions of the Privacy Act. Canadians can also register on-line at our Web site (www.voyage.gc.ca/Consular-e/SOS/roccapage-e.htm).

In countries where Canada has no direct representation, there may be arrangements in place for you to register with another country's embassy or consulate.