our Country Travel Reports at www.voyage.gc.ca/dest/intro-en.asp or call 1 800 267-6788 or (613) 944-6788.

Travel Arrangements

Canadians are generally familiar with the relatively low cost of travel to popular vacation destinations. However, these rates usually involve charter flights that originate in Canada and are available only on a seasonal basis. In addition, direct flights to Canada are not available from many popular destinations on a year-round basis.

Many countries require foreign visitors to have a valid return ticket. This means a paid ticket with a return date within the time limits allowed by immigration authorities. A full-fare return ticket with an open travel date is generally acceptable, but an unused return portion of a charter flight ticket is not. You may need to purchase expensive one-way open tickets connecting through other countries to satisfy immigration authorities, even if your application for residency is pending. If you have to make an unplanned trip home for family or personal reasons, be prepared to pay several times the charter rate you may be accustomed to.

Research Alternative Destinations

Are you making realistic assumptions about weather, immigration regulations and access to services?

People with a Disability

Many countries do not provide access for people in wheelchairs or make allowances for those with special hearing, sight or other physical requirements. You may have to make special arrangements to obtain amenities that you expect as a matter of course in Canada. For more information, refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section of our Web site and check the Canadian Transportation Agency Web site.

Canadians with disabilities who hold a valid parking permit in Canada may take their permit with them for use in any of the 48 member and associate member countries of the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT). Be sure to check with local authorities there to determine entitlement. For more information, consult the ECMT or Transport Canada Web site.

Valuable Items

Before going abroad with valuable items, you can take advantage of a