

You may also want to read about the social, political and economic environment in Mexico before you go. If possible, take time to learn some Spanish. Mexicans appreciate visitors who make an effort to communicate with them in their own language, even if it is just a few phrases.

Business people may want to consult the Department of Foreign

Affairs and International Trade business Web site, InfoExport ([www.infoexport.gc.ca/mx](http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/mx)), for market reports, business guides and other useful trade and economic information on Mexico. The Web site of the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City ([www.canada.org.mx](http://www.canada.org.mx)) also contains useful information to help prepare you for your trip.

## Entering Mexico

Some procedures for entering Mexico are more complex than their Canadian equivalents. Some visitors make the mistake of assuming that, if a particular requirement is not enforced on one trip, it will be the same the next time. But because of increased visitor traffic, especially since the advent of the NAFTA, officials are enforcing some regulations more vigorously than in the past. Moreover, there is always the potential for differing interpretations between ports of entry or individual officials. For example, visitors who have never been asked to return their tourist documents on departure may be surprised when they miss a flight because of a lost form. Prudent visitors always obey the law, even though it might not seem to be enforced in a particular instance.

### *Travel Documents*

As already mentioned, proof of citizenship is the fundamental document for all foreign travel, and Mexico is no exception. A passport is the best way to provide this proof. Naturalized Canadian citizens must present a valid passport. Carry a marriage certificate if your name is different from the one on your birth certificate or photo identification. The other required documents vary, depending on your personal circumstances as well as the mode and purpose of your trip. It is prudent to have copies of each document so you can carry them and leave the originals in your hotel safe.

Canadians travelling for business can complete a *Forma Migratoria de Negocios* (FM-N), authorizing