

BRIEF SUMMARY OF U.S. CUSTOMS RE-ENTRY INFORMATION

1. As you depart the U.S., ensure each of you has your passport (or a passport card) to show upon re-entry. Children under 16 still need only their birth certificate. You may wish to pick up at U.S. Customs the booklet providing customs regulations for U.S. residents, Know Before You Go. **If you have questions, ask them at the customs office before you leave the USA.**

2. Returning residents of the USA **who have been in Canada at least 48 hours** can bring in to the USA \$1,200.00 per person of duty-exempt goods, if this exemption has not been used within the past 30 days. The articles must accompany you at the time of re-entry into the U.S. The individual exemptions for family members can be combined into one "family exemption" if desired so that individual articles valued in excess of \$1,200 can be exempted.

3. Returning residents of the USA **who have been in Canada less than 48 hours** have a \$200.00 per person exemption. These individual exemptions cannot be combined into a family exemption.

4. Canadian origin goods are exempt from duty. Special instructions apply to alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, cigars, and perfume. Cigars and alcohol from Cuba are not permitted into the USA.

5. The value of the goods is "fair retail value" as determined by the sales receipts. **Keep your receipts.** Duty will be charged on the value in excess of the exemptions.

6. **All Canadian agricultural products**, whatever their value, **must be declared upon re-entering the USA.** At this time, you may not bring into the USA from Canada citrus products not originally from the USA. You also may not bring into the USA firewood unless it has been heat treated.

7. Allow sufficient time for the inspection of your vehicle (and possibly your luggage and packages) upon your return to the USA.

8. For additional information, visit www.GetYouHome.gov or www.cbp.gov or telephone a U.S. Customs office in Washington County – Lubec (733-4331), Eastport (853-4313), Calais (454-3621), Vanceboro (788-3907).

VISITING CANADA IN 2009? Guidance for residents of the USA

DO THESE THINGS

1. **Bring your passport.** A passport is required when entering Canada by air. Proof of identity and citizenship is required for a U.S. citizen entering Canada by land/sea & while traveling in Canada; a passport is the preferred travel document. A non-U.S. citizen must have an Alien Registration Receipt Card or passport.

2. When traveling in a motor vehicle, **wear your seatbelt**; children age 0-5 must be in a child restraint. **Motorcyclists must wear helmets.**

DO NOT DO THESE THINGS

Do not bring a radar detector into Canada. Its use is illegal in Canada's Maritime provinces. **Do not bring automatic firearms** into Canada, as they are prohibited firearms. (See also paragraph 6 below.)

REMEMBER THESE THINGS

1. Prior to visiting Canada, check to ensure that your auto and health insurance are valid in Canada.

2. If you have foreign-made items, you may wish to register them with U.S. customs as you depart the USA to ensure you can bring them back into the USA duty-free.

3. If you are a single parent, grandparent, or guardian entering Canada with a minor child, bring proof of legal custody, or a notarized letter of consent, and proof of the child's citizenship. If a non-family minor is traveling with you, you also should have a document authorizing you to make health care decisions for that child.

4. Your vehicle may be inspected upon entering Canada. If you are driving a vehicle other than your own, you must have the owner's written permission to use the car in Canada.

5. Upon entering Canada, you may have to pay a security deposit on your personal baggage. Such deposit will be refunded to you when you depart Canada with the baggage. If you intend to leave things in Canada (e.g., clothes, car, boat at a summer home), pick up a free permit when you enter Canada.

6. **You must declare any firearm you bring into Canada.** If you plan to bring a firearm into Canada, make arrangements beforehand and then register the firearm with U.S. customs before departing the USA. If you haven't made arrangements beforehand, your firearm will be held at the border and returned to you when you depart Canada. For additional information, visit www.cfc.gc.ca, select Information For: visitors/non residents, & review the fact sheets, or call 1-800-731-4000.

7. **You must declare** all alcohol and cigarettes, knives w/o retractable blades, and anything else that could be considered a weapon. You may not bring in pepper spray, mace, firewood, potatoes, or dog food with any beef.

8. **You must declare all gifts.** If you bring into Canada a gift of more than C\$60 (about US\$50), you will have to pay regular duty and taxes on the amount over C\$60.

9. **You must declare all plants or plant material.** You may bring into Canada for personal use up to 50 indoor foliage houseplants, and succulents that cannot survive outdoors. You will need a USDA inspection certificate to bring into Canada your outside plants and all climbing plants. Soil from Oregon and California is prohibited.

10. If you bring a dog/cat into Canada, you must have a leash for the pet. You must bring proof of rabies vaccination for pets 13 weeks and older. Be sure the vaccination period does not expire while in Canada, as this proof also will be needed to bring the pet back into the USA. If you will stay in Canada for several months, transport your animal from Canada to another country, or bring a horse into Canada, your animal must have a health certificate issued within the past 30 days and signed by a licensed veterinarian (for horses, a USDA vet) clearly identifying and describing the animal, affirming it is in good health -- and for dogs and cats, certifying that the pet has been vaccinated against rabies (and for dogs, distemper), and for horses proof of the Coggins test. To bring in a pet bird, complete a declaration of ownership form at the customs booth when entering Canada. For more information on pets or plants, contact the CFIA Import Service Center at 1-877-493-0468. **Note however that pet birds cannot be brought in, or back in, to the USA. You may contact the Houlton, ME, customs office (207-532-2131) if you wish to apply for an exception to this rule.**

11. A 13% harmonized sales tax (HST) usually is added to prices in

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland, and a 5% goods and services tax (GST) in the other provinces.

12. Articles purchased at U.S. duty-free shops before entering Canada are subject to U.S. duty if brought back into the USA. Articles purchased at Canadian duty-free shops are subject to U.S. Customs exemptions and restrictions.

13. Telephone 506-752-1130 for additional customs information.

14. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island are on Atlantic time, an hour later than Eastern time. (Newfoundland/Labrador time is another half hour later.) Upon entering New Brunswick or Nova Scotia from Maine, set your watch one hour later (you lost an hour).

15. Temperature in Canada is measured in degrees Celsius, not Fahrenheit. Equivalents are as follows:
-10C = 14F, 0C = 32F, 10C = 50F, 20C = 68F, 30C = 86F.

16. Speed limits in Canada are in kilometers per hour, not miles per hour, and distances are measured in kilometers not miles. Equivalents are as follows: 40 KM = 25 miles, 50 KM = 31 miles, 60 KM = 37 miles, 80 KM = 50 miles, 90 KM = 56 miles, 100 KM = 62.5 miles.

17. Gasoline and other liquids are measured in liters, not gallons. Some equivalents: 5 lit = 1.3 gal, 10 lit = 2.6 gal, 15 lit = 3.9 gal, 20 lit = 5.2 gal, 25 lit = 6.5 gal; 5 gal = 19 lit, 10 gal = 38 lit, 15 gal = 57 lit.

18. Air pressure in tires is measured in kilopascals, not pounds per square inch. Equivalents are as follows:
24 psi = 165 kPa, 28 psi = 193 kPa, 32 psi = 221 kPa.

19. The approximate exchange rate is C\$10.00 = US\$8.00, although when you pay by cash you might get an even exchange rate. Usually you will get your best exchange by using a credit card.

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