

LIVESAFE

► Preparing for Safe Travel

While most trips will be enjoyable and uneventful, it is a good idea to do some research and be prepared before you leave home. One good place to start your research is with government agencies that report safety, security, and health issues related to travel in a foreign country.

In Canada, this information can be found at:

- Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade: <http://voyage.gc.ca/>
- Travel Health, Public Health Agency of Canada: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca
- Fly smart, fly secure section of Transport Canada's web site:
<http://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/T22-117-2002E.pdf>
- Be aware of the risks of where you are traveling by using the DFAIT travel warnings:
<http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>
- Register your trip with DFAIT: www.voyage2.gc.ca

Your travel agent will be able to tell you about the customs and culture of the area where you are travelling.

In addition, you can contact Canadian government offices abroad (check Directory of Canadian Government Offices Abroad). Keep this information with you, and keep a copy at home. <http://travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies>

You should also:

- Find out if you need special documentation to travel such as a visa.
- Call your bank and credit card companies to alert them to your intended use of your credit and bankcards while you are away.
- Check the expiry date on your passport. Make sure your passport does not expire until after you return home. (Often six months after you return is required). Expiry date requirements may vary depending on the country you are visiting — check with your local passport office.

Adapted from: www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/hsprograms/travel_safety.html

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