

# INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL NOTIFICATION



DESTINATIONS UNLIMITED

Travel outside of your home country often requires, at minimum, a valid passport that would generally still be valid at least 6 months after your return date. This requirement can vary by destination.

Various countries, destinations and foreign governments have conditions of entry and exit that must be adhered to ensure a smooth and safe journey.

To help identify requirements we wanted to provide you with a couple of resources you might find helpful.

## SHERPA

<https://apply.joinsherpa.com/travel-restrictions?affiliateId=travelleaders>

*This site allows you to input your itinerary, with connection cities, date of travel and what nationality your passport is issued under. The search then brings back information to help you prepare for your trip.*

## CIBT

<https://cibtvisas.com/?login=destinationsunlimitedinc>

*CIBT provides assistance for US citizens to identify and obtain passports and Visas that may be required for their trip abroad. The site also has a resource for health requirements: <https://cibtvisas.com/health-requirements>.*

## U.S. GOVERNMENT

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>

*The United States government maintains a listing of travel advisories for locations around the world. The site allows an easy search tool by country or by area.*

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/step.html?sfnsn=mo>

*We also recommend that all US travelers enroll in the government's STEP (Smart Traveler Enrollment Program) when traveling abroad. You can receive real-time updates about your destination and should an event such as a natural disaster, civil unrest, or family emergency, the embassy or consulate can provide assistance while in a foreign country.*

*Requirements and information can change without warning. Travel Leaders / Destinations Unlimited recommends all travelers check requirements and information as soon as they begin coordinating their travel (some documents may have lengthy processing times) and double-check prior to departure. While Travel Leaders / Destinations Unlimited may provide documentation/requirement information, it is not liable or responsible for ensuring all requirements are met. Travel Leaders/Destinations Unlimited acts only as an agent for suppliers in selling travel-related services, accepting reservations, and booking services that are not directly supplied by this travel agency. (i.e. air and ground transportation, hotel accommodations, meals, tours, cruises, etc.)*

# TIPS TO MITIGATE BORDER ENTRIES / REDUCE RISK

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## << BEFORE DEPARTURE >>

- Ensure your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your intended stay.
- Verify Visa requirements and apply well in advance if necessary.
- Double-check your ESTA or other travel authorization status.
- Carry a printed copy of your itinerary, accommodation bookings, and return flight confirmation.
- Inform your company or family about your travel plans and provide contact details for emergencies.
- Know and store emergency contacts for legal assistance, medical support, security services, and your company's travel department.
- Review and manage your social media profiles, removing any potentially sensitive, controversial, or inappropriate content that could draw attention or scrutiny from border or immigration officials. Posts, even those made prior to your trip, can be reviewed by officials and used as evidence of intent, affiliation, or political bias.
- Remove any apps on devices that could be considered detrimental/controversial in your destination(s).
- If carrying sensitive content is unavoidable, consider travel-specific or burner devices with minimal data.

## << PASSPORT AND DOCUMENTATION >>

- Clearly label all luggage with your contact information.
- Avoid carrying sensitive or confidential documents unless absolutely necessary.
- Backup digital copies of important documents securely online.
- Be aware of items restricted by customs (e.g., certain foods, agricultural products, medications).
- If you hold dual citizenship, carefully consider which passport you use for entry. Avoid using multiple passports for one journey to prevent complications. The use of split passports is generally not advised.

## << ARRIVAL AT BORDER CONTROL >>

- Approach immigration officials professionally and respectfully.
- If asked, clearly state your travel purpose (e.g., business, journalism, tourism).
- Provide direct, concise answers to questions asked by border officials.
- Avoid jokes, sarcasm, or unnecessary conversation with immigration or customs officials.
- Ensure electronic devices are prepared for possible inspection (charge fully, remove unnecessary sensitive data). Devices should not contain any information you would prefer government officials not to see, in case they are confiscated.
- Be aware that border officials may review your social media accounts; posts or content perceived negatively could potentially affect your entry.

## << DURING YOUR STAY >>

- Keep your passport secure and carry a photocopy or digital copy during daily activities.
- Familiarize yourself with local laws, customs, and emergency contact numbers.
- Maintain situational awareness, especially in crowded or sensitive locations.
- Regularly update your company or trusted contacts on your whereabouts.
- Be mindful of your social media posts during your stay, ensuring they reflect positively and not inadvertently draw unwanted attention.

## << OVERALL TRAVEL RISK MANAGEMENT >>

- Stay informed of local security situations through credible sources.
- Register with your national embassy or consulate, if available.
- Avoid public demonstrations or politically sensitive events unless required by your job. Governments use facial recognition from drones and surveillance cameras to identify anyone in attendance.
- Utilize reputable transportation providers and accommodations.
- Maintain adequate travel and health insurance coverage.
- Assume all digital activity, online searches, emails, apps, and location data may be monitored. Behave accordingly.

***Adhering to these guidelines significantly reduces the likelihood of disruptions or issues during travel and entry into the United States.***

***The potential for a serious issue while traveling remains low, but preparedness keeps it that way. These best practices are your first line of defense.***