

# Travel Restrictions for Convicted Felons

## European Union

### Austria

**Entry/Exit Requirements:** Austria is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Austria for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#). Anyone intending to stay longer than 90 days must obtain the appropriate visa issued by the Austrian Embassy in the United States.

Visit the Embassy of Austria web site at <http://www.austria.org/> for the most current visa information. There are four Austrian Consulates General in the United States. As each one serves clients from a particular region, please contact the appropriate office for assistance. If you reside outside the U.S., please contact the responsible Austrian Embassy or Consulate in your country of residence. A list of Austrian Embassies/Consulates is available at <http://www.bmeia.gv.at/aussenministerium/buergerservice/oesterreichische-vertretungen.html>.

### Belgium

**Entry/Exit Requirements:** Belgium is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Belgium for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. Sufficient funds and a return airline ticket are required. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#). For further information concerning entry requirements, contact the Embassy of Belgium at 3330 Garfield Street NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 333-6900; or one of the Belgian Consulates General in Atlanta, Los Angeles, or New York. Visit the [Embassy of Belgium website](#) for the most current visa information.

### Bulgaria

**Entry/Exit Requirements:** A United States passport is required for U.S. citizens who are not also Bulgarian nationals. U.S. citizens who enter the country without a Bulgarian visa are authorized to stay for a total of 90 days within a six-month period. This law is strictly enforced. An application to extend one's stay beyond the original 90 days can be filed for urgent or humanitarian reasons, but must be submitted to regional police authorities no later than five days prior to the end of the original 90-day period. Travelers who have been in the country for 90 days, and then leave, will not be able to re-enter Bulgaria before the six-month period expires. Travelers using official or diplomatic passports must secure visas prior to arrival. Upon entering the country, Bulgarian immigration authorities request that all foreigners declare the purpose of their visit and provide their intended address.

For further information concerning entry requirements, travelers should contact the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria at 1621 22nd Street NW, Washington, DC 20008;

<http://www.bulgaria-embassy.org>; tel. (202) 387-7969 (main switchboard (202) 387-0174), or the Bulgarian Consulate in New York City at 121 East 62nd Street, New York, NY 10021; <http://www.consulbulgaria-ny.org>; tel. (212) 935-4646.

The Bulgarian authorities do not consider presentation of a copy of the passport sufficient for identification purposes. Visitors should carry their original passports with them at all times. This is not a requirement for U.S. citizens who hold residence permits for Bulgaria

### Cyprus

**Entry/Exit Requirements:** A passport is required for travel to Cyprus. A visa is not required for a stay of up to 90 days. For longer stays, a visa or residence permit is required. U.S. citizens should be mindful that the Government of Cyprus does not recognize the residence permits issued by Turkish Cypriot authorities for the portions of the island under Turkish Cypriot administration. The Government of Cyprus does not issue residency permits to individuals who live in the areas outside government control. On occasion, Americans who resided in the area administered by Turkish Cypriots for more than 90 days without a Republic of Cyprus residence permit have been detained by officials at Larnaca airport and denied entry into the government-controlled area. They also may be subject to prosecution.

The U.S. Embassy encourages travelers to read the “Special Circumstances” section of this fact sheet for important additional information about entry requirements into the Turkish Cypriot-administered areas. For further information on entry requirements for Cyprus, travelers can contact the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus at 2211 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20008-4082, tel. (202) 462-5772, or the Cypriot Consulate in New York at 13 East 40th St., 5th Floor, New York, NY 10016, tel. (212) 686-6016/17. Visit the Embassy of Cyprus’ web site at <http://www.cyprusembassy.net> for the most current visa information.

### Czech Republic

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** The Czech Republic is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter the Czech Republic for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the periods of stay. For further details on travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact Sheet](#). All foreigners seeking entry in the Czech Republic must carry proof of a medical insurance policy contracted for payment of all costs for hospitalization and medical treatment in the Czech Republic.

[The Embassy of the Czech Republic’s web site](#) provides the most current visa information. The Czech Government requires travelers to the Czech Republic to have proof of finances to pay for their stay and proof of travel/health insurance. Minimum coverage of the insurance has to be at least \$35,000.

According to the Czech Government, a health insurance card or an internationally recognized credit card with health insurance included will generally be accepted as proof of insurance to enter the country.

Note: Although European Union regulations require that non-EU visitors obtain a stamp in their passports upon initial entry to a Schengen country, many borders are not staffed with officers carrying out this function. If an American citizen wishes to ensure that his or her entry is properly documented, it may be necessary to request a stamp at an official point of entry. Under local law, travelers without a stamp in their passports may be questioned and asked to document the length of their stay in Schengen countries at the time of departure or at any other point during their visit, and could face possible fines or other repercussions if unable to do so.

#### Denmark

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Denmark is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Denmark for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our Schengen [fact sheet](#). Passport and visa regulations are similar for Denmark, Greenland, and the Faroes. Contact the [Royal Danish Embassy](#) at 3200 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20008 or by telephone at (202) 234-4300 for the most current visa information. Another source of useful information, available in both English and Danish, is the [Danish Immigration Service website](#).

#### Estonia

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport is required. Estonia is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Estonia for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact Sheet](#).

For further information concerning entry requirements and residency permits, contact the Estonian Embassy, located at 2131 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 588-0101, or the Consulate General of Estonia in New York City, telephone (212) 883-0636. Visit the Embassy of Estonia [website](#) for the most current visa information. American citizens who wish to reside in Estonia (e.g. for work, studies, retirement, etc.) can also consult with the [Estonian Citizenship and Migration Board](#).

#### Finland

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Finland is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Finland for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our Schengen [fact sheet](#).

Travelers can contact the Embassy of Finland at 3301 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20008, tel: (202) 298-5800, or the Finnish Consulates General in Los Angeles or New York. Additional information is available via the Internet at <http://www.finland.org>.

The U.S. Embassy in Helsinki is not able to assist private U.S. citizens in obtaining any necessary visas for neighboring countries, including Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union.

#### France & Monaco

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** France is party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter France for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. A passport is required and should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. Anyone intending to stay more than 90 days must obtain the appropriate visa issued by one of the French Consulates in the U.S., prior to departure for France. For further information about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [fact sheet](#) .

A passport is required to enter Monaco. A visa is not required for tourist/business stays up to 90 days in Monaco. For further information concerning entry requirements for France, travelers may contact the Embassy of France at 4101 Reservoir Road NW, Washington, DC 20007, tel. (202) 944-6000, email: [info@ambafrance-us.org](mailto:info@ambafrance-us.org), or the French Consulates General in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, or San Francisco.

For further information on entry requirements to Monaco, travelers may contact the Embassy of the Principality of Monaco, 2314 Wyoming Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20008, Tel: 202-234-1530, email: [embassy@monaco-usa.org](mailto:embassy@monaco-usa.org), or the Consulate General of Monaco, 565 Fifth Avenue – 23rd floor, New York, NY 10017, tel.: 212-286-0500, email: [info@monaco-consulate.com](mailto:info@monaco-consulate.com). For more information, visit the Embassy of France web site at [www.consulfrance-washington.org](http://www.consulfrance-washington.org) or the Embassy of the Principality of Monaco web site at <http://www.monaco-usa.org> for the most current visa information.

#### Germany

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Germany is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Germany for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#) . Further information on entry, visa and passport requirements may be obtained from the German Embassy at 4645 Reservoir Road N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007, telephone (202) 298-4000, web site: <http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/Startseite.html>, or the German Consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, or San Francisco. Passengers transiting Germany en route to other countries should ensure that they are aware of and in compliance with the entry requirements for their final destinations as individuals not presenting appropriate documentation for their destination may be denied boarding on connecting flights.

#### Greece

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Greece is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Greece for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period

of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our Schengen fact sheet. For other entry requirements, travelers should contact the Embassy of Greece at 2221 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 939-5800, or Greek consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Tampa, New York, and San Francisco, and Greek embassies and consulates around the world.

Holders of official or diplomatic passports visiting Greece as tourists must obtain visas prior to arrival. Visit the Embassy of Greece web site for the most current visa information

#### Hungary

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport is required. Hungary is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Hungary for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact Sheet](#).

For further information concerning entry requirements and residency permits, contact the Embassy of the Republic of Hungary at 3910 Shoemaker Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008, telephone (202) 362-6730. More information can be found on the [Hungarian Embassy's website](#), or by visiting the Hungarian Consulates in Los Angeles or New York.

Ireland – “Contact the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform [www.justice.ie](http://www.justice.ie)”

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A passport is necessary, but a visa is not required for tourist or business stays of up to three months. Visit the Embassy of Ireland web site ([www.irelandemb.org/](http://www.irelandemb.org/)) for the most current visa information, or contact the Embassy at 2234 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008, tel: 1-202-462-3939, or the nearest Irish consulate in Boston, Chicago, New York or San Francisco.

#### Italy

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Italy is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Italy for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact sheet](#) .

For further information concerning visas and entry requirements for Italy, travelers may contact the Embassy of Italy at 3000 Whitehaven Street NW, Washington, DC 20008, via telephone at (202) 612-4400 or online at [http://www.ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/ambasciata\\_washington](http://www.ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/ambasciata_washington), or Italian Consulates General in Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Newark, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, or San Francisco, accessible through the Italian Embassy web site.

Americans staying or traveling within Italy for less than three (3) months are considered non-residents. This includes persons on vacation, those taking professional trips, students registered at an authorized school, or persons performing research or independent study.

As of May 2007, under Italian law (<http://www.camera.it/parlam/leggi/070681.htm>), all non-residents are required to complete a dichiarazione di presenza (declaration of presence). Tourists arriving from a non-Schengen-country (e.g. the United States) should obtain a stamp in their passport at the airport on the day of arrival. This stamp is considered the equivalent of the declaration of presence. Tourists arriving from a Schengen-country (e.g. France) must request the declaration of presence form from a local police office (commissariato di zona), police headquarters (questura) or their place of stay (e.g. hotel, hostel, campgrounds) and submit the form to the police or to their place of stay within eight business days of arrival. It is important that applicants keep a copy of the receipt issued by the Italian authorities. Failure to complete a declaration of presence is punishable by expulsion from Italy. Additional information may be obtained (in Italian only) from the Portale Immigrazione at <http://www.portaleimmigrazione.it> and the Polizia di Stato at <http://www.poliziadistato.it/pds/ps/immigrazione/soggiorno.htm>.

#### Latvia

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport is required. Latvia is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Latvia for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact Sheet](#). All travelers must have a valid insurance policy, covering medical expenses while in Latvia. Repatriation costs, including funeral and disposition of remains costs also have to be covered by the policy. In addition, upon entering or exiting the country, travelers must declare cash in excess of 10,000 EUR to Latvian customs. For more information, travelers may contact the [Latvian Embassy](#), at 2306 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, tel. (202)328-2840, fax (202)328-2860. Within Latvia, contact the [Ministry of Interiors Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs](#) at Ciekurkalna 1st line, building 3, Riga, LV-1026. Tel. (371)67588675, e-mail: [pmlp@pmlp.gov.lv](mailto:pmlp@pmlp.gov.lv).

Any traveler to Russia, even in transit, is advised to obtain a visa prior to entry into Latvia. The process of obtaining a visa at the Russian Embassy in Riga can be lengthy, and may involve surrender of the passport for an undetermined period of time. Visit the Embassy of Latvia [website](#) for the most current visa information.

#### Luxembourg

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A passport is required. Luxembourg is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Luxembourg for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. Sufficient funds and a return airline ticket are required. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#).

For further information concerning entry requirements for Luxembourg, travelers may contact the Embassy of Luxembourg at 2200 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008, phone: (202) 265-4171 or 4172, or the Luxembourg Consulate General in New York, phone: (212) 888-6664 or in San Francisco, phone: (415) 788-0816. Visit the [Embassy of Luxembourg website](#) for the most current visa information.

## Malta

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Malta is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Malta for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact sheet](#) . For further information concerning entry requirements for Malta, travelers should contact the Embassy of Malta at 2017 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20008, tel.: (202) 462-3611, web site: <http://www.foreign.gov.mt/default.aspx?MLEV=47&MDIS=505>, or the Maltese Consulate in New York City, tel.: (212) 725-2345.

## Netherlands

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** The Netherlands is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter the Netherlands for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. If you are traveling for any other purpose, you may need to obtain a visa. Your passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. The 90-day period begins when you enter any of the Schengen group of countries. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#) .

For further information on entry requirements, contact the Embassy of the Netherlands at 4200 Linnean Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 244-5300, or one of the Dutch consulates in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York or Miami, in addition to various honorary Dutch consulates throughout the United States. Additional information is available on the Netherlands' Board of Tourism and Conventions web site at <http://us.holland.com/>. Visit the Embassy of the Netherlands' online at <http://www.netherlands-embassy.org/homepage.asp> for the most current visa information.

Information on work, residency and immigration requirements in the Netherlands can be found on the web site of the Dutch immigration authorities at <http://www.ind.nl/EN/verblijfwijzer/>.

## Poland

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Poland is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Poland for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [fact sheet](#).

Polish immigration officials may ask travelers for proof of sufficient financial resources to cover their proposed stay in Poland, generally viewed as 100 zloty per day. Additionally, citizens of non-EU countries, including the United States, should carry proof of adequate medical insurance in case of an accident or hospitalization while in Poland. Polish immigration officials may ask for documentation of such insurance or proof of sufficient financial resources (at least 400 zloty per day) to cover such costs.

Those who lack insurance or access to adequate financial resources may be denied admission to Poland. Medicare does not cover health costs incurred while abroad.

For further information on entry requirements, please contact the consular section of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland at 2224 Wyoming Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008, tel. (202) 234-3800, or the Polish consulates in Chicago, Los Angeles or New York. Visit the [Embassy of Poland web site](#) for the most current visa information.

#### Portugal

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Portugal is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Portugal for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [fact sheet](#) .

Portuguese law requires some non-European Union foreign nationals to register with immigration officials within three working days of entering Portugal. The law affects those who transit another Schengen area country by air en route to Portugal and stay at noncommercial accommodations.

Travelers may also contact the Embassy of Portugal at 2012 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036, tel. (202) 350-5400, or the Portuguese Consulates in Boston, MA; New Bedford, MA; Providence, RI; New York, NY; Newark, NJ; San Francisco, CA; or Los Angeles, CA. Visit the Government of Portugal's web site at <http://embassyportugal-us.org/> for the most current visa information.

#### Romania

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport is required. U.S. citizen visitors are granted 90 days of stay without a visa within a given six-month period. For stays longer than 90 days, an extension of stay may be obtained in Romania from the Romanian Immigration Office in the area of residence. An exit visa must be obtained in cases of overstay. The Romanian Government is enforcing visa regulations more vigorously and a record of visa overstay can result in the assessment of large fines and the denial of entry without a visa for a specified time. Visit the [Embassy of Romania](#) web site for the most current visa information or contact the Romanian Embassy at 1607 23rd St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20008, telephone number (202) 232-4747, or the Romanian Consulates in Los Angeles, Chicago, or New York City. .

Foreigners are required to carry identification documents at all times. Americans who obtained a temporary or permanent stay permit must be able to present the document upon the request of any "competent authorities." Foreigners who do not have a stay permit should present their passports. (The Embassy recommends carrying a copy of the relevant document).

U.S. visa information for Romanians and other foreign citizens can be found on the web site of the [U.S. Embassy in Bucharest](#) or the [Department's travel website](#) .

#### Slovak Republic

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** The Slovak Republic is a party to the Schengen Agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter the Slovak Republic for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our Schengen fact sheet. All foreigners seeking entry into the Slovak Republic must carry proof of a medical insurance policy contracted for payment of all costs for hospitalization and medical treatment in the Slovak Republic. Border police have the right to request evidence of finances sufficient to pay for the proposed stay in the Slovak Republic in the amount of \$50 per person per day. Current information can be found on the Slovak Embassy's web site at <http://www.mzv.sk/washington>.

All persons in the Slovak Republic over the age of 15 must carry official identification at all times. American citizens staying overnight in the Slovak Republic must register with the local Border and Aliens Police within three working days. Persons staying at hotels are registered automatically. Visit the Slovak Ministry of the Interior's web site at <http://www.minv.sk/> for the most current information.

#### Slovenia

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Slovenia is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Slovenia for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#) .

Slovene authorities may confiscate passports with signs of damage, such as missing pages, as suspicious documents, potentially causing travel delays. American citizens entering and exiting Slovenia by personal vehicle are required to have a valid U.S. and International Driver's License (See our [Road Safety page](#) for further information) or they may be refused entry into the country and/or fined.

All non-EU citizens staying longer than 3 days in Slovenia must register with the local police within 3 days of arrival and inform the office about any change in their address. Registration of foreign visitors staying in hotels or accommodations rented through an accommodation company is done automatically by the hotelier or accommodation company, but visitors staying with family members must register themselves. Registration is available 24 hours a day at police stations and is free of charge. Failure to register can result in a significant fine of up to 400 euros.

For further information on entry requirements for Slovenia, travelers may contact the Embassy of Slovenia at 2410 California Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008, tel. (202) 386-6610; the Consulate General of Slovenia in New York City, tel. (212) 370-3006; or the Consulate General in Cleveland, Ohio, tel. (216) 589-9220. Visit [the Embassy of Slovenia's web site](#) for the most current visa information.

#### Spain

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Spain is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Spain for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes

without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact Sheet](#).

For further information concerning entry requirements for Spain, travelers should contact the Embassy of Spain at 2375 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037, telephone (202) 452-0100, or the nearest Spanish Consulate in Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, San Francisco, or San Juan. Additional information can be found on the [Spanish government web site](#). Additional information may be obtained from the [Tourist Office of Spain](#) in New York at (212) 265-8822.

For further information on entry requirements to Andorra, travelers should contact the Andorran Mission to the UN, 2 U.N. Plaza, 25th floor, New York, NY 10018, telephone (212) 750-8064 or online at <http://www.andorra.ad>. Visit the Embassy of Spain and Andorra web sites for the most current visa information.

Sweden – “Even if you are going for a week, you need to apply for an entry visa”  
**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Sweden is a party to the Schengen agreement. As such, U.S. citizens may enter Sweden for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. For further details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen Fact Sheet](#). Contact the [Swedish Embassy](#) at 901 30th Street NW, Washington, DC 20007, tel: (202) 467-2600 (mailing address 2900 K Street NW, Washington, DC), or the Swedish Consulate General in New York at (212) 583-2550 for the most current visa information. Sweden's [Migration Board](#) (Migrationsverket) also provides visa information.

#### United Kingdom

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** The UK Border Agency (UKBA) is now in the process of fully implementing a five-tier regulation system that affects Americans coming to the United Kingdom as well as American citizens and dependents already in the country. Information on the [new, points-based system can be found on the UKBA web site](#).

If travelers or sponsors have any questions about requirements for a visa, please [refer to the UKBA web site](#).

Travelers must be outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man when they make an application for a visa.

It is the traveler's personal responsibility to ensure that he/she has the appropriate permission to enter the United Kingdom. The U.S. Embassy in London cannot intervene with any application, nor can it secure entry on behalf of American citizens who arrive without a visa when one is required.

UK Border Agency:

Grounds on which entry clearance or leave to enter the United Kingdom should normally be refused:

(18) save where the Immigration Officer is satisfied that admission would be justified for strong compassionate reasons, conviction in any country including the United Kingdom of any offense which, if committed in the United Kingdom, is punishable with imprisonment for a term of 23 months or any greater punishment or, if committed outside the United Kingdom, would be so punishable if the conduct constituting the offence had occurred in the United Kingdom

\*It is always best to contact the consulate or Embassy of the country you wish to travel to in order to avoid any problems.

## Caribbean Region

### ANGUILLA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

In addition to a valid passport or passport card, U.S. citizens need onward or return tickets, and sufficient funds for their stay. A departure tax is charged at the airport or ferry dock when leaving. For further information, travelers may contact the British Embassy, 19 Observatory Circle NW, Washington, DC 20008; telephone (202) 588-7800; or the nearest consulate of the United Kingdom in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York, Denver, Houston, Miami, Orlando, Seattle, or San Francisco. [Visit the British Embassy web site](#) for the most current visa information.

### ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Immigration officials are strict about getting exact information about where visitors are staying, and will often request to see a return ticket or ticket for onward travel, as well as proof of sufficient funds to cover the cost of the visitor's intended stay. There is a departure tax payable when departing the country. For further information on entry requirements, travelers can contact the Embassy of Antigua and Barbuda, 3216 New Mexico Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016, telephone (202) 362-5122, or their consulates in Miami. Additional information may be found on the home page of the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Tourism.

#### ARUBA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

In addition visitors to Aruba may be asked to show onward/return tickets, proof of sufficient funds and proof of lodging accommodations for their stay. Length of stay for U.S. citizens is granted for thirty days and may be extended to 180 days by the office of immigration. For further information, travelers may contact the Royal Netherlands Embassy, 4200 Linnean Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 244-5300, or the Dutch Consulate in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Houston or Miami. Visit the web site for the Embassy of the Netherlands at <http://www.netherlands-embassy.org> and the Aruban Department of Immigration at <http://www.aruba.com/about/entryrequirements.php> for the most current visa information.

#### BAHAMAS

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter or re-enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant document such as a passport or a passport card for entry or re-entry to the U.S. Sea travelers should also check with their cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

We strongly encourage all American citizen travelers to apply for a U.S. passport or passport card well in advance of anticipated travel. American citizens can visit [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or call 1-877-4USA-PPT (1-877-487-2778) for information on how to apply for their passports.

U.S. citizens do not need to obtain visas to visit The Bahamas and may enter using either a passport or, if traveling by sea, a passport card. The Bahamas does not accept Enhanced Driver's Licenses (EDLs) for entry.

*All U.S. Nationals who are currently on community supervision cannot enter the Bahamas, but can seek entry once their sentence is completed.*

#### BERMUDA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Travelers may contact [the British Consulate](#) in New York, telephone (212) 745-0273/3206/0281, or the British Consulate in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, or San Francisco or the [Bermuda Department of Immigration](#).

All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

#### BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Visit the Embassy of the United Kingdom's web site at <http://www.britainusa.com> for the most current visa information.

#### CAYMAN ISLANDS

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter or re-enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, by the summer of 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea must have government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization), or other Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant document such as a passport card for entry or re-entry to the U.S. Sea travelers should also check with their cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Applications for the new U.S. Passport Card are now being accepted and have been in full production since July 2008. The card may not be used to travel by air and is available only to U.S. citizens. [Further information on passport cards](#) is available and [upcoming changes to U.S. passport policy](#) can be found on the Bureau of Consular Affairs web site. We strongly encourage all American citizen travelers to apply for a U.S. passport well in advance of anticipated travel. American citizens can visit [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or call 1-877-4USA-PPT (1-877-487-2778) for information on how to apply for their passports.

Visas are not required for U.S. citizens traveling to the Cayman Islands for short-term visits. U.S. citizens traveling to the Cayman Islands for work must obtain a work permit from the Department of Immigration of the Cayman Islands, telephone (345) 949-8344. There is a departure tax for travelers age 12 and older, which is regularly included in airfare. For further information travelers may contact [Cayman Islands Department of Tourism](#) offices in Miami at (305) 599-9033, New York (212) 889-9009, Houston (713) 461-1317 and Chicago (630) 705-0650.

#### DOMINICA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

In addition to a valid passport or passport card, U.S. citizens may be asked to present a return or onward ticket. U.S. citizens should take special care to secure their passports while traveling as it can be time-consuming and difficult to acquire new proof of citizenship to facilitate return travel should the passport be lost or stolen. There is a departure tax assessed when leaving Dominica. Children under twelve years of age are exempt from the departure tax. For further information concerning entry requirements, [travelers can contact the Embassy of the Commonwealth of Dominica](#),

3216 New Mexico Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016, telephone (202) 364-6781, or the Consulate General of Dominica in New York at (212) 768-2480. Visit [the Dominica Division of Tourism official web site](#) for more information.

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

For information concerning entry and exit requirements, travelers may contact the Embassy of the Dominican Republic at 1715 22nd Street NW, Washington, DC 20008, tel. (202) 332-6280. There are also Dominican consulates in Boston, Chicago (Northfield, IL), Mayaguez, Miami, New Orleans, New York, and San Juan. Visit the [Embassy of the Dominican Republic web site for the most current visa information](#) .

#### GRENADA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

For additional information concerning entry/exit requirements, travelers may [contact the Embassy of Grenada](#), 1701 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009, telephone: (202) 265-2561, fax: (202) 265-2468, or the Consulate of Grenada in New York. Sea travelers must have a valid U.S. passport (or other original proof of U.S. citizenship, such as a certified U.S. birth certificate with a government-issued photo ID).

There is no visa requirement for stays up to three months. However, now that the United States requires a passport to re-enter, Grenadian immigration authorities have been more closely scrutinizing the documentation of arriving American citizens and may deny entry

for insufficient documentation of citizenship. There is an airport departure fee of US\$20 for adults and US\$10 for children between the ages of five and twelve.

#### JAMAICA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Visitors must have a return ticket and be able to show sufficient funds for their visit. U.S. citizens traveling to Jamaica for work or extended stays are required to have a current U.S. passport and visa issued by the Jamaican Embassy or a Jamaican Consulate. There is a departure tax for travelers, which is regularly included in airfare. For further information, travelers may contact the Embassy of Jamaica at 1520 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 452-0660; the Jamaican Consulate in Miami or New York; honorary consuls in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Seattle or Los Angeles. [Visit the Embassy of Jamaica web site](#) for the most current visa information.

*Jamaican law prohibits entry by all persons convicted of a felony and still under community supervision. However, the Jamaican embassy in Washington reports this law is not always enforced and entry is often granted provided five years have passed since the last "serious" conviction.*

#### MONTSERRAT

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

A passport if arriving by air, and a passport or passport card if arriving by sea, is required for entry to Montserrat. You will also have to provide proof of an onward/return ticket and sufficient funds to cover the expected stay. There is a departure tax payable upon leaving Montserrat.

For further information, travelers may contact the British Embassy, 19 Observatory Circle NW, Washington, DC 20008; telephone (202) 588-7800; or the nearest consulate of the United Kingdom in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York, Denver, Houston, Miami, Orlando, Seattle, or San Francisco. [Visit the British Embassy's web site for the most current visa information.](#)

#### NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

The U.S. Consulate recommends traveling in the Netherlands Antilles with a valid U.S. passport to avoid delays or misunderstandings. A lost or stolen passport is also easier to replace when outside the United States than other evidence of citizenship. Visitors to the Netherlands Antilles may be asked to show onward/return tickets or proof of sufficient funds for their stay. Length of stay is granted for two weeks and may be extended for 90 days by the head office of immigration. For further information, travelers may contact the Royal Netherlands Embassy, 4200 Linnean Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008, telephone (202) 244-5300, or the Dutch Consulate in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Houston or Miami. [Visit the web site for the Embassy of the Netherlands](#) for the most current visa information.

#### ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please

be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Visitors may be asked to present an onward/return ticket and proof of sufficient funds to cover the cost of their visit. Stays of up to three months are granted at immigration. Anyone requiring an extension must apply to the Ministry of National Security. There is an airport departure tax and environmental levy charged when leaving the country. [Visit the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis web site for the most current visa information.](#)

#### ST. LUCIA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Contact the Embassy of St. Lucia at tel.: (202) 364-6792/95, fax: (202) 364-6723, or [visit the Government of St. Lucia web site for the most current visa information.](#)

#### ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** For information concerning entry requirements, travelers can [contact the Embassy of St. Vincent and the Grenadines](#), 3216 New Mexico Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016, telephone (202) 364-6730, or the consulate in New York.

All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

#### TURKS AND CAICOS

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** U.S. citizens do not need to obtain visas to enter the Turks and Caicos Islands as tourists for less than 90 days.

**Air Travel:** All Americans traveling by air outside the United States are required to present a valid U.S. passport to enter or re-enter the United States.

**Sea Travel:** As of June 1, 2009, Americans traveling by land or by sea are required to present either a valid U.S. passport or other valid Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) travel document to enter or re-enter the United States. Other valid WHTI travel documents include: passport card, enhanced driver's license, NEXUS, SENTRI, or FAST card. Sea travelers should also check with their cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Applications for the new U.S. Passport Card are now being accepted. The card may not be used to travel by air and is available only to U.S. citizens. Further information on the passport card and upcoming changes to U.S. passport policy can be found on the Bureau of Consular Affairs web site. We strongly encourage all American citizen travelers to apply for a U.S. passport well in advance of anticipated travel. American citizens can visit [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or call 1-877-4USA-PPT (1-877-487-2778) for information on how to apply for their passports.

Visit the Embassy of the United Kingdom web site for the most current visa information.

[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cbpmc/cbpmc\\_3256.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cbpmc/cbpmc_3256.html)

## MEXICO

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** For the latest entry requirements, contact the Embassy of Mexico web site at <http://portal.sre.gob.mx/usa/> or contact the Embassy of Mexico at 1911 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20006, telephone (202) 736-1000 or any Mexican consulate in the United States for the most current information.

All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Land travelers must have a valid U.S. passport or a passport card. U.S. legal permanent residents in possession of their I-551 Permanent Resident card may board flights to the U.S. from Mexico.

**Tourist Travel:** U.S. citizens do not require a visa or a tourist card for tourist stays of 72 hours or less within "the border zone," defined as an area between 20 to 30 kilometers of the border with the U.S., depending on the location. U.S. citizens traveling as tourists

beyond the border zone or entering Mexico by air must pay a fee to obtain a tourist card, also known as an FM-T, available from Mexican consulates, Mexican border crossing points, Mexican tourism offices, airports within the border zone and most airlines serving Mexico. The fee for the tourist card is generally included in the price of a plane ticket for travelers arriving by air.

## CANADA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** [Entry into Canada is solely determined by Canadian Border Services Agency \(CBSA\) officials in accordance with Canadian law](#) . Canadian law requires that all persons entering Canada carry both proof of citizenship **and** proof of identity. A valid U.S. passport, passport card or NEXUS card (see below) satisfies these requirements for U.S. citizens. If U.S. citizen travelers to Canada do not have a passport, passport card or approved alternate document such as a NEXUS card, they must show a government-issued photo ID (e.g. Driver's License) and proof of U.S. citizenship such as a U.S. birth certificate, naturalization certificate, or expired U.S. passport. Children under sixteen need only present proof of U.S. citizenship.

All Americans traveling by air outside of the United States are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter the United States. This requirement will be extended to sea travel (except closed-loop cruises), including ferry service, on June 1, 2009. Until then, U.S. citizens traveling by sea may present government-issued photo identification and a document showing their U.S. citizenship (for example, a birth certificate or certificate of nationalization). Starting June 1, 2009, all travelers must present a [Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative \(WHTI\) compliant document](#) such as a passport or a passport card for entry to the United States. While passport cards and enhanced driver's licenses are sufficient for entry into the United States, they may not be accepted by the particular country you plan to visit; please be sure to check with your cruise line and countries of destination for any foreign entry requirements.

Both the U.S. and Canadian governments urge frequent travelers to join the NEXUS trusted traveler program. NEXUS members receive a special travel card that allows expedited border crossings for both private and commercial travelers through both U.S. and Canadian border controls very quickly. [The CBP has detailed information about the NEXUS program](#) .

U.S. citizens entering Canada from a third country must have a valid U.S. passport. A visa is not required for U.S. citizens to visit Canada for up to 180 days. Anyone seeking to enter Canada for any purpose other than a visit (e.g. to work, study or immigrate) must qualify for the appropriate entry status, and should contact the Canadian Embassy or nearest consulate and visit the [Canadian immigration web site](#) .

Anyone with a criminal record (including misdemeanors or Driving While Impaired (DWI) charges) may be barred from entering Canada and must obtain a special waiver well in advance of any planned travel. To determine [whether you may be inadmissible and how to overcome this finding](#) , refer to the Canadian citizenship and immigration web site.

For [further information on entry requirements](#) , travelers may contact the Canadian Embassy at 501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20001, tel. (202) 682-1740; or the Canadian consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, San Juan or Seattle.

## **JAPAN**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport and an onward/return ticket are required for tourist/business "visa free" stays of up to 90 days.. Passports must be valid for the intended period of stay in Japan. A visa is not required for tourist/business stays of up to 90 days. Americans cannot work on a 90-day "visa free" entry. As a general rule, "visa free" entry status may not be changed to another visa status without departing and then re-entering Japan with the appropriate visa such as a spouse, work or study visa.

For more information about the Japanese visa waiver program for tourists, Japan's strict rules on work visas, special visas to take depositions, and other visa issues, travelers should consult the Consular Section of the Embassy of Japan at 2520 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, tel. (202) 238-6800, the nearest Japanese consulate, or see the Japanese Embassy's web site at [http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/english/html/travel\\_and\\_visa/travel\\_and\\_visa\\_index.htm](http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/english/html/travel_and_visa/travel_and_visa_index.htm). The U.S. Embassy and our consulates in Japan cannot assist in obtaining visas for Japan.

## **CHINA**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport and visa are required to enter and exit China and must be obtained from Chinese Embassies and Consulates before traveling to China. Americans arriving without valid passports and the appropriate Chinese visa are not permitted to enter and will be subject to a fine and immediate deportation at the traveler's expense. Travelers should not rely on Chinese host organizations claiming to be able to arrange a visa upon arrival. Chinese authorities have recently tightened their visa issuance policy, in some cases requiring personal interviews of American citizens. Although a bilateral United States-China agreement provides for issuance of multiple-entry visas with validity of up to one year for tourists and business visitors, Chinese consulates often limit visas to only one entry.

Americans who overstay or otherwise violate the terms of their Chinese visas will be subject to a maximum fine of 5,000 RMB, departure delays and may be subject to detention. Travelers should note that international flights departing China are routinely overbooked, making reconfirmation of departure reservations and early airport check-in essential. An airport user fee for both international and domestic flights is now included in the cost of the ticket price. Americans are also required to have an exit visa to leave China. Americans who lose a passport must take into consideration the time needed to get a new passport and a new visa. Visa issuances can take as long as 7 business days.

## **THAILAND**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** U.S. citizen tourists staying for fewer than 30 days do not require a visa, but must possess a passport and may be asked to show an onward/return ticket. Persons entering Thailand by air or via the Thailand-Malaysia border without a visa are allowed to stay in Thailand for 30 days per visit. Persons entering Thailand by land (except for the Thailand-Malaysia border) without a visa are allowed to stay in Thailand for 15 days per visit. The duration of stay in Thailand for persons who enter Thailand without a visa cannot exceed 90 days during any six-month period, counting from the date of first entry. After 90 days, travelers must apply for a new visa at a Thai embassy outside of the country. Travelers must pay a Passenger Service Charge in Thai baht when departing from any of Thailand's international airports. This charge is now included in airline ticket prices at Bangkok's main airport, Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

Thailand's entry/exit information is subject to change without notice. For further information on Thailand's entry/exit requirements, contact the Royal Thai Embassy, 1024 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20007, telephone (202) 944-3600, or contact the Thai consulates in Chicago, Los Angeles, or New York City. Visit the Embassy of Thailand web site at <http://www.thaiembdc.org> for the most current visa information.

#### **SOUTH KOREA**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A passport is required. U.S. passport holders may enter the Republic of Korea without a visa for a stay of up to 90 days for tourism or business. When staying for more than 90 days or for any purpose other than tourism or business, the U.S. passport holder must obtain a visa prior to entry. Americans visiting Korea for employment or profit-making purposes, teaching English, or planning to stay more than 90 days must obtain a visa at a Korean embassy or consulate abroad. Generally, individuals staying in Korea for longer than 90 days must also apply for an Alien Registration Card, once in Korea. Individuals who desire to stay longer than their authorized period of stay must apply to Korean Immigration for an extension in advance of the expiration of their authorized period of stay. Individuals who stay in Korea longer than the period authorized by Korean Immigration without applying for an extension are subject to fines and may be required to pay the fines before departing the country. Changes of status from one type of visa to another (from tourism to teaching, for example) are normally not granted in the Republic of Korea and must be obtained at a Korean embassy or consulate in another country after departing Korea.

Exit permits are not required to leave Korea. However, if a parent requests through the Korea Immigration Service that a travel restriction be placed on a child, the child is likely to be prevented from departing Korea.

For the most current visa information, contact the Consular Section of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea at 2320 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008, telephone (202) 939-5660, or see the Korean Embassy website at <http://www.koreaembassyusa.org/>. Republic of Korea consulates are also located in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Guam, Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, San Francisco, and Seattle. The Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade has a website

directory of all Korean diplomatic missions worldwide in Korean and in English at <http://www.mofat.go.kr/index.jsp>.

## **RUSSIA**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** The Russian government maintains a restrictive and complicated visa regime for foreigners who visit, transit, or reside in the Russian Federation. A U.S. citizen who does not comply with Russian visa laws can be subject to arrest, fines, and/or deportation. Russian authorities will not allow a U.S. citizen traveler with an expired visa to depart the country, effectively stranding the person for up to 20 days, until local authorities grant an exit visa.

The Government of Russia does not recognize the standing of the U.S. diplomatic mission to intervene in visa matters, including situations in which an American is stranded because of an expired visa. U.S. citizens should also be aware that Russian immigration and visa laws change regularly, and the implementation of new regulations has not always been transparent or predictable.

The Russian visa system includes a number of provisions that may be unfamiliar to Americans, including:

**Entry Visas:** To enter Russia for any purpose, a U.S. citizen must possess a valid U.S. passport and a bona fide visa issued by a Russian Embassy or Consulate. It is impossible to obtain an entry visa upon arrival, so travelers must apply for their visas well in advance. U.S. citizens who apply for Russian visas in third countries where they do not have permission to stay more than 90 days may face considerable delays in visa processing. Travelers who arrive in Russia without an entry visa will not be permitted to enter the country, and face immediate return to the point of embarkation at their own expense.

A Russian entry/exit visa has two dates written in the European style (day/month/year) as opposed to the American style (month/day/year). The first date indicates the earliest day a traveler may enter Russia; the second date indicates the date by which a traveler must leave Russia. A Russian visa is only valid for those exact dates and cannot be extended after the traveler has arrived in the country, except in the case of a medical emergency.

**Exit Visas:** A valid visa is necessary to depart Russia. Travelers who overstay their visa's validity, even for one day, will be prevented from leaving until their sponsor intervenes and requests a visa extension on their behalf. Russian authorities may take up to 20 calendar days to authorize an exit visa, during which time the traveler will be stranded in Russia at his or her own expense. The ability of the Embassy or Consulates General to intervene in these situations is extremely limited.

Travelers who are departing Russia by train should be aware that if they board a train on the last day of a visa's validity, Russian immigration officials may consider the visa to have expired if the train crosses the international border after midnight on the day of expiry. The Embassy and Consulates General are aware of cases in which travelers have

been detained at border crossings, unable to leave Russia, because their visas were expired by a matter of hours or minutes.

**Visa Registration:** Travelers who spend more than three days in Russia must register their visa and migration card through their sponsor. Travelers staying in a hotel must register their visa and migration card with their hotel within one day. Even travelers who spend less than three days in one place are encouraged to register their visas. If a traveler chooses not to register a stay of less than three days, he or she is advised to keep copies of tickets, hotel bills, or itineraries in order to prove compliance with the law.

U.S. citizens should be aware that Russian police officers have the authority to stop people and request their identity and travel documents at any time, and without cause. Due to the possibility of random document checks by police, travelers should carry their original passports, migration cards, and visas with them at all times.

**International Cruise Ship Passengers:** International cruise ship passengers are permitted to visit Russian ports without a visa for a period of up to 72 hours. Passengers who wish to go ashore during port calls may do so without visas provided that they are with an organized tour at all times, accompanied by a tour operator who has been duly licensed by Russian authorities. These special entry/exit requirements do not apply to river boat cruise passengers and travelers coming to Russia on package tours. These travelers will need to apply for visas prior to entry, and should follow the general guidelines for entry/exit requirements.

**Embassy of the Russian Federation:** For additional information concerning travel to Russia, U.S. citizens may contact the [Embassy of the Russian Federation](#), Consular Section, 2641 Tunlaw Rd. NW, Washington, DC 20007, tel. 202-939-8907. In addition, there are Russian Consulates in:

Houston : 1333 West Loop South, Ste.1300, Houston, TX 77027, tel. 713-337-3300

New York : 9 East 91 St., New York, NY 10128, tel. 212-348-0926

San Francisco : 2790 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123, tel. 415-928-6878 or 415-202-9800

Seattle : 2323 Westin Building , 2001 6th Ave., Seattle, WA 98121, tel. 206-728-1910.

## INDIA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** U.S. citizens require a valid passport and valid Indian visa to enter and exit India for any purpose. Visitors, including those on official U.S. Government business, must obtain visas at an Indian Embassy or Consulate abroad prior to entering the country, as there are no provisions for visas upon arrival. Those arriving without a valid passport and valid visa are subject to immediate deportation. The U.S. Embassy and Consulates in India are unable to assist when U.S. citizens arrive

without proper documentation. Each visitor should carry photocopies of the bio-data page of the traveler's U.S. passport and the page containing the Indian visa in order to facilitate obtaining an exit visa from the Indian government in the event of theft or loss of the passport.

Americans wishing to visit India are responsible for requesting the correct type of visa from the Indian Embassy or Consulate, as there generally are no provisions for changing one's immigration category (e.g., from tourist to work visa) once admitted. As of October 1, 2007, the Indian Embassy and Consulates in the U.S. outsourced the visa application process to Travisa Visa Outsourcing:

<http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com>. Diplomatic and Official visa applications, however, are still accepted directly at the Indian Embassy and Consulates. Foreign citizens whose primary purpose of travel is to participate in religious activities should obtain a missionary visa rather than a tourist visa. Indian immigration authorities have deported American citizens who entered India with a tourist visa and conducted religious activities.

General information regarding Indian visa and immigration rules, including the addresses and telephone numbers for the FRRO offices, can be found at the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs web site for its Bureau of Immigration at <http://www.immigrationindia.nic.in>.

For the most current information on entry and exit requirements, please contact the Embassy of India at 2536 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 939-9806 (<http://www.indianembassy.org>) or the Indian Consulates in Chicago (<http://chicago.indianconsulate.com>), New York (<http://www.indiacgny.org>), San Francisco (<http://www.cgisf.org>) or Houston (<http://www.cgihouston.org>). Outside the United States, inquiries should be made at the nearest Indian embassy or consulate.

## COLUMBIA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All U.S. citizens who are not also Colombian citizens must present a valid U.S. passport to enter and depart Colombia, and to return to the United States. Dual U.S-Colombian citizens must present a Colombian passport to enter and exit Colombia, and a U.S. passport to return to the United States. Be aware that any person born in Colombia may be considered a Colombian citizen, even if never documented as such. U.S. citizens born in Colombia or who otherwise have Colombian citizenship will need both a Colombian passport and a U.S. passport for the trip.

1. U.S. citizens traveling to Colombia do not need a Colombian visa for a tourist stay of 60 days or less. Travelers entering Colombia are sometimes asked to present evidence of return or onward travel, usually in the form of a round-trip plane ticket. Americans traveling overland must enter Colombia at an official border crossing. Travelers arriving by bus should ensure, prior to boarding, that their bus will cross the border at an official entry point. Entering Colombia at unauthorized crossings may result in fines or incarceration. Travelers planning to enter Colombia over a land border should carefully read our information on Traffic Safety and Road Conditions below.

The length of stay granted to travelers is determined by the Colombian immigration officer at the point of entry and will be stamped in your passport. Extensions may be requested by visiting an office of the Colombian immigration authority, known as the Departamento Administrativo de Seguridad, or DAS, after arrival in Colombia. Fines are levied if a traveler remains in Colombia longer than authorized, and the traveler cannot leave Colombia until the fine is paid. Any traveler possessing a Colombian visa with more than three months' validity must register the visa at a DAS immigration office within 15 days of arrival in Colombia or face fines. The DAS immigration office in Bogota is located at Calle 100 and Carrera 11B.

For further, <http://www.colombiaemb.org/> at 2118 Leroy Place NW, Washington, DC 20008; telephone (202) 387-8338; or the nearest Colombian consulate. Consulates are located in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, San Francisco, Tampa, and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Information about [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1753.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1753.html) or the prevention of [/family/abduction/abduction\\_580.html](/family/abduction/abduction_580.html) can be found on our web site. For further information about customs regulations, please read our [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1468.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1468.html) sheet.

## BOLIVIA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** Effective December 1, 2007, U.S. citizens seeking to enter Bolivia as tourists must have an entry visa. Travelers may make application for Bolivian tourist visas by mail or in person at Bolivian consulates in the U.S., as well as at Bolivian ports of entry, such as at Bolivia's international airports and at land border crossings. Bolivian tourist visas are valid for five years from the date of issuance and allow the bearer to enter the country three times in a year for a cumulative stay of not more than ninety days per year. The cost of the tourist visa is US\$135.

1. A tourist applying for their visa at Bolivian consulates in the U.S. can pay the US\$135 fee in cash, by deposit to the Bolivian consulate's bank account or by money order and must submit the following: a Bolivian visa application form with a 4x4 centimeters color photograph, a passport with an expiration date of not less than six months, evidence of a hotel reservation or a letter of invitation in Spanish, proof of economic solvency (credit card, cash or a current bank statement), and an International Vaccination Certificate for yellow fever.

Please <http://www.bolivia-usa.org/>, under Servicios Consulares, for the most current visa information.

U.S. citizens whose passports are lost or stolen in Bolivia must obtain a replacement passport at the U.S. Embassy in La Paz or at the Consular Agencies in Cochabamba and Santa Cruz. The new passport together with the original police report of the loss or theft must be presented at a Bolivian government immigration office in order to obtain permission to depart. For more <http://bolivia.usembassy.gov/>.

Information about [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1753.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1753.html) or the prevention of [/family/abduction/abduction\\_580.html](/family/abduction/abduction_580.html) can be found on our web site. For further

information about customs regulations, please read our [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1468.html](http://travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1468.html) sheet.

## PARAGUAY

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A passport and visa are required. U.S. citizens traveling to Paraguay must submit completed visa applications in person or by secure messenger to the Paraguayan Embassy or one of the consulates and pay a fee. Paraguay issues visas for one-entry or multiple entries up to the validity of the U.S. passport. Applicants under 18 years of age traveling alone must appear with both of their parents or a legal guardian. In case of a guardian, an original and one copy of proof of legal guardianship are required. A document of authorization from parents/guardian will be accepted only if it is notarized and certified by the county clerk. Travelers entering or departing Paraguay with regular U.S. passports will be fingerprinted. Some airlines include the Paraguayan airport departure tax in the price of the airline ticket. It is recommended that you check with the airline in order to determine whether or not the departure tax has been included. If the tax is not included in the airline ticket then payment would be required upon departure in either U.S. or local currency (no credit cards or checks accepted). Visit the Embassy of Paraguay web site at <http://www.embaparusa.gov.py> for the most current visa information.

## ECUADOR

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A U.S. passport with remaining validity of at least six months is required to enter Ecuador. A valid U.S. passport is required to depart Ecuador. Tourists must also provide evidence of return or onward travel. U.S. citizens traveling on regular passports for tourism or business do not need a visa for a stay of 90 days or less. Those planning a longer visit must obtain a visa in advance of arrival. Travelers who stay in Ecuador beyond the allowed entry time are charged a substantial fine and are barred from re-entering Ecuador for six months from the date of departure. A valid U.S. passport is required to depart Ecuador. Payment of an airport exit tax is also required when departing Ecuador.

Ecuador's exit procedures mandate that minors (under the age of 18) who are citizens or residents of Ecuador and who are traveling alone, with one parent, or with a third party, must present a copy of their birth certificate and written authorization from the absent parent(s) or legal guardian. When a parent is deceased, a notarized copy of the death certificate is required in lieu of the written authorization. If documents are prepared in the United States, the authorization and the birth certificate must be translated into Spanish, notarized and authenticated by the Ecuadorian Embassy or an Ecuadorian Consulate in the United States. It is not uncommon for local authorities to insist that these documents be apostilled (authenticated). Documents must be apostilled by the same U.S. state that issued the document. If the documents are prepared in Ecuador, only notarization by an Ecuadorian notary is required. This paragraph does not apply to children who enter Ecuador with U.S. passports as tourists, unless they hold dual U.S./Ecuadorian citizenship.

## URUGUAY

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** All United States citizens entering Uruguay for business or pleasure must have a valid passport. U.S. citizens traveling on a regular passport do not need a visa for a visit of less than three months. U.S. citizens traveling on diplomatic or official passports require a visa. Air travelers are required to pay an airport tax upon departure. This fee may be paid in U.S. dollars or in Uruguayan pesos.

## PANAMA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** U.S. citizens traveling by air to and from Panama must present a valid passport when entering or re-entering the United States. Sea travelers must have a valid U.S. passport (or other original proof of U.S. citizenship, such as a certified U.S. birth certificate with a government-issued photo ID). American citizens can visit [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or call 1-877-4USA-PPT (1-877-487-2778) for information on applying for a passport.

1. Panamanian law requires that travelers must either purchase a tourist card at the airport in Panama before clearing customs, or obtain a multi-entry visa from a Panamanian embassy or consulate before traveling to Panama. Further information may be obtained from the Embassy of Panama, 2862 McGill Terrace NW, Washington, DC 20009, tel. (202) 483-1407, or the Panamanian consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, San Juan, San Diego, San Francisco or Tampa.

U.S. tourists are allowed to stay in Panama for 90 days. To stay longer, tourists must pay \$250.00 and apply for a “change of migratory status visa” through a Panamanian lawyer before the expiration of the 90 days in country (See the <http://www.migracion.gob.pa/> for explanations of types of visas and requirements).

U.S. citizens transiting the Panama Canal as passengers who do not plan on disembarking from the ship do not need to obtain visas, report to customs, or pay any fees. However, if they do plan to disembark they need to obtain a tourist card from the cruise line or a visa at a Panamanian embassy or consulate prior to traveling.

## COSTA RICA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** For entry into Costa Rica, U.S. citizens must present valid passports that will not expire for at least thirty days after arrival, and a roundtrip/outbound ticket. Airlines should not permit passengers to board flights to Costa Rica without a roundtrip ticket unless they have Costa Rican residency or visa. Passports should be in good condition; Costa Rican immigration will deny entry if the passport is damaged in any way. Costa Rican authorities generally permit U.S. citizens to stay up to ninety days; to stay beyond the period granted, travelers must submit an application for

an extension to the Office of Temporary Permits in the Costa Rican Department of Immigration. Tourist visas are usually not extended except under special circumstances, and extension requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. There is a departure tax for short-term visitors. Tourists who stay over ninety days may experience a delay at the airport when departing, and persons who overstayed previously may be denied entry to Costa Rica.

The most authoritative and up-to-date information on Costa Rican entry and exit requirements may be obtained from the Consular Section of the Embassy of Costa Rica at 2114 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 234-2945/46 , fax (202) 265-4795. You may <http://www.costarica-embassy.org/> or <mailto:consulate@costarica-embassy.org>. You may also obtain information from the Costa Rican consulates in Atlanta, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, San Juan (Puerto Rico), San Francisco, and Tampa. Please also see the <http://www.migracion.go.cr/>. It is advisable to contact the Embassy of Costa Rica in Washington or one of Costa Rica's consulates in the United States for specific information regarding customs requirements before shipping any items.

## NICARAGUA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid U.S. passport is required to enter Nicaragua. Although there is a bilateral agreement that waives the six-month validity passport requirement, U.S. citizens are urged to ensure that their passports are valid for the length of their projected stay in the country before traveling. U.S. citizens must have an onward or return ticket and evidence of sufficient funds to support themselves during their stay. A visa is not required for U.S. citizens; however, a tourist card must be purchased for \$5 upon arrival. Tourist cards are typically issued for 30 to 90 days.

1. A valid entry stamp is required to exit Nicaragua. Pay attention to the authorized stay that will be written into your entry stamp by the immigration inspector. Visitors remaining more than the authorized time must obtain an extension from Nicaraguan Immigration at <http://www.migracion.gob.ni/>. Failure to do so will prevent departure until a fine is paid.

Per Nicaraguan law, individuals should exit Nicaragua with the same passport with which they entered the country.

According to Nicaragua's Laws for Foreigners, foreigners must be in possession of a valid identity document at all times while in Nicaragua and may be required to show it to Nicaraguan authorities upon request. Acceptable identity documents are: (1) a permanent residency card, (2) temporary residency card, or (3) valid passport or travel document accompanied by an entry stamp.

In June 2006, Nicaragua entered a "Central America-4 (CA-4) Border Control Agreement" with Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Under the terms of the agreement, citizens of the four countries may travel freely across land borders from one of the countries to any of the others without completing entry and exit formalities at Immigration checkpoints. U.S. citizens and other eligible foreign nationals, who legally enter any of the four countries, may similarly travel among the four without obtaining

additional visas or tourist entry permits for the other three countries. Immigration officials at the first port of entry determine the length of stay, up to a maximum period of 90 days. Foreign tourists who wish to remain in the four-country region beyond the period initially granted for their visit are required to request a one-time extension of stay from local Immigration authorities in the country where the traveler is physically present, or travel outside the CA-4 countries and reapply for admission to the region. Foreigners “expelled” from any of the four countries are excluded from the entire “CA-4” region. In isolated cases, the lack of clarity in the implementing details of the CA-4 Border Control Agreement has caused temporary inconvenience to some travelers and has resulted in others being fined more than one hundred dollars or detained in custody for 72 hours or longer.

## **HONDURAS**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A U.S. passport valid for at least three months from the date of entry is required to enter Honduras. Though not required by law, some travelers have reported difficulty departing Honduras using a passport with less than three months of validity beyond the date of departure. A visa is not required, but tourists must provide evidence of return or onward travel. Parents should not rely on birth certificates for their children’s travel; rather, prior to travel they should obtain U.S. passports for infants and minors born in the United States. U.S. citizens are encouraged to carry a photocopy of their U.S. passports with them at all times, so that if questioned by local officials proof of identity and U.S. citizenship are readily available.

1. In June 2006, Honduras entered a “Central America-4 (CA-4) Border Control Agreement” with Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. Under the terms of the agreement, citizens of the four countries may travel freely across land borders from one of the countries to any of the others without completing entry and exit formalities at Immigration checkpoints. U.S. citizens and other eligible foreign nationals who legally enter any of the four countries may similarly travel among the four without obtaining additional visas or tourist entry permits for the other three countries. Immigration officials at the first port of entry determine the length of stay, up to a maximum period of 90 days. Foreign tourists who wish to remain in the four country region beyond the period initially granted for their visit are required to request a one-time extension of stay from local immigration authorities in the country where the traveler is physically present, or travel outside the CA-4 countries and reapply for admission to the region. Foreigners “expelled” from any of the four countries are excluded from the entire “CA-4” region. In isolated cases, the lack of clarity in the implementing details of the CA-4 Border Control Agreement has caused temporary inconvenience to some travelers and has resulted in others being fined more than one hundred dollars or detained in custody for 72 hours or longer.

For more information concerning entry and exit requirements, travelers may contact the Embassy of Honduras at 3007 Tilden Street NW, Washington, DC 20008, telephone (202) 966-7702, or a Honduran consulate in Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, Miami, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Phoenix, or San Francisco. The Honduran government also retains an Honorary Consul in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Honduran

Embassy's e-mail address is embhondu@aol.com. Interested individuals may visit the Honduran Embassy's web site for additional contact information through <http://www.hondurasemb.org/>. For tourist information or suggestions, please contact the Honduras Institute of Tourism at 1-800-410-9608 (in the United States) or at 1-800-222-TOUR (8687) (within Honduras only) or visit the web site at <http://www.hondurastips.honduras.com/>.

## **EL SALVADOR**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** To enter the country, U.S. citizens must present a current U.S. passport and either a Salvadoran visa or a one-entry tourist card. The tourist card may be obtained from immigration officials for a ten-dollar fee upon arrival in country. U.S. travelers who plan to remain in El Salvador for more than thirty days can apply in advance for a multiple-entry visa, issued free of charge, from the Embassy of El Salvador in Washington, DC or from a Salvadoran consulate in Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas, Long Island, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, or San Francisco. Travelers may contact the Embassy of El Salvador at 1400 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036, tel. (202) 265-9671, 265-9672; fax (202) 232-3763; or <http://www.elsalvador.org/>. When applying for a visa, travelers may be asked to present evidence of U.S. employment and adequate finances for their visit at the time of visa application or upon arrival in El Salvador. For passengers departing by air, El Salvador has an exit tax of \$32.00 which is usually included in the price of the airline ticket.

Travelers should be aware that El Salvador's entry requirements vary in accordance with agreements the country has with foreign governments. Citizens of several countries in addition to the United States may enter El Salvador with a current passport and either a visa or tourist card. Citizens of many other countries, including many Latin American and western European nations, may enter with only a current passport. However, citizens of most nations are required to present both a current passport and a visa to enter El Salvador. Non-U.S. citizen travelers are advised to contact a Salvadoran embassy or consulate to determine the entry requirements applicable to them.

The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador reminds U.S. citizen travelers that their activities in El Salvador are governed by Salvadoran law and the type of visa they are issued. Under Salvadoran law, all foreigners who participate directly or indirectly in the internal political affairs of the country (i.e. political rallies, protests) lose the right to remain in El Salvador, regardless of visa status or residency in El Salvador. <http://www.elsalvador.org/> for the most current visa information.

Information about [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1753.html](#) or the prevention of [/family/abduction/abduction\\_580.html](#) can be found on our Consular Affairs web site. For further information about customs regulations, please read our [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1468.html](#) sheet.

## **GUATAMALA**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid U.S. passport is required for all U.S. citizens, regardless of age, to enter Guatemala and to depart Guatemala for return to the U.S. Even if dual nationals are permitted to enter Guatemala on a second nationality passport, U.S. citizens returning to the United States from Guatemala are not allowed to board their flights without a valid U.S. passport. Certificates of Naturalization, birth certificates, driver's licenses, and photocopies are not accepted by Guatemalan authorities as alternative travel documents. While in Guatemala, U.S. citizens should carry their passports, or a photocopy of their passports, with them at all times.

A U.S. citizen whose passport is lost or stolen in Guatemala must obtain a new passport at the U.S. Embassy as soon as possible and present it, together with a police report on the loss or theft, to the Dirección de Migración (Guatemalan immigration agency), Sub-director de Control Migratorio (Sub-director for Migratory Control), in order to obtain permission to depart Guatemala. The agency is located in Guatemala City at 6a Avenida 3-11, Zone 4, Guatemala City. Office hours are weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; telephone 2411-2411. No fee is charged by Guatemalan immigration for this service.

### **BELIZE**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS :** All U.S. citizens must have a U.S. passport valid for the duration of their visit to Belize. U.S. citizens do not need visas for tourist visits of up to thirty days, but they must have onward or return air tickets and proof of sufficient funds to maintain themselves while in Belize. Visitors for purposes other than tourism, or who wish to stay longer than 30 days, must obtain visas from the government of Belize. All tourists and non-Belizean nationalities are required to pay an exit fee of U.S. \$35 (payable in U.S. dollars only) when leaving Belize. Additional information on entry and customs requirements may be obtained from the Embassy of Belize at 2535 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, Tel. (202) 332-9636 or at their web site:  
<http://www.embassyofbelize.org>.

### **PERU**

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport is required to enter and depart Peru. Tourists must also provide evidence of return or onward travel. U.S. citizens may enter Peru for short-term tourist- or business-related visits of up to 90 days; however, the actual period authorized is determined by the Peruvian immigration officer at the time of entry into Peru. After admission, travelers may apply to extend their visa for an additional three months. Persons who remain beyond their period of authorized stay without obtaining a visa extension or a residence visa will have to pay a fine to depart Peru. Visitors for other than tourist or short-term business visit purposes must obtain a Peruvian visa in advance.

An international flight airport fee, payable in U.S. or local currency and assessed on a per-person basis, must be paid when departing Peru. There are also separate airport taxes for domestic flights charged at most domestic airports that must be paid before embarking. U.S. citizens whose passports are lost or stolen in Peru must obtain a new passport from the U.S. Embassy and present it, together with a police report on the loss or theft, to the main immigration office in downtown Lima, located at Prolongacion Espana

734, Brena, to obtain permission to depart. An additional immigration office is located within Lima's Jorge Chavez International Airport international departure terminal. For further information regarding entry requirements, travelers should contact the Peruvian Embassy at 1700 Massachusetts AvenueNW, Washington, DC 20036; telephone (202) 833-9860; <http://www.peruvianembassy.us>.

Information about [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1753.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1753.html) or the prevention of [/family/abduction/abduction\\_580.html](/family/abduction/abduction_580.html) can be found on our web site. For further information about customs regulations, please read our [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1468.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1468.html) sheet.

## VENEZUELA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** A valid passport and a visa or tourist card are required. Tourist cards are issued on flights from the U.S. to Venezuela for persons staying less than ninety days. Persons traveling for reasons other than tourism, however, should consult the Venezuelan Embassy or nearest Venezuelan consulate regarding possible visa requirements for their specific purpose of travel. Venezuelan immigration authorities may require that U.S. passports have at least six months validity remaining from the date of arrival in Venezuela. Some U.S. citizens have been turned back to the United States if their passports will expire in less than six months. Passports should also be in good condition, as some U.S. citizens have been delayed or detained overnight for having otherwise valid passports in poor condition. .

For current information concerning entry, tax, and customs requirements for Venezuela, travelers may contact the Venezuelan Embassy at 1099 30th Street, NW, Washington DC 20007, tel.: (202) 342-2214, or visit the Embassy of Venezuela web site at <http://www.embavenez-us.org/>. Travelers may also contact the Venezuelan consulates in New York, Miami, Chicago, New Orleans, Boston, San Francisco, or San Juan. Additional information about vaccination requirements for travel to Venezuela, as well as to other international destinations, may be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's hotline for international travelers at 1-877-FYI-TRIP (1-877-394-8747); fax 1-888-CDC-FAXX (1-888-232-3299), or via CDC's web site at <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx>.

Information about [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1753.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1753.html) or the prevention of [/family/abduction/abduction\\_580.html](/family/abduction/abduction_580.html) can be found on our web site. For further information about customs regulations, please read our [/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1468.html](/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1468.html) sheet

## AUSTRALIA

**ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS:** American citizens are required to have a valid U.S. passport to enter Australia. Americans must enter with an Australian visa or, if eligible, through [Electronic Travel Authority \(ETA\)](#). The ETA replaces a visa and allows a stay of up to three months. It may be obtained for a small service fee. Airlines and many travel agents in the United States are also able to apply for ETAs on behalf of travelers. Please note that American citizens who overstay their ETA or visa, even for short periods, may be subject to exclusion, detention, and

removal. More information about the ETA, other visas, and entry requirements may be obtained from the Embassy of Australia at 1601 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 797-3000, or via the [Australian Embassy home page](#) . Visa inquires may be directed to the Australian Visa Information Service at 888-990-8888.

### **The Character Test**

A person will fail the character test if:

- They have a substantial criminal record
- They have, or have had, an association with an individual, group or organization suspected of having been, or being, involved in criminal conduct
- Having regard to the person's past and present criminal conduct, the person is found not to be of good character
- There is a significant risk that the person will engage in criminal conduct in Australia, harass, molest, intimidate or stalk another person in Australia, vilify a segment of the Australian community, or incite discord in the Australian community or in a segment of that community, or represent a danger to the Australian community or a segment of that community

A person is deemed to have a substantial criminal record if they have been:

- Sentenced to either death or life imprisonment
- Sentenced to a term of imprisonment for 12 months or more
- Sentenced to two or more terms of imprisonment (whether on one or more occasions), where the total of those terms is two years or more
- Acquitted of an offense on the grounds of either unsoundness of mind or insanity and, as a result, the person has been detained in a facility or an institution