

Top 10 Travel Tips

- 10) Don't rely on friends and shopkeepers for advice on what items "will clear Customs"; instead, obtain this information directly from U.S. Customs and Border Protection.
- 9) Declare "duty-free goods," even if purchased in "duty-free" stores.
- 8) Do not attempt to bring unauthorized fruits, meats, and dairy products into the United States without first checking whether they are permitted.
- 7) Know the difference between goods for personal use vs. commercial use.
- 6) Know the difference between prohibited merchandise (such as ivory, tortoise shell products, absinthe, and counterfeit items) and restricted merchandise.
- 5) Be aware that many foreign manufactured medications are not FDA-approved and, consequently, cannot be brought into the U.S. Also, when traveling abroad, bring only the amount of medication you'll need during the trip.
- 4) Do not attempt to return with Cuban cigars, unless they were purchased in Cuba while on authorized travel.
- 3) Know the rules governing the \$800 exemption on goods brought back from abroad.
- 2) Understand that, CBP officers have the authority to conduct enforcement examinations without a warrant, ranging from a single luggage examination up to and possibly including a personal search.
- 1) Be sure and read "Know Before You Go." You may request a print copy of the brochure by ordering from our online Ordering Publications form.