



Cruise Ship Travel Tips

With the growing popularity of cruise vacations, more Canadians want to ensure a problem-free voyage. Cruise ships are among the safest forms of transportation. However, Foreign Affairs Canada recommends that you take certain precautions to ensure your well-being during a cruise:

- Purchase **travel and health insurance**, including coverage for accidental injury and medical evacuation. Your provincial health plan may not cover anything or only a portion of medical expenses.
- Carry a **valid Canadian passport** when transiting through another country to join a cruise. Be prepared to hand over your passport to ship authorities, in accordance with administrative regulations. Keep a photocopy of your passport's identification page.
- Leave a **copy of your itinerary**, passport identification page, and travel and health insurance policy with family or friends in Canada.
- Keep cash and valuables in the ship's safe rather than in your cabin. Minimize signs of affluence, including conspicuous clothing and expensive jewelry to **avoid becoming a target**.
- Always check the ship's departure time before going ashore. Protect your safety during shore excursions by confirming that tour guides are reputable and insured.
- Contact a **travel medicine clinic** well before departure to determine your need for immunizations and preventive medication as well as measures to avoid disease.
- Watch what you eat and drink: alert the cruise line of special dietary needs in advance and insist on **bottled water** while ashore.
- If you are handicapped or chronically ill, enquire before booking whether your needs will be met aboard the ship.
- Remember to bring an **extra pair of eyeglasses** in case of breakage or loss.
- Stay safe by participating in **lifeboat drills**, ensuring that there are enough life jackets in your cabin, and becoming familiar with evacuation procedures.
- Familiarize yourself with the local **laws and customs** of the countries you will visit.



For More Information, see the "Before You Go" section of our Web site at www.voyage.gc.ca.

Or contact the Consular Affairs Bureau of Foreign Affairs Canada by telephone (1 800 267-6788 or 613-944-6788), TTY (1 800 394-3472 or 613-944-1310), or e-mail (voyage@international.gc.ca).

