

Goulds Travel Info Packet

Travel Documents:

Up-to-date information on the requirements for entering any country can be found at the website for the Bureau of Consular Affairs in the State Department. The website address is: http://travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html.

The rules vary from nation to nation, and they often change, sometimes with little or no notice. When travelers who are residents of the U.S., but not citizens enter another country, the documentation they need depends on both the country whose citizenship they claim and the country they are visiting. If an airline or cruise ship transports a passenger who does not have the documentation required to enter a country, the airline or cruise line is subject to a fine and must provide return transportation to the passenger. **You the traveler bear the ultimate responsibility for determining and meeting the requirements.** Depending on the country visited, you may need to provide **Proof of Citizenship**, a **Passport**, a **Visa**, and/or a **Tourist Card**.

Proof of Citizenship:

Those traveling on business may need additional documents. Travelers to Canada should also carry proof of citizenship, which is legally required. Depending on your citizenship and destination, **acceptable proofs of citizenship include:** 1) A valid passport. 2) For those born in the United States, a birth certificate that is certified with the registrar's signature and with a raised, impressed, embossed or multicolored seal along with a state or government issued photo identification card (driver license). Children 17 and under who are U.S. or Canadian citizens are only required to have proof of citizenship, excluding picture identification. Hospital issued birth certificates are NOT acceptable. 3) For those born abroad, a certificate of naturalization. A driver license, social security card, voting card or draft registration card is not proof of citizenship. A valid passport is always the best proof of citizenship and travelers who possess one should use it. **You the traveler bear the ultimate responsibility for determining and meeting the requirements.**

Passports:

Many countries require foreign visitors to have a valid passport in order to enter the country. Applications for U.S. Passports are available at thousands of post offices and state and federal court buildings, as well as at passport agencies. For more information, visit the U.S. State Department website at: http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html.

Visas:

Some countries require visas; some do not. A visa is an endorsement or stamp, or separate paper placed in a passport by officials of a foreign government. It specifies the conditions under which the traveler may enter the country. There are different types of visas for different purposes and periods (*tourist visa, visitor, student visa, business visa, transit visa*).

Tourist Cards:

Some countries accept a tourist card for entry instead of requiring a passport.

Minors under 18 NOT traveling with BOTH parents require consent to travel.

We strongly advise all single, divorcees, grandparents, and family friends that you obtain a notarized statement from the court or the other parent(s) giving you authorization to travel outside the United States with these children, (even if you have been awarded custody).

Due to always changing immigration and territory laws, it is your responsibility to check with the National Tourist Office or Embassy of the country in which you are traveling to.

Cancellation Policies:

Every tour company has a slightly different policy for changing and/or cancelling. Penalties range from as little as \$25 to as much as 100% of your vacation. Please be sure you understand the cancellation/change policies of the tour company.

Airline Tickets:

When your tour/package includes air transportation, generally the tour company decides the air carrier and flight times. The exact flight times, flight numbers and the airline carrier may not be available until you have paid in full or up to 15 days prior to departure for a cruise. We do not have access to this information until the tour company/cruise line arranges your air itinerary and sends the documents to our offices. If you accept the airline tickets as issued, you are treated as a priority customer by the airlines, and your flight is monitored by the cruise line. If the flight is delayed, the cruise line will ensure your arrival to the ship. However, if you make any changes to the original airline tickets, you are on your own. The supplier cannot keep track of changes in your flight arrangements and the cruise line will not be responsible for delays, cancelled flights, etc. These changes may also result in penalties from the supplier.

Travel Protection Packages:

Most Travel Protection Packages offer coverage against Trip Cancellation/Interruption, Travel Delay, Emergency Medical, Baggage Coverage & Delay, Travel Accident Coverage, Collision Loss Damage, Emergency Medical Help, Legal - Travel Help & Emergency Medical Transportation. The protection packages are optional; however, we strongly recommend you purchase one. Most personal health insurance plans that you may currently have do not cover medical expenses incurred outside the United States, and almost none provide funds for medical evacuation back to a U.S. hospital where you can receive the proper care and treatment for your illness or injury. Medical evacuation to be air-lifted to a U.S. hospital is extremely expensive; and many carriers will refuse to provide services without proof of insurance. You may purchase the Travel Protection Package up to and including your Trip Departure Date.

Special Requests / Preferences / Special Occasions:

Any special dietary, medical requests or disability access must be made in writing at the time of booking. The vendor will make every effort to accommodate such requests. Please let your advisor know if you have any special requests, preferences, or special occasions, so the advisor can inform the supplier.

Excursions

Excursions in tours are available in most destinations. Cost and details may be provided by your travel advisor. If you wish to purchase any of the excursions independently, be sure to let your advisor know, especially if you've purchased travel protection.

If you have any questions regarding your tour/package, itinerary, optional excursions or booking additional passengers, please contact your travel advisor immediately.