



*U.S. Department of State  
Bureau of Consular Affairs  
Travel Tips*

**Now...**

- Sign your full name in your passport in blue or black ink.
- Fill in the emergency information page of your passport in pencil.

**Don't Forget...**

- If your passport has less than 6 months validity, be aware that some countries will not permit you to enter or will not place a visa in your passport.
- Passports for adults are valid for 10 years, while passports for minors under age 16 are valid for 5 years.

**Before you go...**

- Visit [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) for general travel information, including country Consular Information Sheets, Travel Warnings, and Foreign Entry Requirements.
- Familiarize yourself with local laws and customs of the countries to which you are traveling. Remember, while in a country, you are subject to its laws.
- Leave a copy of your passport and itinerary with family or friends in case of an emergency.
- Have medical insurance that covers you abroad. Consider a medical evacuation policy.

**When you arrive...**

- Register in person, by phone, or online with the U.S. Embassy or Consulate (for extended stays).
- Contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate in case of an emergency.

**Turn over – Important information also on back!**

Please write in your passport number and expiration date on the card below and keep it separate from your passport. The information will help facilitate a replacement in case of loss.

Keep separate from your passport.

## *International Parental Child Abduction isn't "just a custody issue." It's a crime.*

Under Federal and State laws, international parental child abduction is a crime. In fact, the "Protect Act" of 2003 makes *attempted* international parental child abduction a crime.

If your child is the victim of an international parental child abduction, or you fear the possibility of an abduction, the Bureau of Consular Affairs' Office of Children's Issues can assist you. Information on what we can do to help you is available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov/abduct.html>.

## *International Adoption*

Every year, thousands of American families experience the joy of international adoption. Before you travel abroad to adopt a child, make sure you know the foreign country's laws pertaining to international adoptions. Visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs' Website at <http://travel.state.gov/adopt.html> for general and country specific information.

## *Contact Information in the U.S.*

### *Overseas Citizens Services*

- General Travel Information
- International Parental Child Abduction
- International Adoption

**888 407-4747 (toll free)**

### *Passport Services*

- General Passport Information
- Status of Pending Applications

**877 487-2778 (toll free)**

- Lost/Stolen Passports

**202 955-0430**



*Visit us at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov)*

## Contact Information

### In the U.S.

National Passport Information Center	877 487-2778
Lost/Stolen Passports	202 955-0430
Overseas Citizens Services	888 407-4747
Office of Children's Issues	888 407-4747

### Outside the U.S.

Overseas Citizens Services	317 472-2328
Office of Children's Issues	317 472-2328
Nearest U.S. Embassy/Consulate	<a href="https://travel.state.gov/links.html">travel.state.gov/links.html</a>

*Visit us at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov)*