



CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

PASSPORTS

Regardless of nationality, your passport must be valid for six months *after* your return.

VISAS – U.S.Citizens

If you are a U.S. citizen you will not need a visa for New Zealand or Australia or Chile.

VISAS – non U.S.Citizens

If you do not possess a U.S. passport, the U.S. Antarctic Program does not pay for, or provide advice about, obtaining visas. Any necessary visas should be obtained *at least eight weeks before deployment* by contacting the embassy of the countries to be visited. Failure to do so might delay or even prevent your deployment.

If you need a letter identifying you as a USAP participant in order to obtain a visa, please contact the ASC Travel Group.



New Zealand

All participants will receive a letter that identifies them as a USAP participant and grants an extended visitor visa valid for 12 months.

For U.S. citizens whose visa expires while on the Ice, there is a 14-day grace period upon returning to New Zealand. For those planning a longer stay, electronic visa extensions are available for up to three months and can be coordinated with the Christchurch Travel Office before you leave the Ice.

High Value Goods

If you plan on carrying any single item worth more than USD \$10,000, please contact ASC Travel.

Websites

New Zealand Customs home page: www.customs.govt.nz

Visas: <http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/traveltonz/immigration/Pages/default.aspx>

Duties and allowances: www.customs.govt.nz/features/charges

Prohibited and restricted items: <http://www.customs.govt.nz/features/prohibited/imports/Pages/default.aspx>



Chile

If this is your first trip to Chile on your current passport, you will need to pay a Chilean entrance fee (otherwise known as a reciprocity tax) of US\$160.00. American Express, Visa, MasterCard, or cash in good condition is accepted. ASC employees are reimbursed for this fee. Keep the tissue copy of the Immigration Form in your passport; you'll need it to exit the country.

Websites

Chilean Customs home page: www.aduana.cl/prontus_aduana_eng/site/edic/base/port/home.html

Visas (unofficial, but in English): www.chile.travel/en/about-chile/tips-for-travellers.html

Duties and allowances: www.aduana.cl/prontus_aduana_eng/site/artic/20070227/pags/20070227222529.html



Australia

U.S. citizens transiting through Sydney will not need a visa, however, you must stay inside the Transfer Area in Sydney. Leaving the terminal is a violation of Australian law.

Websites

Australian Customs home page: <http://www.customs.gov.au/>

Visas: <http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/tourist/visa-options.htm>

Transit visas: <http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/transit/>

Duties and allowances: <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page4352.asp#items>

Prohibited and restricted items: <http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page4351.asp#items>



United States

ESTA

IF you do **not** possess a U.S. passport, *and*:

- IF your travel originates in a foreign country (excluding Canada), *and*
- IF you are transiting through the U.S. en route to Antarctica,

you must register with ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/> before you leave home. This is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and applies even if you are only in the U.S. to connect to another flight.

From the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website:

“If a traveler is only planning to transit through the United States en route to another country, when he or she completes the ESTA application, the traveler should enter the words "In Transit" and his or her final destination in the address lines under the heading ‘Address While In The United States.’”

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The information on this page is subject to change.