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**I Did Not Get That Memo**

**Airport Security**

**The Transportation Security Administration (TSA)** is responsible for ensuring the safety of every flight.

Please refer to their website for up-to-date requirements: [**https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening**](https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening)

We have handouts available for packing your suitcase. Reminder: you can only carry 3 ounce bottles in 1 quart sized bag through TSA onto the airplane.

To review TSA Policies, see <https://www.tsa.gov/travel>

This website will provide valuable information about what items you can bring on a plane, how it MUST be packaged and what you should leave at home (unless you want to make a donation to TSA), they WILL confiscate anything that is not permitted to be carried on board.

A word to the wise: When we travel to foreign lands, it is because we want to experience different countries and different ways of life. REMEMBER: The RIGHTS and PRIVILEGES we have in the United States of America DO NOT extend to other countries.

When going through the TSA lines, no matter whether you agree with the government agency or not, if you want to get on the flight, just do what they tell you!

If you travel often on the same airline, you may be given **TSA Pre**✓**®**status. If not, you can go to the TSA website and apply online. This presently costs $85 and is good for five years. Being **TSA Pre**✓**®** will allow you to use special lines at the airport and also grants you special privileges (i.e. you do not have to take off coats, shoes, belts, etc when going through security).

To enroll, see**:** [**https://universalenroll.dhs.gov/workflows?servicecode=11115V&service=pre-enroll**](https://universalenroll.dhs.gov/workflows?servicecode=11115V&service=pre-enroll)

**Customs**

When you return to the US, you will be required to complete a Customs form unless you have Global Entry or Nexus. The Duty-free exemption is now $800.00 per person. You will need to pay Duty on any amount that is over this amount. If you are traveling with children, they also get $800 each. So, for example, a family of four has a $3200.00 Duty-free Exemption. There is also a limit on the amount of alcohol and cigarettes (1.5 liters of wine,1.4 liters of alcoholic beverages or 8.5 liters of beer or ale and 1 carton of cigarettes) you are allowed to bring into the country duty-free. If you bring more, you will have to pay duty, but it may still be worth it as the duty is not very much!

You can apply for Global Entry or one of the other Trusted Travel Programs (depending on your needs), but this needs to be completed months before your trip abroad. These require face to face interviews etc., but when going through customs, this will save you valuable time!!!

To get more information on Global Entry or to apply, see:[**https://www.cbp.gov/travel/trusted-traveler-programs/global-entry/how-apply**](https://www.cbp.gov/travel/trusted-traveler-programs/global-entry/how-apply)

The application fee for Global Entry is $100 and is good for five years but this also gives you **TSA Pre**✓**®**status, but if you have an American Airlines Mastercard, they will refund the application fee. Check with your credit card company to see if this is available to you.

**Airline Check-In**

Check with your airline to see what their protocol is. The rule of thumb is 2 hours for domestic flights and 3 hours for international flights.