

WATCH LIST — Prohibited imports include:



all sea turtle products



ivory, raw and carved



fur from tigers, most spotted cats, seals, polar bears, and sea otters



live monkeys and apes



most live birds, including parrots, macaws, cockatoos, and finches



wild bird feathers and mounted birds



some live snakes, turtles, crocodilians, and lizards



certain leather products, including some made from caiman, crocodiles, lizards and snakes



some corals, coral products, and shells



some orchids, cacti, and cycads



medicinals made from rhino, tiger, or Asiatic black bear

**Going abroad?
Think twice about the
souvenirs you wish to buy.**

You'll find many wildlife and plant products for sale around the world. As an international traveler, you can support conservation worldwide by asking questions and learning the facts before you buy any wildlife or plant product. Just because you find an item for sale does not mean it is legal to bring it home. Some of these products may be made from protected animals or plants and may be illegal to export or import. Other wildlife products may require permits before you can bring them home to the United States. By making informed choices, you can avoid having your souvenir confiscated or paying a fine.

Most countries, including the United States, protect their native animals and plants under national laws and through the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Signed by more than 160 nations, this treaty supports sustainable trade in wildlife and plants while protecting endangered species.

In addition to international agreements, U.S. laws provide even stronger protections for such animals as marine mammals, elephants, and wild birds. If the country you're visiting bans the sale or export of a species, you cannot legally import it here.



Leopard/WWF-Canon/Martin Harvey



Stuffed green sea turtle/Nina Marshall

TRAFFIC
—NORTH AMERICA—



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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240
1-800-344-9453
www.fws.gov
http://permits.fws.gov

**REMEMBER —
WHEN IN DOUBT,
DON'T BUY!**

Ask

- ✓ What is this product made of?
- ✓ Where did this product come from?
- ✓ Does the country I'm visiting allow the sale and export of this product?
- ✓ Do I need permits or other documents from this country or the United States to bring this item home?

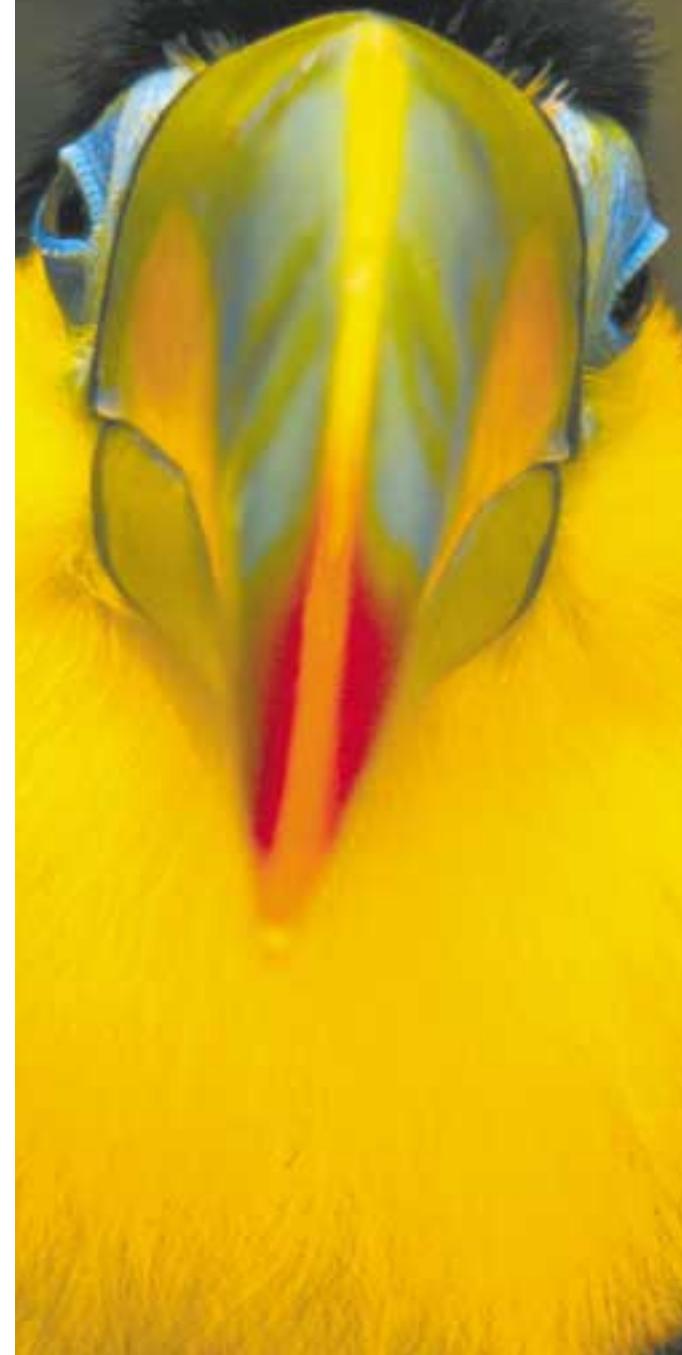
Questions about a purchase? Contact local natural resource agencies, the country's CITES Management Authority, or check:

http://permits.fws.gov
www.fws.gov

(under "Law Enforcement" and "International")

www.cites.org

**BUYER
Beware**



What You Need to Know

Before you go shopping overseas, make sure that the country you're visiting allows the export of its native species or other wildlife that you buy or acquire there. Remember that resource protection laws and treaties not only cover live animals and plants, but also mounted specimens, foods, parts, and products made from or decorated with fur, hide, skin, feathers, scales, shell, antlers, horns, teeth, claws, or bones.

The guidelines below apply to wildlife items that you carry with you or bring back in your checked luggage for your personal use, all of which must be declared to customs officers. Stricter prohibitions may apply if you mail or ship your purchases home.

Sea Turtles: All species are endangered and international trade in sea turtle products is prohibited. Avoid jewelry and curios made from "tortoiseshell." Don't buy sea turtle meat, soup, eggs, facial creams, shells, leathers, or boots, handbags, and other goods made from sea turtle skin.



African elephants/Eberhard Brunner

Ivory: The United States generally prohibits the importation of elephant ivory. Don't bring home raw ivory or ivory jewelry, carvings, or figurines made from elephant tusks. Avoid raw or carved ivory from the teeth or tusks of whales, walruses, narwhals, and seals.

Furs: Most of the world's wild cats, including tigers, jaguars, leopards, ocelots, margays, and leopard cats, are protected. You cannot import skins or items made using the fur of these animals. Furs from seals, polar bears, and sea otters are also prohibited.

Birds: In most cases, you cannot buy a wild bird (such as a parrot, macaw, cockatoo, or finch) in another country and bring it home with you. Check permit



Yellow-headed Amazon parrot/TRAFFIC

requirements before traveling internationally with a pet bird you already own. The United States prohibits the importation of the feathers and parts of most wild birds without a permit. This ban also includes mounted birds and bird nests.

Primates: Don't buy a live monkey or ape overseas for a pet. U.S. health laws prohibit such imports. Most primate species are protected, so you should also avoid curios, furs, or meats from these animals.

Wildlife Wools: Avoid shahtoosh, an illegal superfine fabric made from the protected Tibetan antelope. You may import clothing made from vicuña (a South American mammal) with a permit from the country where you bought the item.

Traditional Asian Medicines: Check labels carefully. Don't bring home products that list tiger, rhinoceros, leopard, Asiatic black bear, or musk deer as ingredients. You may import small quantities of American ginseng that you have bought overseas for your personal use, but you may need a permit to take whole or sliced roots from the United States to another country.



Asiatic black bear/WWF-Canon/Martin Harvey

Reptiles and Reptilian

Leathers: Some reptiles have become popular pets, while others supply leather for shoes, wallets, handbags, and watchbands. Many manufacturers work with skins from sustainably harvested reptiles such as American alligator. But some snake, turtle, tortoise, crocodilian, and lizard species are protected and may be subject to trade restrictions. Check before buying reptiles or reptile products overseas or taking these items with you when you travel outside the United States.

Fish & Shellfish: You can usually bring home sport-caught or stuffed and mounted fish. Importing smoked salmon is not a problem, but you'll need a permit for sturgeon meat. Check country laws as well as possible U.S. import restrictions before leaving with queen conch or giant clam meat.

Coral and Shells: Many nations limit the collection, sale, and export of live coral and coral products. Consult local authorities before buying coral souvenirs, jewelry, or aquarium decorations. Take



Tubastrea coral/Andrew Bruckner

similar precautions if queen conch, giant clam, or other shells catch your eye in a shop or on the beach. Import restrictions may also apply. For example, queen conch shells from a number of Caribbean countries cannot be imported into the United States.

Caviar: The world's sturgeon species are increasingly at risk, and global controls now regulate trade in caviar from these fish. Without a permit, you may only import up to 250 grams (about 8 ounces) of sturgeon caviar per person per trip, but the caviar of some sturgeon species is completely prohibited.

Clip this card and keep it with you.

Small photos on back: E. Fleming; WWF/TRAFFIC; Steve Hildebrand/USFWS; WWF/TRAFFIC; Howard W. Buffet; Michael Durham; Ginette Hemley; WWF; Andrew Bruckner; Linda R. McMahon; WWF/Canon Martin Harvey.

Plants: Certain plants — particularly orchids, cacti, and cycads — may require permits. You should also check with U.S. agriculture officials before importing any plant. Some species are banned as invasive; all imports must be pest-, soil-, and disease-free.



Windowsill orchid/Nina Marshall

If you have questions about wildlife purchases before you travel, check with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (www.fws.gov under "Law Enforcement" or "International"), TRAFFIC North America (www.traffic.org) or World Wildlife Fund (www.worldwildlife.org/buyer beware). If you are already overseas, contact local resource protection agencies and/or the country's CITES Management Authority. For permit information, please visit the Service's permits website (<http://permits.fws.gov>).

BUYER BEWARE CARD Carry this when you travel

WATCH LIST

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