

■ Exporting Australian wildlife

Australian wildlife is subject to stringent export controls. The export of live animals such as birds, reptiles and other species (including eggs) is generally prohibited.

The export of products derived from most Australian native plants and animals, such as kangaroo leather, is also regulated. Contact the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for more information.

■ Personal items

There are some exceptions to the rules. Contact the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts to find out more about exemptions for personal items.

■ You can help our wildlife survive

Wildlife trade is diverse – it can involve live animals or plants or the many products made from them, such as:

- caviar
- clams and shells
- exotic leather goods
- musical instruments
- souvenirs and
- complementary medicines.

If managed properly, trade need not threaten species with extinction.

Careful management of import and export activity helps to ensure that these species survive for future generations.



If in doubt- check it out

■ More information

For more information or to obtain a permit contact:

Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

International Wildlife Trade

GPO Box 787

Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Telephone +61 2 6274 1900

Facsimile +61 2 6274 1921

Email wildlifetrade@environment.gov.au

Internet www.environment.gov.au

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

GPO Box 858

Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Telephone 1800 020 504 or +61 2 6272 3933

Email biologicals@aqis.gov.au

Internet www.aqis.gov.au

Australian Customs Service

Customs House

5 Constitution Avenue

Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Telephone +61 2 6275 6666

Internet www.customs.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of the Environment,
Water, Heritage and the Arts

If in doubt – check it out

Does your luggage break wildlife laws?



tips for travellers

If you bring wildlife souvenirs or products into or out of Australia, make sure you do it legally.

Find out if you need approvals or permits from:

- Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
- Australian Customs Service
- Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

If in doubt – check it out!

■ Wildlife trade around the world

Many of the world's animals and plants are threatened by uncontrolled trade.

During the past 100 years, three of the eight tiger subspecies have become extinct, and it is likely that there are now fewer than 5000 tigers left in the wild.

Global trade in animals, plants and the various products made from them is controlled by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

CITES protects over 30,000 species of animals and plants worldwide. It aims to ensure that international trade in wildlife does not threaten its survival.

The import and export of wildlife into and out of Australia is regulated under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.



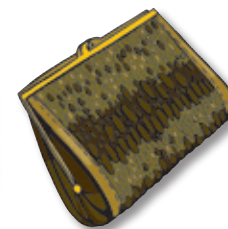
■ Know before you go – how does the law affect you?

Some tourist souvenirs can threaten the most endangered species. You may be unaware that you are breaking the law by buying them. For example ivory (elephant) and turtle shell (marine turtle), are both made from threatened animals.

Sometimes traders won't tell you the truth about where they obtained their products from. Don't be fooled by statements like, 'believe me, it's OK'.

If you intend to buy wildlife products during your travels, contact the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts before you leave or enter Australia to find out if you need a permit.

Without the correct permit, your product may be seized by Customs



■ Common issues affecting travellers

Complementary medicines

Complementary medicines are also known as 'traditional' or 'alternative' medicines.

Without a permit, the import or export of complementary medicines containing species such as tiger, bear, monkey, Saussurea/Aucklandia (found in Po Chai pills) or rhinoceros is prohibited under Australian law.

These products must be declared on entering or leaving Australia.

If in doubt, declare it to Customs

Corals, clams and shells

Many corals, clams and shells – and jewelry made from these items – need a permit to bring them into, or out of, Australia. Contact the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts to see if you need a permit.

