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OVERSEAS TRAVEL WITH FIREARMS FOR AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS

(Written by Paul Johnston)

Contrary to what some people believe, travelling with your firearm overseas isn't as daunting as you might think.

As a skeet shooter, the main two Countries I'd like to cover is New Zealand (Skeet Nationals) and the USA (World Skeet Championships).

Let's start right here with Australian Border Force (ABF) (formerly Australian Customs).

In order to deal directly with you, ABF require you to have what is called a CCID number (Customs Client Identifier) which, once issued, is your number for life. Applying for this is done through the Integrated Cargo System via this form [Click Here](#).

To get your firearm in and out of Australia, you are required to lodge two forms, being a Restricted Goods Permit (RGP) and an Export Declaration [Click Here](#). Once approved you will receive an ECN (Export Clearance Number and a stamped RGP). The ECN is valid for 28 days prior to departure and the RGP is for re-entry back into the Country.

A valid CCID is required to fill out the above documents.

Regardless of where you are travelling to, the above is a mandatory requirement.

Entry with your firearm into New Zealand requires a New Zealand Police Permit [Click Here](#), which is usually done 4 months in advance.

Entry with your firearm into the USA requires an approved Form 6 NIA (Nonimmigrant Alien). Which is a two-page form to fill in and print. This is available through Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) [Click Here](#).

As Australia is part of the Visa Waiver Program with the United States, you should answer NO to question 12 on the ATF Form 6 NIA form (June 25 Revision)

By answering NO to question 12, you will not have to provide either an Invitation letter or a copy of the Shoot program. Hence skipping questions 13 & 14.

It is recommended to apply for this well in advance as it can take up to 8 weeks to process.

And you must be a member of the NSSA of course.

Some of these processes get be tweaked from time to time from the relevant authorities but as of t
If anyone runs into any difficulty, we are more than happy to assist in any way we can just contact us on secretary@myassa.com.au