

Changes for passengers:

new rules for carry-on luggage

As of November 6 2006, new rules are in force regarding is permitted as carry-on luggage. Only liquids, gels and aerosols are permitted in carry-on luggage in small quantities (a maximum of 100ml per article) and as long as these are correctly packaged. These rules apply to all passengers departing, in transit or making connections at EU airports.

These new rules cover liquids including water and other beverages, gels, pastes, lotions and the content of aerosol cans. Personal hygiene products such as toothpaste, shaving cream, hair gel, liquid lipstick and creams are also covered by these rules.

These are the rules related to liquids in carry-on luggage:

1. Only gels and liquids in recipients with a capacity of no more than 100 milliliters may be transported onboard aircraft.
2. These recipients must be transported in transparent plastic bags.
3. There is a limit of one transparent plastic bag per person.
4. Transparent plastic bag volume may not exceed 1 liter.
5. Plastic bags must be resealable.

Passengers may bring an adequate plastic bag from home. At several airports plastic bags are provided for passengers.

There are two exceptions to the aforementioned rules:

- a. Babyfood necessary during a flight;
- b. Necessary medication during a flight;

Purchases made at airports and onboard aircraft

Passengers may continuing making purchases including duty-free after ticket and/or passport control and onboard European airline company flights. Liquids and gels purchased after ticket or passport control or onboard shall be wrapped and sealed in the manner required by store or cabin personnel. This seal is valid for one day. In the case of connecting flights, the seal should not be broken until the **final destination** is reached.

Keep liquids separate

When passing through carry-on luggage security checkpoints, passengers must place liquids separately in the basket to be examined by X-ray. Liquid recipients should easily fit into the transparent plastic bag and the bag must be sealed. Coats and large electrical/electronic equipment such as portable computers must be handed in for verification separately.

Q & A

Why are these rules necessary?

The new carry-on luggage rules were introduced after the detention of terrorist suspects in the United Kingdom in August 2006. It is believed the suspects were involved in a conspiracy to destroy aircraft by resorting to the use of explosive liquids. Liquids transported in carry-on luggage are not subject to tighter restrictions and stricter control with a view to reducing the probability of just such an attack.

Why liquids?

Exhaustive research on the subject has demonstrated that large quantities of explosive liquids are required in order to cause an explosion. Because of this, passengers are no longer permitted to transport large quantities of liquids in carry-on luggage. Liquids and gels sold at airports are subject to supplementary checks. In addition, liquids and gels brought from home may only be carried onboard in small quantities.

What can I expect will happen at airport checkpoints?

At security checkpoints, all carry-on luggage passes through X-ray on a treadmill. At these, the presence of liquids in carry-on luggage is also checked. According to the new rules, if you intend to transport liquids in carry-on luggage, these must be separately wrapped before departure either at home or at the airport.

If instead of this you carry liquid and gel recipients loose in carry-on luggage, you should consider the possibility that these may be confiscated at security checkpoints.

All liquids must be presented separately whenever carry-on luggage is checked. The transparent plastic bag must be sealed and liquid recipients a good fit. Coats and large electrical/electronic equipment such as portable computers must be handed in for verification separately.

Can I still make purchases after the boarding card checkpoint? Will duty free stores still be available?

Yes, you may continue making purchases including at duty free shops, at European airports after boarding card checkpoints as well as on European airline company flights. If you purchase liquids or gels after boarding card checkpoints or onboard, you must check that your bag is sealed, especially if your itinerary includes flights in transit or connecting flights. This seal is valid for one day. In the case of connecting flights, the seal should not be broken until the **final destination** is reached.

Purchases made at non-European airports and onboard non-European airline companies

If you purchase liquids or gels (duty-free or not) at a non-European airport and change planes at a European airport, you should consider the possibility that your purchases may be confiscated at security checkpoints. This may occur with purchases made onboard aircraft operated by an airline company from a non-EU country.

Why do I need a plastic bag?

The transparent plastic bag is necessary for airport security checks. If all recipients are together in one transparent plastic bag, security personnel can easily check visually that the rules are being followed. Ensure that the bag is sealed and pack it in such a way that recipients are a good fit thus making security checks that much quicker.

If instead of this you carry liquid and gel recipients loose in carry-on luggage, you should consider the possibility that these may be confiscated at security checkpoints.

Do these rules apply everywhere?

The same rules apply to all airports in the 25 EU countries. These rules apply whenever departing or changing planes in the EU. Similar carry-on luggage rules apply in the USA and Canada. Be aware that different rules may apply in non-EU countries.

What medication is covered by these restrictions?

Only liquid medication or that of similar consistency.

Solid medication such as pills and losangers are restriction free and do not require any prescription/doctor's note or proof.

What are the exceptions to the current restrictions?

All medication in a liquid state prescribed by a doctor or sold over the counter, subject to presentation of a doctor's declaration or note, and that cannot be carried as checked luggage.

What to do when the medical prescription was retained at the drugstore?

Ask your physician to give you a doctor's note/declaration as to why as a passenger you need to take a specific type of medication, or photocopy in advance the respective prescription.

INAC may not be held responsible for any security measures adopted in other European Union countries. To avoid medication and/or objects intended for administering the same being apprehended at checkpoints at other European Union airports, this Institute recommends that passengers carry a medical declaration/doctor's note written in another language, namely in English or French, if they choose to do so.

IV medication. What to do?

Request from INAC via e-mail, letter, fax or in person, special authorization to carry liquid IV medication and the objects intended to administer the same, as cabin luggage, stating the flight number, date, airline company, destination and passenger ID, and attach this to the medical declaration for this purpose.

E-mail: falsec@inac.pt

Fax: (00 351) 21 842 35 87

Address:

Rua B, Blocks 4, 5 & 6

Lisbon Airport

1749-034 Lisbon

Portugal

Is a new medical declaration required for each trip?

No. Due to the fact that many passengers are chronically ill or need to take medication over long periods of time, the declaration may specify valid for dates or in the absence of these, be valid for a two year period from the issue date.

Is the authorization to transport IV liquids and/or objects intended to administer these in an injected form issued by INAC, as cabin luggage, only valid for one trip?

No. Passengers that prove via a medical declaration that they are chronically ill and need permanent treatment using liquid IV medication and/or objects intended to administer these in an injected form, shall be issued authorization valid for the same period as the respective declaration, for a maximum two year period.

Does liquid medication contained in recipients with a capacity equal to or less than 100ml necessarily require a medical declaration/doctor's note?

No. Any liquid medication that is contained in a recipient with a capacity equal to or less than 100ml, may be placed within the transparent plastic bag (per person), that can be opened and resealed, with a capacity no greater than 1 liter (ie: with dimensions of 19cm X 20cm), and be transported as with any other liquid.