

Quarantine Information for Hajj Travellers



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine
and Inspection Service

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) understands the importance of undertaking a Hajj pilgrimage. It is also important that pilgrims are aware of Australia's quarantine laws because on your return your baggage may be X-rayed, checked by a quarantine detector dog or inspected by a quarantine officer.

What items need to be declared?

All of the following items need to be declared to a quarantine officer when you arrive back in Australia:

- all wood products such as religious articles and toys
- Holy water
- plants including raw tobacco, live cuttings, roots and bulbs
- all food items including dates, spices, seeds, nuts, teas, fresh and dried fruit and vegetables
- all meat and meat products
- all poultry items such as eggs or products containing egg
- all dairy products

Why do they need to be declared?

Items from overseas could be hiding dangerous pests and diseases not found in Australia. These hidden threats could damage Australia's crops and livestock, as well as wild fauna and flora and the environment.

What you can do before returning to Australia.

To make it easier and quicker for you at the airport, pack all the items you need to declare where you can easily access them. You will need to clean all footwear to remove traces of dirt and present them for inspection.

What do you need to do when you arrive back in Australia?

- correctly fill out your Incoming Passenger Card and remember to list all items that must be declared
- present all items to be declared to a Quarantine Officer

You can dispose of risk items in quarantine bins at the airport terminal before you reach the quarantine inspection line.

What happens next?

Most declared items will be returned to you after inspection. However, anything found to be a quarantine risk will be seized. Depending on the risk, you will be given the option to; pay for the item to make it safe; pay to re-export the item; pay to have the item destroyed by quarantine.

What happens if you don't declare?

If you don't declare quarantine risk items, you can be fined up to A\$220 on the spot. For more serious breaches of quarantine laws you could be prosecuted and/or fined more than A\$60 000 or face up to 10 years imprisonment.

For more information

- Ask your travel agent for a copy of the free brochure [What Can't I Take Into Australia?](#). This brochure is available in a number of languages.
- Visit the AQIS website for information in your language at www.daff.gov.au/languages
- Call AQIS on 1800 020 504 (free call within Australia).