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INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PERMIT USING FIREARMS IN AUSTRALIA WHAT INTERNATIONAL VISITORS NEED TO KNOW

Some international visitors to Australia use firearms during their stay to participate in competitive sports shooting events and / or safari hunts.

Are you planning to use firearms during your visit to Australia? If yes, you will need to make application for the appropriate permits from Australian police **BEFORE** you arrive.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

If you want to use firearms during your stay in Australia, you need to obtain two permits:

- An international visitors firearms permit (to allow to possess, carry and use firearms during your stay);
- An import permit (to allow you to bring firearms into the country).

Application should be made to the police of the Australian State or Territory you will be hunting or competing in initially. For example, if you plan to hunt or compete initially in the state of Victoria (even though you may later visit other State/s or Territory), then make application to Victoria Police for both permits.

If you plan to move between different States and Territories thereafter and have a permit in one jurisdiction you may need to obtain an International Visitors Permit from each State / Territory you visit. Check with the respective police as requirements do vary between jurisdictions.

Application forms can be obtained from police in every jurisdiction. Contact numbers are listed over page.

Make sure the application/s is fully and accurately completed. This will ensure your application is processed expediently.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

Make application well in advance of your visit, at least 6 weeks before your arrival. This will ensure that Australian police will have time to process your application and issue your permits. You will require these documents to produce to Customs Officials on arrival in Australia.

WHAT WILL I BE ALLOWED TO DO?

The issued permits will allow the person named in the permit/s to import the specified firearm/s into Australia for the purposes stated on the application. Strict conditions will apply with the permit/s:

- You WILL only be allowed to use firearm/s for specified purposes (competitive sports shooting events or safari hunting) as stated in the application;
- You MUST comply with all the legislative requirements in respect to firearms in the Australian State/s or Territories you are visiting;
- You MUST observe specific storage requirements;
- You MUST carry the permit at all times and produce this documentation to Australian police on request;
 and
- You MUST ensure that you take your firearm/s with you out of Australia when you depart.

Note: Permits will be issued for the duration of your stay in Australia.

WHAT TYPES OF FIREARMS ARE ALLOWED?

While most common types of firearms can be brought into Australia under a permit, international visitors hunting with a safari company should note that permits will not be issued for the following types of firearms:

- Semi-automatic centre fire rifles;
- High-capacity semi-automatic rim fire rifles or shotguns;
- High-capacity pump-action shotguns;
- Fully-automatic firearms; or
- Handguns (Handguns are permitted only for competitive sports shooting events)

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

Application forms, information and advice are available by contacting the respective Police Firearm Registry;

Victorian Firearms Licencing Services

Phone: 0011 61 3 9247 3785 Facsimile: 0011 61 3 9247 3196

New South Wales Firearms Registry

Phone: 0011 61 2 6670 8590 Facsimile: 0011 61 2 6670 8550

ACT Weapons Registry

Phone: 0011 61 2 6256 7747 Facsimile: 0011 61 2 6245 7259

South Australia Firearms Division

Phone: 0011 61 8 8204 2495 Facsimile: 0011 61 8 8204 2314

Queensland Weapons Licencing Branch

Phone: 0011 61 7 3015 7777 Facsimile: 0011 61 7 3364 4863

Western Australia Firearms Branch

Phone: 0011 61 9 9223 7000 Facsimile: 0011 61 9 9223 7029

Northern Territory Firearms Policy and Records Unit

Phone: 0011 61 8 8922 3543 Facsimile: 0011 61 8 8922 3540

Tasmania Police Firearms Registry

Phone: 0011 61 3 6230 2720 Facsimile: 0011 61 3 6230 2765