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UNUSUAL CUSTOMS BANS IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES НЕОБЫЧНЫЕ ТАМОЖЕННЫЕ ЗАПРЕТЫ В РАЗЛИЧНЫХ СТРАНАХ

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Even first-time travelers know not to pack firecrackers, lighter fluid and other explosives when traveling to another country. Most are also aware that what’s euphemistically called “adult reading material” will at best be confiscated on entry to most countries, and at worst could land you in really big trouble.

What you might not know, though, is that there are a lot of things that are heavily restricted or even prohibited from being imported to or exported from some countries — unexpected items like face masks, holy water and even ballpoint pens.

While some international customs regulations are logical, others are just, well, downright weird.

In Japan, every day, over-the-counter meds like Sudafed and other allergy and sinus medications are banned. Even innocuous items like Vicks inhalers are forbidden because they can contain components such as pseudoephedrine that can be converted into drugs, which are illegal under Japan’s anti-stimulant drug laws.

Nigeria has a long history of prohibiting seemingly random items from being imported into the country, often to boost the country’s own manufacturing

industries. The list is exhaustive, but over the years it has included objects such as plastic flowers, spaghetti noodles, toothpicks, footwear, suitcases and telephone recharge cards. One item, though, is particularly surprising: ballpoint pens and all their parts, including the refills

Chocolate is always a good present to bring back from an overseas trip — especially foreign versions of locally available brands that come packed with childhood nostalgia. Unless, of course, the chocolate in question is a Kinder Surprise with a build-your-own-toy inside. In the 1930s, the United States banned candies like the Kinder Surprise with non-food items inside them, as they posed a choking hazard. In the decades since, thousands have attempted to smuggle the treat into the country; 30,000 eggs were confiscated by customs and hefty fines were handed out in 2015 alone.

Until recently, the majority of visitors to Saudi Arabia had been taking part in the hajj, a religious pilgrimage to Mecca considered the most important religious duty a Muslim can complete. Getting a visa had been difficult, and people planning a laid-back holiday usually found the absolute ban on bringing in alcoholic beverages an itinerary changer. However, as of April 2018, Saudi Arabia started to issue tourist visas for the first time ever. These electronically issued visas make it much easier and more tempting to explore the fascinating culture and peoples of this little-explored country.

In Guatemala, bringing in police whistles is strictly prohibited. But there is, at least, a reason for the rule: a government crackdown on civilians impersonating cops in the country. What *is* weird is that only the whistles are forbidden...meaning you're free to bring in police uniforms and other paraphernalia.

Zimbabwe has a long history of banning imports for personal use in order to promote the purchase of home-grown products, even where no equivalent exists. It also bans the import and export of items in order to maintain revenue, conserve foreign currency and protect intellectual property against infringement of rights such as trademarks, copyrights and patents. Coffee creamers, baked beans and even wheelbarrows have all been on the list of forbidden items at one time or another. Of the current list of goods that aren't allowed in or out is prison- and penitentiary-made goods.

It's always good to be prepared when you plan a trip to a country for the first time. Even with all the apps and computer gadgetry now available for travelers, it can be handy to carry a map to plan the route. Unless, that is, Morocco is your destination. Due to a longstanding dispute with the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic over who controls a thin strip of land in the Western Sahara desert, any maps or geographic charts that don't comply with the Moroccan take on the border territory are prohibited. Importing or exporting the local Moroccan

currency, dirham, above an amount of about \$100 USD. It's officially deemed a closed currency that can only be legally traded and exchanged within Morocco.

It's widely believed that visitors to Singapore are forbidden to bring chewing gum into the country. The truth is that chewing gum is allowed in small quantities for personal use, or in large quantities if it's for dental hygiene. However, chewing gum in public is forbidden, and has been banned since 1992.

Long popular with romantics and lovers of nature, the Maldives chain of 26 atolls in the Indian Ocean is well-known for the plethora of delights it offers visitors. Less known is the fact that the archipelago adopted Islam as its principal religion in the 12th century, and has since maintained its religious base. Today, any public observance of a religion other than Islam is prohibited, and religious icons or statues are not allowed in. One can, however, bring in religious literature, like Bibles, for personal use.

Algeria has a ban on all dental products entering the country. This is probably down to the unpopularity of fluoride, which has been deemed poisonous and harmful by some nations. Dental items like toothpaste use fluoride as a primary cleaning agent, but companies like Colgate who are popular in the UK have had their items banned in countries like Algeria.

If you're travelling to the lovely village of Vendargues in the south of France, don't take your clown costume with you. Due to a wave of panic, caused by pranksters in clown costumes, they are now banned. These incidents have led to a wide-spread anti-clown vigilante movement across whole France, which may soon see the costumes banned throughout the country.

Thus, it can be concluded that, despite the huge similarities in the prohibited goods, there are also significant differences. The latter depend on the geographical location, the amount of goods consumed and produced, local laws, and other factors. Therefore, before traveling, it is necessary to carefully study the items allowed for transportation in order to avoid difficulties at customs.

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**FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN THE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY OF A
FUTURE SPECIALIST
ИНОСТРАННЫЙ ЯЗЫК В ПРОФЕССИОНАЛЬНОЙ
ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТИ БУДУЩЕГО СПЕЦИАЛИСТА**

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At the present stage of education, people consider foreign language as an integral component of the professional training of a future specialist of any profile. The purpose of studying foreign language at non-linguistic faculties of higher education is to achieve a level of language proficiency that will allow students to use a foreign language freely within their occupation.

The university course of a foreign language should be professionally oriented, in order to develop both the thinking and communicating skills of students of the defined profile. The purpose of the discipline "foreign language" in non-linguistic universities is to enrich the intercultural professional-oriented communicative skills of the students. Therefore, the main challenge is to prepare students to think creatively, to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in practice, to argue and prove a point.

Today, there is a huge number of opportunities for students to explore the field of their future activities independently. Student exchange programs are implemented, international scientific and practical conferences, festivals, and competitions in which a young specialist can take part are held. However, very often one of the most important conditions for the participants is the knowledge of a foreign language. This also applies to architecture students, as a competent and understandable presentation of architectural projects contributes to a better understanding of them by the general public.

Architects communicate with their colleagues and other people using verbal and non-verbal ways. Non-verbal way of communication in the professional sphere is presented through plans, drawings, computer simulation models and the ultimately constructed building. Verbal communication of architects with each