

Cole's Flying to the USA Procedures

(This is a guide only. There could be errors.)

eAPIS

There is no limit to how far in advance the eAPIS manifests may be filed and most importantly, the timing may be adjusted when you telephone the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) 2 hours before arrival, so that the exact timing need not be known in advance.

Notams and TFR's

Canadian briefers cannot yet access USA TFR NOTAMs in a manner so as to guarantee that the information is up to date. When flying with flight following it seems that guidance is provided through TFR's and MOA's.

FSS locations and phone numbers are at:
<http://www.bestglide.com/forms/fss.pdf>

No-stop flights over USA airspace

A flight plan is required for every flight crossing the U.S./Canada border. A notation of "USA over flight, no landing" is recommended in the "Remarks" block of the flight plan form.

Flying to the USA

1) USA Customs Decal: You cannot land in the USA without a customs decal on your plane.

2) File: an eAPIS manifest at least 60 minutes prior to departure from Canada. An email reply will be sent to the email address stated on your application.

3) Check: MOA hot/cold status. It seems that ATC will guide through MOA's but that is not guaranteed.

4) Take

- Pilot's Licence & Radio Certificate
- Aircraft Journey Log
- Aircraft Registration
- Aircraft Insurance
- Airworthiness certificate
- Flight Supplements:
 - CFS
 - USA Terminal Procedures
 - USA Airport/Facility NE
- Charts

5) File: a NAVCAN flight plan.

6) Phone: Destination USA Customs and Border Protection (CBP) before take-off, at least 2 hours prior to arrival.

7) Close: Flight plan at 1-800-992-7433 WXBRIEF on arrival.

Hours of operation for free USA customs service is 0800 to 1700 (same as Cornwall).

Adjusting arrival times: If the arrival time needs to be changed phone the CBP. If it is airport like Massena, Ogdensburg or Watertown to which the CBP agents have to travel make sure you phone before they leave for the airport.

The plane, contents and occupants will be screened for radioactivity. Do not leave the plane without permission from the border agent.

NAV CANADA no longer passes on ADVISE CUSTOMS (ADCUS) notices.

The USA FSS number 1-800-WXBRIEF does not work from Canada.

Flying back to Canada

1) Change of departure date: File both a USA Arrival and Departure eAPIS before leaving Canada and phone CBP if there is a change in date.

2) File: an FAA flight plan 1-800-992-7433 WXBRIEF before takeoff.

3) Call: CANPASS 888-226-7277 (888-CANPASS) at least **two hours** but not more than 48 hours before arriving in Canada.

4) Call: CANPASS on landing to obtain a record of arrival number. Put the number in the Journey Log as proof CANPASS arrival approval.

Information on MOAs, TRFs, CBP and FOB phone numbers, USA weather, Canpass applications forms, USA Customs decals, etc. can be found on the website "Route Planning" page.