



CONFERENCE 2019 AOTEAROA/NEW ZEALAND

A message from NZ Border Agencies:

We certainly acknowledge and appreciate the special significance of a number of the items that you may want to bring with you to New Zealand. However New Zealand takes our biosecurity laws and our commitment to CITES (endangered species) very seriously so please check and respect our biosecurity laws, and also the requirements of CITES, which covers over 35,000 threatened and endangered species including eagles, owls, otters, whales, bears, wolves, lynx, and marine turtles.

Given the imminent commencement of the conference and your travel, it is strongly recommended that any items of cultural significance be left behind safely in the country of residence. **To bring any items made from CITES species into New Zealand you will need CITES permits** - issued by the *country of export*, as well as an *import permit from New Zealand* if the item is listed as endangered. Links to all CITES Authorities can be found here <https://cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp>

Without a permit any CITES items imported into NZ will be seized at the border.

For more information regarding CITES and documentation requirements under the Convention, please refer to New Zealand's [Department of Conservation website](#).

Our biosecurity requirements are available to read [here](#). If you choose to bring items of biosecurity risk into New Zealand you must declare these to a Quarantine Officer. The Officer will make a determination of whether to inspect, treat, and/or release those items. Biosecurity items include food, fresh fruit, animal/plant products such as souvenirs or cultural items.

The treatment process can take longer than the duration of the conference and all costs are due by the importer for treatment and any post or courier charges. These are in addition to any fees recovered by the Ministry for Primary Industries (Biosecurity New Zealand) at the time of arrival.

While aimed predominantly at New Zealander's travelling abroad, some detailed requirements for travelling with personal cultural treasures can be downloaded [here](#)

We strongly recommend that if you and your family have any doubts about any items you may be bringing, in particular if these are culturally or spiritually significant to you, please leave the precious items at home. If you do bring them, the items may be seized. Failure to declare items can lead to instant fines and prosecution.

Please respect our biosecurity laws and our commitment to the international convention to protect endangered species by playing your part in keeping New Zealand Aotearoa beautiful. Enjoy your stay here. Ngā mihi.