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# GUIDE for TRAVELLERS to the CARIBBEAN

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When you arrive at your Caribbean destination, you want to move quickly through the air or sea port. You can help to make this happen by ensuring that you are not stopped at the custom area because you are carrying something that can introduce a pest or disease into the country.

These non-native pests or diseases are **invasive alien species (IAS)** and they can be very harmful to the natural environment in the sea, in fresh water and on land. They are a major cause of the loss and extinctions of native species, especially on islands. They devastate agriculture and trade, resulting in millions of dollars in damage, and are also harmful to human health and well-being.

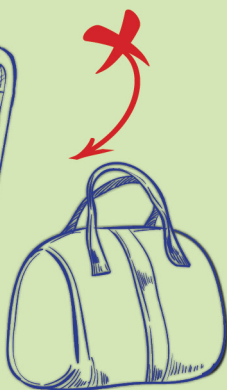
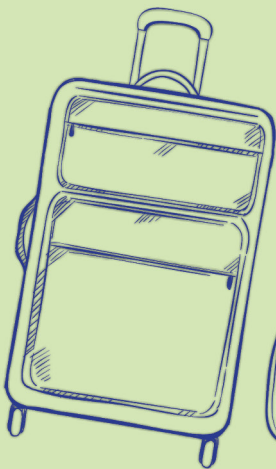
IAS are mainly spread by people, either intentionally or accidentally. You can help to protect the Caribbean from invasive pests and diseases that hitchhike on plant and animal products. The simplest and most effective way to do this is by preventing them from entering the country in the first place.

Here are the steps you should take to ensure that you are not transporting IAS.

## Step 1 Leave it at home ✖

### Leave behind all high-risk items

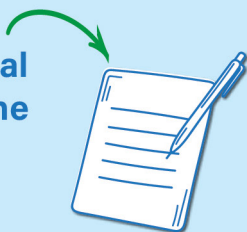
like fruits, vegetables, plants, flowers, grains, seeds, meat, eggs, dairy products and honey.



## Step 2 Declare ✔

Declare all food, animal and plant products on the arrival/customs form.

If you are unsure, declare them anyway.



## Declare things like:

### Food

including items that are cooked, uncooked, fresh, preserved, packaged or dried.



### Animal products

including meat, dairy products, fish, eggs, honey and other bee products.



### Plants or plant products

including any plant parts, seeds, pods, bulbs, fruit, flowers, nuts, grains, bark, leaves, vegetables and fungi.



### Craft products

including items made from natural material like wood, leaves, bamboo, cane, rattan, coconut, natural fibres, seeds, pods, feathers, shells, animals hides and bones



## Step 3 Deposit

**Dispose of any risk goods you are not sure about in the marked biosecure bins.**

This includes uneaten sandwiches, salads and fruit that you packed or were given aboard the vessel.



**Remember all food you are served on board must be consumed or deposited in the bins.**

## Step 4 Pay

**If you fail to do this, we all pay a heavy price** through consequences on our natural resources, healthy ecosystems, human health and our livelihoods.

Once IAS get a foothold in one country, it is only a matter of time before they spread to neighbouring regions.

Each of us has to take responsibility for ensuring that IAS are not introduced into the region.

**We can all help to save our species!**

For further information on IAS  
and this initiative:

[caribbeaninvasives.org](http://caribbeaninvasives.org)



United Nations  
Environment Programme

