Information for US Amateurs Traveling Abroad (updated February 2020)

If certain requirements are met, US amateurs may operate abroad in many foreign countries under one of the following authorizations. NOTE: Regardless of which reciprocal authority you are utilizing, US licensees are strongly encouraged to contact the national Telecom authority or IARU Member society of the county they are visiting to ensure they have full and complete information on operating privileges as well as any incidental requirements that may be necessary in order to operate legally.

Reciprocal Operating Agreements (bilateral) between the US and a foreign country names in list below. If such an agreement exists, operation in that country is permissible. Keep in mind that reciprocity does not necessarily mean the US Amateur can simply go and operate. In some cases, the US amateur needs to make applications or obtain a permit. The qualified US Amateur must carry your official FCC-issued license (not a reference copy).

Countries that share a Reciprocal agreement with the United States: Antigua/Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Canada1, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark (including Greenland), Dominican Republic, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Finland, France2, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Liberia, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Marshall Islands, Mexico10, Monaco, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Island, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Kingdom5, Uruguay and Venezuela.


Countries participating in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark4, Estonia, Finland7, France3, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway5, Poland, Portugal9, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom6.

ECC Recommendation (05)06 allows US General Class licensees to operate under the CEPT Novice Radio Amateur License in the countries listed below. Qualified US General class operators must carry a copy of the FCC CEPT Public Notice DA 16-1048 (dated September 16, 2016), your US passport, and your official FCC-issued license (not a reference copy).

Countries participating in ECC Recommendation (05)06: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark4, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal9, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Switzerland.

International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) allows US Amateurs traveling to certain Central or South American countries (listed below) to operate if the hold an IARP permit, which in the US may be obtained through the ARRL VEC.

Countries that participate with the United States: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada1, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

US Amateurs traveling abroad should always verify the specific operating privileges and frequencies they may use in each country from which they will operate before traveling, as privileges in many cases may be different from their US authorized privileges. When operating abroad, you must identify your transmissions by giving the foreign call district in which you are traveling followed by your US call (e.g. “This is I2/N1ND”).

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1 – An automatic reciprocal agreement exists between the US and Canada, so there is no need to apply for a permit. Simply sign your US call followed by a slant bar and the Canadian prefix and /number identifier for the province or territory in which you are operating.

2 – Including French Guiana, French Polynesia, Guadeloupe, Ile Amsterdam, Ile Saint-Paul, Iles Crozet, Iles Kerguelen, Martinique, New Caledonia, Reunion, St. Pierre and Miquelon, and Wallis and Futuna Islands.

3 – Including Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands (including Guernsey and Jersey) Falkland Islands (including South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands), Great Britain, Gibraltar, Isle of Man, Montserrat, Northern Ireland, St. Helena (including Ascension Island, Gough Island, Tristan Da Cunha Island), and the Turks &Caicos Islands.

4 – Participating for Denmark, Greenland, and the Faroe Islands.

5 – Participating for France, Corsica, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Martinique, St. Bartholomew, St. Pierre and Miquelon, St. Martin, Reunion and its Dependencies, Mayotte, French Antarctica, French Polynesia & Clipperton, New Caledonia, and Wallis & Futuna.

6 – Participating for England, Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, Jersey, Scotland, Guernsey and Wales.

7 – Participating for Finland and Aland Islands.

8 – Participating for Norway and Svalbard.

9 – Participating for Portugal, Azores and Madeira.

10 – There have been significant changes in Mexico’s telecommunications structure. At this time, there are no procedures in place for US licensees (or those from other nations) to obtain a valid license in Mexico or to operate under a reciprocal agreement.