

I have questions about the screening of cremation containers. How can I obtain more information?

You can visit www.catsa.gc.ca
or call 1-800-O-Canada
for more information



Cremation container and documentation requirements when travelling can vary, depending on your destination. If you are travelling internationally, the CATSA suggests you contact the embassy for the country of your destination before you fly to determine their specific requirements concerning the transport of cremated remains.

Before heading to the airport

Ask your funeral director about temporary containers for transportation purposes. These containers are more likely to pass through security. You can also bring your empty permanent container with you and arrange for a funeral home at your destination to transfer the container contents.

Security Procedures

Passengers are allowed to carry a cremation container with them as part of their carry-on baggage. The container, however, must pass through the x-ray machine.

- It must be made of a material that allows the x-ray to clearly scan its contents
- It must pass security screening. Documentation from a funeral home does not provide an exemption to this requirement
- Screening officers are not allowed to inspect the contents if you open it yourself
- It cannot be placed in checked baggage if it has been x-rayed at pre-board screening and its contents could not be determined.

This brochure was provided by:

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Can You Fly with Cremated Remains ?

**Changes to Regulations for
Screening Cremation Containers
at Canadian Airports**

**Answers to Frequently Asked
Questions**

Background:

Recent changes to Transport Canada regulations mean CATSA (Canadian Air Transport Security Authority) must update its procedures for screening cremation containers. Under the new regulations, cremation containers that cannot be cleared by the x-ray machine will not be permitted past the security checkpoint.



When did the new procedures come into effect?

New procedures came into effect July 26, 2013

Why is this change being made now?

CATSA's procedures for screening cremation containers are being updated to reflect changes to Transport Canada's regulations. The new regulations are consistent with the approach taken by other countries when screening cremation containers.

How will CATSA's procedures for screening cremation containers change?

Passengers going through pre-board screening with a cremation container will be asked to place it in a specially designed bin so that it can be screened using x-ray technology.

I can provide a *Cremation Certificate, Letter of Content* and *Death Certificate*. Does this exempt my container from screening?

No. All cremation containers must be screened and cleared by the x-ray machine under these procedures.

How will cremation containers be handled? Is there a chance my container might be damaged?

Screening officers will not handle cremation containers. Passengers will be asked to carefully place cremation containers in a specially designed bin so that they may be x-rayed. The x-ray will not harm the container or its contents.

Is it possible that a cremation container may not be permitted?

Yes. A cremation container will not be permitted beyond the screening checkpoint unless it is cleared by the x-ray machine.

What can I do if my cremation container is not permitted?

You may wish to:

- Leave the container with a friend or family member who is not travelling and still at the airport
- Ask your airline representative to re-book you on a later flight, allowing you time to make other arrangements.
- Ship the container via mail, cargo or courier. Please keep in mind that shipping options vary at airports.

If my cremation container did not pass the x-ray inspection, can I open it to show the screening officers that there are no non-permitted items inside?

No. If a cremation container does not pass the x-ray inspection, screening officers are not permitted to visually inspect the contents.

However, if your cremation container is empty, you can inform the screening officer, offer to open it yourself and show him or her there is nothing inside.

Are some types of containers more likely to pass inspection?

Due to differences in thickness, shape and material, some cremation containers are more likely to pass through security screening. **Plastic, cardboard or cloth containers are most likely to clear the x-ray and be permitted past the checkpoint.** Metal, granite and ceramic containers are least likely to be permitted past the checkpoint.

Are cremation containers allowed in checked baggage?

An empty cremation container is allowed in carry-on or checked baggage.

If it is not empty, ask your airline before you travel if they will allow it in checked baggage (some do and some don't).

All cremation containers, however, are subject to screening and may be rejected, whether transported empty or full, as carry-on or checked baggage.