

Sending Extra Stuff Home!



About 3 months before you leave Australia, you should start thinking about how to get your excess luggage home.

Call your airline and get absolute fact about how much you are allowed to take and how much it will cost. Some airlines are very forgiving and will not charge for a couple of kilos excess, others are not and you will get a big bill on check in. Remember: it varies from airline to airline.

The other thing to consider is that if your return trip involves more than one airline company, you may have to check with both and only pack up to the limit of the lowest allowance. For example, while Fab Flights may let you have 35kgs, your first leg of return is on Blue Skies Airline and they only allow 20kg. So in this case, you would be stuck with 20kgs. Or you are allowed 35kgs internationally but you have two domestic flights to take once you are back in your home country, and they only allow 20kgs. The lesson is 'do your own research', don't rely on what happened to someone else.



So, your alternative to taking it on the plane is to send some home via Sea Mail. You can do this with Australia Post Sea Mail. Australia Post divides the world into zones, and countries from Zones C and D can send Sea Mail.



Countries from A and B can only send parcels Air Mail.



As of December 2008, country zones we exchange with are:

Zone B – Japan, Philippines and Thailand

Zone C – Canada, Mexico and United States of America

Zone D – Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

The costs are: **Sea Mail – approx. A\$10 per kilo**
Air Mail – approx. A\$20 per kilo

Insurance is extra. Maximum weight allowance is 20kgs per parcel. You need to allow between 8-10 weeks for your parcel to get back home.

You can calculate your parcel cost at this website for Australia Post - http://www1.auspost.com.au/pac/int_parcel.asp

For further information, contact the Australia Post call-centre on 13 13 18.