



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

Contact: CBP Public Affairs  
(202) 344-1780 – [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Private Aircraft Preclearance at Shannon Airport

**Q: When will private aircraft preclearance processing at Shannon Airport begin?**

A: CBP will start up the new program at Shannon Airport on March 1, 2010.

**Q: What is a Preclearance inspection?**

A: A preclearance inspection is essentially the same inspection an individual would undergo at a U.S. port of entry. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) operates 15 preclearance ports of entry in Canada, Aruba, Bermuda, the Bahamas and Ireland.

**Q: What is preclearance of private aircraft?**

A: CBP is expanding its operations beyond simply preclearing commercial travelers in Shannon, Ireland to include the processing of flights that qualify as private aircraft per 19 CFR 122.1(h). This program will include inspections of all travelers, their personal articles and the examination of aircraft. *All laws and regulations for entering the United States apply.*

**Q: Will the new program include any other types of aircraft processing?**

A: No. Private aircraft processing does not include public or military aircraft, and CBP does *not* preclear cargo.

**Q: Who can be precleared on a private aircraft?**

A: All travelers meeting the normal documentary requirements for entering the United States on private aircraft will be inspected. Only *signatory carriers* are eligible to transport Visa Waiver Program applicants.

**Q: During what hours will CBP preclear private aircraft?**

A: CBP will process private aircraft at Shannon Airport daily from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Zulu/GMT).

**Q: What are the CBP requirements for private aircraft?**

A: Private aircraft pilots must:

- Request preclearance services
- Have a valid user fee aircraft decal
- Comply with USDA requirements for handling of regulated garbage\* at the U.S. destination airport
- Submit an electronic manifest (APIS) no later than 60 minutes prior to *inspection start time*

- Present travelers, baggage and aircraft for inspection
- Ensure servicing of aircraft is conducted prior to CBP inspection
- Immediate departure upon completion of CBP inspection.

**Q: How do I request preclearance services from CBP?**

A: Requests are made by calling 011-353-61-771946\*\* (for international), or 061-771946\*\* within Ireland. Aircraft pilots or representatives must request processing no later than 24 hours in advance of the *inspection start time* and prior to the close of local CBP business the previous day (before 7 p.m. Sun-Fri, 3 p.m. on Sat).

**Q: Where can private aircraft land in the U.S. after being precleared at Shannon?**

A: A list of CBP approved airports, in addition to other details on private aircraft processing, is available at [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov).

**Q: Where can I get information about Shannon Airport services?**

A: Please visit [www.shannonairport.com](http://www.shannonairport.com).

\* Regulated garbage also means meals and other food items that were available for consumption by passengers and crew on the aircraft but were not consumed.

\*\* This line only takes requests for preclearance services; it is not a CBP information line.