

TRAVEL GUIDE



**Give it
a second
thought** before
**buying a fake
product abroad**



MINISTERIO
DE INDUSTRIA, COMERCIO
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For many people a holiday involves relaxation, eating out - and also shopping! It is not unusual to be met by street vendors, who always have a good offer, or you can go to one of the local markets, which are overflowing with colourful products such as scarves, bags, watches and electronics of all sorts. They have it all – and at a price that can be difficult to resist. But **be aware that in many cases, the products are fakes.**

Earlier, most fake products were luxury products such as expensive handbags, watches and sunglasses. Today, almost all types of products are being falsified – from cosmetics, toys, food, medicine, electronics and spare parts for cars. Get good advice on how to spot fakes. Both when shopping in stores and traveling. Also, get tips on what to do, if you discover that you bought a fake product.

DEFINITIONS

What is counterfeiting?

Counterfeiting is the unauthorised copying of an original product – counterfeiters try to imitate the characteristics, materials or look of an original or legally protected product in order to take advantage of the reputation of the original, which is based on a trademark, an indication of source (such as “Made in Spain”), a design or a patent.



What is piracy?

Piracy is the unauthorised copying of works. This means the unlicensed use of works or performances which are protected under copyright or related rights. Examples are films, music, books, pictures, computer software, etc.

HOW TO AVOID FAKES?

Checklist for the shopping trip

Here are some tips on what to look for:

- › Is the price of the product suspiciously low?
- › Is the quality of the product lower than expected, e.g. uneven seams in textiles and leather?
- › Does the product smell of glue, plastic or chemicals?
- › Are the packaging, text and images of poor quality?
- › Is the point of sale unusual compared to the product image?



...AND REMEMBER; IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE – THEN, IT PROBABLY IS!

HAVE YOU BOUGHT A FAKE PRODUCT?

If you have bought a product that turns out to be a fake copy, you should contact the seller immediately to try to cancel the purchase.

If you have been deceived and have used a credit card to buy the product, you can contact the credit provider (that is to say the bank that has granted you credit) with a request to have your money returned.

It is important for the original manufacturer to be informed that its products are being pirated.. Only then **you can contribute** to halting the production and sale of fake copies.

Inform the original manufacturer of the purchase, preferably attaching documentation, for example a copy of any advertising and pictures of the product you have bought. On the internet is easy to find the contact details of the original manufacturers State when and where the product was bought. In that way you will make an important contribution to the fight against piracy.

To file a Police report related to the violation of Industrial Property rights, please remember the possibility of going to the National Police (Phone number 091) or Municipal Police (phone number 092). In the same way, you can go to the nearest service of the Civil Guard or contact the phone number 062.

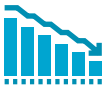
BUYING FAKE PRODUCTS HAS CONSEQUENCES



For the consumer: products of low quality and without guarantees, loss of the right to claim, risk for safety and health...



For mafias: contribution to labour exploitation, money laundering, organized crime...



For companies: loss of a lot of money, time in courts, unfair competition, damage to their image...



For the country: destruction of jobs, decrease in public revenues, discourage research, development and innovation, damage to the tourist image...



For the environment: production without environmental protection standards or work protocols that promote reduction, recycling or reuse.



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