REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF CREMATED REMAINS TO FRANCE

Documents to send by email to the Consulate:

1. Certificate of death
2. Cremation certificate
3. Letter of the next of kin requesting the shipment of the remains to France (document attached)

The urn containing the ashes must be sealed and carrying an identification plate with the identity of the deceased.

The urn is then placed in a rigid box that will be sealed by the Consulate.

A family member or a representative from the funeral home must come to the Consulate, with an appointment, with the urn and the original documents mentioned above so that the Consulate can issue the authorization of transportation and seal the urn.

TSA regulations: You are permitted to transport a crematory container as carry-on baggage but it must pass through the x-ray machine. If the TSA agent cannot clearly see the contents of the container then the remains will need to be transported as checked baggage. We advise that you check with the airline company if you are allowed to have the urn as a carry-on baggage.

Once the urn arrives in France, it is necessary to comply with national regulations, which state three possibilities for the ashes:
- Keeping them in the urn which can be buried or placed in a columbarium
- Scattered in a designated area at a cemetery
- Scattered in nature with the authorization from the town hall (Mairie) in France.

The urn cannot be kept at home.