

Customs (Series 1)

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Episode 001

Sniffer-dog Badger picks out a suspect suitcase at Gatwick and his handler finds nearly three kilos of cocaine hidden inside. Officers in Bristol catch a man smuggling cigarettes - his lies only get him deeper into trouble. At Gatwick, new officer Mark pulls over two women returning from the Caribbean - their antics convince him he's about to make his first cocaine seizure. In Portsmouth, officers are cracking down on "baccy buses" - coach-loads of passengers offered a free booze cruise, as long as they carry back their tobacco allowance, which the organisers collect and re-sell on the black market costing the Treasury over £2billion a year.

2. Episode 002

At Gatwick airport, Customs catch a cocaine smuggler red-handed, and he confesses that he's being me by someone – officers then lay a trap to catch the accomplice. A suspiciously clean car arouses suspicions in Portsmouth, and its owner isn't pleased to learn his new vehicle will be dismantled in the deep rummage bay. In Bristol, following an anonymous tip-off on the Customs Confidential hotline, officers pay a visit to suspected cigarette smugglers, and find all the evidence they need sitting on the dining room table. And when officers searching a shipment of doors discover a massive concealment of drugs and ammunition destined for Devon, they decide to do a controlled delivery, and catch the criminals in the act.

3. Episode 003

In Cornwall, the crew aboard Customs cutter Searcher is investigating mysterious pot-markers that they suspect are being used for smuggling drugs. The Gatwick baggage x-ray picks up a suspicious bag and the passengers try to split up to get through Customs, but officers are watching their every move, and Calvin's search discovers cannabis worth £55000. And a passenger in Bristol caught with too many cigarettes confesses to have been getting away with it for nearly ten years.

4. Episode 004

In Bristol, Ann catches 3 passengers with 87 kilos of tobacco worth nearly £11000. It's the largest amount officers have seen for years, but the passengers claim it is all for their own consumption. Knowing it's unlikely he'll get to keep the tobacco, the man's temper boils over and he decides to fight Ann all the way. In Cornwall, the officers on Customs cutter Searcher have the power to

board any vessel, but when a sailor refuses to let them onto his yacht, the crew board it anyway and swab it for drugs. And in Gatwick, sniffer-dog Rossie picks up the scent of a suspected drug smuggler and a swab gives a massive hit for cocaine.

5. Episode 005

In Dover, officers armed with a giant x-ray tackle large-scale smugglers hoping to hide amongst the thousands of trucks flooding through the port each day. Today the x-ray finds a mysterious shadow in a truck full of chipboard, and suspect it could be hiding millions of illegal cigarettes. In Bristol, a man travelling with his mother is caught bringing in 5000 cigarettes from Turkey, well above the limit of 200, and he reacts angrily when Ann tells him he's going to lose the lot. And in Cornwall, the crew aboard Searcher are looking for smugglers. At first they find nothing but dolphins, but they then spot a lone yacht coming from the Canaries, a frequent transit point for cocaine, and decide to board it and search for drugs.

6. Episode 006

Customs hits the jackpot when the Specialist Rummage Team finds a ton of cannabis concealed in a truck in Dover. An intimate search gets to the bottom of a suspected heroin smuggler at Gatwick. In Cornwall, the captain of a ship lies to the officers aboard Customs Cutter Searcher, about how many cigarettes he has on board. And in Bristol, Customs Officer Joe stops a couple with 8000 cigarettes returning from Spain. Joe just needs to confirm that the cigarettes are for personal use, but communicating with the man proves challenging, especially when he confuses Joe for a pilot, and asks if he can buy any cheap bottles of spirits from the officers.

7. Episode 007

In Cornwall, officers aboard Searcher board a suspicious yacht and receive an angry welcome. In Dover customs officers searching under a truck find an illegal immigrant hiding dangerously on the engine. And in Bristol officers receive an anonymous tip off about two cocaine smugglers arriving from Amsterdam. John stops and questions the suspects, and when the interview identifies immigration problems, one is sent packing back to America.

8. Episode 008

In Bristol, eagle-eyed officer Russ spots a passenger dressed in a suspiciously smart suit making a swift exit. A bag search discovers three kilos of cocaine hidden in the fabric of the case. In Gatwick officers are on the lookout for a passenger previously charged with importing drugs, surgically stitched into a live Labrador. In Dover, 300000 cigarettes are found in a shipment of resin granules. And in Cornwall, the customs officers aboard Searcher rummage a massive Polish cargo vessel looking for potential smugglers and discover a stash of 10000 cigarettes