

Consultant: Troy Coelho

Issued: Mon, 5th November 2018

Tel: +61 2 6285 2644
Fax: +61 2 6285 2430
Email: troy@justtravel.com.au
Web: www.justtravel.com.au



# Canadian Country Guide

Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to Canada

### Passport & Tourist Visa Conditions for Australian Passport Holders

Most Australian passport holders do not require a visa to enter Canada for tourism purposes, however those arriving by air are required to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) from <a href="http://canada.ca/eta">http://canada.ca/eta</a> before boarding their flight to Canada for a cost of CAN\$7. Those entering Canada by land or sea do not currently require an eTA. The length of stay granted is determined by the officer at the port of entry (usually six months). Passports should be valid for the period of intended stay (six months beyond is strongly recommended). Travellers should be in good health and be able, if asked, to show documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay. Travellers should also be able to satisfy the immigration officer that they will leave Canada before their period of stay has expired. Persons with prior criminal convictions (including drink driving) may not be eligible to enter Canada without a visa and should contact the Canadian Consulate for a formal assessment of their admissibility.

Further conditions apply for those under 18 years of age, especially if travelling alone or with only one parent. Persons travelling via the US are reminded of their obligation to comply with US entry and transit visa requirements. Travellers are recommended to contact a Canadian representative on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Canada without a visa.

#### Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Frequent travellers or those intending a long stay overseas should consider vaccination against hepatitis B. Vaccination against rabies should be considered by those involved in activities that put them at risk for bat or other animal bites.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Canada should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

#### Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

<u>Exercise normal safety precautions</u> in Canada. Use common sense and look out for suspicious behaviour, as you would in Australia. You'll need to get an <u>electronic travel authorisation</u> (eTA) before you travel to Canada, even if you are just transiting. See <u>Entry and exit</u>. If you're a dual Australian-Canadian citizen, you're not eligible for an eTA - you'll need to present a valid Canadian passport to enter Canada. See <u>Entry and exit</u>.

The recreational use of cannabis is legal in Canada subject to provincial or territorial restrictions. There is a strict legal framework around its use. See <u>Laws</u>. There are restrictions on the import of certain medications, including 'over-the-counter' and prescription drugs. Contact <u>Health Canada</u> for advice before you travel. See <u>Health</u>. Parts of Canada experience extreme weather. Earthquakes, avalanches, hurricanes, tornadoes, fires and tsunamis are also possible. See <u>Natural disasters</u>.

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Canada at <a href="https://www.smartraveller.gov.au">www.smartraveller.gov.au</a>.

# Canadian Representation in Australia

Consulate General of Canada, Sydney

Immigration Section Level 5, Quay West 111 Harrington Street SYDNEY NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 9364 3000 Fax: (02) 9364 3098

Web: <u>www.australia.gc.ca</u>

Canadian Department of Immigration & Citizenship

Web: www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit

Canada also maintains a High Commission in Canberra and honorary consulates around Australia. However all visa and immigration enquiries should be directed to the Consulate General in Sydney or directly to the immigration department.

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# Canadian Country Guide

Important Information while Travelling

#### Canadian Time Differences with Australia

Canada has six standard times zones. These are Pacific (Vancouver; GMT -8), Mountain (Calgary; GMT -7), Central (Winnipeg; GMT -6), Eastern (Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal; GMT -5), Atlantic (Halifax; GMT -4), and Newfoundland (St John's; GMT -3.5). Daylight Saving Time is observed in all provinces except Saskatchewan and some small regions. Daylight Saving begins on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday of November. For the purposes of this guide only Pacific and Eastern time is compared. The times in Australia below are the following day (thus if it's Sunday afternoon in Canada, it's Monday in Australia).

Vancouver, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 4 am; Darwin 5:30 am; Brisbane 6 am; Adelaide 6:30 am; Hobart, Melb., Syd. 7 am.

Vancouver, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 3 am; Adelaide, Darwin 4:30 am; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 5 am.

Toronto, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) Toronto, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) Perth 1 am; Darwin 2:30 am; Brisbane 3 am; Adelaide 3:30 am; Hobart, Melb., Syd. 4 am.

Perth midnight; Adelaide, Darwin 1:30 am; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 2 am.

#### Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Canada: +1

To Dial Australia Call: 011 61 < City > < Number >

Australian Reverse Charges Direct: 1800 663 0683

Travelex Card Services: 1 888 713 3424 Visa Global Assistance: 1866 639 1911

MasterCard: 1800 307 7309

American Express Travellers Cheques:

1866 296 5198

Directory Information: 411 Emergency Services: 911

The emergency services number may not be applicable in remote areas. In such circumstances travellers may call the Australian after hours consular emergency number on 1800 364 9180.

#### Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Name:	Passport #:
Name:	Passport #:
Credit Cards	
Name:	Institution:
Card Number:	
	Institution:
Card Number:	
Travel Insurance	
Name:	Institution:
Policy #:	
Name:	Institution:
Policy #:	

# Australian Representation in Canada

Australian High Commission, Ottawa

Suite 1301, 50 O'Connor Street OTTAWA ON K1P 6L2

Tel: (+1 613) 236 0841 (+1 613) 786 7621

Web: www.canada.embassy.gov.au Australian Consulate, Vancouver

**Passports** 

Suite 2050 - 1075 West Georgia St VANCOUVER BC V6E 3C9 (+1 604) 694 6160

Australian Consulate General, Toronto

S1100 Sth Tower, 175 Bloor Street, East

TORONTO ON M4W 3R8 (+1 416) 323 4280 Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Canada are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at one of these missions or online at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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# Canadian Country Guide

General Destination Canada

Alcohol:

### Duty Free Allowances for Canada and Australia

Allowances for non residents entering Canada:

1.5 L (53 oz) of wine or 1.14 L (40 oz) of liquor or Alcohol:

 $24 \times 355$  ml (8.5 L) cans/bottles of beer.

200 cigarettes and 50 cigars and 200 tobacco Tobacco:

sticks and 200 g (7 oz.) of manufactured tobacco.

Allowances when entering Australia: 2.25 L.

Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.

Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Canada and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Canadian customs please visit www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca, or for information on Australian customs please visit www.border.gov.au.

## **Electrical Adaptors and Voltage**

Electrical socket: USA (type B) and Japanese (type A) sockets are the most common in Canada.

Supply: 110-120 V, 60 Hz (different to Australia). A voltage converter will usually be required to use appliances designed for use in Australia.

Travellers are urged to check the electrical info panel on their device. If it says "Input: 100-240V, 50-60 Hz" then a voltage converter should not be required.



## Canadian Holidays 2018

01/02 Jan: New Year's Day 03 Sep: Labour Day 30 Mar: Good Friday 08 Oct: Thanksgiving 02 Apr: Easter Monday 11 Nov: Remembrance Day 21 May: Victoria Day 25 Dec: Christmas Day 01 Jul: Canada Day 26 Dec: **Boxing Day** 06 Aug: Civic Holiday

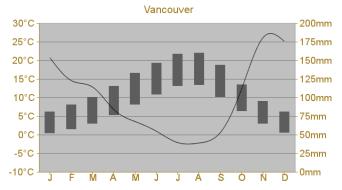
School Holidays

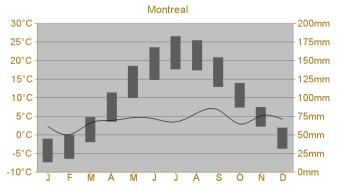
The Canadian school year is designated by individual states. The below dates represent a rough guide to school holidays.

Christmas/New Year: late December - early January Easter/Spring: one week in mid March

Summer: end of June - early of September

# Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Canada





For local forecasts please go to <a href="http://weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca">http://weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca</a>.

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# Canadian Country Guide

Page 4 of 5 Canadian Currency Information and Cheat Sheet

### Exchange Rate with Australia

#### Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.94 Canadian Dollars

1 Canadian Dollar (CAD) = 1.06 Australian Dollars

#### With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.91 Canadian Dollars

1 Canadian Dollar (CAD) will cost 1.10 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

### **Purchasing Power Parity**

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Canadian Dollar and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing power of each currency.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 5.60 Canadian Dollars Big Mac Canada: \$6.55 (CAD) = 6.96 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Canada is therefore 17% more expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

#### **Currency Cheat Sheet**

\$0.50 CAD	=	\$0.55 AUD		This cl	heat sheet uses the "With	4% Margin" rate	e of e	exchange listed above.
\$1 CAD		\$1.10 AUD	\$10 CAD		\$11.05 AUD	\$100 CAD		\$110.45 AUD
\$2 CAD	=	\$2.21 AUD	\$20 CAD	=	\$22.09 AUD	\$200 CAD	=	\$220.91 AUD
\$3 CAD	=	\$3.31 AUD	\$30 CAD	=	\$33.14 AUD	\$300 CAD	=	\$331.36 AUD
\$4 CAD	=	\$4.42 AUD	\$40 CAD	=	\$44.18 AUD	\$400 CAD	=	\$441.82 AUD
\$5 CAD	=	\$5.52 AUD	\$50 CAD	=	\$55.23 AUD	\$500 CAD	=	\$552.27 AUD
\$6 CAD	=	\$6.63 AUD	\$60 CAD	=	\$66.27 AUD	\$600 CAD	=	\$662.73 AUD
\$7 CAD	=	\$7.73 AUD	\$70 CAD	=	\$77.32 AUD	\$700 CAD	=	\$773.18 AUD
\$8 CAD	=	\$8.84 AUD	\$80 CAD	=	\$88.36 AUD	\$800 CAD	=	\$883.63 AUD
\$9 CAD	=	\$9.94 AUD	\$90 CAD	=	\$99.41 AUD	\$900 CAD	=	\$994.09 AUD
						\$1 000 CAD	=	\$1 104 54 AUD

#### Notes and Coins of Canada

The currency of Canada is the Canadian dollar which has the currency code "CAD" and is abbreviated using the symbol "\$" or "C\$" to distinguish it from other dollar denominated currencies. The following units of currency are the most common but other versions and denominations are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.



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5 About Canada Canadian

#### About Canada

Independence: 1 July 1867. Canada (Ontario, Quebec, Nova Significant Dates:

> Scotia and New Brunswick) is formed from British Provinces. Other provinces join later,

Newfoundland being the last in 1949.

9,984,670 sq km (30% larger than Australia). Size:

Population: 35 million (50% larger than Australia).

British 28%, French 23%, mixed 26%, Other Ethnic Origins:

European 15%, Indigenous 2%.

English 68%, English and French 17.5%, Language:

French 13%, neither English or French 1.8%.

GDP Per Capita: US\$44,500 (Australia US\$46,600).

c 30.000 BC - First people enter North America from Asia. c 1,000 AD - Vikings explore the Atlantic coastline. 1497 AD - John Cabot claims Newfoundland for England.

- Jacques Cartier claims modern Quebec for France. 1756-63 - Seven Years War, Britain acquires French colonies.

- War of 1812. US fails to invade Canada. 1812-14

1867 - British colonies unite to form the Dominion of Canada.

1871 - B.C. and P.E.I. join Canada.

1881-85 - Canadian Pacific Railway is built across Canada. 1896 - A Gold rush begins along the Yukon River.

1965 - Canadian flag is officially adopted.

1980.95 - Referenda on secession of Quebec are defeated.

1976 - Montreal hosts the Olympic games.

