



# U.S.A. Bound

Advice for Canadian Travellers



Published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

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We would like to receive your comments on this booklet. Write to us at the above address or e-mail us at [voyage@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:voyage@dfait-maeci.gc.ca).

### **For More Information**

The “For More Information” section (p. 28) includes information on publications, resources and programs available from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, as well as from other government departments and agencies mentioned throughout the text.

The information in this booklet is subject to change. Please check with our Web site or the appropriate government departments and organizations mentioned inside to ensure you have the most current information.

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*Ce document est aussi disponible en français sous le titre En route pour les États-Unis.*

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Revision: November 2003  
Cat. No.: E74-83/2003-1E  
ISBN: 0-662-35247-5



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## Before You Go

Canadians travel to the United States in greater numbers and with greater frequency than to anywhere else. The neighbourhood is a shared one. As a former prime minister remarked, “We are not in the same boat, but we are pretty much in the same waters.”

We may easily forget that the border is an international frontier. The United States is a foreign country.

Many Canadians do not make adequate preparations for entering the United States.

## Be Prepared

Every trip begins at home. What you do before you leave — and the more you do — will help ensure a trouble-free visit.

You may wish to consult our Travel Reports for the United States, Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands for information on safety and security conditions, health issues and entry requirements. Check the “For More Information” section for details.

As a result, they encounter serious problems.

The Consular Affairs Bureau of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Canadian government offices in the United States help thousands of such Canadians. Problems range from the simple (“I’m in West Virginia — how do I get out?”) to the complex (“I’ve been arrested...”). If you have a problem, call us. We are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. See the “For More Information” section for contact numbers.

The preparations you must make and the information you require depend on the reason for your visit and the length of time you expect to be in the United States. If you’re simply crossing the border to fill your gas tank or shop for a few hours and have done so before, your preparations can be minimal. But if you are going for several weeks or months, if you are moving permanently, or if your visit involves remunerative work, you need to prepare carefully.

## First Things First

### Entry Requirements *Identification*

The requirements of U.S. authorities for identification upon entering the United States have recently become much stricter. The most important formality on entering the United States is providing proof of your Canadian citizenship. In order to avoid possible problems, all Canadians should carry a Canadian passport for all visits to the United States. Your Canadian passport is the best document to prove your Canadian citizenship and your right to return to Canada.

All carriers (noticeably airlines, but also rail and bus services) have become much stricter about

requiring proof of admissibility to Canada as a result of the heavy fines they face for carrying inadmissible passengers. Since birth and baptismal certificates, for example, do not have photographs, they are no longer accepted without accompanying valid photo identification. Even carriers taking Canadians from Canada to the United States on roundtrip tickets have refused to return them to Canada without valid photo identification and proof of Canadian citizenship.

As a result, many travellers have had to contact Canadian government offices in the United States for assistance. When this happens, the office has to verify

### Travelling by Air

The Government of the United States has imposed a requirement that all airlines operating flights into the United States collect the following information for every passenger: full legal name, gender, date of birth, nationality and travel document number. This information is provided to the U.S. Customs Service in advance of a flight’s arrival in the United States. As a

condition of travel, all passengers travelling to the United States, or in transit through the United States to a third country, must provide this information at the time of flight check-in. This program is referred to as the United States Advanced Passenger Information System and is part of the security measures implemented by the United States after September 11, 2001.

documentation with provincial and federal authorities, which involves further delay.

### **Passports**

While U.S. authorities currently do not have a legal requirement that Canadians carry a passport, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade strongly urges all Canadians travelling to the United States to obtain and carry a Canadian passport before leaving Canada. It is the only document that conclusively proves that you are a citizen of Canada with the right to return to Canada. Remember that a Canadian passport is still the best internationally accepted evidence of your Canadian citizenship and the best possible photo identification.

### **Special Cases**

Persons who have been diagnosed with HIV or AIDS normally need to obtain a waiver of ineligibility before they can travel to the United States. Contact the nearest office of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (U.S. Department of Homeland

Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services) for information on how to apply for a waiver.

If you have an unusual situation concerning entry into the United States, you should obtain authoritative information from the U.S. authorities immediately before your visit. For more information, consult the U.S. Embassy Web site ([www.usembassycanada.gov](http://www.usembassycanada.gov)) and select "Traveling to the U.S.A.?" from the menu, or go to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) Web site ([www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)).

### **Snowbirds**

A maximum admission period of six months is expected to be the norm for Canadian retirees seeking to winter in warmer climates. Those who wish to stay longer may apply for an extension once they are in the United States.

### **Dual Nationality**

Some Canadians may have U.S. as well as Canadian citizenship through birth in the United States or through naturalization or descent. Although this is not likely to create problems — and in fact may solve some — it is wise for you to understand your status under U.S. law.

Canadians who are also U.S. citizens should always identify themselves as U.S. citizens when entering the United States. For information on dual nationality, consult the "Dual Nationality" section of the American Citizen Information Services Web site ([www.amcits.com](http://www.amcits.com)) or contact the U.S. consulate serving your area in Canada.

For more information on dual citizenship, consult our booklet *Dual Citizenship: What Travellers Should Know*.

### **Criminal Records**

If you have a criminal record, no matter how minor or how long ago the offence, you may be refused entry to the United States. There may also be problems in transit through U.S. air-

ports. Under U.S. law, a pardon issued by Canadian authorities is not recognized for purposes of entry into the United States.

If you have a criminal record, you should contact one of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) ports of entry well in advance of travel to the United States. If you are ineligible to enter the United States, you may apply for a waiver of ineligibility. This will involve completing Form I-192, "Advance Permission to Enter the United States." There is a fee and it may take several months to process your application.

Waiver application forms are available from any port of entry to the United States, any pre-clearance site in Canada, the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa or one of the U.S. consulates in Canada.

U.S. ports of entry are computerized and connected to a centralized database. Information is readily available on criminal convictions in both Canada and the United States. Even though you may have entered the United States without hindrance in the

past, you could run into difficulty if your record shows a criminal conviction or a previous denial of entry. Attempting to gain entry without a waiver could result in several weeks of detention at a U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) facility.

If you left the United States to avoid military service during the Vietnam War and have not since regularized your status, there might be an outstanding warrant for your arrest or you might be ineligible for U.S. entry. If in doubt, check with the nearest U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) port of entry.

If you need information about regularizing your status with the U.S. military, you can call the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa at **1 800 283-4356** or **(613) 238-5335** and select "Defence Attaché's Office" from the voice mail menu.

### Travel with or by Children

Since December 11, 2001, Canadian children need their own passport. However, if you

hold a valid Canadian passport issued before December 11, 2001, that bears the name of your child, the passport remains valid for both you and your child until it expires or until your child reaches the age of 16, whichever comes first.

### Child Abduction

If there is a possibility of a custody dispute developing while you are away with your child, you should talk to a Canadian lawyer before leaving home. For more information on international child abduction, consult our publication *International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents*.

U.S. and Canadian authorities and transportation companies are increasingly vigilant in questioning persons travelling with children. If you are planning to travel to the United States with a child, you should carry documentation proving your custodial rights, especially for very young children. If a person younger than 18 is travelling to the United States alone or with only one parent or another adult, certified documentation proving

that the trip is permitted by both parents should be carried. For an example of a certified consent letter, visit the "Frequently Asked Questions" section of our Web site.

### International Adoptions

Provincial and territorial authorities in Canada are responsible for authorizing international adoptions. If you are thinking of adopting a child from the United States, you must first obtain information about the adoption regulations of the province or territory in which the child will reside. While adoption is a provincial/territorial responsibility, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is responsible for allowing an adopted child entry into Canada. Entry can be refused if the child does not hold the appropriate immigrant visa. A visa may be denied even if the adoption has already been completed.

For more information, contact your provincial/territorial authorities or the CIC call centre nearest you.

### Medical Matters

If you have a medical condition, or are pregnant, you should seek an individual risk assessment from your personal physician or a travel medicine clinic prior to travel. For a list of travel medicine clinics in Canada, visit the Web site of Health Canada's Travel Medicine Program.

If you have a medical condition that could present a problem while you are travelling, it is wise to wear a MedicAlert® bracelet. Through the MedicAlert® Foundation, your vital medical facts become part of a database that can be accessed 24 hours a day from anywhere in the world.

If you require medication for an existing medical condition, take a sufficient supply for all your needs during travel. These must be in clearly labelled containers and include a copy of the doctor's prescription indicating both the generic and trade names. Essential medication should be divided and stored in two pieces of luggage, so that if one piece of luggage is delayed, lost or stolen, an alternative supply is available.

Should a physician advise you to carry a supply of sterile syringes and needles for medical use, it is recommended that you also carry a medical certificate of explanation.

Carry an extra pair of prescription glasses or contact lenses and a copy of your prescription.

Take all the precautions you would at home to avoid HIV infection, the virus that causes AIDS. Using intravenous drugs is illegal and dangerous, especially if you share needles.

### Illegal Drugs

The U.S. Zero Tolerance Policy imposes severe penalties for the possession of even a small amount of an illegal drug. Even prescription drugs and syringes used for legitimate medical purposes come under intense scrutiny.

Never carry a package or luggage for someone else unless you have been able to verify the contents completely.

Choose your travelling companions wisely. Never cross the border with a hitchhiker or as a

hitchhiker. Though you may not be carrying anything illegal, your companions might be and you could be implicated.

Be equally careful about who and what you carry in your vehicle. As the driver, you could be held responsible for the misdeeds of your passengers, even if committed without your knowledge or involvement.

For more information, check the “Drugs and Travel” section of the Consular Affairs Web site ([www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs\\_menu-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs_menu-en.asp)) or our publication *Drugs and Travel: Why They Don't Mix*.

### Money Matters

Canadian currency, traveller's cheques in Canadian dollars and personal cheques drawn on Canadian banks are not widely or easily negotiable in the United States. Accordingly, you should purchase traveller's cheques in U.S. dollars before you leave Canada. All major credit cards are accepted throughout the United States. There are banking machines that will accept Canadian bank cards, but these

may be limited depending on your account access privileges (Interac, PLUS, etc.). Despite these difficulties, do not carry large amounts of cash.

No limit is placed on the amount of money that travellers may legally take into or out of the United States. However, if on any occasion you carry more than US\$10,000 in monetary instruments (such as U.S. or foreign coin, currency, traveller's cheques, money orders, and negotiable instruments or investment securities in bearer form) into or out of the United States, or if you receive more than that amount while in the United States, you must file a report (Customs Form 4790) with U.S. Customs. Failure to comply can result in civil and criminal penalties, including seizure of the currency or monetary instruments.

### Supplemental Health Insurance

Do not rely on your provincial health plan to cover costs if you get sick or are injured while you are outside the country. At best, your health plan will cover only a portion of the bill. It is your responsibility to obtain and understand the terms of your

supplementary insurance policies. Some credit cards offer their holders health and travel insurance. Do not assume the card alone provides adequate coverage.

Be sure to ask whether your policy:

- Has an in-house emergency hotline you can call if you are in trouble. Find out whether it is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; whether the operators are multilingual; and whether nurses or physicians are on staff.
- Pays foreign hospital and related medical costs and, if so, whether it pays up front or expects you to pay and be reimbursed later.
- Provides for your medical evacuation to the nearest place with proper medical care or to Canada.
- Pays for any required medical escort (doctor/nurse) to accompany you during evacuation.
- Excludes pre-existing medical conditions. If such conditions exist, notify your insurance company and get an agreement in writing that you are covered for these conditions. Otherwise, you could find your claim “null and void” under a pre-existing condition clause.



- Covers premature births and related neonatal care.
- Allows for cash advances if a hospital accepts only such payment.
- Pays for the preparation and return to Canada of your remains should you die while travelling.

**Carry details of your insurance with you.** Also, tell your travel agent, a friend or a relative at home and your travelling companion how to contact your insurer.

**Get a detailed invoice** from the doctor or hospital before you leave the United States. There is nothing more frustrating than trying to get the proper paperwork from thousands of kilometres away. Remember always to **submit original receipts** for any medical services or prescriptions you received while travelling. Most insurance companies will not accept copies or faxes.

### Other Insurance

Your provincial government health insurance plan cannot be maintained after you have lived outside the province for a period of time. This period varies depending on your province of residence. Individual personal medical insurance for those working

outside Canada, with both occupational and non-occupational coverage, is available. These plans consist of full accident and sickness coverage, including emergency medical evacuation.

Lost luggage, theft of your purse or wallet, or flight cancellations can happen to you. These annoyances may cause major disruptions when they take place outside Canada. Consider purchasing a travel insurance package that will compensate you for such inconveniences.

### Automobile Insurance

If you are entering the United States by personal automobile, you should check with your insurance agent to verify that your existing coverage is valid or sufficient for the U.S. areas you will be visiting and for the duration of your visit. If you are going to remain in a specific location in the United States for a considerable period of time, you should verify with the local authorities that your vehicle registration and driver's licence will remain valid.

Many states have mandatory automobile insurance requirements,

and many require motorists to carry appropriate proof of insurance. Each state's motor vehicles department can give you more specific information. The American Automobile Association (AAA) and the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) can provide detailed information to their members.

If you are in the United States and wish to drive to Mexico in your personal vehicle, you may need to purchase liability insurance as well as additional auto insurance. Contact your insurance agent and the local Mexican tourist office for information.

### Pets

When examined at a port of entry, cats and dogs must show no signs of diseases communicable to humans. If there is evidence of poor health, an examination by a licensed veterinarian might be required, at the expense of the owner.

Vaccination against rabies is not required for cats. Dogs must be vaccinated against rabies at least 30 days before entry, except for puppies under three months of age. Other animals are also

subject to controls. Further information may be obtained from the U.S. Customs & Border Protection Web site ([www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)).

When you return to Canada, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency will require proof of vaccination against rabies for all cats and dogs over three months of age. If you don't have this proof, inspectors can provide you with a conditional release so that you can present the proper documentation at a later date, at a cost of about \$60. It is therefore advisable to have your cat or dog vaccinated before leaving Canada. For detailed information, contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency or visit their Web site ([www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca)).

### U.S. Customs

Very specific U.S. regulations govern what you may bring into the United States. These cover gifts, alcohol, tobacco and vehicles. Also included are various prohibited and restricted items such as lottery tickets, liquor-filled candy, seditious and treasonable materials, obscene or pornographic materials, products made by convicts or forced

### Travel to Cuba

People residing in the United States, regardless of citizenship, are generally prohibited from spending money (in any currency) relating to Cuban travel unless they are licensed by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). Transactions related to tourist travel are prohibited and cannot be licensed.

For more information about the Cuban sanctions program, contact OFAC, U.S. Department of the Treasury, at (202) 622-2520 (Washington, D.C.) or (305) 810-5140 (Miami). OFAC also operates a free automated fax-on-demand service that can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at (202) 622-0077.

labour and products, such as ivory, made from endangered species. Switchblade knives are prohibited, except those owned by persons with only one arm.

A non-resident may bring in merchandise worth up to US\$200 free of duty for personal or household use. On visits of 72 hours or more, you may carry an additional US\$100 worth of merchandise free of duty as gifts for other people. However, there are restrictions. Further information can be obtained by phoning a U.S. Customs office or consulting the U.S. Customs & Border Protection Web site ([www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)).

### Boating in U.S. Waters

Canadian boaters travelling frequently to the United States in pleasure craft smaller than five net tons, for visits of less than 72 hours, can obtain a Canadian Border Boat Landing Permit (Form I-68) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS). This permit is not mandatory but facilitates entry procedures. The form is available at [www.uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/i-68.htm](http://www.uscis.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/i-68.htm).

### Transit for Cruises

Many Canadians enter the United States on their way to join sea cruises to other countries. You must have a valid Canadian

passport for such a trip. Some of the countries you may be visiting will not permit entry without a passport. A passport is also important to re-enter the United States at the end of the cruise.

Ship authorities may retain your passport during the cruise, in accordance with their own administrative regulations and to facilitate clearance with U.S. Immigration. Passengers should obtain a receipt for their passport, and the passport should be returned at the end of the cruise.

### Canadian Taxation Status

If you are living or travelling in the United States but maintain residential ties in Canada, you are usually considered a factual resident of Canada for taxation purposes. However, many factors are taken into account in deter-

mining your status for income tax purposes, so you should review your situation with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) to avoid surprises. The CCRA publication *Canadian Residents Going Down South* provides information for individuals.

### U.S. Taxation Status

If you are a Canadian resident spending part of the year in the United States, you could be considered either a resident alien or a non-resident alien for U.S. taxation purposes. Resident aliens are generally taxed in the United States on income from all sources worldwide; non-resident aliens are generally taxed in the United States only on income from U.S. sources. It is important, therefore, for you to determine your status by contacting the U.S. authorities.

## Working in the United States

As a Canadian legally entering the United States for remunerative work, you must have the proper authorization. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) makes cross-border movement easier for four specific types of business persons

For more information on working outside Canada, consult our publication *Working Abroad: Unravelling the Maze*.

who are citizens of the member countries: business visitors,

professionals, traders and investors, and intra-company transferees. Chapter 16 of NAFTA complements rather than replaces existing immigration laws and regulations concerning temporary entry. NAFTA does not alter the general immigration provisions as they affect public health, safety and national security.

Both Canada and the United States have publications containing information on U.S. entry for Canadians under NAFTA. The Canadian government publication *Cross-Border Movement of Business Persons and the North American Free Trade Agreement* ([www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena/cross-en.asp](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena/cross-en.asp)) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's *Temporary Entry to the United States: A Guide for Canadian Business Persons* ([www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena/temp\\_entry-en.asp](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/nafta-alena/temp_entry-en.asp)) are both available in printed format (e-mail

[enqserv@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:enqserv@dfait-maeci.gc.ca)) as well as on-line. The U.S. publication *The North American Free Trade Agreement — The United States, Canada and Mexico* is available from U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) offices.

Under NAFTA, certain Canadian **professionals** are permitted entry to engage in business activities at a professional level; included are accountants, engineers, librarians, social workers, psychologists, teachers and zoologists. A full listing of the professions covered is found in the NAFTA pamphlets referred to in the preceding paragraph.

There are specific U.S. requirements for a Canadian entering as a **visitor for business**, a **treaty trader**, a **treaty investor** or an **intra-company transferee**. In each case, you must meet established legal requirements.

*the United States*. As well, staff at the Canadian Consulate General in New York can provide advice and guidance.

More information for performing artists is available in our publication *Canadian Performers: How to Enter*

### Social Benefits and Pension Plans

Canadians relocating for employment should contact the appropriate Canadian and U.S. agencies to ensure they are fully informed regarding their entitlement to social benefits, including pension

plans, in their new jurisdiction of employment, as well as to determine if they continue to be eligible to participate in pension schemes or to claim other social benefits in Canada.

**Truck drivers** and other persons involved in inter-country transportation are permitted entry to transport goods or passengers to or from a point in the United States. After entry, they are not permitted to pick up additional cargo or passengers for delivery within the United States.

If you are entering the United States to fulfill an **after-sales service** contract that was part of a commercial agreement, you should carry appropriate documentation, such as the master contract and the service agreement. For more details, please consult the three NAFTA publications noted above.

**Spouses or dependants** who accompany business persons qualified under NAFTA can work in the United States only if they independently qualify under NAFTA

or under the general foreign worker provisions, including a labour certification test.

**Canadian tradespeople** such as carpenters, electricians and plumbers are not covered by NAFTA and are not permitted to enter the United States for remunerative work unless they qualify independently under the general immigration provisions applicable to all foreign workers.

**Performing artists** such as members of Canadian entertainment groups in a creative field (for example, music, opera, dance, theatre or the circus) who have a signed contract with an enterprise in the United States require a temporary employment visa.

Canadians planning to enter the United States for **marriage** or **immigration** purposes should

call **1 900 451-6330** (recording) or **1 900 451-2778** (to speak to a visa specialist) for additional information, or consult the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) Web site ([www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)). Canadians planning to enter the United States for **long-term work** should also contact the CIS.

Canadians travelling to the United States to perform **volunteer** work may require a work permit, especially if the employer pays any related expenses such as travel or room and board. Such individuals have on occasion been refused entry at the border. Others have been refused entry after admitting to U.S. Immigration officers that they have previously performed volunteer work in the United States. It is wise to discuss your specific situation with the U.S. Department of

## Being There

### Admissibility and Entry

As soon as you stop at the U.S. border or at an inland port of entry, you are subject to U.S. law. U.S. Immigration can refuse entry

Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) to avoid potential problems.

### Studying in the United States

Canadian students are no longer allowed to begin study in the United States without a valid Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility). These are issued by the U.S. school and sent directly to the applicant. In addition, students should have the following ready for presentation to the U.S. Immigration officer at the port of entry:

- documentary evidence of sufficient funds to cover travel, tuition and living expenses in the United States;
- evidence that the applicant has a residence outside the United States and has no intention of abandoning it; and
- evidence of scholastic and linguistic proficiency for the academic programs to be undertaken in the United States.

to persons with criminal records or persons who cannot demonstrate that they have a legitimate reason to enter the United States.

Generally, the criteria for admissibility as a temporary visitor include, but are not limited to: proof of citizenship; evidence of residential, employment and/or educational ties to Canada; legitimate purpose for the trip; reasonable length of stay; and proof of financial support while in the United States. In a nutshell, this "test" helps determine whether you are travelling for legitimate reasons, have the financial resources for your travel and living expenses, and intend to return home. The U.S. official at the point of entry is the sole judge of your admissibility. Under U.S. law, as an alien detained at the border by Customs or Immigration, you do not have the right or privilege of contacting your lawyer. Visitors to the United States should be aware that the driver of a vehicle can be held responsible for the ineligibility of passengers, regardless of prior knowledge or association.

The permanent U.S. record created when a Canadian has been refused entry to the United States becomes part of a computerized database readily available at all land border and inland ports of entry, as well as at U.S.

For more information about recent changes in U.S. immigration policy, consult the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) Web site ([www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)).

Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) pre-clearance facilities in Canada. An initial refused entry does not necessarily mean you are banned from entering the United States in the future. At the time of refusal you will normally be advised of the requirements you have to meet to re-apply for entry (such as obtaining a "waiver" or producing documentation supporting your intention to return to Canada at the end of the trip). If, however, you attempt to enter the country at another port of entry without first trying to satisfy these requirements, you could be fined or have your vehicle seized, or both. There are appeal procedures, but they are prolonged, costly and unlikely to reverse the original decision. If you have a past criminal conviction, you could also be detained for deportation at a CIS detention centre.

What you say in response to questioning by Immigration or Customs officers can be used against you if you are considered inadmissible. Many persons have had their vehicles or vessels seized because they pretended to be Canadian citizens when they were actually landed immigrants or visitors to Canada. Others have lost vehicles or vessels because they carried passengers who pretended to be Canadian citizens, did not admit to having a criminal record, or pretended to be visitors while planning to look for work in the United States. Again, as a driver, you can be held responsible for the misdeeds of your passengers regardless of knowledge or association.

You can choose to withdraw your request to enter the United States if border officials at a pre-clearance facility in Canada are questioning your application. This step can be taken before you are interviewed further or your belongings are searched. Despite your taking this approach, U.S. officials may nonetheless make a record of your attempted entry in the U.S. Immigration database. The option to withdraw

your application for entry is rarely available at land border or inland ports of entry, since at that point you are already on U.S. soil.

### **Expedited Removal**

Canadians travelling to the United States should note that U.S. Immigration's "expedited removal" procedure allows an Immigration agent, with the concurrence of a supervisor, to bar non-citizens from the United States for five years if, in their judgment, the individuals presented false documentation or misrepresented themselves. Canadians should be aware that lying to a border official is a serious offence.

Expedited removal is part of comprehensive reforms intended to control illegal immigration. There is no formal appeal process under expedited removal, but if you believe the law has been misapplied in your case, you can request a supervisory review by writing to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) district director responsible for the port of entry where the decision

was made. Cases of possible misapplication should also be brought to the attention of the Consular Affairs Bureau of the Department at **1 800 267-6788** or **(613) 944-6788** (in Ottawa) or to the attention of the nearest Canadian government office.

### **Pre-clearance**

Under a Canada-U.S. agreement, U.S. Immigration has pre-clearance facilities at seven Canadian airports: Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal (Dorval). To allow sufficient time for the pre-clearance process when you are travelling to the United States from these airports, you should be at the U.S. Immigration desk at least two hours before your flight. Pre-clearance facilities are also available at the Victoria, British Columbia, ferry terminal for travel to Port Angeles in Washington state. Again, you should allow extra time for this process.

As a Canadian using U.S. pre-clearance facilities, you are still required to meet U.S. entry requirements. American officials here are authorized to inspect your luggage and can refuse you

entry to the United States. While you are on Canadian soil, you have rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, subject to Canadian law, including those laws governing drugs and guns. Refusal to cooperate with U.S. officials may result in your being refused entry to the United States. As noted above, at a pre-clearance site you may choose to withdraw your request to enter the United States if border officials are questioning your application.

### **Registered Indian Status (Jay Treaty)**

If you have Registered Indian Status in Canada, you may qualify for special U.S. Immigration procedures (derived from the Jay Treaty of 1794) that enable you to live and work in the United States without going through the normal immigration process. It is important to note that presentation of a Canadian Certificate of Indian Status (Form 1A-1395) alone may not be sufficient to meet the entry requirements. U.S. law requires that applicants possess at least 50 percent North American Indian blood. Inspectors may therefore request additional proof of the requisite blood quantum, such as band

records, birth certificates and other documents that establish the percentage of North American Indian blood.

If you intend to work or reside permanently in the United States, a Memorandum of Creation of Record of Lawful Permanent Residence (Form I-181) must be filed at the port of entry. Although applicants accepted under the Jay Treaty are not required to apply for a permanent resident (green) card (Form I-551), possession of the card does make it easier to travel and establish eligibility for benefits.

### Precautions

The same rules apply in the United States as at home, only more so. You are usually at greater risk than locals; indeed, in some areas of the United States, tourists and non-locals could be targeted. Accordingly, you should follow these rules:

- Know where you are and where you are going at all times. Carefully plan road trips in advance.
- Do not pick up hitchhikers.
- Keep valuables out of sight, and never leave them in a parked vehicle.

- Leave a copy of your itinerary and proof of citizenship (for example, Canadian birth certificate or certificate of Canadian citizenship) with a family member or friend who can be contacted in an emergency.
- Phone home regularly if you do not have a fixed schedule.
- Keep a separate record of your traveller's cheques, credit cards and medical insurance, and ensure that the information is also available to someone back home.
- Do not carry your passport, tickets, identification documents, cash, credit cards and insurance papers together. Keep them separate so that in the event of theft or loss you do not lose everything.
- Use the safety deposit box at your hotel. Never leave valuables in your room.

### U.S. Border Fees

American border officials collect a US\$6 per-person fee, payable only in U.S. dollars, to issue an arrival/departure document, Form I-94. This form is distributed to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants from member countries of the Commonwealth and Ireland who are entering the

United States to study or work and to visitors from other countries. The fee does not apply to Canadian citizens and landed immigrants from member countries of the Commonwealth and Ireland who are entering the United States on temporary visits for business or pleasure, or to travellers arriving in the United States by air.

### Crime and Punishment

In the United States, you are subject to U.S. laws and regulations. **Canadian citizenship confers no immunity, special protection or rights to preferential treatment.**

If you are arrested in the United States, you have the right to speak with a Canadian consular officer or to have the nearest Canadian government office informed of your arrest, or both. Under Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, arresting authorities in the United States are required to inform Canadian citizens of this right without delay.

Most U.S. jurisdictions provide the services of a lawyer if you cannot afford one. Do not make

Possession, use or trafficking of illegal drugs can lead to a lengthy jail sentence; serious violations can lead to the death penalty. For more information, check the "Drugs and Travel" section of the Consular Affairs Web site ([www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs\\_menu-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs_menu-en.asp)) or our publication *Drugs and Travel: Why They Don't Mix*.

any special arrangements with the police or prosecutors without the advice and guidance of your lawyer.

The civil and criminal justice systems in the United States differ significantly from those in Canada. For instance, each U.S. state has its own criminal code, and sentences tend to be longer, especially for crimes involving violence, drugs or "white collar" offences. As a foreigner, you might have difficulty obtaining bail.

In many jurisdictions in the United States, there is only limited eligibility for parole if you are convicted. Also, as a foreigner, you might have limited opportunity while in prison for further

education or training. After conviction and settlement of all appeals, Canadian prisoners in most (but not all) U.S. jurisdictions can request transfer to a Canadian prison under the Transfer of Offenders Treaty. The processing of applications is lengthy, and many transfer requests are refused.

### Canadian Consular Assistance in the United States

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has a number of Canadian government offices in the United States. The Embassy is located in Washington, and there are consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Puerto Rico and Seattle. The Australian Consulate General in Honolulu, Hawaii, will assist Canadians in an emergency. At each of these offices there are consular and trade officers (for business travel related to NAFTA) available to help you.

In cooperation with the Consular Affairs Bureau in Ottawa, these offices provide a range of services to assist you during your visit. Services are available during

normal business hours from the Canadian diplomatic office nearest your U.S. location. If you are in Canada, you may contact the Consular Affairs Bureau in Ottawa.

### What we can do for you:

- We can contact, at your request, your relatives or friends and ask them to send you emergency funds.
- We can help you during emergencies such as natural disasters.
- We can direct you to sources of information about local laws and regulations.
- We can assist with medical emergencies.
- We can replace passports (fees apply).
- If you are arrested, we can try to ensure equitable treatment under local laws. At your request, we can inform relatives and friends about your arrest and try to ensure that legal rights and processes are extended to you consistent with the standards of the host country.
- If you wish, we can notify your next of kin regarding an accident or death and let them know whether, and how, they can help.

### Emergency Consular Services

Canadian government offices offer 24-hour assistance. Outside office hours, a telephone call you make to a Canadian government office in the United States will automatically be transferred to a consular officer in Ottawa or you will be asked to leave a message for a return call. In either case, there will be a

prompt response. If you leave a recorded message, make sure that it is clear and that you provide a complete telephone number or contact address. In addition, in an emergency, you can speak to an officer in Ottawa by calling **1 888 949-9993**, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Although Canadian offices provide a wide variety of services to travelling Canadians, demand is such that we restrict some services, especially those for which there are adequate alternatives available locally. Such services include making travel arrangements, transferring funds or paying local bills, storing or safekeeping personal effects or searching for lost items, doing translations, assisting with job hunts, obtaining visas for other countries and acquiring local permits or licences.

**Check the “Canadian Government Offices in the United States” section for information on how to contact the appropriate Canadian office.**

### Passport Services

Canadian government offices in the United States provide only emergency passport services (for example, assistance for travel to a third country in the event of a death in the immediate family). Full passport services are available through the Central Passport Office in Gatineau, Quebec, for mail-in applications. Processing applications mailed from Canada or the United States usually takes 20 working days if all information and documentation have been provided.

### Crime

Some parts of the United States suffer from crime problems, including violent crime and theft. For more information on this

matter, consult the Department's Travel Reports for the United States, Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands.

For more information on how to obtain a Canadian passport, check the passport Office Web site ([www.ppt.gc.ca](http://www.ppt.gc.ca)).

## Returning Home

### Canada Customs and Import Controls

You must declare everything you have purchased and acquired outside Canada, as well as goods bought at a Canadian or foreign duty-free store for importation into Canada, whether the items are for yourself or intended as gifts. Keep your original receipts for possible inspection.

You are entitled to certain duty-free personal exemptions:

If you have been away from Canada for **24 hours or more**, you may bring back goods worth up to C\$50 without paying duties or taxes. You cannot include alcohol and tobacco in this exemption.

If you have been away from Canada for **48 hours or more**, you may bring back goods worth up to C\$200 without paying duties or taxes. These goods can

include alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, as follows:

- up to 1.14 litres of liquor or 1.5 litres of wine, or a case of 24 bottles or cans of beer or ale, each containing 355 ml;
- up to 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars or cigarillos, 200 tobacco sticks and 200 grams of manufactured tobacco.

Provincial age restrictions apply to alcohol and tobacco products.

If you have been away from Canada for **seven days or more**, you may bring back goods worth up to C\$750 without paying duties or taxes. These goods can include tobacco products and alcoholic beverages as described above. When calculating the number of days you are absent, do not include the date you leave Canada, but do include the date you return.

For more information about what you can bring home, contact the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, call

your local Customs office or consult the CCRA booklets *I Declare or Moving Back to Canada*.

Note: If you include cigarettes, tobacco sticks or loose tobacco in your personal exemption allowance, only a partial exemption will apply. You will have to pay a minimum duty on these products unless they are marked "Canada Duty Paid — Droit acquitté." Canadian-made products sold at a duty-free shop are marked in this way. You can speed up your clearance by having your tobacco products available for inspection when you arrive.

Certain goods are restricted from entering Canada unless you have a permit, certificate, licence or other specific document. Even with a permit, the imported goods have to meet certain safety standards. If you are considering importing meat or dairy products, plants or plant products, firewood, firearms, vehicles, exotic animals or products made from their skins or feathers, contact the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency or the Canadian Firearms Centre beforehand for guidance.

Obscene printed material, child pornography, hate propaganda, narcotics, counterfeit money, automatic firearms and goods harmful to the environment are prohibited from entering Canada.

If you have lived outside Canada for more than a year, you may take advantage of special provisions for household items and personal belongings when you move back to Canada.

### Importation of Firearms

Specific regulations and procedures apply to the importation of firearms. For more information, contact the Canadian Firearms Centre.

### If You've Been Ill

If you were ill while outside Canada or become ill after returning home, you should contact your doctor and provide the details of where you travelled and what treatment you received while away, if any.



## For More Information

### Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

### Consular Affairs Bureau

www.voyage.gc.ca

#### General:

Tel.: 1 800 267-6788 (from Canada and the U.S.)

or (613) 944-6788

E-mail: [voyage@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:voyage@dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

TTY: 1 800 394-3472 (from Canada and the U.S.) or

(613) 944-1310

#### Emergencies:

Tel.: 1 888 949-9993 (from the U.S.)

E-mail: [sos@dfait-maeci.gc.ca](mailto:sos@dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

#### Publications (free)

*Bon Voyage, But... Information for the Canadian Traveller*

*Canadian Performers: How to Enter the United States*

*Child Sex Tourism Fact Sheet* (on-line only)

*China (Including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region): A Guide for Canadian Visitors*

*Destination: Success — Services for Business Travellers*

*Drugs and Travel: Why They Don't Mix*

*Dual Citizenship: What Travellers Should Know*

*Guess Who Was Detained at the Border for Drugs!*

*A Guide for Canadians*

*Imprisoned Abroad*

*Her Own Way: Advice for the Woman Traveller*

*International Adoption and the Immigration Process*

(Citizenship and Immigration Canada publication, on-line only)

*International Child Abductions:*

*A Manual for Parents*

*México: ¿Qué pasa? A Guide for Canadian Visitors*

*Out on a Limb: Advice for the Adventure Traveller*

*Retirement Abroad: Seeing the Sunsets*

*Teaching English in Korea*

(on-line only)

*Teaching English in Taiwan*

(on-line only)

*Travelling Abroad? Assistance for Canadians*

*U.S.A. Bound: Advice for Canadian Travellers*

*What No Child Should Endure* (on-line only)

*Working Abroad: Unravelling the Maze*

#### To access or order:

[www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/pubs.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/pubs.asp)

Tel.: 1 800 267-8376 (from Canada) or (613) 944-4000

#### Country Travel Reports (free)

These reports ([www.voyage.gc.ca/dest/intro-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/dest/intro-en.asp)) provide information on safety and security conditions, health issues and entry requirements for over 225 travel destinations. This information is also available by phone:

Tel.: 1 800 267-6788 (from Canada and the U.S.)

or (613) 944-6788

For a list of *Canadian government offices abroad*, visit [www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/canoffices.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/canoffices.asp)

For a list of *diplomatic, consular and other representatives in Canada*, visit [www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/representatives.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/representatives.asp)

### Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA)

[www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca](http://www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca)

#### Customs

Automated Customs Information Service

Tel.: 1 800 461-9999 (from Canada) or (204) 983-3500 or (506) 636-5064

You can also consult the Web site above or contact your local Customs office.

#### Publications (free)

*Canadian Residents Going Down South*

*I Declare*

*Importing a Firearm or Weapon into Canada*

*Importing a Vehicle into Canada*

*Moving Back to Canada*

#### To order:

National Distribution Centre  
Canada Customs and Revenue Agency

875 Heron Road

Ottawa, ON K1A 1A2

Tel.: 1 800 959-2221 (from Canada and the U.S.),

consult [www.ccra.gc.ca](http://www.ccra.gc.ca) or contact your local Customs

Border Services office.

#### Taxation

Canada's International Tax Services Office processes the income tax returns of factual residents, non-residents, deemed residents, newcomers, emigrants and Canadians posted overseas. It also services all non-resident tax withholding accounts. The Office provides client assistance

by telephone, correspondence and counter service.

International Tax Services Office  
2204 Walkley Road  
Ottawa, ON K1A 1A8  
Tel.: 1 800 267-5177 (from  
Canada and the U.S.) or  
(613) 952-3741

*Non-Resident Withholding  
Accounts:*

Tel.: 1 800 267-3395 (from  
Canada and the U.S.) or  
(613) 952-2344

*Problem Resolution Program:*

Tel.: 1 800 661-4985 (from  
Canada and the U.S.) or  
(613) 952-3502  
Collect calls are accepted.  
Fax: (613) 941-2505

*Publications (free)*

*Canadian Residents Going  
Down South  
Canadian Residents Abroad*

*To access or order:*

Consult [www.ccr-a-adrc.gc.ca](http://www.ccr-a-adrc.gc.ca)  
or call 1 800 959-2221 (from  
Canada and the U.S.) or  
(613) 952-3741.

**Canadian Firearms Centre**

[www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca](http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca)  
Tel.: 1 800 731-4000  
E-mail: [canadian.firearms@justice.gc.ca](mailto:canadian.firearms@justice.gc.ca)

**Canadian Food Inspection Agency**

[www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca)  
Import Service Centres (ISC):  
Eastern ISC 1 877 493-0468  
Central ISC 1 800 835-4486  
Western ISC 1 888 732-6222

*Publication (free)*

*What Can I Bring into Canada?*

*To order:*

Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
Public Affairs, 59 Camelot Drive  
2nd Floor East  
Nepean, ON K1A 0Y9  
Tel.: 1 800 442-2342 or  
(613) 225-2342

**Citizenship and Immigration  
Canada (CIC)**

[www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)  
CIC Call Centres:  
Tel.: 1 888 242-2100 (from  
Canada)  
Montreal (514) 496-1010  
Toronto (416) 973-4444  
Vancouver (604) 666-2171

*Publications (free)*

*Dual Citizenship  
How to Prove You Are a  
Canadian Citizen  
International Adoption and  
the Immigration Process  
(on-line only)*

*To access or order:*

Consult [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca) or call  
(613) 954-9019.

**Endangered Species**

To determine what you can  
and cannot legally bring back  
to Canada and whether a  
permit is required, contact  
Environment Canada:  
[www.cites.ec.gc.ca](http://www.cites.ec.gc.ca)  
Tel.: 1 800 668-6767  
or (819) 997-1840  
Fax: (819) 953-6283

**HEALTH ISSUES**

**Canadian HIV/AIDS  
Information Centre**

[www.aidssida.cpha.ca](http://www.aidssida.cpha.ca)  
1 877 999-7740

*Publication (\$ for many copies)  
Basic Facts About AIDS*

*To order:*

1565 Carling Avenue, Suite 400  
Ottawa, ON K1Z 8R1  
Tel.: 1 877 999-7740  
E-mail: [aidssida@cpha.ca](mailto:aidssida@cpha.ca)

**Canadian Society for  
International Health**

List of travel clinics:  
[www.csih.org](http://www.csih.org)  
E-mail: [csih@csih.org](mailto:csih@csih.org)  
Tel.: (613) 241-5785

*Publication (free)*

*Health Information for  
Canadian Travellers*

*To order:*

1 Nicholas Street, Suite 1105  
Ottawa, ON K1N 7B7  
Tel.: (613) 241-5785

**Drugs and Travel Information  
Program**

Consular Affairs Bureau:  
[www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs\\_ menu-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs_ menu-en.asp)

**Health Canada**

[www.hc-sc.gc.ca](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca)  
Travel Medicine Program:  
[www.travelhealth.gc.ca](http://www.travelhealth.gc.ca)  
Tel.: (613) 957-8739

**MedicAlert®**

www.medicalert.ca  
Tel.: 1 800 668-6381

**Passport Office**

www.ppt.gc.ca  
Tel.: 1 800 567-6868 (from  
Canada)

Montreal (514) 283-2152  
Ottawa-Gatineau (819) 994-3500  
Toronto (416) 973-3251  
Vancouver (604) 586-2500

**Radio Canada International**

www.rcinet.ca  
Tel.: (514) 597-7500 (Canadian  
Broadcasting Corporation)

**Social Security**

Canadians seeking information  
on the Canada-United States  
Agreement on Social Security  
should contact:

Human Resources Development  
Canada, Income Security  
Programs Branch  
International Operations  
333 River Road, 10th Floor, Tower A  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0L4  
Tel.: 1 800 277-9914 or  
(613) 957-1954  
Fax: (613) 952-8901

**TRANSPORTATION ISSUES****Automobiles**

The AAA publishes the *Digest of  
Motor Vehicle Laws* annually. This  
book, which is also available  
through the CAA, provides  
detailed information on the rules  
of the road in each U.S. state.

Both the CAA and AAA will sup-  
ply information to members over  
the telephone during normal  
business hours. Look in your  
local telephone directory for the  
nearest office. The CAA and AAA  
have a reciprocal membership  
agreement.

**American Automobile  
Association**

www.aaa.com

**Canadian Automobile  
Association**

www.caa.ca

**Canadian Transportation Agency**

www.cta-otc.gc.ca

**Transport Canada**

Transport of dangerous goods:  
www.tc.gc.ca/civilaviation/  
commerce/dangerousgoods

**CANADIAN GOVERNMENT  
OFFICES IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Atlanta:** Territory includes  
Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi,  
North and South Carolina,  
Tennessee, Puerto Rico and  
the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Consulate General of Canada  
1175 Peachtree Street NE  
100 Colony Square, Suite 1700  
Atlanta, GA 30361-6205  
Tel.: (404) 532-2000  
Fax: (404) 532-2050  
E-mail: atnta@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
www.can-am.gc.ca/atlanta

**Boston:** Territory includes Maine,  
Massachusetts, New Hampshire,  
Rhode Island and Vermont.

Consulate General of Canada  
3 Copley Place, Suite 400  
Boston, MA 02116  
Tel.: (617) 262-3760  
Fax: (617) 262-3415  
E-mail: bostn@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
www.can-am.gc.ca/boston

**Buffalo:** Territory includes  
Pennsylvania, West Virginia,  
and the western and northern  
counties of New York state.

Consulate General of Canada  
3000 HSBC Center  
Buffalo, NY 14203-2884  
Tel.: (716) 858-9500  
Fax: (716) 852-4340  
E-mail: bfalo@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
www.can-am.gc.ca/buffalo

**Chicago:** Territory includes  
Illinois, Indiana (counties of  
Jasper, Lake, Laporte, Newton  
and Porter), Iowa (cities of  
Bettendorf and Davenport),  
Kansas (Kansas City), Missouri  
and Wisconsin.

Consulate General of Canada  
Two Prudential Plaza  
180 North Stetson Avenue  
Suite 2400  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Tel.: (312) 616-1860  
Fax: (312) 616-1877  
E-mail: chcgo-cs@dfait-  
maeci.gc.ca  
www.can-am.gc.ca/chicago

**Dallas:** Territory includes  
Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana,  
New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Consulate General of Canada  
St. Paul Place  
750 North St. Paul Street  
Suite 1700  
Dallas, TX 75201-3247

Tel.: (214) 922-9806  
 Fax: (214) 922-9815  
 E-mail: dalas@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/dallas

**Detroit:** Territory includes Indiana (except for the counties covered by Chicago), Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio.

Consulate General of Canada  
 600 Renaissance Center  
 Suite 1100  
 Detroit, MI 48243-1798  
 Tel.: (313) 446-4747  
 Fax: (313) 567-2164  
 E-mail: dtrot@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/detroit

**Honolulu:**  
 Australian Consulate General  
 Penthouse Suite  
 1000 Bishop Street  
 Honolulu, HI 96813-4299  
 Tel.: (808) 524-5050/5054  
 Fax: (808) 531-5142

**Los Angeles:** Territory includes Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah.

Consulate General of Canada  
 550 South Hope Street, 9th Floor  
 Los Angeles CA 90071-2327  
 Tel.: (213) 346-2700  
 Fax: (213) 620-8827  
 E-mail: lngls@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/los\_angeles

**Miami:** Territory includes Florida.

Consulate of Canada  
 200 South Biscayne Boulevard  
 Suite 1600  
 Miami, FL 33131  
 Tel.: (305) 579-1600  
 Fax: (305) 374-6774  
 E-mail: miami@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/miami

**Minneapolis:** Territory includes Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North and South Dakota and Wyoming.

Consulate General of Canada  
 701 Fourth Avenue South  
 Suite 900  
 Minneapolis, MN 55415-1899  
 Tel.: (612) 333-4641  
 Fax: (612) 332-4061  
 E-mail: mnpls@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/minneapolis

**New York:** Territory includes Connecticut, New Jersey, the eastern and southern counties of New York state, and Bermuda.

Consulate General of Canada  
 1251 Avenue of the Americas  
 Concourse Level  
 New York, NY 10020-1175  
 Tel.: (212) 596-1628  
 Fax: (212) 596-1666/1790  
 E-mail: cngny@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/new\_york

**San Juan, Puerto Rico:** Territory includes Puerto Rico.

Consulate of Canada  
 Home Mortgage Plaza  
 268 Ponce de Leon, Suite 515  
 San Juan, PR 00918  
 Tel.: (787) 759-6629  
 Fax: (787) 294-1205

**Seattle:** Territory includes Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Consulate General of Canada  
 412 Plaza 600  
 Sixth Avenue and Stewart Street  
 Seattle, WA 98101-1286  
 Tel.: (206) 443-1777  
 Fax: (206) 443-9662  
 E-mail: seatl@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.can-am.gc.ca/seattle

**Washington:** Territory includes Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

Embassy of Canada  
 501 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
 Washington, DC 20001  
 Tel.: (202) 682-1740  
 Fax: (202) 682-7726  
 E-mail: wshdc-outpack@dfait-maeci.gc.ca  
 www.canadianembassy.org

## U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN CANADA

The U.S. Department of State maintains a number of diplomatic offices in Canada. The Embassy is located in Ottawa, and there are consulates general in Calgary, Halifax, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto and Vancouver. Each has U.S. consular officers available to help you with problems. Or consult the Embassy Web site ([www.usembassycanada.gov](http://www.usembassycanada.gov)) and select "Traveling to the U.S.A.?"

**Ottawa:** Consular district includes eastern Ontario, western Quebec and Baffin Island.

Embassy of the United States of America, Consular Section  
490 Sussex Drive  
Ottawa, ON K1N 1G8  
Tel.: 1 800 283-4356  
or (613) 238-5335  
*Mailing Address:*  
PO Box 866, Station B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5T1  
[www.usembassycanada.gov](http://www.usembassycanada.gov)

**Calgary:** Consular district includes Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

U.S. Consulate General  
615 Macleod Trail SE, Room 1000  
Calgary, AB T2G 4T8  
Tel.: (403) 266-8962

**Halifax:** Consular district includes New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

U.S. Consulate General  
Purdy's Wharf Tower II, Suite 904  
1969 Upper Water Street  
Halifax, NS B3J 3R7  
Tel.: (902) 429-2480

**Montreal:** Consular district includes southwestern Quebec.

U.S. Consulate General  
1155, rue Saint-Alexandre  
Montreal, QC H2Z 1Z2  
Tel.: (514) 398-9695  
*Mailing Address:*  
PO Box 65  
Postal Station Desjardins  
Montreal, QC H5B 1G1

**Quebec City:** Consular district includes eastern Quebec and Nunavut.

U.S. Consulate General  
2, Place Terrasse Dufferin  
Quebec, QC G1R 4T9  
Tel.: (418) 692-2095  
*Mailing Address:*  
PO Box 939,  
Quebec, QC G1R 4T9

**Toronto:** Consular district includes western Ontario.

U.S. Consulate General  
360 University Avenue  
Toronto, ON M5G 1S4  
Tel.: (416) 595-1700

**Vancouver:** Consular district includes British Columbia and Yukon.

U.S. Consulate General  
1075 West Pender Street  
Mezzanine Level  
Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6  
Tel.: (604) 685-4311  
*Mailing Address:*  
1095 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6

### U.S. ENTRY WAIVERS

Canadian citizens requiring waivers to enter the United States should phone the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) office serving their area:

Montreal	(514) 631-2097
Ottawa	(613) 523-2105
Toronto	(416) 929-6011
Winnipeg	(204) 783-2340
Calgary	(403) 221-1730
Edmonton	(780) 890-4486
Vancouver	(604) 278-2520

Waiver application forms are also available from any land port of entry to the United States or can be ordered by mail from the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa. Call the Embassy at 1 800 283-4356 or (613) 238-5335, press 2 for the menu and select U.S. Immigration. Follow the voice mail instructions to receive a package by mail.

For answers to questions about waivers, members of the general public may call the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) office in Buffalo at (716) 551-4741, ext. 6810, on Friday mornings from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

### U.S. IMMIGRATION

For general information, members of the public may call the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS) office in Buffalo at (716) 551-4741, ext. 4101, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., or consult the CIS Web site ([www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)). If you have questions about your immigration status, you may contact CIS offices in:

Champlain, NY  
(518) 298-7900 (NAFTA; status enquiries on waivers)

Massena, NY  
(315) 764-0310 (NAFTA)

Ogdensburg, NY  
(315) 393-0770

Ottawa Airport  
Pre-clearance Inspection  
(613) 523-2105  
(on recording except between  
10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.)

Peace Bridge, Buffalo, NY  
(716) 885-3367

Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Falls, NY  
(716) 282-3141

Thousand Islands, NY  
(315) 482-2681

For marriage or immigration  
information, call 1 900 451-6330  
(recording) or 1 900 451-2778  
(to speak to a visa specialist).  
There is a fee for these calls.  
You may also consult the CIS  
Web site ([www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)).

#### ENTRY UNDER NAFTA

There are free trade specialists  
at the U.S. ports of entry listed  
below who may be able to give  
you detailed information and the  
necessary documentation you  
require. However, the specialists  
cannot guarantee the admission  
of any applicant.

Albany, NY	(518) 472-7140
Blaine, WA	(206) 332-8511
Buffalo, NY	(716) 885-3367
Calais, ME	(207) 454-2546
Calgary, AB	(403) 221-1728
Champlain, NY	(518) 298-8433
Derby Line, VT	(802) 454-3316
Detroit, MI	(313) 568-6019
Eastport, ID	(208) 267-2183
Edmonton, AB	(780) 890-4489
Grand Portage, MN	(218) 475-2494
Highgate Springs, VT	(802) 868-3349
Houlton, ME	(207) 945-0041
Int'l Falls, MN	(218) 283-8611
Jackman, ME	(207) 668-3151
Madawaska, ME	(207) 728-4565
Niagara, NY	(716) 282-3141
Norton, VT	(802) 822-5217
Noyes, MN	(218) 823-6291
Oroville, WA	(509) 476-3132
Port Huron, MI	(810) 982-0493
Portal, ND	(701) 926-4221
Richford, VT	(802) 848-7766
Sault Ste. Marie, ON	(906) 632-8822
Sumas, WA	(206) 988-4781
Sweetgrass, MT	(406) 335-2911
Thousand Island, NY	(315) 482-2681
Toronto, ON	(905) 676-2563
Van Buren, ME	(207) 868-2202
Vanceboro, ME	(207) 788-3813
Vancouver, BC	(604) 278-2520
Winnipeg, MB	(204) 783-5747

#### OFFICES OF U.S. CUSTOMS

[www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

The office of the U.S. Customs  
Attaché is located at the U.S.  
Embassy in Ottawa and may be  
contacted as follows:

Embassy of the United States  
of America  
U.S. Customs Attaché  
PO Box 866, Station B  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5T1  
Tel.: 1 800 283-4356  
or (613) 238-5335, ext. 322

U.S. Customs pre-clearance  
stations in Canada can be  
contacted at the following  
numbers:

Calgary	(403) 221-1733
Edmonton	(780) 890-4515
Montreal	(514) 636-3859
Ottawa	(613) 523-8120
Toronto	(905) 676-3399
Vancouver	(604) 278-7422
Winnipeg	(204) 783-2062

In the United States, U.S.  
Customs can be contacted at  
the following border points:

Calais, ME	(207) 454-3690
Houlton, ME	(207) 532-2131
Highgate Springs, VT	(802) 868-2778
Derby Line, VT	(802) 873-3489
Champlain, NY	(518) 298-8347
Ogdensburg, NY	(315) 393-1390
Buffalo, NY	(716) 551-5200
Detroit, MI	(313) 226-6061
Pembina, ND	(701) 825-6551
Sweetgrass, MT	(406) 335-2434
Blaine, WA	(360) 332-5771

#### U.S. TAX INFORMATION

[www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov)

For information on U.S. tax laws  
and regulations as they may  
affect Canadians, contact:

United States Internal  
Revenue Office  
Tel.: (215) 516-2000

Internal Revenue Service  
Department of the Treasury  
Eastern Area Distribution Center  
PO Box 85074  
Richmond, VA 23261-5074

In the United States:  
Tel.: 1 800 TAX-FORM  
(829-3676)

Notes

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# Guess who was detained at the border for drugs?



**Prescription drugs and even some over-the-counter medications can be closely scrutinized by customs officials.**

When travelling outside of Canada, take along a copy of your prescription and ensure you carry all medicines in their original containers. If you use syringes, bring along a doctor's certificate proving they're for medical use.

**For more information, visit our Web site at:  
[www.voyage.gc.ca](http://www.voyage.gc.ca)**





# TRAVEL NOTICE

Long-term travellers to the U.S. need to keep informed on critical issues that affect them:

- The restrictions of government health insurance plans
- The importance of travel health insurance
- Canadian and U.S. residency requirements
- New border crossing protocols
- Safety issues for Canadians



**Contact the CSA before you travel!**

The **Canadian Snowbird Association** is a non-profit organization committed to representing the health care, social and economic interests of Canadian travellers. For guidance on long-term travel outside Canada, please contact us.

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**1-800-734-7147**  
[www.snowbirds.org](http://www.snowbirds.org)

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