

Welcome to Canada



HOUSING IN CANADA



Before deciding where to live in Canada, learn about the types of housing, decide on your housing needs and explore which cities and neighbourhoods would be appropriate for you.

TYPES OF HOUSING

There are different types of housing in Canada. Housing costs in Canada are high, especially in large cities, and it can be challenging to find an affordable rental apartment or housing that meets your needs. Before deciding what to do, assess your finances and your immediate and permanent housing preferences. You may need temporary housing if you plan to look for a place to rent after you arrive. Types of temporary housing include hotels, hostels and short-term private rentals.

Emergency housing shelters are available for people in crisis such as those in abusive relationships or who are experiencing homelessness. Search online for information about emergency housing shelters near you.

HOUSING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

There is appropriate housing for people in a crisis or with special needs. This may include those who are in an abusive relationship, experiencing homelessness, lost their home due to fire or natural disaster, or seniors who need ongoing medical support.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO LIVE

Location and cost are important to think about when choosing where to live. You may want to live close to work, schools, stores, places of worship, community centres or public transit.

You can search online, visit in person, and ask friends and family about different places to live. Your new community may have housing information on their website.



RENTING

There are different types of housing for rent in Canada, such as an apartment in a large building, a house or a room in someone's house.

When you rent a place, you become a "tenant." You pay rent to the "landlord" who owns the place being rented. You and your landlord will sign a lease which is a legal written agreement that outlines the terms of the living arrangement. Make sure you understand your lease before you sign it. There are housing laws in each province and territory that outline tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities.

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

To learn more, consult the **Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation: [Housing for Newcomers to Canada](#)** (web page is available in multiple languages). You can also consult resources available in the municipality you choose to settle in.

Settlement agencies can help guide you to resources and supports available in your community. Settlement agencies offer many programs and services to help newcomers after arrival in Canada, and may be able to guide you to help you find housing. To find an agency in your community, consult [Find free newcomer services near you](#) (web page is available in English and French).



Find the settlement services you need in your community
(available in English and French):

