

WELCOME TO TORONTO

we've been expecting
You

TORONTO IS Canada's largest city and one of North America's most vibrant destinations for leisure and business travelers. Situated on Lake Ontario, Toronto is one of the southernmost cities in Canada and has nearly the same latitude as northern California and Cannes, France.

Toronto and the surrounding areas are home to more than 4.7 million people. Toronto is the cultural, entertainment, and financial capital of Canada.



Travel Document Requirements for Entry to Canada

Visitors must have valid travel documents to enter Canada. Document requirements vary depending on which country you are travelling from. For specific information on travel documents and to find out if you require a visa to enter Canada as a visitor, please refer to www.cbsa.gc.ca and www.cic.gc.ca.



Languages Spoken

The two official languages of Canada are English and French. In addition to these, the top 5 languages spoken in Greater Toronto are Italian, Mandarin, Cantonese, Punjabi and Tagalog. More than 100 languages are spoken in the Greater Toronto Area.



Toronto is Accessible

International gateway and major North American hub

Toronto's Pearson International Airport is centrally located with 65 airlines offering more than 1,100 international and domestic daily flight arrivals and departures.

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, located minutes from the downtown core, is served by both Porter Airlines and Air Canada with air connections to regional Canadian and U.S. destinations.



Climate/Clothing

Toronto celebrates four seasons. Here are the average temperatures you can expect for our city:

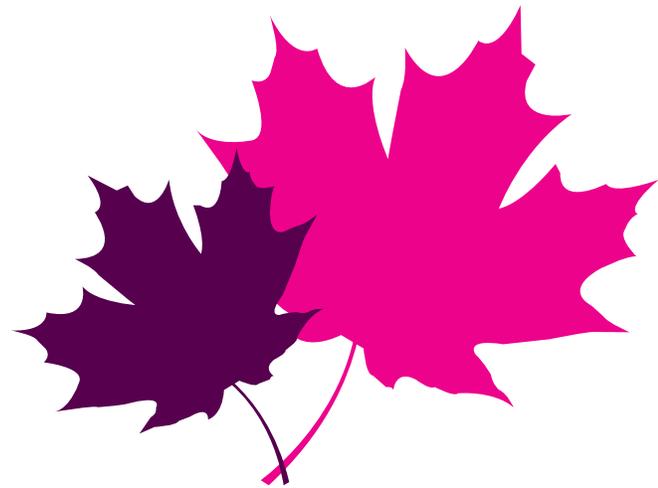
	Average °C	High °C	Low °C
January	-6	-2	-10
February	-5	-1	-10
March	0	4	-4
April	6	12	1
May	12	18	6
June	17	24	11
July	21	27	14
August	20	26	13
September	15	21	9
October	9	14	4
November	3	7	0
December	-3	0	-6

What to pack

Summer trips: Light cottons, sun hats and shorts are great for the sunny, hot weather typical of summer in Toronto. Bring along a sweater for the evenings.

Spring/Fall trips: Layers work best as the temperature goes from warm to cool from day to evening. Bring a light jacket and a sweater or two.

Winter trips: Bundle up with a warm coat, hat, scarf, gloves and lined boots.



Currency, Taxes & Tipping

The currency is the Canadian dollar. For denominations under five dollars, Canadians use coins, including what is affectionately known as the ‘Loonie’ (one-dollar coin) and ‘Toonie’ (two-dollar coin). Daily currency exchange rates appear in newspapers, online and are posted at banks throughout the city.

The Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) is a 13% tax that is applied to most purchases of taxable supplies of goods and services in the Province of Ontario.

If you’re happy with the service you receive, a 15-20% tip on the pre-tax bill is a standard expression of appreciation.



Medical & Health Insurance

Even a minor illness or injury while on a trip can cause a great inconvenience. It is recommended that all travelers check their medical and accident insurance before leaving to ensure they are up to date.



Cellular Roaming & Pre-Planning

If you plan to use your phone frequently while you’re travelling abroad, you may want to consider options to keep costs at bay. Check with your service provider for travel packs. Look for free WiFi hotspots to reduce your data usage while travelling. Another option to consider are cellular rentals—one such service provider for Toronto is Hello Anywhere. www.helloanywhere.com/index.htm



Getting Around

Public Transit

Travel throughout the city like a local on the TTC! The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) is the quick and convenient way to get around Toronto. The subway system links with buses and streetcars. You can freely transfer between subway/RT, streetcar and bus, but make sure you obtain a transfer (a slip of paper) when and where you pay your fare.

Taxis

There are a number of different taxi companies in Toronto to get you around town. Keep in mind that fares are standard, metered and non-negotiable; take note of the Passengers Bill of Rights posted on the back of the driver’s seat; the driver should start the meter at the beginning of your ride and stop it when you reach your destination; refuse to ride in a taxi without an operational meter.

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