

How to Apply for a Visa or Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

Canada does not have a visa office in every country so it is important that delegates visit the website of the Canadian [visa office](#) responsible for processing their visa application. Information is available on the website on how to submit a visa application and the documentation required.

[Processing times for visa applications](#) vary depending on the visa office and the time of the year. Participants are encouraged to apply approximately **12 weeks** in advance of their departure date to ensure they receive the visa in time.

| Electronic Applications (e-Apps). | Submission at a Visa Application Centre (VAC) (<i>In person or by mail</i>) |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This system allows clients to submit applications online.• Delegates that choose to apply on-line will not have to submit their passport until requested to do so by a visa officer.• The visa office will send the applicant instructions on how and where to send their passports to finalize the visa process. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• VACs are commercial service providers authorized by Canada to provide specific services to applicants.• VACs provide a number of services to clients, including help applicants fill out forms, answer questions and ensure that applications are complete.• Reduces unnecessary delays or refusals due to incomplete applications.• VACs serve as a collection point for applicants required to provide a biometric.• VACs send applications to visa offices and transmit decisions to applicants in a secure and confidential manner.• VACs do not process visa applications and have no decision-making authority. |

NEW - Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

An Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is an entry requirement for visa-exempt foreign nationals travelling to Canada **by air**.

As of November 10, 2016, visa-exempt foreign nationals are expected to have an [Electronic Travel Authorization \(eTA\)](#) to fly to or transit through Canada. [Exceptions](#) include U.S. citizens, and travelers with a valid Canadian visa. Canadian citizens, including dual citizens, and Canadian permanent residents are not eligible to apply for an eTA.

Entry requirements by country

What you need will depend on where you are from, how you are travelling, and what documents you are travelling with.

Note:

- Canadian citizens, including dual citizens, need a [valid Canadian passport](#). American-Canadians can travel with a valid Canadian or U.S. passport.
- Canadian permanent residents need a valid [permanent resident card](#) or [permanent resident travel document](#).
- U.S. citizens must [carry proper identification](#) such as a valid U.S. passport.
- Lawful permanent residents of the U.S. [need an Electronic Travel Authorization \(eTA\)](#) to fly to or transit through a Canadian airport. They must present a valid Green Card and a valid passport at check-in.

Visa-exempt

The following travellers need an [Electronic Travel Authorization \(eTA\)](#) to board their flight to Canada. However, these travellers do not need an eTA if entering by land or sea – for instance driving from the U.S. or coming by bus, train, or boat, including cruise ship.

- Andorra
- Australia
- Austria
- British citizen
- British National (Overseas)
- British overseas citizen (re-admissible to the United Kingdom)
- British overseas territory citizen with citizenship through birth, descent, naturalization or registration in one of the British overseas territories of:
 - Anguilla
 - Bermuda
 - British Virgin Islands
 - Cayman Islands
 - Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
 - Gibraltar
 - Montserrat
 - Pitcairn Island
 - Saint Helena
 - Turks and Caicos Islands
- British Subject with a right of abode in the United Kingdom
- Brunei Darussalam
- Chile
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France

- Czech Republic
- Germany
- Greece
- Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, must have a passport issued by Hong Kong SAR.
- Hungary
- New Zealand
- Iceland
- Norway
- Ireland
- Papua New Guinea
- Israel, must have a national Israeli passport
- Poland
- Italy
- Portugal
- Japan
- Samoa
- Republic of Korea
- San Marino
- Latvia
- Singapore
- Liechtenstein
- Slovakia
- Lithuania
- Slovenia
- Luxembourg
- Solomon Islands
- Malta
- Spain
- Mexico
- Sweden
- Monaco
- Switzerland
- Netherlands
- Taiwan, must have an ordinary passport issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taiwan that includes the personal identification number
- United States, lawful permanent resident
- Vatican City State, must have a passport or travel document issued by the Vatican.

eTA exemptions

Foreign nationals with official Canadian documents

- Travellers with a valid Canadian visa.
- Travellers with valid status in Canada (e.g. visitor, student or worker) who re-enters Canada after only visiting the United States or St. Pierre and Miquelon.

Foreign nationals in the following situations

- French citizens who live in Saint Pierre and Miquelon and are flying directly to Canada from St. Pierre and Miquelon.
- Foreign nationals who are passengers destined to, or coming from, the United States on a flight that stops in Canada solely to refuel and
 - have proper documents to enter the United States, or
 - were lawfully admitted to the United States.
- Foreign nationals who are passengers on a flight that makes an unscheduled stop in Canada.
- Foreign nationals who transit through a Canadian airport under the [Transit Without Visa](#) or China [Transit Program](#).

Travel and official representatives

- Flight crew, civil aviation inspectors, accident investigators who are or will be working while in Canada.
- Members of Armed Forces (not including the civilian component of an armed forces) of a [country designated under the *Visiting Forces Act*](#) coming to Canada to carry out official duties.
- Diplomats accredited by the Government of Canada.

Visa-required

The following travellers need a visa to come to Canada by any method of travel – plane, car, bus, train, or cruise ship.

Note: Holders of Alien’s passport and Stateless individuals need a visa to visit or transit Canada.

- Afghanistan
- Albania
- Algeria
- Angola
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Belarus
- Belize
- Benin
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil (note: some Brazilian citizens may be eligible for an eTA if they [meet certain requirements](#))
- British subjects, subject to control
- Bulgaria (note: some Bulgarian citizens may be eligible for an eTA if they [meet certain requirements](#))
- Burkina Faso
- Burma (Myanmar)
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon, Republic of
- Cape Verde
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- China, People's Republic of
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo, Democratic Republic of
- Congo, Republic of
- Costa Rica, Republic of
- Cuba
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Fiji
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Grenada
- Guatemala
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti

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| • Dominica | • Honduras |
| • Dominican Republic | • India |
| • East Timor | • Indonesia |
| • Ecuador | • Iran |
| | • Iraq |
| • Israel, must have a valid Israeli “Travel Document in lieu of National Passport” | |
| • Ivory Coast | • Mauritania |
| • Jamaica | • Mauritius |
| • Jordan | • Micronesia, Fed. States |
| • Kazakhstan | • Moldova |
| • Kenya | • Mongolia |
| • Kiribati | • Montenegro |
| • Korea, North | • Morocco |
| • Kosovo | • Mozambique |
| • Kuwait | • Namibia |
| • Kyrgyzstan | • Nauru |
| • Laos | • Nepal |
| • Lebanon | • Nicaragua |
| • Lesotho | • Niger |
| • Liberia | • Nigeria |
| • Libya | • Oman |
| • Macao Special Administrative Region | • Pakistan |
| • Macedonia | • Palau |
| • Madagascar | • Palestinian Authority |
| • Malawi | • Panama |
| • Malaysia | • Paraguay |
| • Maldives Islands | • Peru |
| • Mali | • Philippines |
| • Marshall Islands | • Qatar |
| • Taiwan, must have a passports other than ordinary passports issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taiwan that include their personal identification number | |
| • Tajikistan | • Uganda |
| • Tanzania | • Ukraine |
| • Thailand | • United Arab Emirates |
| • Togo | • Uruguay |
| • Tonga | • Uzbekistan |

- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe