

Border Crossing

Identification:

If you are a citizen of the United States, you will need to bring one of the following to prove your citizenship:

- U.S. passport (note: can be expired)
- USINS naturalization certificate
- birth certificate & valid photo I/D (such as drivers license or state card).
- minor children need a birth certificate, passport or naturalization certificate.

If it is not listed above, it does not prove citizenship.

The following **do not** prove U.S. citizenship

- drivers license (it is just proof you can drive a car)
- social security card (it is just proof you're registered to pay taxes)

If you are a Resident Alien of the U.S., you **must** bring either a valid U.S. Resident Alien card, or a valid I-551 stamp in your valid passport.

If you are a citizen of any other country, you must be in possession of a valid passport. Some countries require visas. For a list of those countries, please go to <http://www.ci.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.html> - and access the list of countries requiring visas. These can be obtained from any Canadian Embassy or Consulate - you will also find a list of those on the website as well. You should apply at least six weeks in advance for a visa if required.

Persons with police records:

Due to increased security concerns, criminality checks are being run on an ever-increasing basis. If you have ever been convicted of any crime, it is highly recommended you contact your nearest Canadian Embassy or Consulate; you can find a listing at <http://www.ci.gc.ca/english/offices/missions.html> Note: there are crimes considered minor in some countries such as operating while impaired ("drunk driving") or writing a bad cheque (check) which are federal offences in Canada - and these will keep you from being allowed to enter Canada. Please check to be on the safe side. If you are refused entry, you will forfeit your membership and will be charged for one night at the hotel, due to late cancellation.

Items that may not be brought into Canada:

There is a long list of Prohibited Weapons - objects that are illegal in Canada. Some things on this list include nun chucks, or spiked wristbands. Please go to <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/E/pub/cp/rc4227/rc4227-e.html> for more information. Additionally, replica firearms are prohibited if they resemble, or could be mistaken for, an actual weapon. If you are uncertain, don't bring it.

There are also a number of items listed as prohibited due to being on the Endangered Species list. More information on this topic and other things that cannot be brought into Canada can be found at <http://www.ccradrc.gc.ca/>.

Customs

The following information was found on another website. We are in the process of confirming whether it is up to date, but are providing it to you as general information. We suggest that you check with your own customs authorities as to what you are permitted to take home with you.

Importing Items (bringing goods into Canada)

The following is a list of items you are allowed to bring into Canada tax-free if you are over 19 and a visitor to Canada (the rules are different for Canadians returning to Canada from abroad).

200gm tobacco, OR 200 cigarettes, OR 50 cigars, OR 200 tobacco sticks per person; 1.5 litres of wine OR 1.14 litres of liquor per person or 24 X 355mL containers of beer, gifts for relatives and friends, tax-free as long as each gift is valued at Cdn\$60.00 or less.

(The primary focus of this article is on money-related matters. However, please keep in mind that there are other restrictions when crossing the border into Canada. In particular certain items are restricted or simply not permitted - for example, firearms and other weapons may not be brought in. Also, radar detectors are not permitted in Ontario; you may not drive a car into Ontario which has a radar detection device mounted into it.)

Returning Home

The following is a guideline for visitors returning home from Canada and may change at any time. Contact your local embassy or consulate, before returning home, if you are unsure of an item you are bringing back home.

US Residents Every 30 days, returning U.S. Citizens are allowed to bring back duty free \$800 worth of retail merchandise, provided they have been outside the U.S. for 48 hours, including not more than 200 cigarettes or 100 cigars (NOT Cuban), and 1 L of alcohol if you are over 21. If the length of stay is less than 48 hours, \$200 worth of merchandise may be taken back to the USA.

UK Residents Citizens of the U.K. returning from a non-EU country have a customs allowance of 200 cigarettes, OR 50 cigars, OR 250g of smoking tobacco; 2 litres of still table wine; 1 litre of spirits or strong liqueur (over 22% volume); 2 litres of fortified wine, sparkling wine, OR other liqueurs; 60cc (ml) perfume; 250cc (ml) of cologne; AND £145 worth of all other goods, including gifts and souvenirs. People under 17 cannot have the tobacco or alcohol allowance.

EU Residents Each passenger over 17 years of age from a non-EU country is entitled to import the following articles duty-free; 200 cigarettes, OR 50 cigars, OR 250g of tobacco (or a mixture of all three if their combined weight doesn't exceed 250g); 2 litres of wine, and 1 litre of spirits with an alcoholic content exceeding 22% volume, OR 2 litre of spirits/aperitifs with an alcoholic content less than 22% volume, OR 2 litres champagne/sparkling wine/liqueur wine; 50 g of perfume; 0.25 litre cologne; gifts of a value not exceeding approximately ECU 175. Limits cannot be added for passengers travelling together.

Australian Residents The duty-free allowance in Australia is A\$400 OR, for those under 18, A\$200. Personal property mailed back from abroad should be marked Australian goods returned to avoid payment of duty. Upon returning to Australia, citizens can bring in 250 cigarettes OR 250g of loose tobacco, and 1.125ml of alcohol. If you're returning with previously owned valuable goods, such as foreign-made cameras, file form B263.

New Zealand Residents The duty-free allowance for New Zealand is NZ\$700. Citizens over 17 can bring in 200 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, OR 250g of tobacco (OR a mixture of all three if their combined weight doesn't exceed 250g); plus 4.5 litres of wine and beer, OR 1.125 litres of liquor. New Zealand currency does not carry import or export restrictions. Fill out a certificate of export, listing the valuables you are taking out of the country; that way, you can bring them back without paying duty.

Visitors to Canada from countries not listed here should check before they leave home as to what their own duty-free limits are.

Getting to Toronto

By Air

Toronto's most commonly used international airport is [Lester B. Pearson International](#). It is located on Toronto's western border, about a 30-minute drive from our downtown hotels. The best way to get to your hotel is the [Airport Express](#) bus. It runs between Pearson Airport and the Delta Chelsea Hotel, which is a few minutes walk away from the Primrose. See Pearson's [Traveler Info](#) pages for arrival tips, departure tips, special needs passengers, and more. Otherwise, taxis are always available at the airport.

By Ground

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (and Buses)

by Marah Searle-Kovacevic

Toronto is less than a day's drive from most of the northeastern and many Midwest US cities.

The main difference in going to Toronto is crossing the border into Canada. Crossing the border is easy if you follow a few simple rules: treat the border crossing the same as you would an airline security checkpoint: it's not scary, but it should be taken seriously. Jokes of any kind are inappropriate. Answer their questions simply and honestly.

US citizens can be required to show photo ID and proof of citizenship, although on the rare occasions when I have been asked to show ID, my driver's license has sufficed. Also, since 9/11, at some bridges US customs agents stop each car and check the occupants. I have always been waved right through. You should always have a passport or birth certificate with you, as these are now required proof of citizenship to enter and leave Canada. Having a passport will make your crossing easier.

Plants and meat cannot be brought into Canada. Ditto weapons of any kind, including pepper spray. Visitors of legal drinking age (19) are each allowed 24 cans/bottles of beer OR 40 ounces of hard liquor, OR 1.5 litres of wine without paying duty. Visitors can import up to one case of cigarettes, but there will be a \$10 charge for bringing in Canadian cigarettes (Canadian cigarettes can be purchased at the duty free shop; this charge doesn't apply to non-Canadian cigarettes). Be sure to declare any of the above, even if you're within those limits. They can search your car, and you really don't want them to find anything they've asked you about that you denied having. Declare anything you plan to leave in Canada, including gifts. If you plan to sell anything, contact us to discuss the arrangements that will need to be made.

If you are out of the country for more than 48 hours, you can bring back up to \$800 US worth of goods without paying duty. But again, declare everything, whether or not you are within that limit.

Once you're admitted into the country, the QEW and the 401 are both good, well-maintained highways. The speed limit is 100 km, or roughly 62.5 m.p.h. Cars going that speed usually drive in the right lane; most cars go around 70-75 m.p.h., and cars going 80 m.p.h. are not unusual. Note that speed limit signs are in kilometres.

Try to arrive in the city between 9:00 am and 3:30 pm, or after 7:00 pm. The highways will be slow during rush hour. Driving in rush hour traffic is big-city driving, although it's not as challenging as New York, Chicago, or Boston. One unusual hazard of driving in Toronto is frequent film location shoots on downtown streets.

Toronto being in another country, the main difference in this trip will be crossing the border into Canada.

Usually Border Crossing officials will ask a couple of questions about where you're going and what you're bringing in; if they keep asking more questions, I start going into more and more detail about the convention I plan to attend. I have watched the agent's eyes glaze over as s/he decided that I was eccentric but harmless. That's the point where s/he lets me go, most likely so I'll stop talking. And the phrase "OK, go ahead" ends the conversation. If you suddenly realize that you don't have your ID with you, this is not the time to mention it. Having a flyer or printout about the convention may ease your crossing. Alternatively, due to the nature of this event, you may want to avoid mentioning the convention and just tell them you are on holiday.

Everyone must have government issued photo ID.

US citizens don't need to have a passport. If you live in a country where they may want proof that you are going to the con, a progress report listing you as a member or the envelope with your member number would be handy to bring.

Unlike crossing by car, all buses are pulled over and everyone has to get off with all luggage. They may search your luggage. If you are the sort of person who reacts negatively to authority figures, this is NOT the place to express that.

Crossing to Canada is generally less intense than crossing to the US (which is understandable, considering recent events), but should still be taken seriously.

It takes about half an hour for a bus to get through the border crossing

www.greyhound.com and www.greyhound.ca

Bus schedules and fares for the USA and Canada

www.viarail.ca

Book train travel from (mostly Canadian) destinations to Toronto

www.amtrak.com

Book train travel from the USA to Toronto (TWO)

www.ontariotravel.net

Tourism site sponsored by the province of Ontario

www.torontotourism.com

Find attractions and information about Toronto

www.toronto.com
Toronto attractions and shopping

www.eyenet.ca
Toronto's independent weekly

Toronto Pearson International Airport

Travel to Convention Centre



(Airport to Downtown Toronto Service)

Bus picks up on the Arrivals Level of all terminals. All buses are wheelchair accessible and also have front kneeling doors for easier access. This is a 24 Hour service. Destinations include the downtown bus terminal, as well as several major downtown hotels. Connecting service to other downtown locations is also available for an additional fee. The closest hotel to the Primrose is the Delta Chelsea.

Fee schedule: Downtown to TPIA \$16.45 / return-\$28.35

Students and seniors receive 10% off one-way fares.

For more information call Pacific Western Airport Express at (905) 564-6333 or toll free at (800) 387-6787 or visit the web site www.torontoairportexpress.com.

Taxi and Limousine Rates

Taxi and Limousine rates are flat rate fees.

Taxi - \$45.00 approx.

Airport Limo - \$50.00 approx.



TTC - 192 Airport Rocket

Provides fully accessible bus service. Buses stop only at Kipling station, Dundas Street & East Mall Crescent, Terminal 3 (Arrivals Level), and Terminal 2 (Arrivals Level). Service operates from

approximately 5:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 20 minutes.

TTC - 58A (Malton)

Provides all-day service between Lawrence West Station on the Spadina subway and Terminal 2 at Pearson Airport. Service operates from approximately 5:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 45 minutes

TTC - 307 Eglinton West (Blue Night)

The TTC's 307 EGLINTON WEST bus route, part of the Blue Night Network, provides overnight service between Eglinton Station on the Yonge Subway Line and Terminal 2 at Toronto Pearson Airport. Buses run every 30 minutes, from approximately 1:30 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., seven days a week. One-way travel time is approximately 45 minutes.

Once at a Subway Line or Yonge St. Blue Night bus, take it to College Station, then take the streetcar going east 2 stops to Jarvis (stops right in front of the Primrose), or walk east to the Primrose (approx. 5 min walk)

Regular TTC fares apply, with full transfer privileges to and from other TTC routes.

Adult cash fare is \$2.50

For more information call (416) 393-4636 or visit the web site www.city.toronto.on.ca/ttc/index.htm.

GO Bus service to Terminal 2 at Pearson International Airport

GO Transit serves the airport on our [Brampton/Bramalea to Yorkdale/York Mills GO Bus route](#). Buses run via Airport Rd., Dixon Rd., and Hwy. 401.

GO Buses serve [Terminal 2](#) on the Arrivals level. (The airport's shuttles carry passengers between the three terminals.) Eastbound GO Buses take passengers to north Toronto, including [Yorkdale](#) and [York Mills](#) subway stations. Both locations offer connections to the [Toronto Transit Commission](#) and several [intercity bus carriers](#). Westbound GO Buses take passengers to and from the airport to central locations in [Bramalea](#) and [Brampton](#).

GO provides close to hourly service in each direction daily, with more frequent service during weekday rush hour. Buses run from early morning to late evening, even on weekends.

Travel time from the airport to Yorkdale is 30-35 minutes, and 40-45 minutes to York Mills.

The adult one-way fare is \$3.40 from the airport east to Yorkdale or York Mills.

Passengers carrying luggage should be aware that not all GO Buses have under floor luggage compartments. Luggage will be accommodated whenever possible.

For more information call (416) 869-3200 or 1-(888) GET ON GO (438-6646) or visit the web site www.go transit.com.

By Train

<http://www.viarail.com>

VIA Rail's Toronto station is Union Station, which is connected to Union Subway Station. From there, travel North on the YONGE line to College station. Then take the streetcar going east 2 stops to Jarvis (stops right in front of the Primrose), or walk east to the Primrose (approx. 5 min walk)

By Greyhound Bus

<http://www.greyhound.ca>

Taxi should only be approximately \$5 and is your best method to get to the Primrose from the downtown bus terminal.

TORONTO COACH TERMINAL
610 BAY STREET TORONTO, ON, M5G 1M5
(416) 594-1010