

# CHINA

*Including the Hong Kong Special  
Administrative Region*



*A Guide for Canadian Visitors*  
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*Ce document est aussi disponible en français sous le titre La Chine (y compris la Région administrative spéciale de Hong Kong).*

*Note: The information in this booklet is subject to change.*

*Please consult our Web site or the resources listed in the*

*For More Information section for the most up-to-date information.*

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## CONTENTS

<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>4</b>
The Canadian Connection .....	4
<b>Before You Go</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Passport .....	4
Visa .....	5
Health Insurance and Questionnaire .....	5
Residency and Work Permits .....	5
Persons with a Disability .....	6
Learn About Your Destination .....	6
Dual Nationality and Canadian Consular Services .....	6

## THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

<b>Entering China</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Visas and Documentation .....	7
Customs .....	10
Children .....	10
<b>Visiting China</b> .....	<b>11</b>
Travel .....	11
Time .....	12
Language .....	12
Currency and Credit Cards .....	13
Food and Drink .....	14
Health Care .....	14
Drugs .....	15
Crime .....	15
Women Travelling Solo .....	15
The Justice System .....	16
Communications .....	16
Politics .....	17
Canadian Consular Services .....	17

<b>Living in China</b> .....	<b>18</b>
Foreigner Residence Certificates .....	18
Medical Insurance .....	18
Retirement .....	19
Real Estate .....	19

## THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

<b>Visiting Hong Kong</b> .....	<b>20</b>
Temporary Visitors .....	20
Identity Cards .....	20
<b>Living in Hong Kong</b> .....	<b>21</b>
Rights of Canadians .....	21
Work Permits .....	22
Business Registration .....	23
Taxation .....	23
Customs .....	24
Money and Banking .....	25
Travel to Other Parts of China .....	25
<b>Doing Business in China (Including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region)</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Returning Home</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>For More Information</b> .....	<b>27</b>
<b>Canadian Government Offices in China</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>Chinese Government Offices in Canada</b> .....	<b>32</b>

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## INTRODUCTION

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Canadian travel to China has reached unprecedented levels. The cultural and business connections between Canada and Hong Kong were already well established before the Chinese economy began opening in 1978. Since then, China's encouragement of tourism and business travel, combined with market reforms and the restoration of Chinese sovereignty in Hong Kong, have greatly increased Canadian interest.

Since July 1, 1997, Hong Kong has been a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. It maintains its own currency and regulations concerning visitor entry and business operations. These aspects of travelling to Hong Kong are treated in a separate section of this guide.

Under an agreement with Portugal, the People's Republic of China resumed sovereignty over Macao on December 20, 1999, at which time it too became a Special Administrative Region.

### The Canadian Connection

Canada's special relationship with China is based partly on the large Chinese community in Canada. It is estimated that half a million Canadians are from Hong Kong, and

approximately 15,000 Hong Kong students attend Canadian universities. Recently, immigration from other parts of China has caught up with and even surpassed that from Hong Kong.

Increasing numbers of Canadian investors and business people have been visiting China since the Chinese government began its program of "open cities" and special economic zones in the late 1970s. Today there are many partnerships between Chinese and Canadian companies in a wide variety of industries, from the traditional sectors to emerging technology and knowledge-based industries.

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## BEFORE YOU GO

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The preparation you need depends on the purpose and duration of your trip. Regardless of where you are travelling in China and how long you will stay, ensure you have the proper documentation:

### Passport

You will need a Canadian passport that is valid for at least six months after your intended departure date from China. Applications for Canadian passports are available on-line at [www.ppt.gc.ca](http://www.ppt.gc.ca), and at passport offices and postal outlets in Canada. There are separate forms for adults

and children. The processing of an application accompanied by the required documentation *usually* takes up to 10 working days if the application is presented in person at a passport office, or at least 20 working days if it is mailed. So plan to apply well before your departure.

### Visa

If you're planning to visit Hong Kong for up to 90 days or Macao for up to 30 days, you do not need a visa. For a longer stay, you can obtain a visa on arrival in Macao or Hong Kong, provided you have the necessary documentation. A visitor fee of 100 patacas for each adult and 50 patacas for each child up to 12 years old is applied on arrival in Macao. There is no visitor fee for Hong Kong.

If you're travelling to other parts of China, you will require a visa, which can be obtained in Canada. Further information is provided in the Visas and Documentation section and the Hong Kong section.

### Health Insurance and Questionnaire

It is unlikely that your health insurance in Canada will provide adequate coverage while you are abroad. You must obtain appropriate health insurance before you leave. Make sure you understand the terms of your policy; it should cover all your

needs and those of all accompanying dependants.

Visitors to China are required to complete a health questionnaire on arrival, and it is prudent to carry documentation demonstrating that you have received all necessary immunizations. Statements made on the health questionnaire (for example, admitting that you are HIV positive) could result in denial of entry.

Health authorities in Canada can advise you about recommended precautions and vaccinations. Take into account that, in general, sanitation standards in China do not match those in Canada, and there are high levels of air pollution in the major cities. As in many Asian countries, drinking water can also be a problem. Take your prescription or over-the-counter medicines with you.

### Residency and Work Permits

If you stay in China for an extended period, or if you receive remuneration from Chinese sources, you will need residency or work permits that must be obtained in China after your arrival. However, you should gather information on the process prior to your arrival in China from a Government of China embassy or consulate. This process can be bureaucratic and time-consuming, so be sure to allow adequate time for proper certification.

## Persons with a Disability

People with special requirements should verify the availability of any facilities they need before visiting China. In general, people with disabilities can expect access to travel facilities and other public places to be more difficult than it is in Canada. You may have to make special arrangements to obtain amenities that you expect as a matter of course at home.

## Learn About Your Destination

Before you go, take time to read about the social, political and economic environment in China. The Internet is a good source of information. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has brought together information on a wide range of programs and services related to China on the Canadian embassy site ([www.beijing.gc.ca/splash/bj-splash.htm](http://www.beijing.gc.ca/splash/bj-splash.htm)).

If possible, learn some basic Mandarin or Cantonese, depending on your destination. These languages are tonal, and you may find pronunciation more difficult than with Western languages. However, the Chinese people you meet will appreciate your effort to communicate with them in their own language, even if it is just a few phrases.

## Dual Nationality and Canadian Consular Services

China, like many countries, does not recognize a person's right to have more than one nationality (citizenship). Under the laws of China, when a citizen of China obtains a second nationality, there is a loss of Chinese citizenship. In practice, however, recognition of Canadian citizenship is not automatic. There have been cases where Chinese authorities have refused to recognize the Canadian citizenship of persons who had travelled to Canada on a Chinese Public Affairs passport and not returned to China, or had travelled to Canada at state expense and not returned to China. In these cases, Chinese authorities consider you still to be a Chinese citizen until you have gone through an official process to renounce Chinese citizenship. The proper procedures for doing this are not entirely clear, and a Chinese embassy or consulate should be consulted for specific information.

Canadian citizens of Chinese background must take overt action such as consistently using a Canadian passport and obtaining a visa from the Chinese authorities for entry into China. Chinese authorities will usually consider you a citizen of the country (and only that country) that issued the passport you used to enter China.

Under Chinese law, a citizen is a person who has Chinese nationality under the Chinese Nationality Law. Persons who have Chinese nationality under this law include Hong Kong and Macao residents and former residents who are of Chinese descent and who were born in Hong Kong or other parts of China. They may be Chinese citizens even though they hold, or have held, Hong Kong British Dependent Territories Citizen passports, British National (Overseas) passports or other foreign passports. Canadian officials will be prevented by the Chinese authorities from providing consular services to Canadians who have used their Chinese or Hong Kong travel documents to enter China.

Canadian law permits a Canadian to have more than one nationality. It is the policy of the Canadian government to encourage Canadians to use a Canadian passport when travelling abroad and to present themselves as Canadian to foreign authorities. Canadian officials in China will offer consular assistance to Canadian citizens whenever they can. But their right to do so may not be recognized by Chinese authorities in the case of Canadians who have not specified their Canadian citizenship when entering China, by using a Canadian passport, or when dealing with local authorities.

## THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

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### ENTERING CHINA

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Entry into China usually involves a three-stage process:

1. inspection of your passport, visa and other travel documents;
2. completion of a health questionnaire; and
3. customs inspection.

You can be fined or expelled if you arrive in China without a visa (except in Hong Kong and Macao, where only a valid passport is required).

### Visas and Documentation

Canadians visiting China require a visa, which can be obtained from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Ottawa, or from the Chinese consulates general in Calgary, Toronto and Vancouver. The Vancouver office has responsibility for British Columbia and Yukon Territory. The Calgary office covers Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. The Toronto office handles applications from Ontario and Manitoba. Residents of the other provinces and Nunavut should apply to the Embassy in Ottawa. Visa applications can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Chinese embassy, or

they can be downloaded on-line ([www.chinaembassycanada.org](http://www.chinaembassycanada.org)). Applications are normally processed in about five days, but priority service is available for an additional charge.

If you are travelling to Hong Kong first, visas for the rest of China can be obtained fairly quickly from the Visa Section, Office of the Commissioner, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, People's Republic of China, 5/F Lower Block, China Resources Building, 26 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, or through the China Travel Service (CTS), China International Travel Service (CITS) or some private travel agencies.

The Chinese visa will be inserted into your passport, so you must submit your passport with the visa application. At least two completely blank pages must be available in your passport. The Chinese government will not issue visas to applicants whose passports list Taiwan or Hong Kong as the country of birth.

You must also affix a recent passport-size photo to the application form and include a money order or corporate cheque for the required fee. Personal cheques are not accepted. The fee for a single-entry or transit visa is about \$50; a 12-month multiple-entry visa costs about \$150. Other required documentation depends on the type of visa you are requesting.

### ***Tourist Visas***

A tourist visa, or L visa, will be issued to Canadians travelling either on group tours or as individual tourists. If you are participating in a group tour, submit a letter confirming the tour arrangements from a travel agency in China along with your application. If you are travelling as an individual tourist and not as part of an escorted group, submit a copy of your return ticket along with evidence that you have sufficient funds for the trip.

Tourist visas are generally valid for three months from the date of issue and for 30 to 60 days after entry into China. It is possible to arrange for longer stays if the visa is obtained in Hong Kong. Visas can be extended in China at Public Security Bureau offices or through China International Travel Service agents. People entering China on an L visa are not permitted to work. Although it is possible to change the status of your visa from a tourist to a work visa on the Chinese mainland, the process can be very difficult.

### ***Business and Working Visas***

To conduct business in China, you require an F visa. To obtain an F visa, you need an official invitation from a business counterpart in China or the relevant Chinese authorities. To work in China, you require a Z visa. In addition to a letter of

invitation, you must submit a work permit from the Chinese Ministry of Labour and Social Security or the State Bureau of Foreign Experts. See the Living in China section.

If you are applying for multiple-entry privileges or wish to stay for more than six months, you must also submit a health certificate. At the end of this process, you will be issued a Foreigner Residence Certificate (small green booklet), which is your official identification and proof of your status to legally live and work in China.

### ***Transit Visas***

If you are passing through China in transit, you will require a G visa unless you are connecting on a continued international flight within 24 hours and will not leave the airport area. To obtain a G visa, you must provide evidence of your onward trip. This may be a copy of an onward visa or a connecting air ticket to the next country of destination. Transit visas are generally valid for 10 days.

### ***Student Visas***

Students must submit an Application Form for International Students issued by the State Education Commission of China, or a notification of admission from a university or college bearing the seal of the State Education Commission. Persons entering China

on a student visa, or X visa, are not permitted to work and must obtain a residence permit from the Public Security Bureau after they arrive. See the Living in China section.

### ***Permanent Residence***

D visas, normally valid for 30 days, are issued for permanent residence in China. When submitting your D visa application, you must also submit a permanent residence confirmation form for the municipality or county where you plan to live. The form can be obtained from the Public Security Bureau on application by you or your designated relatives in China.

Within 30 days after your entry to China, you are also required to apply for a Foreigner Residence Certificate from the Public Security Bureau where you live. The validity date on the certificate issued to you is the actual duration of your permitted stay in China. You are required to submit your certificate to the Public Security Bureau where you live on an annual basis. For more information, see the Living in China section.

### ***Travel to Tibet***

Special permission is required to visit Tibet. Although the requirements change from time to time, obtaining permission to travel to Tibet is usually easier if you are part of an

escorted group tour. Ask your Canadian travel agent to provide you with appropriate documents regarding tourist permits to Tibet.

## Customs

Foreign visitors complete a Passenger's Luggage Declaration before proceeding through the customs area at the Chinese port of entry. You are allowed to bring in personal belongings duty-free, including a camera, a portable tape recorder, a movie or video camera and a portable computer. You are also entitled to bring in 400 cigarettes and two 0.75-litre bottles of alcoholic beverages if your stay will be less than six months. For longer stays, the limits are 600 cigarettes and four bottles. Gold and silver jewellery and other objects made of precious metals are duty-free up to a weight of 50 grams.

There are absolute prohibitions against arms, drugs, and plant or animal products considered infested with disease or pests. There are also restrictions on the entry of printed matter, film, photos, videotapes and CDs considered detrimental to the interests of China. These regulations are unlikely to affect tourists carrying small quantities of printed or electronic media for personal use, but be careful to avoid items that might be considered political or pornographic by Chinese authorities.

## Children

Remember, the practice of adding a child's name to a parent's passport is no longer permitted. This new security measure is also intended to help protect children and combat child slavery and prostitution. (More information on children's issues is available at [www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/pubs.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/pubs.asp).) However, if you hold a valid Canadian passport issued before December 11, 2001, that bears the name of your child, the passport will remain valid for both you and your child until it expires or until your child reaches the age of 16, whichever comes first. If your child is travelling without you, he or she is required to have a separate passport.

If you are travelling to China with your child and there is a possibility of a custody dispute developing while you are away, you should talk to a lawyer before leaving home.

Your child custody arrangements in Canada may not be recognized in China. In extreme cases, you or your child may not be allowed to leave. Check your status with the Chinese embassy or a consulate in Canada **before** you travel. If you have custody questions, contact the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's consular case management division at **1 800 387-3124** (in Canada) or **(613) 943-1055**.

If a person younger than 18 is travelling alone or with only one parent or another adult, certified and/or stamped documentation proving that the trip is permitted by both parents should be carried. For a sample consent letter, refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section of our Web site ([www.voyage.gc.ca/main/before/faq-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/before/faq-en.asp)).

Parents should also be aware of the problem of international child abduction in cases where children may be considered citizens of other countries, including China. If a child enters China with a parent who does not declare Canadian citizenship on arrival, Canadian officials may not be in a position to intervene on behalf of the other parent. This is true even though there may be a valid child custody order in Canada. Further information on this issue is available from our publication *International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents*.

Many Canadians have adopted children from China. While the procedures are relatively complex, there are no fundamental obstacles to this process, provided that all of the relevant laws of China, Canada and the province of residence of the adopting parents are satisfied. General information is available on several Internet sites, including [www.china-ccaa.org/zxwj/030624hfgz-english.htm](http://www.china-ccaa.org/zxwj/030624hfgz-english.htm) and [www.china-blas.org/english/azq/jj.htm](http://www.china-blas.org/english/azq/jj.htm).

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## VISITING CHINA

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China is a vast country with countless attractions for the traveller. China is as diverse as it is large, and it is difficult to generalize about many aspects of the country. This section provides an overview of things the traveller should know, based mainly on the experience of visitors to the major population centres. If you will be travelling off the beaten path, take extra time to research your destination carefully, and be prepared for the unexpected.

## Travel

The Chinese government has been gradually opening the country to outside influences since 1978. Additional parts of China are opened to visitors every year, but travel permits are still required for some parts of the country. If you will be travelling outside established tourist areas, find out in advance if you will require a permit. Travel permits can be obtained from local offices of the Public Security Bureau.

All foreigners (tourists, visitors or long-term residents) are required to register their place of residence with the local Public Security Bureau within 24 hours of arrival. If you are staying in a hotel, this is done as part of the check-in process. Those staying with family or friends in a

private home must also observe this requirement. Failure to do so can result in fines and/or detention.

The simplest form of travel within China is scheduled air services. Air China, the national airline, and its regional carriers serve all the major cities. Domestic flights generally involve large wide-bodied jets.

Tickets can be obtained from any travel agency or directly from Air China or one of the many domestic carriers serving the regional markets, such as China Eastern or China Southern. Departure taxes are levied at both domestic and international airports.

China has an extensive system of passenger trains, providing an interesting way to see the countryside. Most trains are slow, although there are express trains on the well-travelled routes. Many visitors consider a train trip to be an adventure as well as part of their experience of the culture, and overnight trips offer a fascinating look at Chinese life.

Taxis are plentiful in major cities and can be obtained at hotels or taxi stands. Drivers generally do not speak English, so you should arrange for a Chinese-speaking person to write out your destination in

detail on a card before you go. Rental cars are available only in the largest cities, generally with a driver. To drive a vehicle in China, you must obtain a Chinese driver's licence, which is available only to those foreigners who possess a residency permit. Cars with experienced Chinese drivers may be hired at a reasonable cost.

Tipping is not necessary, but it is no longer considered an insult and may be expected in some situations, especially in foreign hotels.

### Time

In spite of its size, all of China is in one time zone, which is GMT + 8 or EST + 13. However, customary opening and closing hours vary significantly across the country. Daylight savings time is not used.

### Language

The official spoken language of China is *Putonghua* (standard language or common speech), or Mandarin, but there are dozens of regional dialects including Cantonese, Shanghainese and Sichuanese. Cantonese is usually spoken in Hong Kong and adjacent Guangdong province. Mandarin is spoken in Beijing and throughout most of China.

In Mandarin, *pin yin* means "spell sound." This transliteration system has gradually replaced an older British-designed method known as Wade-Giles in the Western media, which is why some well-known names have changed over the years. The replacement of *Peking* with the phonetically more accurate *Beijing* is an example.

Business meetings (outside Hong Kong) are likely to take place in Mandarin. Interpreters are readily available at reasonable prices and can often be arranged through your hotel. Many Chinese people are studying English, so don't be surprised if you meet people who want to practise.

Written Chinese, which is the same regardless of the dialect spoken, is based on a system of ideographs or characters. Modern Chinese includes more than 400 basic syllables. Each syllable can be written using the Roman alphabet and a variety of phonetic symbols. The People's Republic of China adopted the *Hanyu Pinyin* system for transliterating Chinese ideograms into the Roman alphabet in the late 1950s, and it is now recognized as standard throughout most of the world. Many Chinese product labels and street signs are expressed in these syllables.

They can also be used to input Chinese on computer keyboards.

### Currency and Credit Cards

The official currency of the People's Republic of China is the *renminbi* (RMB or CNY), which means "people's money." The basic unit of currency is the *yuan*, commonly known as *kuai*, which may be written ¥. The *yuan* is divided into 10 *jiao* or 100 *fen*. In order to avoid misunderstandings, vendors usually write down the price for foreign clients. Except in hotels, restaurants and some fixed-price shops, bargaining is the rule rather than the exception.

It is illegal to pay for anything with foreign currency or to exchange currency anywhere but at officially approved facilities. Refuse offers to change money on the street. This is not only illegal but also dangerous, since criminals operate the black market and use counterfeit bills.

It is now possible to purchase small amounts of RMB outside China, but it is not yet a fully convertible currency. When entering China, Chinese law requires you to declare any RMB cash amount over 6,000 RMB. Likewise, on departure, you must declare any cash amount over 6,000 RMB. Non-residents of China must also declare any currency with a value over US\$5,000. Residents of China



must declare any currency with a value over US\$2,000. You can exchange foreign currency or traveller's cheques for RMB at the main offices of Chinese banks, airports, and major hotels. You will be expected to spend at least 50 percent of the RMB that you convert. You will be given official receipts for these transactions, which you must save if you wish to reconvert RMB to hard currency (maximum of 50 percent) when you leave the country.

Major credit cards are not widely accepted in China. Some Chinese banks will provide cash advances using these accounts, but they may charge for the service. Some stores and restaurants accept credit card purchases, but they may apply surcharges. The only places that can be counted on to accept credit cards are five-star hotels.

It is now possible to use bank cards to draw on your Canadian bank account at ATMs in several places. These international ATMs taking Cirrus, PLUS or Maestro are restricted to a few sites in larger cities and most international airports. Limited amounts can be withdrawn, reflecting the cardholder's daily limits, but often the exchange rate is more favourable than can be obtained when changing money at banks in the interior, where surcharges may be added.

## Food and Drink

Visitors to China may suffer from traveller's diarrhea. To avoid this and other discomforts, it is advisable to drink bottled water. Eating food prepared on the street is part of the local culture, but avoid stalls that do not use disposable utensils.

### Protocol Tips

#### *Eating*

Chopsticks are used at all meals. The food is placed in the centre of the table in serving dishes, and it is polite to taste every type of food prepared. Food should be served with serving spoons or serving chopsticks. Your chopsticks should be placed neatly on the right of your bowl or plate when not in use. It is considered impolite to drink alone, and toasts are frequent. Non-drinkers may toast with soft drinks.

## Health Care

Some major hotels in China maintain clinics or resident doctors who can assist you with minor medical problems. Several hospitals in the larger cities have special services, designed for foreigners, with English-speaking staff. Nevertheless, you should be prepared to take an interpreter with you if you must visit a local hospital. You will be asked to deposit funds with the

hospital upon arrival; the cost of your treatment and other medical expenses will be deducted from this deposit and the balance returned to you upon departure. Although medical care in local hospitals is relatively inexpensive, you should still purchase private health insurance before your trip to cover any unforeseen expenses. Medical care in clinics offering Western-style care for foreigners is much more expensive and must be paid for on the spot, using U.S. dollars or a credit card.

## Drugs

The Government of China deals harshly with persons found in possession of illegal drugs. You should exercise the utmost caution when travelling. Never carry a package or luggage for someone else unless you have completely verified the contents. Choose travelling companions carefully, since you may be implicated if they are found to be carrying drugs. For details, consult the Drugs and Travel section of our Web site ([www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs\\_menu-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/drugs_menu-en.asp)) and refer to our publication *Drugs and Travel: Why They Don't Mix*.

Prescription medicines and syringes may be considered suspicious by Chinese authorities. Keep all drugs in their original containers and carry the prescriptions with you. If you have a medical need for syringes,

carry a medical certificate saying so. If you require over-the-counter medicines, such as those commonly used for traveller's diarrhea, it is best to take them with you.

## Crime

China is a relatively safe country where violent crime is rare. But petty theft is common, and you should constantly be on guard for pickpockets. It is wise to leave valuables in a hotel safe wherever possible. Be careful when carrying money or passports in a handbag, shoulder bag or backpack, because bag slashing is a common tactic of criminals.

If you decide to stop at a bar, ensure that the prices are clearly marked on the menu so that your tab may be easily calculated. Avoid in particular "hostess bars," where foreign patrons have been taken advantage of, with costly results. For information on safety issues, consult our Country Travel Reports on China at [www.voyage.gc.ca/dest/intro-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/dest/intro-en.asp).

## Women Travelling Solo

Female travellers should dress conservatively and take safety precautions. General guidelines for women travelling alone are provided in our publication *Her Own Way: Advice for the Woman Traveller*.

## Protocol Tips

### Greetings

Chinese people often greet each other with a nod or a slight bow, but a handshake is quite acceptable. *Ni Hao* is the standard greeting at any time of the day, often said twice. Business cards should be printed with Chinese on one side and presented with both hands, Chinese side up.

It is appropriate to make your position or status clear, even though the Chinese may avoid identifying themselves precisely.

## The Justice System

When in China, you are subject to Chinese laws and are not entitled to any special protection or consideration because of your Canadian citizenship.

The administration of justice is substantially different in China. In general, police and other officials have more discretionary power than their Canadian counterparts. A lawyer does not have the same advocacy role as in Canada, and the rights of accused persons are more limited. In civil matters, claims of unstated intent may take precedence over written contract terms. Detention during the investigative period before charges are laid is common and can be lengthy.

If you are arrested or detained, you can request that the arresting officer inform the Canadian embassy or nearest consulate, provided that you have entered China as a Canadian citizen. You will need a Chinese lawyer. Canadian officials can provide a list of lawyers who speak English and have experience working in the local court system.

Meanwhile, be aware that what you say can be used against you. Avoid making any arrangements with police or court officials unless your lawyer is present. Sentences will be served in a local prison.

## Communications

The telephone system in China is still not up to world standards, but it is improving rapidly. The best place to make phone calls is in your hotel, especially if it is a modern one. Cellular phones are readily available and are becoming very common as prices drop. Canada Direct service is available from some major cities in China by calling **108-186**.

Most of the major international courier companies operate in China. Internet service is available but is subject to certain government restrictions. The larger modern hotels have business centres that can provide translation, fax and printing services.

## Protocol Tips

### Conversation

Refer to the country as the People's Republic of China, or simply China. Taiwan is considered a province of China, so do not refer to it as a country.

## Politics

The close relationship between the Communist Party of China and the Government of the People's Republic of China means that there are few aspects of life in the country that do not have a political dimension. Moreover, Chinese citizens do not have the same rights or expectations of privacy that Westerners are accustomed to. The Chinese people you encounter may feel justifiably uncomfortable if you discuss politics, particularly if you are critical of their government—or even your own. If you are not a Chinese citizen, participation in any political activities will be considered inconsistent with your status, and you may be expelled from the country.

## Canadian Consular Services

If you plan to stay longer than three months in China, it is recommended that you register at the nearest Canadian government office abroad. This will help us contact you in case of an emergency. Registration is

voluntary, and the information you provide is protected and used in accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act. You can register on-line ([www.voyage.gc.ca/main/sos/rocapage-en.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/main/sos/rocapage-en.asp)).

Keep in mind, however, that your Canadian citizenship does not exempt you from local laws and regulations. Moreover, Canadian officials may not be able to help you at all if you have Chinese citizenship.

The Canadian embassy or consulates can help you with any of the following:

- contacting relatives at home in case of an emergency;
- dealing with medical emergencies;
- coping with situations such as natural disasters and civil or military conflict;
- accessing sources of information about local laws, regulations, cultural customs and visas;
- replacing passports; and
- dealing with local authorities if you are arrested.

These Canadian government offices offer 24-hour emergency assistance. You can also contact the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa at **(613) 996-8885** (collect calls accepted) or call **10800-1400125** toll-free from inside China.

### Foreigner Residence Certificates

Persons who have entered China on a Z or X visa must apply for a Foreigner Residence Certificate at the Public Security Bureau within 30 days of arrival. The authorities may issue a provisional certificate in some cases. Temporary residence cards are issued to those who will be staying in China for less than one year. A residence certificate is not required for foreigners holding other types of visas, including the F and the L visas. Foreigners aged 16 or older must carry their residence certificates or passports at all times for possible examination by authorities.

#### Protocol Tips

##### *Dress*

Chinese business people are relatively formal; suits for men and suits or dresses for women are conventional for business meetings. When in doubt about appropriate clothing, it is always best to err on the conservative side and to behave with the same good manners as you would in Canada.

Foreigner Residence Certificates are issued for periods of one to five years, and the cards must be submitted to the local Public Security Bureau for examination once a year.

The application for a residence certificate must be supported by documentation demonstrating the applicant's employment. A registration certificate for a representative office of a foreign company from the Chinese Administration for Industry and Commerce is acceptable for this purpose.

The residence certificate is valid for a specific residence and a specific employment situation. Foreigners who wish to change places of residence or employment must apply to the Public Security Bureau to have their residence certificate changed.

Once you have a permit to reside in China, you can obtain an import permit, valid for six months, to bring in personal belongings duty-free. This process can take several weeks, so be prepared to live in temporary accommodation while you wait for your belongings.

### Medical Insurance

Canadians considering work or study in China may be required to possess medical insurance (costing

400,000 RMB). This requirement should be verified with the employer or school before arrival.

### Retirement

Chinese law does not explicitly recognize retirement as a reason for immigration. Nonetheless, Canadian retirees wishing to emigrate to China and live there full-time, but who do not intend to work, study or invest, may consider applying for a D visa. This is most easily obtained if you have relatives in China who can sponsor you and handle your application. People in this category should be aware that they may be considered Chinese nationals, so research the implications carefully before making a decision.

To obtain a D visa, you must first obtain a permanent residence confirmation form from the local Public Security Bureau in the municipality or county where you intend to live. You will also require a health certificate.

#### Protocol Tips

##### *Punctuality*

Arrive for meetings and social events on time. Arriving late for a meal is considered an insult to the host. Banquets last no longer than two hours and usually end promptly after the fruit course.

### Real Estate

Until recently, the People's Republic of China prohibited the private ownership of land. With economic reforms starting in 1978, the need to introduce market principles to land use became apparent, but it was not until 1987 that China allowed private ownership of land, which is still very restricted.

Real estate reforms were implemented on an experimental basis in a few cities at first, and then extended to the nation as a whole in 1990. The current regulations allow for "land use rights" over state property to be assigned to private interests, including foreign enterprises. This is done in the form of leases of varying duration, generally awarded through public bidding or auction. Lease terms, which depend on location, can provide for 70-year tenure, but generally they are not longer than 50 years and often they are less.

Grantees are required to substantially develop the land before they acquire the right to resell their land use rights. It is always advisable to check whether land use rights are "designated land use rights" or "granted land use rights," as the former can be cancelled at any time.

As a result of these reforms, a real estate market has developed for the private sale or lease of residential, commercial and industrial property. Land rights can be sold, rented, leased or mortgaged and are transferable outside China. International-standard residential and commercial real estate in big cities such as Beijing and Shanghai is among the most expensive in the world. Executive apartments in Beijing are listed by several agents in the price range of US\$4,000 to \$18,000 monthly, on the basis of one- or two-year leases.

## THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

*The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), which consists of Hong Kong island, Kowloon and the New Territories, passed from British to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997. The governments of China and Britain reached an agreement known as the Joint Declaration in 1984, which set out the conditions for Chinese sovereignty. The National People's Congress passed legislation in 1990 known as the Basic Law, which implements the Joint Declaration. This law establishes the principle of "One Country, Two Systems," and stipulates*

*that the HKSAR will enjoy considerable autonomy over the next 50 years. The entry of tourists and business visitors and the regulation of business activities are among the matters that continue to be governed by HKSAR law.*

## VISITING HONG KONG

### Temporary Visitors

Canadian citizens entering Hong Kong temporarily for tourism or business purposes do not require visas unless they intend to work. You must present your Canadian passport along with confirmed airline tickets for your onward journey and sufficient funds for your planned stay in Hong Kong. Your passport must be valid for at least six months after your planned departure date. A passport valid for six months after your departure date is also required to enter other parts of China and most other countries in the region.

### Identity Cards

Every person over the age of 11 who enters Hong Kong with the intent of staying more than 180 days must apply for an identity card. The type of card issued will depend on the status of the individual and may include any of the following:

- Conditional Stay;
- Unconditional Stay;
- the Right to Land; and
- the Right of Abode.

Applications are processed in Hong Kong, but some arrangements can be made from Canada in advance with the HKSAR Immigration Department. The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Canada does not handle applications for Hong Kong status.

Regardless of their status, all Hong Kong residents must carry an identity card and produce it when required by authorities. If you are not a resident, you should carry your passport.

## LIVING IN HONG KONG

### Rights of Canadians

As of July 1, 1997, Canadians—regardless of their place of birth—who are not already residents of Hong Kong may apply for any of the four residency categories.

Some Canadians may be entitled to the Right to Land or the Right of Abode in the HKSAR by virtue of their birth or prior residency. If you were born in Chinese territory (including Hong Kong), you may be considered a Chinese national.

If you obtain the Right of Abode, either by design or inadvertently, the Chinese authorities may not permit Canada to provide you with consular services.

Canadians who may have Chinese citizenship are encouraged to learn more about the process by which they can make a declaration of their Canadian citizenship to Hong Kong authorities. Further information on this and other immigration issues can be obtained from the HKSAR Immigration Department. Information is available on the Internet ([www.info.gov.hk](http://www.info.gov.hk)), by e-mail at [enquiry@immd.gov.hk](mailto:enquiry@immd.gov.hk) or [roa@immd.gov.hk](mailto:roa@immd.gov.hk) and by telephone at (85-2) 2824-6111 or (85-2) 2824-4055.

Canadians who remain in Hong Kong for three months or more are encouraged to register with the Canadian consulate general. This will make it easier for Canadian officials to help you in the event of an emergency.

### Conditional and Unconditional Stay

Most Canadians who enter Hong Kong with the intent to live there initially acquire Conditional Stay status. Permission to work is granted separately. Conditional Stay status can be revoked at any time and must be renewed periodically.

After seven years of continuous residency under Conditional Stay status, you can apply for Unconditional Stay status or the Right of Abode. The Unconditional Stay relieves you of the need to periodically renew residence and work permits. This is an administrative measure that does not convey any legal right to stay, and it can be revoked at the discretion of the Director of Immigration.

### ***The Right of Abode***

Persons holding Right of Abode status cannot be deported. The law concerning the Right of Abode treats individuals differently depending on their ethnic background. Canadians of Chinese descent who were born in Hong Kong may be considered Chinese citizens. They have the Right of Abode in the HKSAR immediately. Canadians of Chinese descent who were born elsewhere have the Right of Abode after seven continuous years of residence. The required residency may be at any time in the past and does not have to immediately precede the claim to Right of Abode status.

Persons deemed not to be of Chinese nationality can qualify for the Right of Abode if they entered Hong Kong on a valid travel document and have ordinarily resided there for seven continuous years immediately prior to applying to become a permanent

resident. The period of continuous residence can be before or after the establishment of the HKSAR.

Once you have acquired the Right of Abode, you are entitled to enter Hong Kong without conditions, to vote, to run for election and to occupy certain civil positions reserved for permanent residents. You can also apply for an HKSAR passport.

### ***The Right to Land***

Persons who have previously held the right of permanent residency in Hong Kong, but who do not qualify for the Right of Abode, are entitled to the statutory Right to Land. This category applies to Canadians who previously lived in Hong Kong, but were not resident there for seven continuous years immediately prior to seeking entry into the HKSAR. Persons holding the Right to Land are entitled to enter Hong Kong without restrictions, but do not have political rights and can be deported for serious offences.

### ***Work Permits***

To obtain a work permit, you must normally be sponsored by a Hong Kong employer. The sponsoring employer usually handles the application to the HKSAR Immigration Department, and the process generally takes six to eight weeks.

The documents required include a contract of employment, along with a letter from your employer stating reasons for your employment. Your employer must demonstrate that the company is properly incorporated and/or registered and provide copies of financial statements. You should provide a copy of your résumé to demonstrate your qualifications for the job. If your family accompanies you, marriage and birth certificates are required.

### ***Business Registration***

The HKSAR Business Registration Ordinance requires that every person carrying on a business must register with the government within one month of commencing business. A business is defined as any work, profession or activity (other than employment) carried on for the purpose of financial gain.

Foreign corporations can register a branch under this ordinance. Companies incorporated in Hong Kong must register, whether or not they actually conduct business in Hong Kong. A Business Registration Certificate must be displayed at the address where the business is carried on and may be demanded for inspection by officials. Business registration does not relieve the holder of obligations for complying with any other regulations applying to that business or profession.

Applications are submitted to the Business Registration Office, and must include copies of the HKSAR identity cards or passports of the proprietor or all of the partners. If the applicant is not a resident of the HKSAR, an agent who is a resident must be appointed. The appointment letter, along with a copy of the agent's HKSAR identity card, must accompany the application. The agent must sign the application.

Foreigners may create corporations with relatively little bureaucracy. Many Hong Kong accounting firms provide "shelf companies" that have been pre-incorporated and can be activated very quickly. So-called "overseas corporations" owned by non-residents must have an agent in the HKSAR, and there are many companies that offer secretariat services for this purpose. A company can register under the Business Registration Ordinance while the paperwork for incorporation is still pending.

### ***Taxation***

Under the Basic Law, the HKSAR maintains its own tax regime independent of the system in other parts of the People's Republic of China (PRC). The HKSAR is specifically authorized to enter into independent tax arrangements with foreign governments under the name Hong Kong, China. The Basic Law further

provides that the PRC will not enact tax legislation affecting the HKSAR. As a result, PRC tax treaties with other countries that prevent double taxation do not apply in Hong Kong, which is not party to any tax conventions. There are provisions, however, for relief from Hong Kong taxes where another country taxes Hong Kong-source income received for work performed abroad.

The HKSAR levies two taxes on income, a profits tax and a salaries tax. There is a stamp duty, a property tax and an estate tax, but there are no social security or capital gains taxes.

### **Profits Tax**

The profits tax is levied only on Hong Kong-source income and applies equally to residents and non-residents. Agents are required to retain sufficient funds from the profits of businesses owned by non-residents and will be held liable for any tax due. Reasonable deductions are allowed for business expenses, including a share of the costs of maintaining a head office outside Hong Kong. If profits derived from business in Hong Kong cannot be reasonably determined, the Inland Revenue Ordinance provides that they may be estimated based on revenue. In 2003-04, the profits tax is 17.5 percent for corporations and 16 percent for unincorporated businesses.

### **Salaries Tax**

The salaries tax applies to all income arising from employment in Hong Kong, including salaries, pensions and certain benefits such as employer-provided housing. This tax applies regardless of the nationality or residence of the taxpayer. Individuals who are employed and paid outside Hong Kong are liable for this tax only if they spend more than 60 days in the HKSAR during any tax year.

This tax is levied at progressive rates, which in 2003-04 range from 2 percent to 17 percent. Deductions are provided in the form of allowances for individuals, dependent spouses and other dependants. The total tax may not exceed the “standard rate,” which is 15 percent of total income before allowances. If you are an HKSAR resident, you may elect to have taxes calculated by a system of personal assessment, which may result in lower taxes. When you permanently depart from Hong Kong, your employer is required to withhold sufficient amounts of your salary to guarantee payment of all taxes before the Inland Revenue Department will issue a certificate of release.

### **Customs**

Hong Kong is a free port and does not levy general tariffs on imported goods. If you go to Hong Kong to live and work, you can bring in your

possessions duty-free, except for limitations on liquor, tobacco and fuel. There is a substantial tax on the first registration of a motor vehicle.

### **Money and Banking**

The official currency is the Hong Kong dollar, and major credit cards are widely accepted. The HKSAR imposes no restrictions on the movement of funds into and out of the region.

Chinese currency may now be purchased and sold at the airport and downtown. International ATMs can be found near most major hotels and at the airport. Competitive exchange offices also exist in tourist areas throughout Hong Kong; rates may vary substantially.

### **Travel to Other Parts of China**

The growth in economic links between Hong Kong and other parts of China has driven a huge increase in cross-boundary traffic. Official statistics report 117.1 million people went through control points on the Hong Kong-mainland border in 2000. With more than 12 express trains running between Hong Kong and Guangdong every day, the Lo Wu crossing alone handles over 150,000 passengers daily. In addition, automobile traffic across the Mam Kam To, Sha Tau Kok and Lok Ma Chau crossings amounts to nearly 30,000 vehicles per day. There are

seven ferry services in Hong Kong handling traffic to 25 mainland destinations. There are also many scheduled flights from Hong Kong to major cities on the mainland.

Travellers in Hong Kong must pass a border inspection when they cross into other parts of China. The requirements are generally the same as those for entry directly from Canada. Tourist visas can be obtained in Hong Kong from one of the official state agencies, including the China Travel Service (CTS) or the China International Travel Service (CITS), as well as from some private travel agencies. This can normally be done in one day.

### **Protocol Tips**

#### *Forms of Address*

Chinese personal names are usually three syllables, with the surname given first. For example, Zhou Pengfei's surname is Zhou. Chinese tend to be more formal than Canadians, and it is best to use formal forms of address, such as Mr. Zhou, or occupational titles such as Director Zhou. If you are greeted by Vice-Mayor Wang or Vice-President Zhou, addressing them as Mayor Wang or President Zhou in subsequent conversation is considered quite polite.

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## DOING BUSINESS IN CHINA

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### (Including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region)

If you would like information on how to do business in China and the HKSAR, contact the Canadian embassy and consulates in China (see the addresses and contact numbers listed in the For More Information section) or consult [www.beijing.gc.ca](http://www.beijing.gc.ca). This site includes a section on exporting to and investing in China that is specifically designed for Canadian business people.

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## RETURNING HOME

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When planning your trip home from China, there are a few things to consider. First, you must convert your remaining holdings of renminbi to hard currency before you leave the country. To do this, you must provide receipts for your major transactions. Make sure you have cash ready to pay the international departure tax. In spring 2003, this tax was 100 RMB.

Travellers should also be prepared for customs procedures when they enter Canada. Everything acquired abroad must be declared, so keeping receipts of purchases is advisable. Customs forms are usually distributed

on the plane flying to Canada; they are also available at airports and land and sea ports of entry.

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. This does not include alcohol and tobacco. You must have the goods with you upon arrival. If you bring back goods worth more than C\$50, you will have to pay full duty on all of them.

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. You may also bring back up to 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars or cigarillos, 200 tobacco sticks and 200 grams of manufactured tobacco. You must have the goods with you upon arrival.

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 alcoholic beverages and tobacco products as described above. With the exception of alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, you do not need to have the goods with you when you arrive.

When calculating the number of days you are absent, do not include the date you leave Canada, but do include the date you return. Provincial age restrictions apply to alcohol and tobacco products.

Canada imposes special restrictions on a variety of imported goods. They include meat and dairy products, weapons, plants, vehicles and environmentally harmful products, as well as exotic animals and goods based on their exploitation. Check with Canadian customs officials in advance if you plan to import any articles in these categories. It is illegal to bring obscene materials, child pornography or hate propaganda of any kind into the country.

The Government of Canada has introduced the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act. Under this new legislation, there are no restrictions on the amount of money that you can bring into or take out of Canada, nor is it illegal to do so. However, you now have to report to a customs officer amounts equal to or greater than C\$10,000 that you are bringing into or taking out of Canada. For more information, refer to the brochure entitled *Crossing the Border With \$10,000 or More?*, published by the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA).

Also, be aware that it is forbidden to bring home cultural property whose sale or export is banned or controlled by China. Strict penalties may be imposed, and the cultural property may be confiscated and returned to China. For more information, contact Canadian Heritage (1 800 0-Canada), the Chinese embassy in Ottawa or the nearest Chinese consulate in Canada.

Canadians who have lived abroad for more than one year are entitled to special customs treatment for household and personal items. Details of these provisions are found in the CCRA brochure *Moving Back to Canada*.

If you have any questions about what you can bring back, call the CCRA's information service at 1 800 461-9999 (toll-free in Canada), (204) 983-3500 or (506) 636-5064.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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### Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)

China Perspectives:  
[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/china](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/china)

### Consular Affairs Bureau

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

## General

Tel.: 1 800 267-6788 (in 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 (in Canada and the U.S.) or (613) 944-1310

## Emergencies

Tel.: (613) 996-8885  
(call collect from abroad)  
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:

Consult [www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/pubs.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/alt/pubs.asp) or call 1 800 267-8376 (in 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 (in 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.ccr.gc.ca](http://www.ccr.gc.ca)

## Customs

Automated Customs Information Service  
Tel.: 1 800 461-9999 (in 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)

*Crossing the Border With \$10,000 or More?*  
*I Declare*  
*Importing a Firearm or Weapon into Canada*  
*Importing a Vehicle into Canada*  
*Moving Back to Canada*

## To access or order:

Tel.: 1 800 959-2221 (in Canada and the U.S.), consult [www.ccr.gc.ca](http://www.ccr.gc.ca) or contact your local Customs Border Services office. All brochures are available on-line.

## Taxation

The International Tax Services Office processes the income tax returns of non-residents, deemed residents 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 (in Canada and the U.S.) or (613) 952-3741;  
Non-Resident Withholding Accounts: 1 800 267-3395 (in Canada and the U.S.) or (613) 952-2344;  
Problem Resolution Program: 1 800 661-4985 (in Canada and the U.S.) or (613) 952-3502  
Collect calls are accepted.  
Fax: (613) 941-2505

## Publication (free)

T4131, *Canadian Residents Abroad*

## To access or order:

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

## 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



## Canadian Heritage

www.canadianheritage.gc.ca/travel  
Tel.: (819) 997-7760

## Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)

www.cic.gc.ca

### CIC Call Centres:

Tel.: 1 888 242-2100 (in Canada) or  
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 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  
Tel.: 1 800 668-6767 or  
(819) 997-1840  
Fax: (819) 953-6283

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## HEALTH ISSUES

### Canadian HIV/AIDS Information Centre

www.aidssida.cpha.ca  
Tel.: 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

## Canadian Public Health Association

www.cpha.ca

### Publications (\$)

*Don't Drink the Water: The  
Complete Traveller's Guide to  
Staying Healthy in Warm  
Climates*  
*International Travel and Health  
(2003): Vaccination  
Requirements and Health  
Advice*  
*Travel Immunization Record Book*

### To order:

1565 Carling Avenue, Suite 400  
Ottawa, ON K1Z 8R1  
Tel.: (613) 725-3769, ext. 190

## Canadian Society for International Health

List of travel clinics: www.csih.org  
E-mail: csih@csih.org  
Tel.: (613) 241-5785

## Drugs and Travel Information Program

Consular Affairs Bureau  
www.voyage.gc.ca

## Health Canada

Travel Medicine Program:  
www.travelhealth.gc.ca  
Tel.: (613) 957-8739

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## Passport Office

www.ppt.gc.ca  
Tel.: 1 800 567-6868 (in Canada)  
Montreal (514) 283-2152  
Ottawa-Hull (819) 994-3500  
Toronto (416) 973-3251  
Vancouver (604) 586-2500

## Radio Canada International (RCI)

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

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## TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

### Canadian Transportation Agency

www.cta-otc.gc.ca

### Publication (free)

*Fly Smart*

### To order:

Tel.: 1 888 222-2592 (in Canada  
and the U.S.) or (819) 997-0344

## Transport Canada

Transport of dangerous goods:  
www.tc.gc.ca/CivilAviation/  
commerce/DangerousGoods

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## CANADIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN CHINA

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Assistance and information may  
be sought in China from the Consular  
Section of the Canadian embassy  
and consulates throughout the country.

### Beijing

Canadian Embassy  
19 Dong Zhi Men Wai Street  
Chao Yang District  
Beijing 100600  
People's Republic of China  
Tel.: 86 (10) 6532-3536  
Fax: 86 (10) 6532-5544  
(consular office)  
Fax: 86 (10) 6532-4072  
(trade office)  
www.beijing.gc.ca

### Chongqing

Consulate of Canada  
Room 1705, Metropolitan Tower  
Wu Yi Lu, Yu Zhong District  
Chongqing 400010  
People's Republic of China  
Tel.: 86 (23) 6373-8007  
Fax: 86 (23) 6373-8026  
www.chongqing.gc.ca

## Guangzhou

Consulate General of Canada  
Suite 801  
China Hotel Office Tower  
Liu Hua Lu  
Guangzhou 510015  
People's Republic of China  
Tel.: 86 (20) 8666-0569  
Fax: 86 (20) 8667-0267  
[www.guangzhou.gc.ca](http://www.guangzhou.gc.ca)

## Hong Kong

Consulate General of Canada  
14th Floor  
One Exchange Square, Central  
Hong Kong SAR  
People's Republic of China  
Postal address:  
G.P.O. Box 11142 Central  
Hong Kong SAR  
People's Republic of China  
Tel.: 85 (2) 2810-4321  
(consular office)  
Tel.: 85 (2) 2847-7414 (trade office)  
Fax: 85 (2) 2810-6736  
(consular office)  
Fax: 85 (2) 2847-7441 (trade office)  
[www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/hongkong](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/hongkong)

## Shanghai

Consulate General of Canada  
American International Centre  
West Tower, Suite 604  
1376 Nanjing Xi Lu  
Shanghai 200040  
People's Republic of China  
Tel.: 86 (21) 6279-8400  
Fax: 86 (21) 6279-8401  
[www.shanghai.gc.ca](http://www.shanghai.gc.ca)

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## CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN CANADA

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[www.chinaembassycanada.org](http://www.chinaembassycanada.org)

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese consulates can provide assistance and guidance to Canadian companies in need of information about visa and business regulations.

### Embassy of the People's Republic of China

515 St. Patrick Street  
Ottawa, ON K1N 5H3  
Tel.: (613) 789-3434  
Fax: (613) 789-1911

### Consulates General of the People's Republic of China

#### Calgary

Suite 100, 1011 6th Avenue SW  
Calgary, AB T2P 0W1  
Tel.: (403) 264-3322  
Fax: (403) 264-6656

#### Toronto

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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.

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