

Car rental rates average about \$40.00 a day, depending on the size of the car and whether or not there is unlimited mileage. Many firms offer several hundred kilometres free, or a daily rate with a kilometre charge added. There is usually an additional cost for insurance, and a credit card or cash deposit is usually required. Additional fees will be added if a car is hired in one city and dropped off in another. Visitors must be at least 21 years of age in order to rent a vehicle.

Taxi fares vary from city to city. However, on average, there is an immediate charge of approximately \$2.35 upon entering the taxicab, and an additional \$1.25 for each additional kilometre travelled.

Public transit can be used for transportation within a city. Average fares start at about \$2.00 and include transfer privileges. Fares are charged at a set rate, and do not vary according to distance travelled. Exact fare is required on many city vehicles. Tickets for public transit can be purchased in advance at designated sale sites as bus drivers do not sell tickets or carry money. Transfers should be requested upon boarding the public vehicle.

Shopping

Canada provides many fine handcrafted and native goods such as wood carvings, pottery, glass, jewellery, knitted or handwoven goods, art, novelties, moccasins and other articles of clothing. Some native products are made from marine mammals, such as seal and walrus. Visitors wishing to purchase such products should check the entry regulations of their home country for possible restrictions.

Most retail businesses are open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. daily. Many shops have extended hours on Thursdays and Fridays, until 9:00 p.m. Some provinces allow shops to be open on Sundays from noon to 5:00 p.m. Many small neighbourhood and convenience stores remain open late and on weekends, selling groceries, some personal items and newspapers.

Most major credit cards and principal bank cards are honoured in Canada. However, visitors should check with their own bank before leaving home.

Holidays

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

Holiday	Date
New Year's Day	January 1
Good Friday	Friday before Easter
Easter Monday	Monday following Easter
Victoria Day	Monday before May 24
Canada Day	July 1
Labour Day	first Monday in September
Thanksgiving Day	second Monday in October
Remembrance Day	November 11
Christmas Day	December 25
Boxing Day	the day following Christmas Day

In Canada, national holidays are established by federal statute. A holiday that falls on a Saturday or a Sunday is observed the following Monday.

During national holidays, all government offices, banks and businesses are closed across Canada. In Quebec, most businesses are open on Victoria Day, and after 1:00 p.m. on Boxing Day.

