
III. *YOUR BUSINESS VISIT*

Advise and Consult the Canadian Embassy

The Canadian Embassy in San Jose, Costa Rica, is responsible for Canadian relations with Panama. Staff from the commercial division of the Embassy travel regularly to, and are in frequent telephone and telex contact with, Panama. In addition, there is an Honorary Commercial Representative of Canada, located in Panama City, who is available for advice and consultation.

Canadian business visitors to Panama wishing assistance should make their plans known to the Commercial Division of the Embassy well in advance, and preferably by telex (mail can take several weeks). As much information as possible should be provided, including details of the purpose of the visit, the products or services involved, background on previous relevant activities and contacts in the market, and the arrangements required. These details will permit the commercial division staff to arrange a tentative itinerary and appointment schedule permitting the most effective use of the visitor's time.

Travel to Panama

The Government of Panama, as of December 1, 1987, no longer requires advance visas of Canadian business visitors, these now being issued, valid for 30 days, on arrival. This policy will considerably facilitate business travel. Nevertheless, in view of the possibility of changing circumstance, business travellers are urged to contact, prior to travelling, a Panamanian consulate in Canada.

Panama can be reached in one day from most Canadian cities, usually after making connections in the U.S.A. It is served by 36 international air carriers including U.S. airlines, most South and Central American carriers, and several European lines. As a result, regional air connections are excellent. Indeed, it is difficult to travel in Central and South America without connecting through Panama.