

# About Toronto

The capital of Ontario and the most populated city in Canada, Toronto is a very popular travel destination for any number of reasons. It's positioned along the coast of Lake Ontario. It's a very international and diverse city, with a very rich cultural history. More than half of the city's population was not born in Canada, and there are more than eighty different ethnic neighborhoods sprinkled throughout the city.

Toronto is divided into a handful of districts. These include Old Toronto, which includes the city's downtown area, Etobicoke, which is an industrial and residential area, York, an ethnically diverse area, and Scarborough, which is the greenest area with the most parks.

Despite its large size, it's relatively easy to navigate Toronto with its public transit system. Even so, it is likely easier and faster to drive if you have access to a car. The major exception to this is during rush hour when traffic can be frustratingly congested. Also make note that, while there are no shortage of parking garages, they are usually quite expensive. Public transit is easily the cheapest way to travel throughout the city. The system is also one of the most popularly used systems in North America, next to Mexico City and New York City. The system includes a subway system, a rapid transit line, streetcars and buses. If you're traveling during rush hour, it is best to avoid the buses or streetcars, unless you are on a route where the streetcar has its own dedicated lane. Because of the dense traffic, don't be surprised if you find yourself waiting for half an hour for a streetcar, only to have four reach you at the same time.

There are many number of sights throughout Toronto. Some of the most popular include museums, architectural buildings and parks. Make sure you visit the Art Gallery of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, or Ontario Science Centre, among others. Toronto is a great place to simply walk around. Head to Chinatown or wander one of the popular nearby islands. Also try to take in a show as theater is very popular here. Comedy shows are also a great way to pass some time and can make for a wonderful night outing.

Travel guide for the City of Toronto ([download](#))

Travel guide for the Province of Ontario ([download](#))

# Airport Transportation to Toronto

## Airport Express Shuttle

The Airport Express takes about 40 minutes to reach downtown Toronto and costs about CAD\$25.00 one way. The Airport Express Shuttle runs from the arrivals level at Pearson International Airport Terminal 1 & 3 to downtown Toronto hotels every 20 minutes during peak periods, or 30 minutes during non-peak times.

## Airport Rocket – Toronto Public Transit

The Airport Rocket (bus 192) provides regular accessible express bus service between Kipling Station on the Bloor-Danforth Subway and Pearson International Airport Terminal 1 & 3. At Kipling subway station, transfer to the Bloor-Danforth subway line to downtown Toronto. Change at St George or Yonge Station for the Yonge-University line, heading downtown south. Travel time between the Toronto Airport and Union Station is about 60 minutes and costs CAD\$3. Drivers do not give change. Click here for schedules and routes on public transportation. A Day or Weekly Pass can also be purchased from any kiosk at the subway station.

# Traveling to Canada: Passports and

## Visas

The following website provides a list of the countries whose citizens require visas to enter Canada:

<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>

**For general info. on entering Canada, see:**

<http://www.cbsa.gc.ca/noncan-eng.html>

# Hotel and Accommodation

The following are several accommodations in downtown Toronto. They are located within 10-15 driving distance to the competition venue.

Click on each for more details:

Downtown Hotels:

- [Comfort Hotel](#) (Rates: from CAD\$119 /night)
- [Courtyard Marriot](#) (Rates: from CAD\$134 / night)
- [Holiday Inn Express](#) (Rates: from CAD\$135 /night)
- [Holiday Inn Downtown Centre](#) (Rates: from CAD\$145 /night)
- [Best Western Primrose](#) (Rates: from CAD\$149 /night)

Downtown Toronto Residence/Dormitory

- [Univesity of Toronto – New College Residence](#) (Rates: CAD\$40-60/night)
- [University of Toronto – 89 Chestnut](#) (Rates: CAD\$45-70 / night)
- [Neill-Wycik College Residence](#) (Rates: CAD\$45-70 / night)
- [University of Toronto – New College Residence 45 Willcocks](#) (CAD\$40/night)

## Budget for Meals

The city of Toronto has some of the finest restaurants and diverse cuisines in North America. Just wander through the downtown core and its surroundings and taste some of the best international flavors.

The suggested minimum daily budget for meals is CAD\$23 - \$5 breakfast, \$8 lunch and \$10 dinner. The following websites offer options for affordable dining in Toronto (click on the link):

[Toronto.com](#)

[Yelp.ca](#)

[Blogto.com](#)