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## General information about Toronto and Canada

### Toronto

Toronto is the provincial capital of Ontario and the largest city in Canada. It is located in Southern Ontario on the northwestern shore of Lake Ontario. With over 2.5 million residents, it is the fifth most populous city in North America.

As Canada's economic capital and one of the top financial centres in the world, Toronto is considered an alpha world city by the Globalization and World Cities (GaWC) study group. It is home to the Toronto Stock Exchange, the world's seventh largest in terms of market value. Toronto contains more corporate headquarters than any other Canadian city, including those of Canada's five largest banks. Toronto's leading economic sectors include finance, business services, telecommunications, aerospace, transportation, media, arts, film, television production, publishing, software production, medical research, education, tourism, engineering, and sports industries.

### Canada

Canada is a North American country consisting of ten provinces and three territories. Located in the northern part of the continent, it extends from the Atlantic Ocean in the east to the Pacific Ocean in the west and northward into the Arctic Ocean. It is the world's second largest country by total area. Canada's common border with the United States to the south and northwest is the longest in the world.

Canada is a federal state that is governed as a parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy with Queen Elizabeth II as its head of state. It is a bilingual nation with both English and French as official languages at the federal level. One of the world's highly developed countries, Canada has a diversified economy that is reliant upon its abundant natural resources and upon trade - particularly with the United States, with which Canada has had a long and complex relationship. With the eighth-highest Human Development Index globally, it has one of the highest standards of living in the world.

### Language

A multitude of **languages** are used in Canada. English and French are the mother tongues of 58.8% and 23.2% of Canadians respectively. English and French are recognized by the Constitution of Canada as "official languages." This means that all laws of the federal government are enacted in both English and French and that federal government services must be available in both languages.

### Climate

The city's climate is moderate for Canada owing to its southerly location within the country. Toronto's October has generally mild or cool temperatures of around 15 degrees celsius and alternating dry and wet periods.

### Voltage

Generally the voltage in Canada is 120V, 60Hz. You should bring an electrical adapter if you require to use your laptop, however the hotel also offers adapters upon availability.



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### **Currency**

The Canadian dollar (CAD) is the currency of Canada. As of 2007, the Canadian dollar is the 7th most traded currency in the world. It is abbreviated with the dollar sign \$, or C\$ to distinguish it from other dollar-denominated currencies. It is divided into 100 cents.

1 CAD = 0,73505 EUR (as per 07.29.2011)

1 CAD = 1,05360 US\$ (as per 07.29.2011)

**Please note that all individuals are responsible for their own travel arrangements and visa matters.**