

# Welcome to Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

1. Please ensure that your **passport is up-to-date** if you are travelling from outside of Canada.
2. **Ontario** is Canada's second largest province, covering more than one million square kilometres (415,000 square miles) - an area larger than France and Spain combined.
3. The time is **Eastern Daylight Time EDT** (GMT-5).
4. The **Canadian currency** system uses dollars (\$) and cents (¢). Canada has one- and two-dollar coins, often called the "loonie" and the "toonie" respectively, in addition to 5-cent (nickel), 10-cent (dime) and 25-cent (quarter) coins. One cent coins are no longer used. Paper money comes in different colors and designs. The most common are \$5 bills (blue), \$10 bills (purple), \$20 bills (green), \$50 bills (red) and \$100 bills (brown). Many hotels, stores and restaurants will accept US dollars, though sometimes at a lower exchange rate than at banks or airports.
5. **Credit cards** are accepted everywhere. **Cash/debit cards** are used at ATMs and banks. Please ensure that you have advised your credit card company and bank that you are travelling.
6. Ontario has a **Harmonized Sales Tax** of 13% which is added to most purchases.
7. **Tipping** is expected in return for good service. An approximate guideline is 15%.
8. **Phone numbers in Canada have 10 digits**. The first three digits are the area code followed by the seven-digit local number (e.g., 555-555-5555). When making a long-distance call out of the local area, dial "1" followed by the three-digit area code and the seven-digit local number. To make international (non-US) calls from Canada, first dial 011 and then the country code (e.g., France, 33). Next, dial the area code and number.
9. Contact your mobile service provider to learn about **international roaming coverage** services and to determine if your phone is compatible with Canadian networks and frequencies.
10. **Canadian appliances operate on 110 volts** (60Hz). A universal adaptor is required for overseas electrical devices.
11. Canada uses the metric system. (e.g., **centimetres, metres, kilometres, litres**) although many grocery stores show prices both per 100 grams and per pound. **Celsius** is the unit of temperature - expressed as degree Celsius (Symbol: C)
12. The speed limit on freeways in Ontario is 100 kph (62mph) and in urban areas as signposted. You must wear a seat-belt and you are not allowed to use a mobile device while **driving**. When cycling, a helmet is required.

