



PREPARING FOR THE PILGRIMAGE (Draft)

Passport - Canada Entry Information

Travelers to Canada must have a valid passport to enter or re-enter the U.S. For more information about US passports visit the [U.S. Department of State's official website](http://www.state.gov).

Photocopy the opening pages of your passport that show the name and number, passport pages with visas. It will make their replacement easier if you lose them en route. You may also wish to carry a photocopy of your driver's license and/or birth certificate. Also, be sure you have a copy of your itinerary. These can also speed up passport replacement formalities. Keep the copies in a place separate from the originals. It is useful to carry spare passport photos, too. You may wish to scan your passport, airline tickets and travelers check numbers and have them as attachments to your own email address; in case of loss, you can download copies to assist replacement.

Please remember to fill out the "Emergency Next of Kin" section in your passport (in pencil in case you have to change the contact address details before your passport expires.) ***Make sure your passport does not expire within six months of your date of travel.***

Travel Protection / Insurance

If you have not yet taken out travel protection/insurance, you may want to consider this. Foreign doctors and hospitals often require payment in cash prior to providing services, and medical evacuation can be expensive. Travel protection and baggage insurance are highly recommended.

Baggage

You should plan to bring only one suitcase and one piece of hand luggage that is not on wheels. Due to limited coach capacity, this single bag should have dimensions approximately 30 x 21 x 11 inches and weight not exceeding 50 lbs (22 kg). Test the weight of your packed suitcase. You should be able to lift and comfortably transport it for short distances. Drivers and porters will be lifting and transporting your luggage during the tour, so, please keep the size and the weight within the above limits. For your own comfort and that of fellow passengers, please limit hand luggage to a reasonable size.

Packing

Traveling light is recommended. The best advice is: "If in doubt, leave it out." Pack a pair of comfortable, sturdy, tried-and-tested walking shoes (rubber soles help grip slippery/uneven surfaces), a small umbrella, and a jacket for rainy days and evenings.

Essential Packing: Quick Checklist:

- Passport, travel protection/insurance, flight ticket and other necessary documents, including a print out of this travel info
- Credit cards/pin codes and spending money
- Travel alarm clock, cell phone chargers
- Personal medicines / prescriptions / supplements
- Easy-care layered clothing
- Comfortable tried-and-tested walking shoes
- Toiletries, tissues, antibacterial wipes
- Camera/video equipment
- Small folding umbrella

******Bring your full decree and song books for our prayer work sessions.***

Medicines, Sundries

Pack an ample supply of any medicines you are taking, copies of your prescriptions, and the telephone/fax number of your doctor. Drugs you take on doctor's orders should be carried in their original container showing the prescription label. Always keep medicines safely in your hand luggage as your suitcase may not easily be accessible while traveling and touring, and to avoid additional problems should your suitcase get lost, damaged, or delayed. Other items you may wish to bring: earplugs for sleeping, a small flashlight.

Valuables

Do not take anything with you that will create an emotional or financial hardship if lost or stolen. Also avoid exploring unfamiliar streets or areas alone. Remember to make a final check of your hotel room before departure (especially closets and bedside tables) to ensure you have not left anything behind. There is no guarantee that forgotten items will be returned to you either during or after your trip.

Weather forecast

Let's pray for lots of sunshine! Be prepared for an occasional rain shower. Highs will be in the 70s; lows in the 50s, with variable weather.

MONEY AND BUDGETING

You will need spending money for meals and entrance fees not already included, beverages, gratuities, shopping, and incidental expenses. As a general guideline, aim to bring a variety of means to "pay your way" for your own convenience, and also in case you have difficulties with your preferred method of payment.

You might consider bringing more than one credit card, as some outlets may not accept all types. Due to increasing credit card fraud worldwide, be prepared to show identification when making a transaction with your credit card. For the best available exchange rate, you will find ATM cards indispensable. The usual care should be exercised when using ATMs.

Our Canadian heartfriends tell us that American dollars are accepted in most places, and the vendor will calculate the exchange rate for the purchase.

Before traveling be sure to

- Bring your PIN code(s)
- Check with your bank to ensure you are able to withdraw cash on your cards abroad
- Advise your bank that you will be traveling abroad and plan to use your card(s) for shopping, etc.
- Check also that cards are valid for at least 30 days beyond completion of your vacation
- Ask your credit card and traveler's check companies for emergency numbers (suitable for international access – not those starting with 0800) to report loss. Always keep these numbers with you while traveling (but separate from cards and checks).
- There is always a fee involved in any exchange transaction; sometimes it is built in to the published rate; in other places, it can be a percentage fee, or a separate fixed-rate commission charge (in which case you receive better value for money if you exchange larger, rather than smaller amounts).
- For the most up-to-date currency exchange rate for your planning purposes, please visit GlobusFamily.com/Currency. The exchange rate for 1\$ Canadian on August 30 was US. \$.92 cents.

TRAVELING TO/FROM YOUR DESTINATION

Home Airport Check-in

It is important that you arrive at the airport at least one hour before domestic flights and two hours in advance for international flights. This will allow you time to check your baggage and present your passport and ticket; get seat assignments and boarding passes, if you have not already done so; and pass through security procedures to the boarding area.

Airport and Airline Security

No sharp objects should be kept in your hand luggage during flights. All items such as scissors, nail clippers, nail file, pocket knife, etc should be packed in the baggage you will be checking in. To check which items are and are not allowed in carry-on luggage, visit www.tsa.gov.

Customs: into Canada and back into US

Fresh fruits, vegetables, seeds, animals and some animal products are not permitted. Here is a website that provides succinct information on what is and is not allowed to cross the border: <http://www.ezbordercrossing.com/the-inspection-experience/clearing-customs/prohibited-items/#.VADp02M5gys>

U.S. Citizens:

Returning U.S. residents are granted a tax exemption on articles totaling US\$800 in retail value, if they accompany you, are for your own use, and are declared.

Airport Pick up and Drop off

Arrival in Montreal

Holiday Inn Express Aéroport de Montréal
10888 Côte De Liesse. Phone: 514-422-8080

Hotel check-in is at 3:00 pm. You can check in early if the room is ready (4 of your arrive before 3 pm). There is a free shuttle from the airport to this hotel. After you go through customs and pick up your baggage, call the Holiday Inn at [\(514\) 422-8080](tel:5144228080) to tell them you would like to be picked up. You can use the pay phone or go to the airport information desk and ask them to call. The shuttle is run by the hotel, and only comes on a per call basis. They will tell you where to wait for pick up. Alternately, you can jump into a taxi.

If your flight is delayed, please call, text or email Joyce Genis:

home phone: 952-693-5595

cell: 952-888-7674

email: genisjoyce@gmail.com

Toronto

Holiday Inn Express Toronto North York,
30 Norfinch Drive. Phone: 416-665-3500

Check-out time from the hotel is 11:00 am. Those leaving for the airport before 11:30 am will have access to our tour bus to go to the airport at one of two scheduled times, which we will provide later. For those leaving after 11:30 am, the hotel has our departure flight information and is organizing a shuttle. The cost is \$45 per car load to be shared by the travelers taking it. Another option is to take a taxi. The hotel said a taxi costs \$45.00. The airport is 11 minutes from the hotel without traffic and 17 minutes with traffic.

Motor Coach Travel

A great rule of thumb when we are traveling between cities and to locations on our tour bus is to “stick with your buddy, stay with the group and be on time”!

Exploring on Foot

We are going to explore specific areas of Montreal, Ottawa and Quebec City on foot. When we are not on a group walking tour where we are walking together, it's important to stick together in groups of 3 or 4 as you enjoy your exploring. This also applies to restaurant meals that we are not taking together as a group. One person in your group should be the designated time keeper to get your friends to the bus or to the next scheduled visit on time. This will help us arrive at all of our destinations on time. Thank you in advance!

Cell Phones

Check with your provider regarding rates and fees for calls, texting, and data plans for smartphones in Canada.