



Valley of the Ten Peaks is a valley in Banff National Park in Alberta, Canada, which is crowned by ten notable peaks and Moraine Lake



My Drift

Title: Canada

Written by: Jerry D. Petersen

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Most people know that Canada is one of the biggest and most beautiful countries in the world. It is about time we learned more about our neighbor to the north.

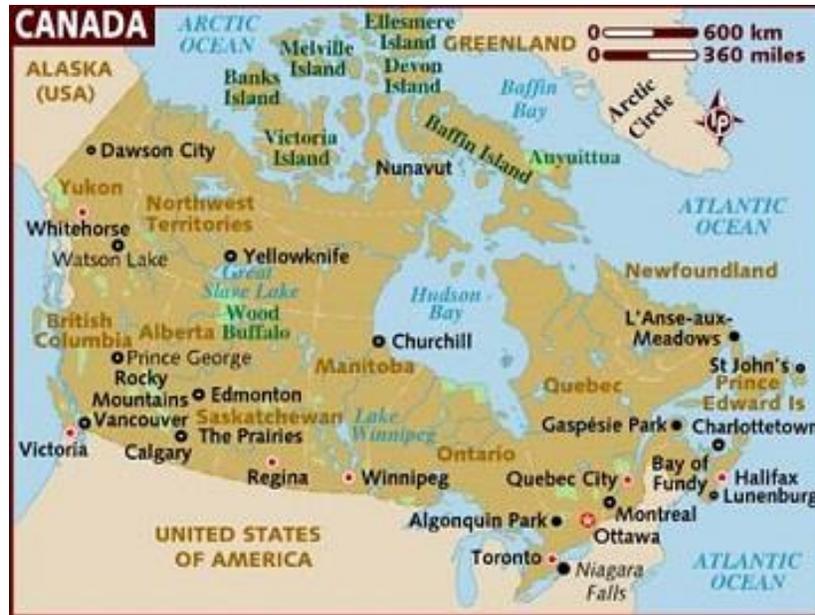
Canada's 10 Provinces and 3 Territories



Name	Total area (square miles)	Population density (per sq mi)	Total population (est.)	Percent of country	Largest city or town (est.)
 Ontario	354,342	14.8	14,000,000	38.7%	Toronto (3,000,000)
 Quebec	527,079	6.0	8,500,000	22.9%	Montreal (2,000,000)
 British Columbia	357,216	5.0	5,000,000	13.1%	Vancouver (650,000)
 Alberta	247,137	6.4	4,500,000	11.7%	Calgary (1,300,000)
 Manitoba	211,720	2.3	1,500,000	3.6%	Winnipeg (720,000)
 Saskatchewan	228,450	1.9	1,000,000	3.2%	Saskatoon (250,000)
 Nova Scotia	20,441	17.4	960,000	2.6%	Halifax (405,000)
 New Brunswick	27,590	10.5	760,000	2.1%	Moncton (150,000)
 Newfoundland and Labrador	144,353	1.4	530,000	1.4%	St. John's (110,000)
 Prince Edward Island	2,190	25.1	155,000	0.41%	Charlottetown (40,000)
 Northwest Territories	456,792	0.04	45,000	0.12%	Yellowknife (20,000)
 Nunavut Territory	725,018	0.02	38,000	0.10%	Iqaluit (8,000)
 Yukon Territory	183,163	0.08	39,000	0.10%	Whitehorse (26,000)
 Canada	3,855,000	3.9	37,000,000	100%	

Canada extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific and northward into the Arctic Ocean, covering 3.855 million square miles, making it the world's second-largest country by total area. Canada's southern border with the United States is the world's longest bi-national land border. Canada is sparsely populated with the majority of its land territory being dominated by forest and tundra and the Rocky Mountains. It is highly urbanized, with 82 percent of the 37 million people concentrated

in large and medium-sized cities, many near the southern border. Its capital is Ottawa, and its four largest metropolitan areas are Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, and Vancouver. Canada's climate varies widely across its vast area, ranging from arctic weather in the north, to hot summers in the southern regions, with four distinct seasons.



Vancouver is a coastal seaport city located in the Lower Mainland region of British Columbia. As the most populous city in the province, the Greater Vancouver area had a population of 2,500,000 making it the third-largest metropolitan area in Canada.

- + Vancouver has the highest population density in Canada with over 13,590 per square mile.
- + Vancouver is one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse cities in Canada according to that census; 52% of its residents have a first language other than English.
- + Vancouver is consistently named as one of the top five worldwide cities for livability and quality of life.
- + 46% of the population is European Canadians – next largest ethnic group with 28% are the Chinese.
- + Vancouver is host to the country's largest annual LGBT (gay) pride parades.
- + Port Metro Vancouver is the third-largest port by tonnage in North America.
- + Vancouver is 140 miles north of Seattle.



Calgary has a population of 1,300,000 making it Alberta's largest city and Canada's third-largest municipality. It is situated at the confluence of the Bow River and the Elbow River. This cosmopolitan Alberta city with numerous skyscrapers, owes its rapid growth to its status as the center of Canada's oil industry. However, it's still steeped in the western culture that earned it the nickname "Cowtown," evident in the Calgary Stampede, its massive July rodeo and festival that grew out of the farming exhibitions once presented here.

- ✚ Calgary has the highest number of millionaires per capita of any major city in Canada.
- ✚ In 1988, Calgary became the first Canadian city to host the Winter Olympic Games.
- ✚ The luxurious train called the "Rocky Mountaineer" runs between Calgary and Vancouver, cutting through the soaring mountain walls of the Canadian Rockies.
- ✚ Closest US city is Great Falls, Montana that is 310 miles south of Calgary.

Regina is the capital city of the Canadian province of Saskatchewan. The city is the second-largest in the province, after Saskatoon, with a population of 220,000. It is the cultural and commercial center for southern Saskatchewan. The city is situated on a broad, flat, treeless plain. Now there is an abundance of parks and greenspaces - all of its trees — some 300,000 — shrubs and other plants were hand-planted. Some Regina attractions include:

- ✚ Wascana Lake is popular venue for summer boating and winter ice skating.
- ✚ The Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League play their home games at Mosaic Stadium in Regina.
- ✚ Casino Regina is in the old Union Station.
- ✚ Home to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police national training center and the museum.
- ✚ Closest US city is Minot, North Dakota located about 242 miles to the southeast.



**The Calgary Stampede
(The World's Best Rodeo)**



Winnipeg is the capital and largest city of the province of Manitoba in Canada. It is near the longitudinal center of North America and is 70 miles from the Canada–United States border. The closest US city is Grand Forks, North Dakota, located approximately 143 miles south of Winnipeg. It is also the place of the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. The city is named after the nearby Lake Winnipeg; the name comes from the Western Cree words for muddy water. The region was a trading center for aboriginal peoples long before the arrival of Europeans. Known as the "Gateway to the West", Winnipeg is a railway and transportation hub with a diversified economy. Winnipeg was the first Canadian host of the Pan American Games. It is home to several professional sports franchises, including the Winnipeg Blue Bombers (Canadian football), the Winnipeg Jets (ice hockey), Manitoba Moose (ice hockey) and the Winnipeg Goldeyes (baseball).



Winnipeg is nice in the summer but can be very cold and snowy in the winter



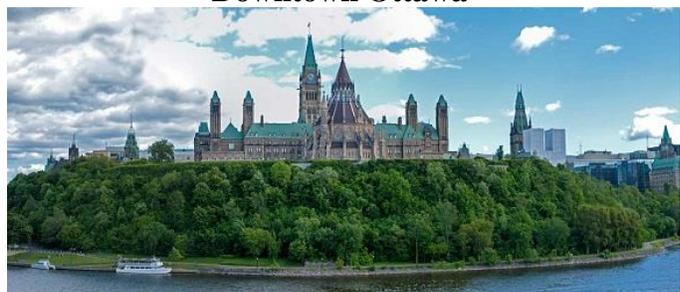
Ottawa is the capital city of Canada. It stands on the south bank of the Ottawa River in the eastern portion of southern Ontario. Ottawa borders Gatineau, Quebec; the two form the core of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area and the National Capital Region. Ottawa has a city population of 940,000 and a metropolitan population of 1,400,000 making it the fourth-largest city in Canada. Founded in 1826 as Bytown, and incorporated as Ottawa in 1855, the city has evolved into the political center of Canada. The city name "Ottawa" was chosen in reference to the Ottawa River, the name of which is derived from the Algonquin Odawa, meaning "to trade". Ottawa has the most educated population among Canadian cities and is home to a number of research and cultural institutions and numerous national museums. Ottawa has the highest standard of living in the nation and low unemployment. It is consistently rated the best place to live in Canada. The closest US city is Ogdensburg, NY which is about 61 miles south.



Flag



Downtown Ottawa



Parliament Hill

National Parks of Canada



Canada's National Parks are protected areas under the Canada National Parks Act, owned by the Government of Canada and administered for the benefit, education, and enjoyment of the people of Canada and its future generations. The goal of the national parks system is to set aside lands representing the country's 39 distinct natural regions described in the National Parks System Plan, primarily to protect the ecological integrity of the land, and secondarily to allow the public to explore, learn about and enjoy Canada's natural spaces.

As of 2018, there are 39 National Parks and eight National Park Reserves, covering an area of approximately 126,718 square miles or about 3.3% of the total land area of Canada, and representing 30 of the 39 natural regions. There are at least two parks located in every one of the nation's 13 provinces and territories. Parks Canada reported attendance of 16,000,000 at all National Parks and Reserves in 2017, including over four million visits to the busiest park (Banff National Park) and only two people at the least visited (Tuktut Nogait National Park).



Bow Lake in Banff National Park

Banff National Park is Canada's oldest national park (established in 1885) and probably the most scenic of all its National Parks. Located in the Rocky Mountains about 100 miles west of Calgary in the province of Alberta, Banff encompasses 2,564 square miles of mountainous terrain with numerous glaciers and ice fields, dense coniferous forest, and alpine landscapes. Provincial forests and Yoho National Park are neighbors to the west, while Kootenay National Park is located to the south and Kananaskis Country to the southeast. The main commercial center of the park is the town of Banff, in the Bow River valley.

Banff National Park's forests are dominated by Lodgepole pine at lower elevations and Engelmann spruce in higher ones below the tree line, above which is primarily rocks and ice. Mammal species such as the grizzly, cougar, wolverine, elk, bighorn sheep and moose are found, along with hundreds of bird species. The mountains are formed from sedimentary rocks which were pushed east over newer rock strata, between 80 and 55 million years ago.

The Valley of the Ten Peaks is one of the most scenic spots in Canada and maybe on Earth. (See picture at the top of this article)



Jasper National Park

Jasper National Park is the largest national park in the Canadian Rockies, spanning 4,200 square miles. It is located in the province of Alberta, north of Banff National Park and west of Edmonton. The park includes the glaciers of the Columbia Icefield, hot springs, lakes, waterfalls, and mountains.

Animals found in the park are the elk, caribou (also known as Reindeer,) moose, mule deer, white-tailed deer, porcupine, lynx, beaver, two species of fox, grizzly bear, coyote, mountain goat, bighorn sheep, black bear, timber wolf, hoary marmot, cougar, and wolverine. The most common birds that fly around this park are bald and golden eagles, great horned owls, spruce grouses, and white-tailed ptarmigans. Canada geese and red-necked grebes mostly float on Moraine Lake.



Tuktut Nogait National Park

Tuktut Nogait National Park (established 1998) is located in the Northwest Territories. Meaning "young caribou" in Inuvialuktun (Eskimo-Aleut language), the park is home to the calving grounds of the Bluenose-West caribou herd.

It is also the home to other wildlife species such as muskoxen, grizzly bears, Arctic charrs, red foxes, wolverines, Arctic ground squirrels, collared lemmings, and wolves. Tuktut Nogait is a major breeding and nesting ground for a wide variety of migratory birds. Raptors such as peregrine falcons, rough-legged hawks, gray falcons, and golden eagles nest along the steep walls of river canyons.

This is a very scenic part of Canada – hopefully more than 2 people visit it in 2018.

Fishing

Canada has the best fishing on the planet!!

Canada has more lakes, rivers, and streams than any other country. There are about 32,000 lakes larger than three square kilometers (1.2 square miles) and 560 lakes with a surface area larger than 100 square kilometers (38.6 square miles) including four of the Great Lakes. All in all, a whopping 9% of Canada's surface is covered in clean fresh water.

Freshwater Fish in Canada

Without exception, Canada is the prime destination for the very best in sport fishing. It is home to the true anglers, whether their passion is trolling, casting, or fly-fishing – and the trophy catches are the reason! In the Canadian territories and provinces, you'll find:

 <p>Arctic Char</p>	 <p>Arctic Grayling</p>	 <p>Atlantic Salmon</p>
 <p>Brook Trout</p>	 <p>Brown Trout</p>	 <p>Cutthroat Trout</p>
 <p>Dolly Varden</p>	 <p>Halibut</p>	 <p>Lake Trout</p>
 <p>Muskellunge</p>	 <p>Northern Pike</p>	 <p>Rainbow Trout</p>
 <p>Smallmouth Bass</p>	 <p>Sturgeon</p>	 <p>Walleye</p>

Canada's 30 Very Best Fishing Hot Spots (in alphabetical order)

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annapolis River, Nova Scotia 2. Bay of Quinte, Ontario 3. Bow River, Alberta 4. Fraser River, British Columbia 5. Grand Cascapedia River, Quebec 6. Great Bear Lake, NW Territories 7. Haida Gwaii, British Columbia 8. Kesagami Lake, Ontario 9. Kispiox River, British Columbia 10. Lake Athabasca, Saskatchewan 11. Lake Diefenbaker, Saskatchewan 12. Lake Erie, Ontario 13. Lake of the Woods, Ontario 14. Lake Simcoe, Ontario 15. Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba 16. Minipi Watershed, Newfoundland and Labrador 17. Mistassini Lake, Quebec 18. Niagara River, Ontario 19. North Lake, Prince Edward Island 20. Rainy Lake, Ontario 21. Red River, Manitoba 22. Saint John River, New Brunswick 23. St. Lawrence River, Ontario & Quebec 24. South Ram River, Alberta 25. Stamp River, British Columbia 26. Thousand Islands, Ontario 27. Tobin Lake, Saskatchewan 28. Tree River, Nunavut 29. Wolf River, Yukon 30. Witless Bay Lower Pond, Newfoundland and Labrador 	<p>Best for American shad Best for numbers of largemouth bass Best urban fly fishing Best for giant white sturgeon Best for giant Atlantic salmon Best for trophy lake trout Best ocean fishing for chinook salmon Best for trophy northern pike Best for giant native steelhead Best for numbers of big lake trout Best for world-record rainbow trout Best for yellow perch Best for multiple fish species Best for smallmouth bass Best for walleye Best for brook trout</p> <p>Best for big brook and lake trout Best for inland steelhead Best for giant bluefin tuna Best for black crappie Best for channel catfish Best for large striped bass Best for trophy muskellunge Best for cutthroat trout Best river fishing for chinook salmon Best for carp Best for reservoir walleye Best for world-record Arctic char Best for numbers of Arctic grayling Best for big sea-run brown trout</p>
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Great Bear Lake



South Ram River

The Most Famous Tourist Attraction in Canada (by far)



Niagara Falls

Niagara Falls is the collective name for three waterfalls that straddle the international border between the Canadian province Ontario and the American state of New York. They form the southern end of the Niagara Gorge. From largest to smallest, the three waterfalls are the Horseshoe Falls, the American Falls, and the Bridal Veil Falls. The Horseshoe Falls lies on the border of the United States and Canada with the American Falls entirely on the United States' side, separated by Goat Island. The smaller Bridal Veil Falls are also on the United States' side, separated from the other waterfalls by Luna Island.

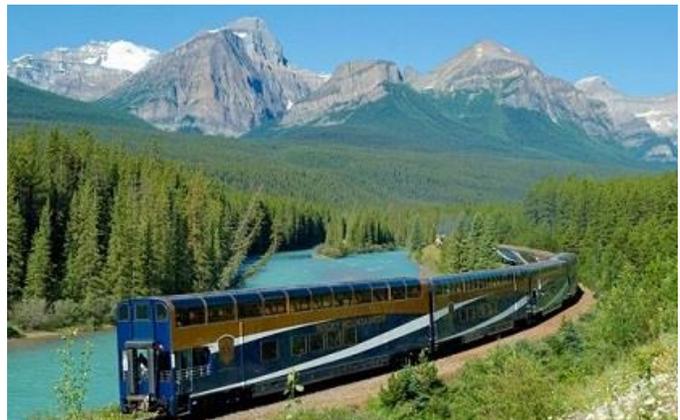
Located on the Niagara River, which drains Lake Erie into Lake Ontario, the combined falls form the highest flow rate of any waterfall in North America that has a vertical drop of more than 165 feet. During peak daytime tourist hours, more than six million cubic feet of water goes over the crest of the falls every minute. Horseshoe Falls is the most powerful waterfall in North America, as measured by flow rate.

The falls are 17 miles north-northwest of Buffalo, New York, and 75 miles south-southeast of Toronto, between the twin cities of Niagara Falls, Ontario, and Niagara Falls, New York. Niagara Falls was formed when glaciers receded at the end of the Wisconsin glaciation (the last ice age), and water from the newly formed Great Lakes carved a path through the Niagara Escarpment in route to the Atlantic Ocean.

Seeing Canada by Train

If I ever get to Canada, I want to go fishing for trout on some remote lake and river in the Northwest or Yukon territories. The fewer people around the better.

I would also like to take the 5-day train ride through the Canadian Rocky Mountains from Vancouver to Calgary. I wouldn't mind staying a few days in "Cowtown" Calgary. Cowboys, cowgirls, and oil workers are more my kind of people compared to the gays and weird people living in Vancouver.



Some Interesting Facts about Canada

Canada is known for the oldest brewery in North America and the brewery is still running. Molson Coors Canada produced Molson Canadian beer and they are still making it right where they started in 1786.

77% of the maple syrup produced in the entire world is made right in Quebec.

Looking for some good water? You may be surprised to know that the tap water in Canada is actually better for you than the bottled water! It's going to taste better too so why not save a little money and stick to the cheaper stuff?

In the northwest territories of Canada, the license plates are actually shaped like a polar bear. Wouldn't that be something to find when you're driving down the road?



Polar bears are not allowed to break into your house and steal your food. So, if you see one rummaging through your fridge you can call the cops and have them arrested! That may be a slight exaggeration but there actually is a jail for polar bears that steal food.

Canada is the World's Most Educated Country - over half its residents have college degrees.

It can get cold in Canada. The lowest recorded temperature was -81.4 degrees Fahrenheit (-63 C).

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world's lakes combined.

Canada's longest river is the McKenzie River in the North West - The river is 2,635miles long.

The highest mountain in Canada is with 19,551feet Mount Logan in the Yukon Territory.

Canada is the second largest oil reserve holder after Saudi Arabia.

Canada is the world leader of Hydro Electricity which uses the power of the water to produce electricity.

Canada has two official languages: English and French. Almost half of the population can speak both languages.

The indigenous people in northern Canada are called 'Inuit'. These Inuit people used to be called 'Eskimos' but they decided the name 'Eskimo' is not acceptable and insulting.

I think we all learned something about Canada that we previously didn't know. I did for sure!

Bigdrifter44@gmail.com

Bigdrifter.com