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## Relocation Guide to Calgary, Canada

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## CALGARY OVERVIEW



Photo courtesy of [CUUG](#)

Calgary is situated at the confluence of the Bow River and the Elbow River in the south of the province of Alberta, in an area of foothills and prairie, about eighty miles east of the front range of the Canadian Rockies. The city anchors the south end of the “Calgary-Calgary Corridor.” Its population is about 1.2 million, making it Alberta’s largest city and Canada’s third-largest municipality. The economy of Calgary includes activity in the energy, financial services, film and television, transportation and logistics, technology, manufacturing, aerospace, health and wellness, retail, and tourism sectors. The Calgary metropolitan area is home to the second-highest number of corporate head offices in Canada among the country’s 800 largest corporations.

Cultural institutions include opera and ballet companies, a symphony orchestra, and several theatre companies. Calgary is the home of the University of Calgary. With the ski areas of the Rocky Mountains little more than an hour’s drive west of the city, winter sports feature prominently in the leisure activities of many Canadians. The city is home to several professional sports teams and hosts a world-famous rodeo festival. Calgary has a number of multicultural areas. Forest Lawn is among the most diverse areas in the city and as such, the area around 17 Avenue SE within the neighborhood is also known as International Avenue. The district is home to many ethnic restaurants and stores.

The weather in Calgary is not easily predictable. Bitterly cold winter days that be altered radically (within hours) by westerly flowing warm Chinook winds. Conversely, it sometimes snows as late as June. Winter temperatures can drop to or below  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), and summer daytime temperatures can exceed  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $86^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), although average summer temperatures remain below  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $50^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). Calgary has the most sunny days year round of Canada’s 100 largest cities, with just over 332 days of sun and 2,396 hours of sunshine annually. Due to its elevation at 1,045 m (3,428 ft), it is important to drink lots of water and wear sunscreen.

### **City of Calgary Overview**

- [Official Website of the City of Calgary](#)
- Land Area: 630 km<sup>2</sup> (240 sq mi)
- Currency: Canadian Dollar
- [Calgary History](#)
- [Bank of Canada Exchange Rate Information](#)

### **What to See, Sightseeing Tours, Value Packages and Passes, Tourist Information**

- [Calgary Tourist Center](#)
- [Information on attractions](#)

### **Government organizations**

- [Alberta Ministry of Labor](#)
- [Alberta Ministry of Education](#)
- [Calgary Board of Education](#)
- [Alberta Ministry of Health](#)
- [Important Information on Immigration in Calgary](#)
- [Process of obtaining a Canadian driver's license](#)

### **Useful Local Links**

- [Canadian International Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Yellow Page Calgary](#)

### **International Community Organizations**

- [US Embassy Calgary](#)
- [American Chamber of Commerce in Canada](#)
- [British Consulate-General Alberta](#)

### **Libraries**

The public library is free for anyone who lives, works, goes to school or owns land in the city of Calgary. At the library you can borrow books, movies, CDs and much more for fun, study or self-interest. The library also has many free programs and services for everyone. There are 98 libraries in Calgary with over 12 million books in various languages. Learn more [here](#).

### **Newspapers**

The main Canadian newspapers are [The National Post](#) and [the Globe and Mail](#). The Globe and Mail holds a status similar to the New York Times in Canada and the National Post is the rival for the Globe and Mail. Other local newspapers are the [Calgary Herald](#) and the [Calgary Sun](#).

**Post Office**

Calgary has post offices run by Canada Post throughout the city. Their office hours and services differ depending on the location. Find your office through the [post office finder](#). Through the website you can also find a rate, find a postal code and track your mail.

**Time Zone**

Calgary is in the Mountain Time Zone. Daylight savings time is in effect from the second Sunday in March until the first Sunday in November. You can see Calgary's time in relation to most cities on the globe by visiting [www.TimeAndDate.com](http://www.TimeAndDate.com), which also can provide a Canadian calendar.

**Metric System**

The metric system is used in Canada.

**Dates**

Dates are written in the order of day/month/year.

**Currency**

Canadian one dollar coin ("loonie") (\$) = 100 cents. Canadian two dollar coin ("toonie") (\$) = 200 cents. Notes, or bills, come in denominations of \$5 (blue), \$10 (purple), \$20 (green), \$50 (pink) and \$100 (brown). Coins are in denominations of \$2, \$1, \$0.25, \$0.10, \$0.05 (frequently used) and \$0.50, \$0.01 (rarely used).

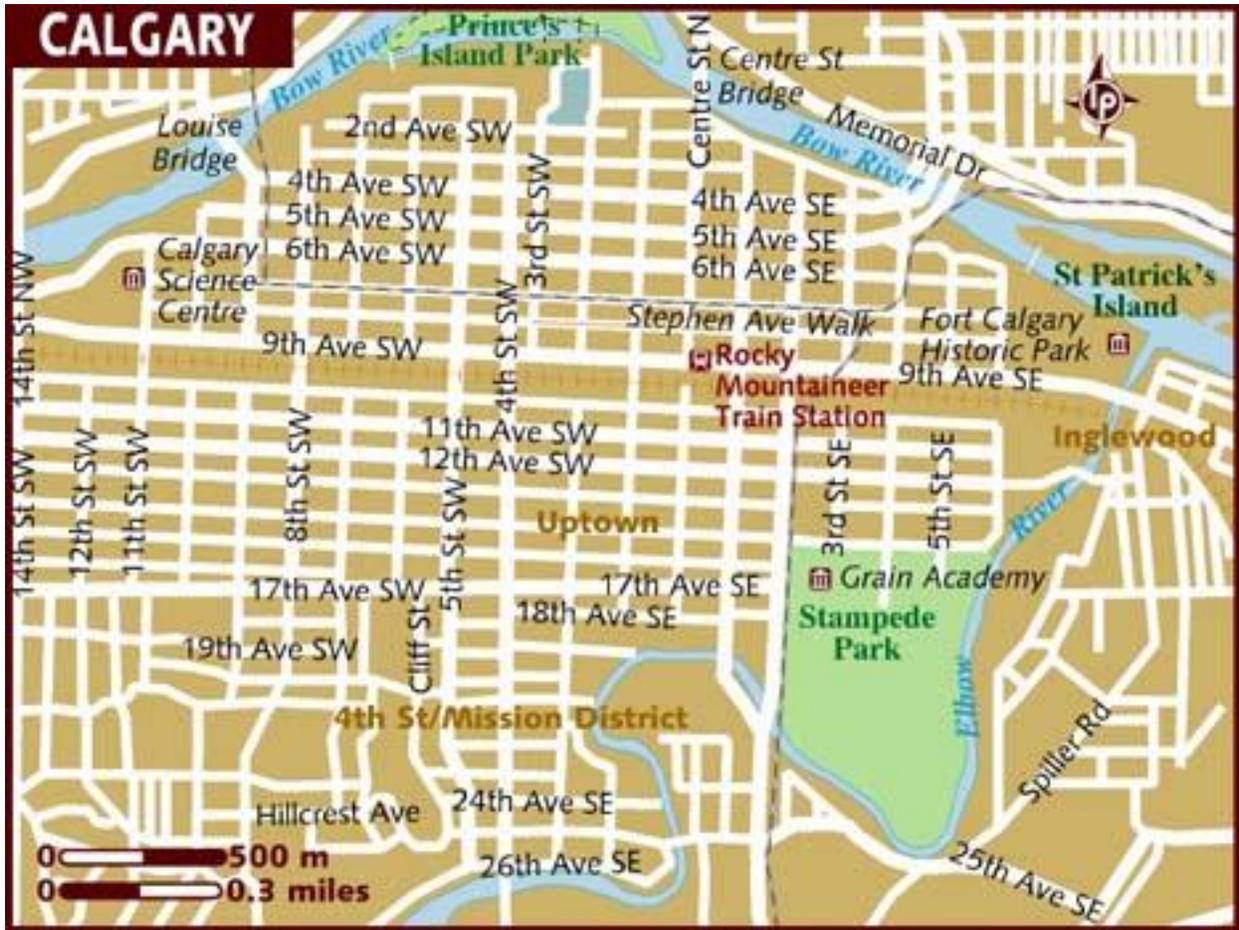
**Electricity**

Just like the United States, Canada uses 110-volt electric power with two- or three-pin plugs. Visitors from the UK and Europe will need adaptors, available at most hotels and department stores, to use their appliances from home.

**Smoking**

Smoking regulations are strict in Alberta. Smoking is banned in public spaces and workplaces, and it is illegal to smoke in a vehicle with children under the age of 16.

AREA MAP



Courtesy of [Lonely Planet](#)

There are various housing options for those living in Calgary. The major three categories are freehold homes, condominiums and custom homes. A freehold home is a fully detached, semi-detached or townhouse dwelling that is entirely owned by the purchaser. All maintenance (indoors and out) is the sole responsibility of the owner and no monthly maintenance fees are required. If a home is a condominium unit, the owner is required to pay a monthly fee for the upkeep of the common elements. Common elements are the areas shared by residents, such as lobbies, parking garages, and recreational facilities such as pools and gyms. Finally, a “contract home” is a home that is built on land (a vacant lot, for example) that is already owned by the prospective homeowner. Thinking about the neighborhood and its demographic is also an important aspect when choosing a property.

Following sites list some of the popular options

- [Apartment Rentals](#)
- [Zoo Casa](#)
- [Canada Housing Connections](#)
- [Padmapper](#)

### **Renting a Property**

There is no shortage of real estate companies in the city. Some apartments can be rented by the month, but to rent a house you usually need to sign a rental agreement (or lease) for a year. This is a legally binding contract between you and the landlord. Make sure you understand exactly what you have to pay for and what is included in your rent before you sign a lease. If you are unsure about anything, ask questions and make sure you understand and are satisfied with the answers you get before you sign any lease.

The cost of renting a home depends on:

- **Location.**
- **Size and condition** of the place.
- **Amenities.** Condominiums with full facilities may command a higher price. Rent also depends on whether the place is furnished, partially furnished or unfurnished. Unfurnished houses may include nothing but the property, and utilities will be paid by the tenant. Furnished home normally include everything, only requiring the tenant to bring personal items.

### **These are the steps in renting a home:**

- Sign a lease with the owner, the terms of which are agreed between the two parties. Most landlords and housing agents ask to see a copy of your passport, a copy of your visa, passport sized photographs and an employment letter confirming your position. Sign an inventory listing of all the items provided by the owner, including their condition.
- Usually, a deposit or “security bond” equivalent to one month’s rent is required for leases that are over a year.

## Lease Tips

- When you go to see Calgary apartments and meet landlords, make sure you are well-dressed and smart. Treat it like a job interview. If the apartment is good many people may be after it and the landlord will have their pick of several potential tenants.
- Take note of general appearance and upkeep. Are the carpets or flooring worn? Are the walls cracked or in need of painting? Is there staining on the roof or walls (an indication of a water leak)?
- Is an ensuite bathroom important? Is on-site laundry important or do you mind going to a Laundromat? Does the building feature security features such as security patrols or video cameras? Do you want the convenience of a dishwasher, an on-site gym or pool, a balcony etc.? Think about these when deciding on the home you want to rent.

[More information on renting a home in Canada.](#)

## Utilities

Connecting utility supplies to a new home in Canada is straightforward. Listings for all utility suppliers can be found in the yellow pages, listed under Gas, Heating Companies, Oils/Fuel and Hydro Electric Utilities. There are no main national utility providers, as the majority operates provincially. It is advised by government immigration services for newcomers to ask the landlord, letting agent, previous owners or estate agent who the previous utility providers were and contact them to reconnect the property. As the climate in Canada is extreme, with cold winters and hot summers, Canadian homes are generally well insulated and have temperature control devices to accommodate this. Houses use electric heaters, natural gas or oil-fueled furnaces to heat them. Heat is usually circulated through vents.

It is common to have meters in the house to record the use of gas, water and electricity. These meters also record what time of day consumption takes place, as tariffs for utilities often vary depending on the time of day, with peak times being more expensive and night-time being the cheapest. It is possible to arrange for utility services to be connected to a property before moving into it and this can be done from abroad. Connecting services should not take longer than 24 hours. However, it is necessary to have an opened Canadian bank account (which can only be finalized in person) before a new account with a service provider can be set up. It is typical that the only information required to set up a new account with utility suppliers is a bank account and the address of the property requiring the service is.

## Utilities/Repair Services

Utilities can be repaired by calling a local repair company in your area. You can find your local plumber, electrician, maintenance company, etc. through [yellow pages](#).

## Recycling

Calgary provides [recycling](#) for paper, newspaper, boxes, tin cans, glass jars and bottles, plastic containers and bags.



## Telecommunications

Calgary is well served by a competitive telecom industry which provides comprehensive television, telephone, wireless and broadband services. Some of the major service providers operating in the city can be contacted on their websites.

- [Bell Canada](#) is one of the leading telecommunications companies in the city, offering mobile, internet, satellite, television, high speed data and home phone services.
- [Rogers Cable](#) is one of the largest cable television service providers, along with Video-On-Demand, digital television, high-speed Internet access, interactive and enhanced television services.
- [Primus Telecommunications](#) is another popular telecom provider in Calgary and has acquired Win-Tel, to offer broadband, home phone and wireless
- [Telus](#): Largest telecommunications provider in Western Canada; home phone, internet, wireless, TV

**EMERGENCY & IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY**

**DIAL 911**

**DO NOT HANG UP UNTIL THE CALL TAKER TELLS YOU TO DO SO**

Language line: If the person calling 911 is unable to speak English, they can tell the operator what language they speak. The 911 Operator will have an interpreter on the line within one minute to assist with the translation.

Remain calm and speak clearly. Identify which emergency service you require (police, fire, or ambulance).

They will ask for the following information so keep this page close to your phone:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Other Important Numbers:

CLOSEST CONSULATE OFFICE \_\_\_\_\_  
PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN \_\_\_\_\_  
WORK PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**Area Health Care Centers:**

- [Hospitals in Calgary](#)
- [Veterinary Clinics in Calgary](#)
- [Pharmacies in Calgary](#)

Dial 311 for non-emergency municipal services (such as replacing a broken street lamp or removing an abandoned vehicle).

## HEALTH FACILITIES

Canada has a high standard of general healthcare with a wide range of facilities. It is a system that has been in place for many years and is one that is publicly funded. The standards for healthcare are established by the national government, but it is overseen by each provincial government in the form of the Medicare system. In order to access the free Medicare system operated by the government, you must be in possession of a healthcare card, which is issued by the health department in your province. The Medicare system is not completely free, though, and it should be noted that some treatments and medications will incur costs.

For many expats, this Medicare does not apply as expats do not have the permanent residency status. Those who don't have permanent residency status will need to obtain private healthcare insurance while you are in the country. There are many companies which provide this type of insurance at a reasonable price. Some operate on a nationwide basis and others solely in one or two provinces. It is possible with some companies to arrange healthcare insurance before you arrive in the country. In some provinces, private healthcare is essential for at least the first three months as they do not allow new arrivals to claim on Medicare for that time.

Healthcare for foreign visitors is provided regardless of status and there is a special scheme known as the [Interim Federal Health Program](#) which is designed for those who have come to the country as refugees or with another special status. It will give temporary cover until residency status can be established.

In recent years both federal and provincial governments have taken steps to tackle smoking and the health issues that it raises. Smoking is banned in many public places and it is becoming increasingly unacceptable to smoke in the presence of a non-smoker.

Counseling services are sometimes available through the Medicare system although this depends upon the province that you are in. In addition to this there are large numbers of organizations that offer counseling for specific problems such as alcoholism or bereavement and many of these work on a charitable basis, so treatment is free. You can also choose to see a private therapist and lists of registered therapists are available from the health department of your local provincial government.

As with the UK and the US, it is the usual practice to register with a local doctor. However, in some urban areas of Canada some practices have no room for more patients. Those who have difficulty in finding a doctor who is accepting new patients can contact the local colleges of physicians and surgeons. You can also simply contact all the practices that are listed in the yellow pages, but this can be time consuming if you are living in a well populated area, as you may find that more than half of all practices are not taking on new patients. The same applies for dentists. You may come across several practices which are not taking on new patients and will need to do a little searching. It is also worth contacting the health department of your provincial government as some provinces have a program that can match up patients to available practices.

### Childcare

- [Link to Lists of Childcare options](#)

### Education

The location and process of enrolling your child to a public school in Calgary can be found through the [Calgary Board of Education](#).

Canada is one of the few countries in the world that has a high public education standard, making it possible to enroll your child into a public school. Elementary education covers grades K – 5. In secondary school the education covers grades 6 – 12 in the majority of provinces (6-9 is Junior High, and 10-12 is High School). Children are obliged to attend school until the age of 16. Those who graduate with a high school diploma in Canada will find that many countries worldwide will accept this as a qualification.

The school year begins in September and runs until June, with breaks for Christmas and Easter. The school usually starts between 8 am and 8.30 am and finishes between 2.30 pm and 3 pm. The schools have a wide variety of extra-curricular activities such as sports and crafts. Most schools offer programs to educate children in native studies, combat racism and involve aboriginal members of the community in educating the children about their history and culture. Some schools may offer courses in Aboriginal languages.

The vast majority of schools have programs which offer support to international students, teaching French or English, as a foreign language is required. The country has a program of offering education in both English and French and some schools will have lessons taught in both languages. There are several public schools in Canada which offer day programs and home stay programs. The fees for these are usually a minimum of \$10,000 per year. Private schools are also common in Calgary and these can be single sex or co-educational. These are usually funded independently. The advantage to private school education is the smaller class sizes. Pupils can be boarders or day students, and fees normally start at around \$25,000 per year.

In order to register with a school in Calgary you will need to provide documentation and the type will depend upon your status. Children who have permanent residency status will need confirmation of this status and their record of landing. If the child has visitor status the parent will need to produce a passport and the child will need to have a study permit. The child of a temporary resident will need to have their own passport or be listed on their parent's passport and the parent should have either a study or work permit. You will also be expected to provide translated report cards and immunization records.

There are openings for all children at state-run schools, although you may prefer a private school. Some of these private institutions are over-subscribed and there are waiting lists. This will depend upon the

area that you are in. You will need to produce the same documentation as for enrollment at a state school and some may require you to be interviewed or the child to take an entrance exam.

For more information on Public Schools in Calgary visit the [Calgary Board of Education](#).

### **International Schools of Calgary**

Foreign System Schools, or International Schools, offer you the opportunity to pursue an education similar to the one in your country of origin. Registered with the Ministry of Education, they follow guidelines and curriculum identical to those in their home country.



Calgary has a number of International Schools, some offering French, Muslim, Christian, or IB education. Some International Schools impose minimum requirements for admission, such as language proficiency or nationality. The criteria vary with each school.

School fees per year vary for lower and upper grades from school to school. Academic calendars for each school also differ.

Information on some of the international schools in Calgary can be found [here](#).

## BANKING & MONEY MATTERS

Banks and other financial institutions, such as credit unions, offer a variety of services. These services include:

- checking and saving accounts
- credit and debit cards
- online bill pay
- loans
- insurance
- financial planning

Both Canadian and International Banks can be found throughout the city of Calgary. The most common banks are the following:

- [CIBC](#)
- [Bank of Montreal](#)
- [Royal Bank](#)
- [Scotia Bank](#)
- [TD Canada Trust](#)
- [Banks in Calgary](#)

Credit cards are accepted in most of the larger shops, hotels, and restaurants. ATMs (also called ABMs in Canada) can be found all over the city.

### Opening an Account

To open an account, you must present various pieces of identification, for example a Canadian driver's license, passport, certificate of citizenship, permanent resident card, birth certificate, social insurance number, old age security card, health insurance card, document issued by provincial governments, employee identity card, a credit card, a foreign passport, etc. For more information go to [the Canadians Bankers Association](#). Your IOR Destination Services Consultant will also be able to provide you with more detailed information.

### Money Subjects

**Sales Tax:** The sales tax in Alberta is called the federal goods and services tax (GST). There is no provincial sales tax in Alberta, and total sales tax is 5%, the Canadian rate.

**Tipping:** Tipping is expected in Calgary. Bar and restaurant staff have a lower minimum wage than most Canadians. Generally, tip 15 percent on pre-tax meal bills, and a dollar or two at the bar. Hotel cleaning staff and bellhops also deserve a dollar or two. Hairdressers expect tips of between ten and twenty percent.

[Calgary Transit](#) has a large and extensive public transport network which extends well into the suburbs.



## CTrain Map



Courtesy of [Mapa-Metro.com](#)

### Airport

[Calgary International Airport](#) is located about 11 miles northeast of downtown Calgary and offers scheduled non-stop flights to major cities in Canada, the United States, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, Europe, and East Asia. It is Canada's fourth busiest airport by passenger traffic, and third busiest by aircraft movements.

### Trains

Bus routes now connect to the city's commuter rail system, known as [CTrain](#), which runs through the city center and branches out to the residential and industrial neighborhoods. In 2001, the CTrain became the first urban light rail system in North America to be powered entirely by wind-generated electricity. [Amtrak](#) operates out of Calgary for those who wish to travel to other major cities.

### **Walking, Biking, and Driving**

The city also has a network of walking and bike paths, and in the downtown area a system of enclosed, climate-controlled, elevated walkways some 15 feet (5 metres) above street level—known as [Plus 15](#) (or +15)—allows pedestrians to avoid extreme weather. The Trans-Canada Highway passes through the city north of the Bow River, and other highways, known locally as “trails,” connect Calgary with other cities in the province, notably Edmonton. The City of Calgary provides up-to-date [information](#) on current road construction, accidents, and other traffic incidents that may affect your commute trip.

### **Taxis**

Taxis in Calgary are readily available. While taxis aren’t the cheapest way of getting around Calgary, they are a reliable mode of transport, especially for those travelling through the city late at night. The cost of a taxi becomes more reasonable if it is split amongst a larger group, travelling to the same destination. [#Taxi](#) is a well-known service for connecting you with the first readily available taxi provider in your area. This is a very useful service if you are in a hurry.

## DRIVER'S LICENSE

As a foreign national you are able to use the license that was issued in your own country but for a limited period of time. Alberta allows you to drive on your own license for up to **90** days, but then you will need to make arrangements to exchange it for a Canadian license. If there is an agreement between Canada and your home country the exchange can be fairly straight-forward, although there are some issuing countries which are not accepted by Canada so you will need to go through the Graduated Licensing Program. As this is often inconvenient, it is recommended to obtain an International Driver's License for use in Canada when you come from a country that does not participate in a reciprocal exchange with Canada (i.e., India).

When you exchange your driving license you will need to do so at the provincial offices. You will need to show that you are a current resident of the area and should show visa documentation to support this. Alberta regulations will expect you to have an eye test, show that your current license is valid (and if this is not already in French or English then it will need to be translated), show proof of ID, proof of address, pay the relevant fee, and if you have been driving for less than a couple of years then you may need to take a knowledge test. Each province deals with their own documentation so enquiries should be made to the ministry of transportation.

If you need to take a Canadian driving test then you should make yourself aware of the regulations in your particular province, as these vary across the country. You will need to apply for a novice license and this can be done from the age of 16. Drivers will find that most states have a graduated licensing program which encourages drivers to slowly build on their driving skills. You will be asked to take an eye test and a theory test on road signs, driving regulations and safe driving. Some provinces will expect a driver to take more than one practical test before a full license is issued.

Detailed information for Alberta can be found [here](#).

## SHOPPING

Whether you're looking for big brand names or smaller, more eclectic collections, you'll find both in Calgary's shopping centers. Located ten minutes north is [CrossIron Mills](#) - is the biggest one-level shopping center in Alberta; it offers distinctive Alberta-themed architecture and entertainment and includes over 200 stores. TD Square and Holt Renfrew make up the [CORE](#), Calgary's most expansive urban shopping destination in the heart of downtown, with buildings linked by massive skywalks with glass floors. The [CF Chinook Centre](#) is Calgary's largest shopping, dining, and entertainment destination, holding over 250 brand-name stores as well as major department stores and exclusive-to-Chinook retailers.

See [this website](#) for a shopping directory for Calgary.

### Groceries

- [Markets and Grocery Stores in Calgary](#)
- [T&T Supermarket](#) is an Asian food store catering to the Chinese community.
- [Sobeys](#) is a large chain with many locations.
- [Safeway](#) is a large grocery store chain, and it also offers a pharmacy and coffee store.
- [Save-On-Foods](#) is a large grocery store chain, and it is recommended to use a rewards card.
- [Calgary Farmers Market](#)

### Home Furnishings and Collectibles

- [Ikea](#) is a great option for those on a budget. It sells everything necessary in a home: from beds to ice cube makers.
- [Sears](#) offers similar goods to Ikea. Beds, tables, sofas... You name it.
- [United Furniture Warehouse](#) offers similar goods to Ikea and Sears.
- [Pier 1 Imports](#) is a furniture and soft furnishings store providing a wide range of exotic, colorful and eye-catching designs that are sourced offshore.
- [Sleep Country Canada](#) is a Canadian company specializing in mattresses, pillows and bed linen. Is best known for its radio jingle, "Why buy a mattress anywhere else?"
- [The Brick](#) is a retailer of furniture, mattresses, appliances, electronics, soft furnishings and home accents.
- [Crate and Barrel](#) offers housewares, furniture, and home accessories.

## RECREATION

[Calgary Tours](#)

[Calgary Events Calendar](#)

### Arts and Culture

Those interested in [museums and galleries](#) will not be disappointed. You may wish to learn about policing at the [Calgary Police Interpretive Center](#) or transportation at [The Hangar Flight Museum](#) or the [Remington Carriage Museum](#).



*Courtesy of [Expedia](#)*

For those interested in natural history, try the [Royal Tyrrell Museum](#), and for history buffs, the [Gasoline Alley Museum](#) or [The Military Museums](#) may be just right for you. In Banff National Park, the [Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies](#) draws art, culture, and history-lovers alike. If you are more interested in [performing arts](#), try [Theatre Calgary](#) or the [Theatre Junction Grand](#). [Lunchbox Theatre](#) is one of the most successful noon hour theatre companies in the world, and the [Vertigo Theatre](#) produces mystery-based performances. To learn more about arts and culture, see [Visit Calgary](#).

### Attractions

There are countless [things to do](#) in Calgary. Try a real-life escape room at [The Locked Room](#), or enjoy Canada largest family amusement park at [Calaway Park](#). Admire the view from [Calgary Tower](#) or the [Glacier Skywalk](#), and take a day trip to the [Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site](#). To learn more about attractions, see [Visit Calgary](#).

### Festivals and Events

Calgary hosts a variety of [festivals and events](#) throughout the year. Some of the more prominent celebrations include [Calgary Reggae Festival Society](#), [Alberta Beer Festivals](#), [Calgary International Children's Festival](#), [Calgary Folk Music Festival](#), [Calgary International Film Festival](#), [Sled Island Music and Arts Festival](#), [Scotiabank Calgary Marathon](#), [Roundup Musicfest](#), [GlobalFest](#), and [Block Heater](#). To learn more about festivals and events, see [Visit Calgary](#).

### Restaurants and Dining

Calgary's [dining scene](#) is in blossom and rapidly developing an international reputation. Ambitious, creative chefs and restauranteurs are launching exciting new projects as many established entrepreneurs are hitting their stride. There is an abundance of dining options in [Downtown Calgary](#), as well as in the [northwest](#), [northeast](#), [southwest](#), [southeast](#), and [beyond](#). You may wish to try different types of [burgers](#) or [pizza joints](#), or see the [insider's guide](#) to Calgary food. To learn more about restaurants and dining, see [Visit Calgary](#).

## **Sports and Recreation**

Any and all [sports and recreation](#) hobbies are welcome and supported in Calgary. Residents may enjoy [fishing](#), [golf](#), [horseback riding](#), or [watersports](#) in warm weather and [skiing and snowboarding](#) in cold weather. There are [parks and gardens](#) for outdoor-oriented visitors, and [casinos](#) and [spas](#) for those who prefer a more specific experience. Daring individuals may enjoy [adventure travel](#) opportunities, and all sports lovers can participate in local [sporting events](#) and [sports facilities](#) in the city. To learn more about sports and recreation, see [Visit Calgary](#).

## **Nightlife**

Some new resident of Calgary may be interested in Calgary's [nightlife](#). There are quite a few unique places to go on any given night, including [Cowboys Dance Hall](#), [Aussie Rules Piano Bar](#), [Wildhorse Saloon](#), [Central 899](#), [Jimmy's](#), and [Hifi Club](#). You may find more to do on [17<sup>th</sup> Ave Retail and Entertainment District](#) with over 400 shops to keep you busy. To learn more about nightlife, see [Visit Calgary](#).

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Public holidays include the following in the Alberta Region:

- New Year's Day
- Family Day (Third Monday in February)
- Good Friday (Friday before Easter Sunday)
- Victoria Day (Monday before May 25)
- Canada Day (July 1)
- Civic Holiday (First Monday in August)
- Labour Day (First Monday in September)
- Thanksgiving (Second Monday in October)
- Remembrance Day (November 11)
- Christmas Day (December 25)

More information can be found [here](#).



Courtesy of [Art Country Canada](#)