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VISITING CANADA

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In this chapter you will find information on what you will need to do if you are going to visit Canada for a holiday or short stay.

Do I need a visa to go to Canada on holiday or for a short stay?

Irish citizens do not require a visa to enter Canada as a visitor or on business, for a period not exceeding 6 months. You will require:

- A valid Irish passport
- An airline ticket with a return date indicated on the ticket and
- Sufficient funds to support yourself for the duration of your visit to Canada.

Can I work in Canada while on a holiday visa?

No, you cannot work in Canada or go to school without permission. You will be asked to leave Canada if you work or study without permission. Officers from CIC (Citizenship and Immigration Canada) will have to take enforcement action against any person who does not respect the conditions of their visit to Canada. Anyone who is not allowed into Canada or anyone asked to leave has the right to an impartial hearing to review the decision.

What are the reasons that I may be refused a visa or entry to Canada?

You may be denied a visa or refused entry to or removed from Canada on the following grounds:

- On arrival in Canada a Citizenship and Immigration officer is not satisfied that you have given is correct, you do not satisfy the officer that you are suitable for entry into Canada or you do not satisfy the officer that you intend to leave Canada at the end of the temporary period authorised for you stay
- Security reasons which would include espionage, subversion, violence or terrorism, or membership in an organisation involved in such activities
- Human or international rights violations, including war crimes or crimes against humanity, or being a senior official in a government engaged in gross human rights violations or subject to international sanctions
- Serious criminality involving an offence or its equivalent punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of at least 10 years
- Criminality, which would include a conviction for an offence or commission of a criminal act

- Organised crime, including membership in an organisation that takes part in organised criminal activity, people smuggling or money laundering
- Health reasons, if you have a medical condition that is likely to endanger public health or public safety, or might reasonably be expected to cause excessive demands on health or social services
- Financial reasons, if you cannot prove that you can financially support yourself and any family members.