

Entering Canada with an RV: checklist

For travellers coming from the United States. Details are in our guide to crossing the border into Canada.

Date: _____ Crossing: _____ Travellers: _____

Before you leave

- ☐ Passport (recommended), or proof of citizenship plus photo ID for U.S. citizens; visas checked for other nationalities
- ☐ Children's consent letters and custody papers, if travelling without both parents
- ☐ Vehicle registration and proof of insurance, with Canadian coverage confirmed in writing
- ☐ Rental agreement that allows travel into Canada, or lender permission
- ☐ Pet rabies certificate signed by a vet
- ☐ Roadside assistance that works in Canada; phone roaming checked
- ☐ Tires, brakes, and hitch inspected

Pack and declare

- ☐ Food plan: declare all meat, dairy, fruit, vegetables, and plants
- ☐ No firewood
- ☐ Alcohol within one of: 1.5 L wine, 1.14 L liquor, or 8.5 L beer (legal age 18 in AB, MB, QC; 19 elsewhere)
- ☐ Tobacco within: 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars, 200 g tobacco
- ☐ No cannabis; no handguns; no pepper spray made for people; bear spray labelled for animals declared
- ☐ Rifles or shotguns only: RCMP 5589 completed but NOT signed, C\$25 fee, signed in front of the officer
- ☐ Currency of C\$10,000 or more declared

At the border

- ☐ Wait times checked and a morning crossing planned
- ☐ Everyone's documents together and within reach of the driver
- ☐ Propane valves and appliances handled (see our propane guide)
- ☐ Answer questions directly and honestly
- ☐ If you are unsure whether to declare something, declare it
- ☐ Phones and laptops can be examined by officers

Official sources: Canada Border Services Agency (cbsa-asfc.gc.ca), border wait times (cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/bwt-taf), RCMP firearms (rcmp.ca/en/firearms), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (canada.ca).

Last updated September 2026. Rules, fees, and limits change, so confirm anything that matters to you on the official sites above before you travel.