



CANADIAN OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

Flying to and From Canada

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Programs**

MORE INFORMATION

COPA-AOPA Guide to Cross-border Operations

- Found on Members Only sections of COPA and AOPA web sites or by calling member services.
- 141 pages of everything you would ever have to know but it all boils down to a checklist.

Topics of Interest

- Sources of Tourism and Technical Info
- Preflight Planning and Preparation
- Travelers' Information

- Getting There (to Canada)
- Canadian Flight Rules
- Special Flight Considerations for Canada
- United States Flight Rules
- Coming Back (to the USA)

- CANPASS
- Canadian and ICAO Flight Plan Forms
- Checklist for Cross-Border Operations

Tourism

(...or in the land of the midnight sun)



(In the great white North...)

Tourism Resources



Province	Phone	Website
Newfoundland and Labrador	1-800-563-6353	http://www.newfoundlandlabrador.com
Prince Edward Island (PEI)	1-800-463-4PEI	http://www.gov.pe.ca/
Nova Scotia	1-800-565-0000	http://novascotia.com/
New Brunswick	1-800-561-0123	http://www.tourismnewbrunswick.ca/
Quebec	1 877 BONJOUR	http://www.bonjourquebec.com/
Ontario	1-800-ONTARIO	http://www.ontariotravel.net/
Manitoba	1-800-665-0040	http://www.travelmanitoba.com/
Saskatchewan	1-877-2ESCAPE	http://www.sasktourism.com/
Alberta	1.800.ALBERTA	http://www1.travelalberta.com/en-ca/
British Columbia		http://www.hellobc.com/
Territory	Phone	Website
North-West	1-800-661-0788	http://www.explorenwt.com/
Nunavut	1-866-NUNAVUT	http://www.nunavuttourism.com
Yukon	1-800-661-0494	http://travelyukon.com/



- Canada Tourism Office
 - <http://www.canada.travel/selectCountry-ca.html>
 - Canadian Tourism Commission
#1400-1055 Dunsmuir Street, Box 49230
Vancouver BC V7X 1L2
- CAA



Pre-flight Preparation

- Appropriate charts and Flight Supplements:
 - Single copies available at many pilot supply shops in Canada and the US. (CFS – Canada Flight Supplement - approx \$29 Cdn, Visual Navigation Charts - VNC - approx \$16.50 Cdn)
 - <http://www.navcanada.ca>
 - You can also call Aeronautical Publications at 1-866-731-PUBS (7827) - (To get a whole year's subscription of CFS - approx \$99 Cdn)
- Where you can go: Anywhere in Canada (except Military aerodromes)
- Things to see: See Tourism Slides
- Available airport facilities:
 - consult COPA “Places to Fly” (<http://copanational.org/non-members/placestofly/intro.htm>) ,
 - airport “OPR” in CFS,
 - and airport websites.



Calling Ahead for Aviation Weather Information / Flight Planning, NOTAMs

- General toll free telephone number (Canada only) 1-866-WXBRIEF / 1-866-GOMETEO
- Unique toll-free and long distance telephone numbers (accessible from Canada and the United States)
 - Kamloops FIC: 1-866-541-4101 or 250-376-8392
 - Edmonton FIC: 1-866-541-4102 or 780-890-8386
 - Winnipeg FIC: 1-866-541-4103 or 204-983-8407
 - London FIC: 1-866-541-4104 or 519-452-4040
 - Quebec FIC (bilingual service): 1-866-541-4105 or 418-871-8678
 - Halifax FIC: 1-866-541-4106 or 902-873-1365
 - Whitehorse FIC: 1-866-541-4107 or 867-667-8427
 - North Bay FIC: 1-866-541-4109 or 705-476-0024 or 705-476-0037

Travellers Information

(Knowing and preparing ahead of time...



CBSA | ASFC



... saves paperwork later!)

Documents

- Pilot Certificate and current Medical Certificate:
 - Medical certificate must be current within the past two years.
- Notarized letter authorizing children to cross the border:
 - only if accompanied by less than two parents.
- Proof of citizenship:
 - Passport or Nexus Card is the only acceptable ID.



Pre-flight Preparation

- Other Visa documentation as required:
 - **Visa not required for Canadian or US citizens.**
- Airworthiness Certificate
- Registration certificate:
 - temporary certificate is not acceptable.
- Operating limitations (aircraft operating checklist).
- Weight and balance information.
- Radio station licence:
 - Required internationally by FCC for US A/C & ICAO for all A/C, (not required domestically by FAA or Transport Canada).

Pre-flight Preparation

Experimental Aircraft and Canadian Ultralights:

- Standardized Validation (for ops in Canada) or Special Flight Authorization (for ops in US) – available on Transport Canada and FAA web sites, COPA web site.
- Proof of Liability Insurance (required in Canada).
- FAA Form 337 (US aircraft only) or STC documentation if fuel tanks have been added in baggage or passenger compartments.

Pre-flight Preparation

- US Customs decal (339A) (\$27.50) for aircraft:
 - No longer obtainable from CBP inspector.
 - Required to be obtained & applied beforehand.
 - Easy to purchase online at US Customs web site
 - <https://tradelinks4.mellon.com/cbp/Dispatcher>
 - Arrives by mail within a week or so.
- Canadian Limits and Prohibited Items:
 - 1.15 liters of alcohol / 200 cigarettes
 - Restrictions on firearms (<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/E/pub/cp/rc4227/rc4227-e.html>)

Getting There



(... is half the fun)

Airport of Entry (AOE)

- Plan to land at an Airport of Entry (AOE) or CANPASS airport if a CANPASS holder:
 - AOE's are listed on Customs web sites.
- Plan for first landing to be as close to the border as possible because:
 - Any unforeseen problem could result in a landing at a non-AOE airport and consequent arrest.
 - Update weather briefing, TFRs etc. (866-WX-BRIEF is WX number available in Canada)

Just Prior to Departure

- Advance notification to Customs:
 - U.S. to Canada - contact CANPASS (888-CANPASS 888-226-7277) no less than two hours and no more than 48 hours before arrival.
 - Canada to U.S. – no central number - contact Customs office at Airport of Entry no less than two hours or more than 23 hours before arrival; DO NOT RELY ON ADCUS OR FAX – CONTACT BY TELEPHONE ONLY.
- File and activate a VFR or IFR flight plan.

In flight

- **Obtain a Discrete Transponder code prior to crossing border, and be in contact with Governing ATC Unit.**
- **Do not arrive early, Do not arrive late**
- **If arriving later than 15 minutes from ETA, ask ATC/FSS to contact Customs, get badge number and name of Customs official that ATC/FSS speaks with or else turn back.**
 - **Fine in the US is \$5,000**
- **Traveling to the US – fill out Customs form 178 prior to landing if possible.**

Arrival

- Do not leave aircraft until Customs official gives you permission:
 - In Canada - if not met, find a telephone and call 888-CANPASS, follow directions from Customs official, obtain arrival report number.
- If inspected, present documentation as required, fill out any declaration forms and pay appropriate duties and taxes.
- CLOSE YOUR VFR FLIGHT PLAN with FSS:
 - US 800-WX-BRIEF
 - Canada 866-WX-BRIEF

Canadian Flight Rules



(Don't get caught...)

(...unawares)

Flying In Canada

- Flight rules are essentially the same:
 - In US – pattern / circuits at 800 /1000/1500 feet.
 - In Canada – pattern / circuits at 1000 feet.
 - In Canada – VFR over the Top, requires stringent WX minima.
 - In Canada Overwater Flight requires lifejackets.
 - In Canada, some class D airspace requires a transponder – clearly marked on charts (VNCs).
 - In Canada – all weather briefings come from one of six Flight Information Centers by calling 866-WX-BRIEF (available from anywhere in North America) or going online www.navcanada.ca and click on flight planning.

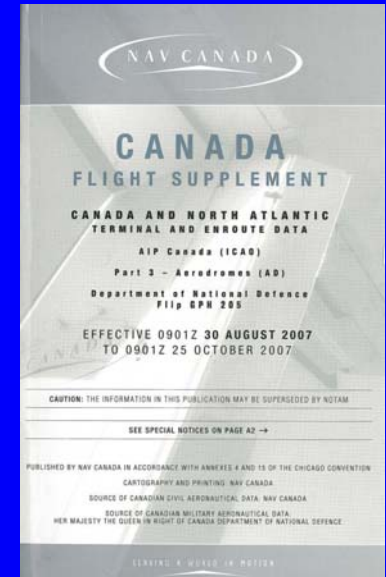
Flying In Canada

- Contacting FSS:

- In Canada – FSS is generally 126.7, no Flightwatch exists, 121.5 for Emergency.

- Nevertheless; To establish what FSS frequency for your area:

- Check CFS page for nearest airport
- Under flight plan see “FIC” listing
- Go to that airport listing in CFS
- Consult RCO listing for your airport FSS frequency
- Example – Muskoka airport FIC is “London”, London contains RCO listing for Muskoka – freq is 123.475



Getting There



(... to the great white North)

Flying In Canada

- Flight Plans: Required for flights more than 25 miles from origin (CAR 602.73). Note that Tower / Ground will close FP if you ask.
- Communications: Monitor 126.7 enroute. (AIM RAC 5.1) Mandatory Frequency (MF): Must communicate intentions & position (CARS 602.97 (1) - 602.103), Uncontrolled Aerodrome Advance call: 5 minutes (CAR 602.101)
- Terms: Circuit (Pattern), AME (A&P), CAME (AME), TFR (CFR), FSS (FIC), ATIS, ASOS (AWOS)
- Airspace: Class B, 12,500 ft. and up. Class C needs clearance to enter, Class D needs contact to enter.
- Altimeter Setting Region: 29.92” in Standard Pressure Region (CAR 602.36)
- Direction of Flight : Magnetic Track vs. True Track in Northern Domestic Airspace. (CAR 602.34(1))
- High Seas Flight: Requires Instrument Rating (CAR 602.39)

Flying a US aircraft in Canada

- Nothing special required but limited to less than a total of 90 days in any calendar year if not a private aircraft.
- NAV CANADA fee:
 - Flight plan into Canada will trigger an invoice to aircraft owner for \$17.75 (Cdn), which permits unlimited use of ANS, weather services etc for 90 days. (\$17.75 less than 2 tons, \$59 for 2-3 tons)
 - If another flight plan is filed on day 91, another invoice is generated for \$17.75.

Flying a Canadian Aircraft

- Must either have a Canadian licence or validation of US Airman's certificate. Foreign Licence Validation Certificate (FLVC) or Limited Term Private Pilot Licence (LTPL or LTPL/MC: 90 days only) (CAR 401.07(1), Standard 421.07)

Purposes For a Foreign Licence Validation Certificate

- to undergo a flight test;
- for private recreational flying;
- for ferry of an aircraft registered in Canada to or from a foreign country;
- for the holder to give type rating training on an aircraft registered in Canada to the registered owner, or to Canadian flight crew employed by the registered owner;
- for the holder to receive training in a Canadian registered aircraft;
- for operation of aircraft registered in a foreign state under the operating certificate of a Canadian carrier provided that the privileges are limited to the type of aircraft being operated;

Application Process

- A letter requesting validation and stating the purpose for which it will be used is sent to any Transport Canada office.
 - Can also present yourself at a Transport Canada office.
- Copy of the foreign licence and medical validation must accompany the letter. This may also be faxed.
- FLVC Cost is \$45 Cdn, LTPL or LTPL/MC Cost is \$40 Cdn
- More information:
<http://www.tc.gc.ca/CivilAviation/general/personnel/fore.htm>

For more details...

- **AOPA/COPA Guide to Cross Border Operations**
 - www.aopa.org
 - www.copanational.org

About COPA

- **Second largest AOPA in the world.**
- **Largest pilot organization in Canada.**
- **Total membership over 18,000.**
- **Membership increasing.**
- **Represents the interests of all non-commercial pilots and aircraft owners, providing safety information and advocating for freedom to fly.**



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