

The answer to the question, "Do I Need a Passport to Visit Canada?" depends on how you are planning to cross the Canadian border.

Since January 23, 2007, American citizens have had to present a passport when crossing the Canadian border by air. All airports in Canada now ask to see passports from all people traveling from outside of Canada, including from the US. Your airline may not let you board a flight for Canada without one. Further it will be necessary to have that passport to regain entry into the U.S. as well.

The other date for travelers to note is June 1, 2009, which is when the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) will require American citizens to present a passport when crossing the Canadian border by land or water. (The June 1st, 2009 date was previously January 1, 2008).

Until June 1, 2009, if you are an American citizen crossing the border into Canada by land or water, you need ID that proves two things: 1) Citizenship, and 2) Identity by way of a photo. Original Birth Certificate, and current photo ID Driver's License is the best combo. A driver's license on its own or a Social Security Card on its own are not valid ID to cross the Canadian border.

The following pieces of identification will serve as satisfactory proof of American citizenship to enter Canada.

Please note, however, that photocopies of ID are not acceptable, only originals:

Other Customs issues to consider are:

Minor Traveling Alone, or with one parent, who is not in the same household as the child? Notarized Consent Letter is required more information at: www.Consent2Travel.com

Remove Risk of Arrest, including DUI's It is illegal to travel with a criminal record. Information at: PardonCanada.ca