

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Climate and Weather of Canada



Canada is the second-largest country in the world, and because it is so big, its climate can be very different depending on where you are. From hot summers to icy winters, Canada experiences all four seasons: spring, summer, fall, and winter. Some parts of Canada even have polar regions, where it stays cold all year round!

### Spring: A Time of Change

Spring in Canada begins in March and lasts until June. During this time, the snow starts to melt, and the weather becomes warmer. Flowers begin to bloom, and animals wake up from their winter hibernation.

In cities like Toronto and Vancouver, springtime brings rainy days that help trees and plants grow. People enjoy warmer temperatures and spend more time outside after the cold winter months.

### Summer: Warm and Sunny

Summer in Canada starts in June and lasts until September. This is the warmest season, with temperatures reaching 30°C (86°F) or higher in some areas. People love summer in Canada because they can:

- Go swimming in lakes and oceans
- Have picnics and barbecues with family and friends
- Play outdoor sports like soccer and baseball

Not all parts of Canada are warm in the summer. In the northern regions, like Nunavut and the Arctic, it stays cool even in July, but the sun does not set for weeks, making the days very long!

### Fall: A Season of Beautiful Colors

Fall, or autumn, begins in September and lasts until December. The weather becomes cooler, and the leaves on trees change color to bright red, orange, and yellow. Fall is also harvest season, when farmers gather their crops. Many people celebrate Thanksgiving in October, a holiday where families share a big meal together. One of the most beautiful places to see fall colors is in Ontario and Quebec, where forests are filled with trees that turn bright shades of red and gold.

### Winter: Cold and Snowy

Winter in Canada begins in December and lasts until March. It is the coldest season, and in many parts of the country, temperatures drop below freezing. In places like Winnipeg and Edmonton, temperatures can reach -30°C (-22°F) or lower! During winter, people:

- Wear warm clothes like coats, scarves, and boots
- Go skiing, ice skating, and sledding
- Celebrate Christmas and New Year's with holiday lights and decorations

In northern Canada, winter is even harsher. The Arctic regions experience months of darkness, where the sun does not rise for weeks. This is called polar night.

