



The Great
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Nunavut Practical Information

Nunavut is the newest, largest and northernmost territory of Canada and the second-least populated. It was officially separated from the Northwest Territories on April 1, 1999. The capital is Iqaluit located at the head of Frobisher Bay on southern Baffin Island.



Airports – Iqaluit Airport

The main airport is Iqaluit Airport and is in Iqaluit. It is operated by the Government of Nunavut. It has flights from major cities in Canada and flights from smaller airports throughout Northern Canada. There are also many smaller airports throughout Nunavut. With no roads connecting the communities of Nunavut air transportation is the main method of travel.

Location and Geography

Nunavut is bordered by the Arctic Ocean to the north and east with Hudson Bay to the southeast. To the south lies Manitoba and to the west lies Northwest Territories. Nunavut has many islands including its largest island known as Baffin Island. Nunavut has two distinct geographical regions: the Canadian Shield and the Arctic Archipelago. The Canadian Shield has large exposed rock formations and lots of hills. The Arctic Archipelago is almost entirely covered in ice and contains rugged mountains, steep fjords and high and low plains. Barbeau Peak is Nunavut's highest point reaching an elevation of 2616 meters.

Population

Nunavut's population is just under 36,000, of which most are Inuit, spread over an area of 1,750,000km² – slightly smaller area than Mexico. It is also home to the world's northernmost permanently inhabited place, Alert.



People and Culture

The population of Nunavut is more than four-fifths Inuit. The rest of the population is of European descent. Nunavut is among the most sparsely populated habitable region on Earth. Settlements are very small and are clustered commonly in the coastal areas.

Language

The official language of Nunavut is the Inuit Language sometimes called Inuktitut. English and French are also common languages.



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Economy

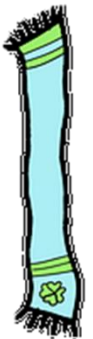
Nunavut has rich mineral wealth including iron reserves, precious metals, diamonds, petroleum and natural gas. However, the remote location means high production and transportation costs for these resources. Hunting and fishing are common sources of income for the Inuit with turbot, shrimp, Arctic Char and sealskins being common exports. Sport hunting and fishing attract tourists which is another source of income. Inuit arts and crafts are another common export.

Climate and Weather

With its large territory temperature in Nunavut varies by region. Winters are very harsh with an average temperature around -30C. Summers are mild with an average temperature around 8C. Communities in Northern Nunavut experience 24 hours of daylight throughout June and 24 hours of darkness throughout December. Southern communities will have more hours of daylight in the winter and more hours of darkness in the summer.

Clothing

It is extremely important that you have appropriate weather rated clothing in Nunavut. In winter a parka, boots, hat, mittens, gloves and a scarf are examples of the warm clothing necessary. In summer a light jacket is enough with practical, comfortable shoes. Wind-proof clothing is recommended for all season's year round.



Electricity

Voltage is 110-120V and frequency is 60Hz. There are two associated plug types A and B. European plugs are not compatible.

Currency

The local currency is the Canadian Dollar. One dollar is equal to 100 cents. There are 5 denomination coins: 5¢ (nickel), 10¢ (dime), 25¢ (quarter), \$1 (loonie) and \$2 (toonie). There are 5 denominations of bank notes: \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100.

