

Adventure
Treks



Trip Preparation Guide

*“All the information you need to know
before you go.”*

Welcome

Thank you for choosing Adventure Treks. Soon you will be departing on your “Adventure of a Lifetime”. We have done all the planning to make sure this is an exciting trip, full of the most breathtaking scenery, abundant wildlife, educational museums, and entertaining nightlife. All designed to immerse you in the rich culture and history of the region.

Throughout history, people have grouped together for safety while traveling in unknown areas. While modern conveniences have eliminated many of the dangers, caravans are still a safer and more pleasant way to travel. While traveling with the RV caravan, you will have the opportunity to get to know some of the most interesting people in the world; RV travelers like yourself. We hope that you will take this opportunity to build lasting friendships.

Our goal is to make this the safest, most enjoyable trip you have ever experienced. We have planned every day of the trip with that in mind. All reservations are made. Our staff have traveled the roads and are eager to share their experiences with you. They are there to help you.

Before you depart, there are some preparations you can make that will help to insure that this will be a safe and enjoyable trip.

The purpose of this document is to help you be “as prepared as you want to be”. Please read the document end-to-end. There is a lot of good advice here. While following every recommendation is not required, it will help you to decide what is important to you. After all, don’t you want to spend your time enjoying the beautiful scenery and not searching for an RV repair shop?

Vehicle Preparations

The following section describes how to prepare your tow/towed vehicle and RV for travel.

General Vehicle Preparations – All Adventure Treks

1. **Engine Maintenance** – Have your RV’s engine (or tow vehicle engine) serviced before you leave. Make sure that the oil is changed and all fluids are topped-off. There will be opportunities to perform maintenance while on the tour, but it is best to start off with all maintenance done.
2. **Automatic Transmission Maintenance** – Change the fluid per your manufacturer’s recommendation. If you think you will need a transmission fluid change while on the trip, have the change done before you leave. It will be a lot cheaper done by your local mechanic.
3. **Automatic Transmission Cooling** - Make sure that you have adequate transmission cooling. You will be carrying heavy loads up steep inclines. This can cause your transmission to overheat. Transmission coolers are recommended. Your mechanic can help you to choose what is required for your vehicle.
4. **Vehicle Safety Check** - A safety check by your mechanic or RV dealer is recommended. Repair any items that are discovered in the safety check before you leave.
5. **Mechanical Spares** – Bring along spares of the following items: head lamp, turn signal lamp, brake lamp, engine belt(s), two quarts of engine oil, two quarts of automatic transmission fluid, air filter, fuel filter, brake fluid, power-steering fluid, fuses.

6. **RV Spares** – In addition to your normal RV supplies, bring along the following spares: fuses for the 12-volt system, brake light bulb, dump hose, water pressure regulator and water hose.
7. **Propane** – Make sure your propane tanks are full. Propane is readily available but can be expensive in remote areas.
8. **Flashlight** – Carry a good quality flashlight with a fresh set of batteries.
9. **Don't Overload Your RV!** – It is recommended that you have your fully loaded RV weighed before you leave. Do not exceed the manufacturer's recommendation for the RV or tow vehicle.
10. **RV Appliances** – Have your local RV dealer inspect all the systems in your RV. Especially make sure there are no problems with your 12-volt system, 120 volt system, refrigerator, furnace, stove, holding tanks, water heater and water delivery system.
11. **Brakes** – Have your vehicle and RV brakes inspected and adjusted before you leave. Being able to slow your rig during steep downgrades is essential and requires brakes operating at peak efficiency. I can't stress enough how important it is to have your brakes inspected and all repairs or adjustments done before you depart.
12. **Wiper Blades** – Inspect your vehicles wiper blades. Bring a spare set if they are questionable.
13. **Tool Kit** – A mechanics tool set is invaluable on a long trip like this. You never can tell when a screw or bolt will shake loose and having a tool kit around to make minor repairs can prove essential.
14. **RV Washing Supplies** – We travel over a lot of dusty or muddy roads. Your RV is going to get very dirty. While most campgrounds do not allow you to clean your RV on site, some do. You will want supplies on-hand to clean your RV whenever the opportunity is available. Or, just wait until you return home. That's what I do.
15. **Tires** – Make sure your tires are in good condition and are inflated to the recommended pressure (including the spare, if you have one).
16. **Spare Tires** – Check your spare tire to make sure that it is up to the recommended pressure and that it is suitable for use in an emergency. One spare tire for the tow vehicle and one spare tire for the towed is recommended. Be sure to torque your wheel lug nuts to the manufacturer's recommendation. Make sure you bring the right jack and lug wrench for your RV and tow vehicle. Most RVs do not come with a jack, so make sure you have one. It is also a good idea to bring at least one can of Fix-A-Flat for use when all else fails. **Please note:** Spare tires for Class A Motor Homes are not feasible. There is no place to stow the spare. Even if you could find a place to safely carry a spare tire, you do not have the special tools necessary to change a flat. There are plenty of garages along the highway that have the tools and equipment to change your tire if needed.
17. **Mats** – Any trip can be dusty, wet and muddy. I use Catch-All mats in my tow vehicle to protect the carpets. These mats are backed with rubber to keep water and mud from leaking through. They can be easily cleaned with just soap and water. Catch-All makes mats in a variety of colors for almost every vehicle on the road. I highly recommend getting mats for your vehicle.

Vehicle Preparations – Traveling in Alaska and Canada

1. **Protecting Your Rig** – While traveling in Canada and Alaska you will encounter long stretches of gravel roads. The gravel can be lifted into the air by passing vehicles and cause damage to headlights, turn-signal lenses, windshields and painted surfaces. Acrylic wind deflectors can be mounted to the front of your hood to deflect stones. There are several manufacturers of grill screens that prevent the entry of rocks as well as reduce the build-up of bugs on your radiator. Also, your local parts store can help you find shields to protect your headlights and turn signals.

2. **Protecting Your Motor Home Radiator** – If you are driving a diesel pusher motor home, I highly recommend that you have a rock-guard installed protecting your radiator from rock damage. Some models of diesel pusher motor homes are very susceptible to radiator damage.
3. **Protecting Your Towed Vehicle** – If you are planning to tow a vehicle behind your motor home, I highly recommend that you protect it from rock damage. First, protect the front of your towed vehicle with a rock shield (available at most RV stores). Then protect the windshield of your towed vehicle with a bra (available at most automotive stores). You can easily make a bra with naugahyde (fake leather from the fabric store). Get enough to cover the windshield and tuck into the doors so that the material is held to the windshield when the doors are closed. I DO NOT recommend the hard-rubber mud flaps for your motor home that are suspended behind the wheels. These drag the ground and churn up more rocks than they deflect. If you have one of these, remove it and leave it at home.
4. **Towing** – If you are towing a vehicle or RV, please review the rules in Appendix III – RV Travel in Canada.
5. **Electrical Adapters** – A few of the campgrounds only offer 15 amp electric service. Make sure that you have the required electrical adapters for your rig.
6. **How To Keep Your RV Warm** - The weather can sometimes be quite cool in Canada and Alaska. It is especially uncomfortable on those rainy days (or rainy weeks) when it is damp and the temperature never gets above 50 degrees. To save a few dollars on propane, I carry a small electric heater. Many times this was enough to keep the inside comfortable. Please be careful to use only UL approved heaters with safety switches and follow all manufacturer’s recommendations for safety.
7. **Holding Tank Maintenance** - You can save a few dollars on chemicals for your holding tank. The weather is cool and fewer chemicals are needed. We often go weeks without using chemicals at all. We clean the tank by first emptying it. Then add about 10 gallons of fresh water and one cup of liquid laundry detergent. We then travel to our next destination letting the water in the holding tanks slosh around all day. At our next stop, we drain the soapy water immediately. This kept the tank trouble free. You can also save a few dollars by using single-ply toilet tissue from your grocery store. This is often the cheapest to buy and is definitely less expensive than those brands you get at the RV store.
8. **Sun Shades** – During the summer months in Alaska, the sun is up most of the day. Some people have difficulty sleeping when there is light in their bedroom. If you think this will be a problem for you, install shades that block the outside light. Don’t forget to cover the skylight.

Vehicle Preparations – Traveling in Mexico

1. **Electrical Adapters** – Many of the campgrounds in Mexico only offer 15 amp electric service. Make sure that you have the required electrical adapters for your rig.
2. **Water** – While improving, the public water system in Mexico is not up to US standards and may be unsafe to drink. Bottled water is readily available. You may want to bring a supply with you to use for the first week or so until you can get to a Mexican store to replenish your supply. I recommend that you do not connect to the campground water supply directly. You should fill up your RV water tank from the campground supply adding two teaspoons of ordinary household bleach per 10 gallons of water. The onboard water supply can be used to bathe and wash dishes. Bottled water should be used for cooking and drinking.
3. **Towed Vehicles** – It is not recommended to bring towed vehicles with your motor home to Mexico. First, you will be required to purchase additional insurance for your towed vehicle. Second, you will be required to pay additional tolls on the roads. Third, the campgrounds and campsites are much

smaller than we are use to in the US. You may not find parking near your rig. However, if you choose to bring your towed vehicle, we will make every effort to accommodate you on the tour.

4. **Vehicle Insurance** – You will be required to purchase Mexican Vehicle Insurance. Your US insurance provider will not cover your vehicle while traveling in Mexico but may provide assistance in obtaining Mexican Insurance. The following are recommended Mexican Insurance providers:
 - a. Bravo Insurance - <http://www.bravoinsurance.biz/> or 1-800-44-BRAVO
 - b. Sanborns - <http://www.sanbornsinsurance.com/> or 1-800-222-0158
 - c. Mexpro - <http://www.mexpro.net/> or 1-888-467-4639
 - d. Adventure Mexican Insurance – <http://www.mexadventure.com> or 1-800-485-4075An internet search will find many other agencies if these are not satisfactory.

Crossing the Border into Mexico

You will be required to provide these items when crossing the border into Mexico. Please make sure that you read this carefully and bring the required paperwork with you to the rendezvous campground. The omission of any single item will prevent you from entering Mexico.

1. 3 copies of your driver's license
2. 3 copies of "proof of ownership" for each vehicle; title and/or vehicle registration in your name, a lease contract or rental contract. If you owe money on the vehicle through a lien holder, you must provide a notarized letter of permission.
3. 3 copies of your Mexico Vehicle Insurance coverage
4. "Proof of Citizenship" for each person. All travelers to Mexico are required to present proof of citizenship, such as an original birth certificate with a raised seal, a valid passport, or naturalization papers. Those using a birth certificate should also have current photo identification, such as a driver's license or official ID. If the last name on the birth certificate is different from your current name, bring a photo identification card and legal proof of the name change, such as the original marriage license or certificate. Note: Photocopies are not acceptable.
5. Credit Card – for payment of Vehicle Importation fee (appx. \$40 per vehicle, cash not acceptable). The credit card must be in your name and be a Visa or MasterCard. Note: Your credit card information will be retained by the Mexican Government as a guarantee that you take each vehicle back to the US. If you fail to return your Vehicle Importation Certificate to the Mexican Government before re-entering the US, your credit card will be charged a fee (appx. \$400 per vehicle).

Your TrekMaster will assist you with filling out the required paperwork to get you quickly and safely across the border.

Please note that you and your vehicle may be searched at the border.

Crossing the Border into the US

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) is a new U.S. law that will require all travelers, including US citizens, to carry a valid passport or other appropriate secure document when traveling to the United States from within the western hemisphere. The new law states that:

As of June 1, 2009 all U.S. and Canadian citizens who are 16 and older traveling between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda by land or sea (including ferries), will be required to present a valid passport.

Please visit the US Customs website for more information at <http://www.cbp.gov>.

Crossing the Border into Canada

1. When you enter Canada, a border services officer will examine your identification. If you are a citizen of the United States, you will be required to present your passport.
2. It is recommended that you review the Canadian Customs website to familiarize yourself with all of the rules for border crossing: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>
3. You and your vehicle may be searched at the border.
4. PLEASE NOTE: If you or anyone in your party has a felony conviction (including a DUI or DWI) you will have difficulty entering Canada. Please go here for more information: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/infORmation/inadmissibility/index.asp>
5. On the Maritime Tour, you must have a valid passport with two blank pages in order to participate in the St. Pierre Tour. The island of St. Pierre is French territory (not Canadian).
6. COVID vaccinations are no longer required to enter Canada from the US.

Personal Preparation

1. **First Aid Kit** – Bring an emergency first aid kit. I always carry one when I travel. Consider adding some over the counter medicines like cold/allergy tablets, Pepto-Bismol and pain medication (ibuprofen, Tylenol, aspirin).
2. **Prescription Medicines** – It is highly recommended that you bring a supply of all of your prescription medicines sufficient to last the entire trip including travel to and from the rendezvous city. While it is possible to get prescriptions filled, it is often expensive and time consuming.
 - a. **In Canada** - Most Canadian drug stores will not fill a prescription from a U.S. doctor. You must first see a Canadian doctor.
 - b. **In Alaska** – You will need a copy of your prescription to get it filled.
 - c. **In Mexico** – Many prescription drugs are sold over-the-counter. Some have reported that the quality of drugs may not be up to US standards in Mexico.It is best to take care of your prescription needs before you leave.
3. **What To Wear in Alaska and Canada** - You will encounter all kinds of weather during your summer travels in Alaska and Canada. There can be snow at higher elevations and drizzling rain near the coast. The temperatures can be in the low 30's to the mid 90's. Dress in layers so that you can remove unneeded clothing if the day warms. Long pants, long sleeved shirts, sweaters, sweat shirts and jackets are appropriate. A rain jacket will be needed for rainy days. Casual dress attire is appropriate for all of our activities. Bring comfortable shoes or boots if you plan on doing any hiking.
4. **What To Wear in Mexico** – Our tours to Mexico travel in the winter months. The temperatures can be 40-50 degrees at night and 70-80 degrees during the day. Dress in layers so that you can remove unneeded clothing if the day warms. Long pants, long sleeved shirts, sweaters, sweat shirts and jackets are appropriate. A rain jacket will be needed for rainy days. Casual dress attire is appropriate for all of our activities. Bring comfortable shoes.
5. **Mosquitoes (Alaska and Canada)** - I recommend that you use a mosquito repellent that contains at least 10% DEET. There are some products that contain up to 30% DEET. These don't repel mosquitoes any better, they just repel mosquitoes longer. Natural repellents may seem attractive, but do not repel mosquitoes as well as DEET. I have not found any of those electronic gadgets that work.

6. **Black Flies (Mexico)** – In some parts of Mexico, the biting black flies can be bothersome. I have found that a body lotion, available everywhere in Mexico, called Aqua Marine by Revlon is very effective in repelling these insects.
7. **Photos** –The opportunities to take photographs of breath-taking scenery and wild life abound. Bring plenty of film or memory cards. Many of the larger cities have labs for processing film and equipment to unload your memory cards onto CDs. Consider a telephoto lens for your camera.
8. **Sun Protection** – Bring SPF 30 sun protection. Even though the temperature is cool, the sun's rays can quickly cause skin burns. Bring sun glasses and a hat for added protection.
9. **Eye Wear** – Losing your glasses or contacts can really spoil your trip. Bring extras if you can.
10. **Health Insurance** – Contact your health insurance carrier and find out if there are any restrictions on using your insurance in Canada, Alaska or Mexico. It is best to know the rules before you need it.
11. **Mail** - Arrange for your home mail to be forwarded or collected while you are gone. If you want to have your mail forwarded, a list of the campgrounds where we will be staying is provided. Appendix II contains a list of post offices on our route for forwarding mail. Forwarding mail to Mexico is not recommended. Be aware that you may experience long delays (several weeks) when forwarding mail to Canada.
12. **Tipping (on Mexico Tours)** – Tipping is recommended when the service provided is worthy. Tips are not provided by your TrekMaster.
13. **Tipping (on Alaska and Canadian Maritime Tours)** – All meals include a tip provided by the TrekMaster. Feel free to provide an additional tip if you feel the service is worthy. Bus driver tips are not provided by the TrekMaster. Feel free to tip where appropriate.
14. **Tipping Tour Staff Members** – It is customary to reward exceptional service with an appropriate tip at the end of the tour. \$100 - \$200 for the TailGunner couple and \$200 - \$300 for the TrekMaster couple is appropriate. Please keep in mind that tipping is not required or expected and all tipping is completely at your discretion.
15. **Hand Sanitizer (for Mexico)** – I recommend bringing a supply of hand sanitizer while traveling in Mexico. There is insufficient hand washing facilities in public restrooms.
16. **Paper Products (for Mexico)** – Many of the public restroom do not have a sufficient supply of paper products or charge a nominal fee for them. You should bring a supply with you on outings.
17. **Bleach (for Mexico)** – Use bleach at the rate of two teaspoons per 10 gallons to sanitize the water in your RV holding tank.

Food

1. **Food Stocks (on Alaska and Canada Tours)** – Food stocks are readily available in all major cities. However, the cost can be a lot more than you are used to paying in the Lower 48. I recommend that you leave the states with a full freezer and a well-stocked galley. Restock as we travel through major cities. It is best to keep meats in their original packaging. US Customs may seize meats/dairy (purchased outside the US) and all fruits/vegetables when re-entering the US/Alaska.
2. **Food Stocks (on Mexico Tours)** – Your favorite US food brands may not be available in Mexico. There are well-stocked grocery stores available in all major cities. I recommend that you leave the states with a full freezer and a well-stocked galley. It is best to keep meats in their original packaging. US Customs may seize meats/dairy (purchased outside the US) and all fruits/vegetables when re-entering the US.

Travel Safety

1. **Maps** – Be sure to bring road maps for your journey to and from the starting point of our trip. Consider using <http://www.MapQuest.com> or <http://maps.google.com> to aid in planning your route. On our Alaska tours, we provide a copy of the Milepost which contains detailed maps of the region

as well as other useful information. On Mexico Tours, I recommend that each guest obtain a copy of the “Mexico Tourist Road Atlas” available from Guia Roji (telephone: 55-15-0384) (website: <http://www.guiaroji.com.mx>)

2. **Traveling with a GPS** – It is highly recommended that you have a GPS to aid navigation in unfamiliar areas. Custom point of interest (POI) or waypoint files for all of our tours is provided. You can download these files and install them in your GPS unit so that you will know every location where we stop. Please note that these files are not required while on the tour but will greatly enhance your enjoyment.
 - Mexico Tours – <https://www.rvadventuretreks.com/files/theme/GPSPois/AA-MexicoWaypoints.zip>
 - Alaska Tours – <https://www.rvadventuretreks.com/files/theme/GPSPois/AlaskaWaypoints.zip>
 - Maritime Tours – <https://www.rvadventuretreks.com/files/theme/GPSPois/MaritimeWaypoints.zip>
 - Baja Tours – <https://www.rvadventuretreks.com/files/theme/GPSPois/BajaWaypoints.zip>

Instructions for installing the waypoints in your GPS are included in the file that you download. Please check these links for updates before you depart.

3. **CB Radio** – In Mexico, CB radios are **required** to maintain contact while traveling. On the other tours, CB radios are optional. Your TrekMaster will use the CB radio to help you find your campsite each day. The TailGunner will use the CB radio to contact you while traveling. NOTE: CB radios are required on the Mexico tours. CB radios are NOT used on the Alaska and Maritime tours.
4. **Emergency Contact Information** – While there may be limited opportunities to make phone calls during the day, there is almost always phone service at the campgrounds. If there is someone that needs to contact you, have them leave a message at our office (866-669-5865). Our office will relay the message to you as soon as possible. A list of campgrounds (with contact information) is provided to each guest in their “Pre-Trip” packet.
5. **Cell Phones** – Most U.S. phones will work in Canada and Mexico but you will have to pay per-minute roaming fees. I have found Verizon and ATT to have the best coverage. Some carriers (Verizon, ATT, maybe others) have a Canada roaming plan that for a monthly fee will allow you to use your cell phone in Canada and pay no roaming fees. Pre-paid phones will probably NOT work in Canada and Mexico. Keep in mind that we will be traveling much of the time in remote areas where NO cell phone signals reach. Check with your service provider to find out what coverage you have.
6. **Smart Phones and Wireless Data Access Devices** - Many people like to stay in touch with smart phones and wireless data devices (laptops and tablets) for accessing email and the internet. These devices have NO data capability in Canada unless you subscribe with your carrier for data roaming. Expect to pay very high data rates for very limited usage. **TIP:** Turn off the cellular data capability on your smart phone before crossing the border to avoid data roaming fees that you may not know you are incurring. You will be able to connect your smart phones, laptops and tablets to campground Wi-Fi.
7. **Internet Access** - Most campgrounds provide some form of internet access. Wi-fi allows you to access the internet and e-mail wirelessly from the convenience of your RV. Most campgrounds provide Wi-fi as a free service. You will need an 802.11b Wi-fi card for your computer (all newer laptops have this feature built-in). If you have an older computer with no built-in Wi-fi, I recommend getting the 802.11g card as it is backward compatible with 802.11b and provides higher speeds. Check with your local electronics shop for the necessary equipment.
8. **Vehicle Lock** – On the Mexico tours, I highly recommend that you get a steering wheel lock for your vehicle. These devices clamp to your steering wheel after you park and disable the steering wheel so that the vehicle cannot be driven. One of the well-known brands is “The Club”. The generic brands work just as well.

What To Expect While On Your Adventure Trek

1. **The TrekMaster** – The TrekMaster is the leader of the caravan. The TrekMaster is responsible for making sure that all of our guests have a safe and enjoyable time while on our tours. The TrekMaster will organize all excursions and provide tickets to each guest. The TrekMaster will also resolve any problems encountered on the tour.
2. **The TailGunner** – The TailGunner travels in the back of the caravan to make sure that everyone makes it safely to the next campground. The TailGunner can do minor repairs to assist our guests if they break down while traveling. If the repair is beyond the TailGunner’s capabilities, the TailGunner will transport the guest to a local garage where assistance can be provided or help to arrange for towing.. The TailGunner will stay with the guest throughout the day until the repair is completed and the guest is able to travel again. If the repair will take a prolonged period of time, or if the repair requires an overnight stay, the TailGunner will be required to return to the caravan. The guest will then rejoin the caravan at their next opportunity after the repairs are made.
3. **Campground Check-in/Check-out** – On travel days, the TailGunner will check each guest out of the campground. The TailGunner will be the last to leave the campground. The TrekMaster will check each guest into the campground each evening. This procedure is designed to make sure that we do not have any missing guests. If we note a missing guest, we will notify the local authorities.
4. **Medical Emergencies** –You will be provided with a list of emergency contact numbers covering all of the areas where we travel. Please keep in mind that we will be traveling in areas where emergency care may be hours away.
5. **What If You Can’t Make It On Time To Our Rendezvous Campground?** – Please call the rendezvous campground and contact our office at 866-669-5865 and let us know that you will be delayed. You can join the caravan at a later date.
6. **The First Day** – On the rendezvous day, we will meet for an Orientation where we will provide your trip documents (“The Tour Guide”) that shows the route and daily activities. There will be many opportunities to get your questions answered during the meeting. On the Mexico Tours, please make an appointment with your TrekMaster to get your border crossing paperwork inspected and to get additional paperwork entered that will help speed the border crossing. It is best to arrive at the rendezvous campground early in the day (or the day before) to get the paperwork completed.
7. **“The Tour Guide”** – “The Tour Guide” is a document that provides your daily itinerary. You will receive a copy at the Orientation Meeting on the first night of the tour. In it you will find information on travel plans, daily activities, road conditions, maps, campground information, emergency contact information, emergency care, auto care facilities, churches, etc. The TrekMaster is available if your questions are not answered in “The Tour Guide”.
8. **Briefings** – We will schedule briefings to keep you informed of last-minute changes during our trip. Our staff is always ready to answer your questions. Please do not hesitate to approach the TrekMaster or TailGunner if you have questions at any time.
9. **Campgrounds** – We are constantly working to reserve campgrounds that provide full service for all of our guests but services will vary. The “Tour Guide” will alert you to upcoming campground facilities so that you are always prepared.
 - a. **In Canada/Alaska** – Many campgrounds provide full hookups (power, water and sewer). The power connections are mostly 30 amp service. A few provide 50 amp service and a few only provide 15 amp service. A few campgrounds do not provide sewer connections. A dump station is available. Some provide cable TV and wireless internet service. All provide shower and laundry facilities.
 - b. **In Mexico** – All campgrounds provide water and electric (15 amp only) with a dump station. It is not recommended to connect directly to the campground water system. The sites are

generally smaller than the US so smaller rigs are recommended. You should plan to use the shower facilities of your RV as most campgrounds are inadequate. Laundry is usually provided by campground staff.

- c. **Dry Camping** – Our tours may require 1-2 nights of dry camping. If you have a medical need for electricity every day/night of the tour, you should be prepared by bringing your own generator.

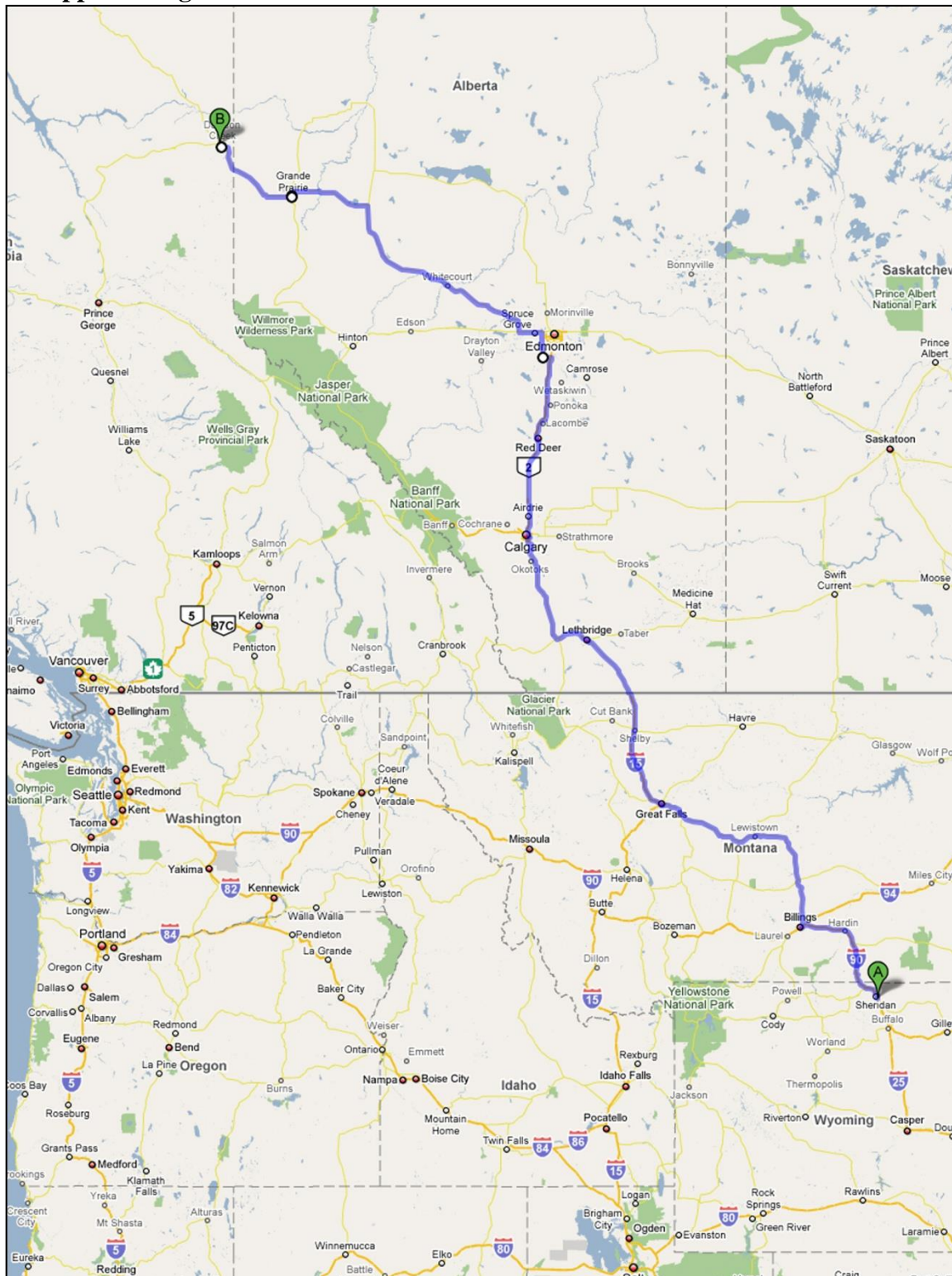
Depending on the size of the group and your arrival time at the campground, you may be provided fewer hookups or smaller sites than others due to campground limitations.

10. **Television Reception** – You will be able to get limited television reception using your RV antenna in major cities. A few of the campgrounds offer cable TV connections so don't forget to bring your cable connector for your RV. If you have a satellite system in your RV, contact your provider for information on reception along our route. Most satellite receivers stop working when we travel north of Whitehorse, YT, Canada.
11. **Daylight (Alaska Treks)** – Some people are surprised to learn that there is very little or no darkness at night during the summer months in Alaska. This causes most people no problems at all. Just don't wait for dark to go to sleep. Some people need the darkness to induce sleep. If you are in that category, prepare your RV by adding darkening curtains to your bedroom windows. Don't forget to block sunlight entering from the skylight!
12. **Fuel** – Fuel (gasoline, diesel and propane) is readily available along our route. The "Tour Guide" will provide additional information on recommended fuel stops and places where we have negotiated reduced rates for our guests. It is impossible to know the range (distance) of our guest's RVs. Please use the information in "The Tour Guide" to plan your fuel stops. The TailGunner can assist you if you should accidentally run out of fuel along the way.
13. **Traveling With Pets** – Pets are welcome on our tours and at the campgrounds. Please ask for and observe all campground rules. As a courtesy, we require that all pets be on a leash while outside of your RV. Please review all of the rules for transporting a pet across an international border so that you are well prepared. As a general rule, pets are not allowed to attend the events. On several occasions, we are away from the campground for extended periods of time. Pet sitting services are available at the campgrounds or nearby. **Be advised that you will be required to show proof of rabies vaccination and a "Health Certificate" when crossing international borders. See your vet to obtain the required paperwork.**
14. **Pet Sitting Service** - There are several occasions when we are away from the campground for extended times (6-8 hours). In those cases, there are options available to you. 1) The campgrounds usually have staff that will walk and/or feed your pet for a small fee. 2) There are usually nearby kennels where you can board your pet for the day. 3) Many times, our TailGunners are pet lovers and will walk and/or feed your pet when you are away. Please note that we do not offer this as a service. But, very often the TailGunners are more than happy to perform this function.
15. **Metric Conversion Information** – The Canada and Mexico use the metric system for all measures. You will see road distance signs in kilometers, speed signs in kilometers per hour and the weights of foods in the food stores will be expressed in kilograms. While this may be confusing at first, with a little practice and some "Rules of Thumb" you should have no problems at all. Appendix I (page 14) contains useful information on the metric system.
16. **Currency Conversion (Mexico and Canada)** – The best place for exchanging American dollars is at banks. However, they often charge a fee for the exchange. Try to anticipate your needs and exchange dollars as few times as possible to minimize the fees.
 - a. **In Canada** - Most establishments take credit cards like MasterCard, Discover and Visa. Please note that most US credit card companies are now charging a 2% conversion fee on top of the international exchange rate. However, it is still a small price to pay for the

- convenience. I recommend that you carry enough cash to pay for one tank of fuel at all times. This will cover the rare case where a service station's credit card machine is not functioning.
- b. **In Mexico** – Mexico is largely a “cash-only” economy. Check with your bank as to which ATMs in Mexico are best for withdrawing cash. Most businesses in Mexico accept US dollars but provide a very poor exchange rate so you will want a supply of pesos.
17. **Daily Travel Times And Distances** – Our trip planners have traveled these roads and are familiar with the difficulties you may encounter. We make every effort to schedule our nightly stops so that everyone can easily travel from one stop to the next allowing for time to see the sights along the way. You will find that the daily travel distances will vary based on expected road conditions. However, we cannot predict the weather and we cannot predict where maintenance crews will be causing delays.
18. **Vehicle Maintenance** – You should follow your vehicle manufacturer's recommendations for maintenance under “severe conditions”. Most of the major cities have shops that can do maintenance on most any type of vehicle. We do not know of any campgrounds that allow you to do oil changes at your site so don't plan on this.
19. **Food and Fuel Prices (Canada and Alaska)** – Be prepared to pay more. Food prices (especially fresh foods) are from 0%-20% higher. Fuel prices can be 0% to 30% higher than in the US. **Note: All of Canada and Alaska offer Ultra-low Sulfur Diesel.**
20. **Food and Fuel Prices (Mexico)** – Fresh vegetables and fruits are often less expensive than in the US. Grocery items are about the same price as the US. Fuel is about 30% cheaper. **Note: Ultra-low Sulfur Diesel is NOT currently available in Mexico.**
21. **Road Tolls (Mexico)** – We make extensive use of the toll roads in Mexico. The roads are usually in better condition and less crowded than the alternative (libre) roads. Tolls will be levied based on the number of axles you are traveling with. The toll booths near the US border (within 100 miles) will accept US dollars but you should be prepared with Mexican pesos for all of the other toll booths. Expect to pay \$400 to \$600 (US dollars) for tolls (depending on number of axles).
22. **Inspection Stops (Mexico)** – There are many agricultural and military inspection stops on the Mexico tours. Your vehicle may be searched. The agricultural inspections are designed to prevent the spread of plant diseases within Mexico. The military inspections are design to prevent the transportation of drugs into the US.

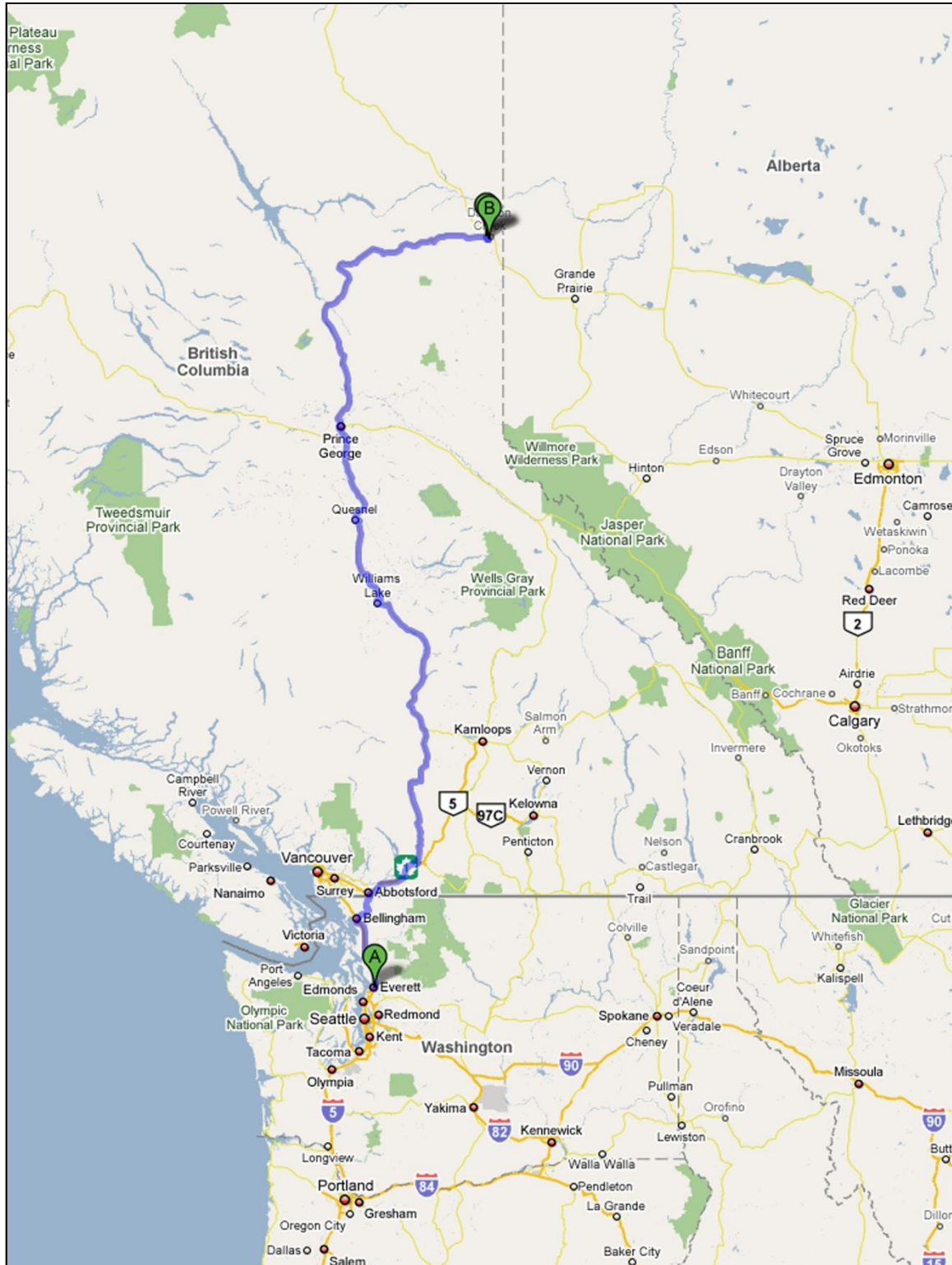
Travel to Your Alaska Adventure Trek

1. Approaching Dawson Creek from the East



Note: For detailed map and driving directions, please download GPS Data at: http://www.rvadventuretreks.com/Alaska_Waypoints.zip

2. Approaching Dawson Creek from the West



Note: For detailed map and driving directions, please download GPS Data at: <http://www.rvadventuretreks.com/Alaska Waypoints.zip>

Weather

Mazatlan, Mexico

Month	Average High	Average Low	Warmest Ever	Coldest Ever	Average Dew Point	Wet Days
Jan	80	57	90	45	58	3
Feb	80	56	93	41	57	1
Mar	81	57	95	45	58	1
Apr	84	61	97	41	61	0
May	86	66	97	46	65	1
Jun	89	76	99	63	72	3
Jly	90	77	100	66	75	13
Aug	91	77	97	64	76	13
Sep	90	76	100	66	76	11
Oct	89	73	97	50	73	3
Nov	86	64	95	46	65	2
Dec	82	60	95	45	61	3

Mexico City, Mexico

Month	Average High	Average Low	Warmest Ever	Coldest Ever	Average Dew Point	Average Precipitation
Jan	70	43	86	26	39	0.4
Feb	73	45	84	30	39	0.4
Mar	77	49	88	28	40	0.5
Apr	79	52	88	34	43	1.1
May	79	54	91	36	47	2.3
Jun	76	54	91	43	51	6.2
Jly	73	53	86	37	52	7.2
Aug	74	53	86	43	52	6.8
Sep	73	53	86	36	51	5.7
Oct	72	50	86	36	48	2.4
Nov	72	47	91	33	43	0.2
Dec	70	45	88	28	41	0.3

Halifax, Nova Scotia

Month	Average High	Average Low	Warmest Ever	Coldest Ever	Average Dew Point	Wet Days
Jan	29	14	54	-18	15	25
Feb	29	14	57	-17	16	21
Mar	36	22	64	-8	21	21
Apr	47	32	71	15	31	19
May	57	41	90	24	41	19
Jun	67	50	90	34	50	18
Jly	73	57	89	45	56	16

Month	Average High	Average Low	Warmest Ever	Coldest Ever	Average Dew Point	Wet Days
Aug	73	57	90	43	57	15
Sep	65	50	84	30	50	14
Oct	54	40	79	20	41	17
Nov	44	32	90	10	33	21
Dec	34	20	57	-9	22	25

Anchorage, Alaska

Month	Average High	Average Low	Warmest Ever	Coldest Ever	Average Dew Point	Average Precipitation
Jan	22	8	50	-34	8	0.8
Feb	25	11	48	-26	11	0.8
Mar	33	17	51	-24	15	0.7
Apr	43	28	65	-4	25	0.6
May	55	39	77	17	34	0.7
Jun	62	47	85	33	43	1.0
Jly	65	51	82	36	49	1.9
Aug	63	49	82	31	48	2.4
Sep	55	41	73	19	41	2.7
Oct	41	28	61	-5	27	1.9
Nov	28	15	53	-21	15	1.1
Dec	22	10	48	-30	10	1.1

Fairbanks, Alaska

Month	Average High	Average Low	Warmest Ever	Coldest Ever	Average Dew Point	Average Precipitation
Jan	0	-18	50	-61	-13	0.6
Feb	7	-14	47	-58	-11	0.4
Mar	24	-2	56	-49	1	0.4
Apr	42	20	74	-24	17	0.3
May	60	38	89	-1	31	0.6
Jun	70	49	96	30	44	1.4
Jly	72	52	94	34	50	1.9
Aug	66	46	93	23	47	1.8
Sept	54	35	84	3	35	1.0
Oct	32	17	65	-27	19	0.8
Nov	11	-4	48	-46	-1	0.7
Dec	1	-15	44	-62	-13	0.8

Appendix I

How Fast Can I Drive In Canada/Mexico?

The following is a "Rule Of Thumb" for calculating the miles per hour (mph) equivalent for the speed limit signs in Canada which are shown in kilometers per hour (kph).

Divide kph by 3 and multiply times 2. Let's say you see a speed limit sign in Canada that is 100 kph. Divide by 3 to get 33.3. Then multiply times 2 to get 66.6 mph. This is a rough equivalent, useful if you don't have a speedometer that shows kph.

The table below gives more exact conversions.

kph	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
mph	6	12	19	25	31	37	44	50	56	62

How Far Is It In Canada/Mexico?

In Canada the distance signs are printed in kilometers.

"Rule Of Thumb"	Divide kilometers by 3 and multiply times 2. Let's say you see a distance sign in Canada that is 100 kilometers. Divide by 3 to get 33.3. Then multiply times 2 to get 66.6 miles.
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To get the exact distance in miles, multiply kilometers by 0.6214. So 100 kilometers is exactly 62.14 miles. But who carries a calculator while driving!

How Much Hamburger Do I Buy In Canada?

When you go into a food store in Canada/Mexico, the prices for meats and vegetables are printed in dollars per kilogram. How do you convert that to dollars per pound? And, what is the price in US dollars?

"Rule Of Thumb"	Divide the price per kilogram by 2. If the price per kilogram for hamburger is \$4 Canadian per kilogram, the price per pound is approximately \$2 Canadian.
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The exact price can be calculated by dividing the price per kilogram by 2.2046. So, if the price per kilogram is \$4 Canadian, then the price per pound is exactly \$1.81 Canadian. Kind of expensive, maybe.

What is the cost in US dollars? - The conversion rate at the time this page was created was 1.6. That means each US dollar is worth \$1.60 Canadian. To calculate the US dollar equivalent, divide the Canadian dollars by the exchange rate (1.6). In our example, \$1.81 per pound Canadian is \$1.13 per pound US. Not really as expensive as it first seems.

"Rule Of Thumb"	Divide Canadian dollars by 3 and multiply by 2 to get US Dollars when the exchange rate is 1.6. In the above example for hamburger, we roughly calculated the cost per pound at \$2 Canadian. Applying the rough calculation for conversion (\$2 Canadian divided by 3 = 0.66 times 2) is \$1.32 US . That's pretty close to the exact amount of \$1.13 US. Not bad if you don't have a calculator handy.
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How Much is Fuel In Canada?

Buying fuel in Canada can be quite confusing to those of us that live in the "Lower 48". Prices are shown in Canadian dollars per liter. I will show you exactly how to calculate the cost in US dollars. There is no easy way to do this. You will need a calculator and the US/Canadian exchange rate. Also, I have included a way of calculating how many liters your fuel tank holds.

Let's say you are pulling in for fuel and you notice that the pump shows \$0.76 per liter. You fill the tank and it takes 120 liters at a cost of \$91.20. How much is that per gallon? How much is that in US dollars per gallon? How many US dollars did this fuel cost you if the US/Canadian exchange rate is 1.6?

How Much Is That Per Gallon? - The pump shows \$0.76 per liter. There are 3.7854 liters per gallon. So, \$0.76 times 3.7854 is \$2.88 per gallon.

How Much is That In US Dollars Per Gallon? - If the exchange rate is 1.6, divide the cost per gallon in Canadian dollars by 1.6. So \$2.88 per gallon Canadian equals \$1.80 per gallon US.

How many US dollars did this fuel cost? - If the exchange rate is 1.6, divide the Canadian dollars by 1.6. So the total fuel bill of \$91.20 Canadian equals \$57.00 US.

By the way, 120 liters is 31.7 gallons (120 divided by 3.7854).

How Many Liters Does My Fuel Tank Hold? - To calculate liters multiply gallons by 3.7854. So, if your fuel tank holds 50 gallons, that would be 189.27 liters.

How Cold Is It In Canada/Mexico?

Those Canadians like to announce their temperature in Celsius. This can be quite confusing to people that are use to hearing temperature expressed in Fahrenheit.

The formula for converting Celsius to Fahrenheit is: $Fahrenheit = 1.8 \text{ times Celsius} + 32$

The following is a table of common temperatures:

Celsius	Fahrenheit	Celsius	Fahrenheit	Celsius	Fahrenheit
0	32	16	61	32	90
1	34	17	63	33	91
2	36	18	64	34	93
3	37	19	66	35	95
4	39	20	68	36	97
5	41	21	70	37	99
6	43	22	72	38	100
7	45	23	73	39	102
8	46	24	75	40	104
9	48	25	77	41	106
10	50	26	79	42	108
11	52	27	81	43	109
12	54	28	82	44	111
13	55	29	84	45	113
14	57	30	86	46	115
15	59	31	88	47	117

Appendix II

The following are post offices along our route in case you want to have mail forwarded. You can also have your mail sent to any of the campgrounds in which we stay. Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery to Alaska and Canada. It is NOT recommended to have mail forwarded to Mexico.

Alaska	Canada - West	Canada - East
Anchorage 3721 B St. Anchorage, AK 99503-9998 Phone: 800-275-8777	Historic Post Office 3 rd Ave. and King St. Dawson City, YT Phone: 867-993-7200	Annapolis Royal Post Office 54 Victoria St Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0 Phone: 800-267-1177
Fairbanks 4025 Geist Rd. Fairbanks, AK 99709-3552 Phone: 800-275-8777	Dawson Creek Stn. Main 10516 10 th St. Dawson Creek, BC V1G 3T0 Phone: 800-267-1177	Baddeck Post Office 485 Chebucto St Baddeck, NS B0E 1B0 Phone: 800-267-1177
Hyder 100 Hyder Ave. Hyder, AK 99923 Phone: 250-636-2662	Fort Nelson Post Office 5007 Airport Dr. Fort Nelson, BC V0C 1R0 Phone: 800-267-1177	Bedford Post Office (Halifax) 1658 Bedford Hwy Bedford, NS B4A 2X0 Phone: 800-267-1177
Seward 507 Madison Ave. Seward, AK 99664 Phone: 800-275-8777	Prince George Stn. A 1323 5 th Ave. Prince George, BC V2L 3L0 Phone 800-267-1177	Albert Post Office (Moncton) 5883 King St Albert, NB E4H 4B0 Phone: 800-267-1177
Valdez Gelena & Tatitlek St. Valdez, AK 99686 Phone: 800-275-8777	Smithers Post Office 3738 3 rd Ave. Smithers, BC V0J 2N0 Phone: 800-267-1177	North Sydney Stn Main 17 Archibald Ave North Sydney, NS B2A 2W0 Phone: 800-267-1177
	Watson Lake Post Office Watson Lake, YT Y0A 1C0 Phone: 800-267-1177	Rocky Harbour Post Office General Delivery Rocky Harbour, NL A0K 4N0 Phone: 800-267-1177
	Shoppers Drug Mart #0299 Mainstreet P.O. 100-211 Main St. Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C0 Phone: 800-267-1177	St Andrews Stn Main 201 Water St St. Andrews, NB E5B 2X0 Phone: 800-267-1177
		St Anthony Po 261 West St St Anthony, NL A0K 4S0 Phone: 800-267-1177
		Saint John Area Stn Main 125 Rothesay Ave Saint John, NB E2L 2B0 Phone: 800-267-1177

Appendix III – RV Travel in Canada

These Canadian provincial and territorial trailer towing requirements were in effect in early 1999 and are subject to change periodically. Check with the appropriate government regulatory body for current legal regulations. These regulations apply to all towed vehicles (travel trailers, 5th wheels and vehicles towed behind Motor Homes).

Newfoundland

LENGTH: Combination length, 23m/75ft

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.1m/13'5"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights are required. Turn signals (unless trailer is less than 30 inches in width) and reflectors are also needed. Clearance lights are needed if the trailer is more than 2.05m/6'7" in width or the trailer is more than 6m in length.

BRAKES: Independent braking system needed where gross weight exceeds 4,500kg/9,923lb or two or more axles are used on the trailer.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

Prince Edward Island

LENGTH: Combination length, 23m/75ft; trailer length, 16.2m/53'2".

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.5m/14'8"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights are required. Clearance and side lamp markers, turn signals and reflectors are also needed.

BRAKES: Independent braking system where gross vehicle weight exceeds 1,500kg/3,308lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

OTHER: A ball hitch mounted on the bumper is permitted. Left and right mirrors are required.

Nova Scotia

LENGTH: Combination length, 23m/75ft; trailer length, 14.65m/48'1".

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: If the trailer is constructed in such a way as the brake and turn signals of the towing vehicle cannot be seen, brake and turn signal lights must be equipped on the trailer. Reflectors are not specified.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required where gross weight of load and vehicle exceeds 1,800kg/3,969lb. Breakaway brakes are required on all trailers with a registered weight of over 1,350kg/2,977lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

OTHER: Two mirrors are needed when view is obstructed and must give a clear view 60m/197ft to rear.

Extended mirrors must be removed when not towing. Ball hitches mounted on the bumper are not permitted.

New Brunswick

LENGTH: Combination length, 21m/69ft; trailer length, 16.2m/53ft.

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake, clearance lights and side markers and license plate lights are required. Reflectors are also required. Turn signals are only needed when those of the towing unit are obscured by the trailer.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required where gross weight exceeds 1.5 tons/1,500kg/3,308lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)
OTHER: Mirrors must give unobstructed view 60m/197ft to rear.

Quebec

LENGTH: Combination length, 23m/75ft; trailer length, 16.2m/53ft.

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights and required, as are reflectors. Driver must clearly signal their intention to turn, slow down or stop. Such signals can be given by hand or mechanical device, thus making electric turn signals an option. All trailers 1.8m/5'9" or longer require one amber light near each of the front corners of the trailer and one red light near each of the rear corners of the trailer.

BRAKES: Independent braking system is required in each weight bearing wheel where gross weight exceeds 1,300kg/2,867lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): All trailers without an automatic brake-system must be equipped with chains, cables or other sufficient safety devices.

OTHER: Left and right rearview mirrors are required.

Northwest Territories

LENGTH: Combination length, 21m/69ft

WIDTH: not specified

HEIGHT: not specified

LIGHTING: Tail (two) and brake (two) lights are required, as are turn signals.

BRAKES: Required if gross laden weight of trailer is 1,360kg/2,999lb or over, or if gross laden weight of trailer exceeds 50% of gross laden weight of towing vehicle.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): not specified

OTHER: Two side view mirrors are required on a towing vehicle when rear view is obstructed by the trailer.

Ontario

LENGTH: Combination length, 25m/82ft; length of any vehicle, including load, 12.5m/41ft

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights and required, as are reflectors. Turn signals are needed if combination exceeds 6m/19'7" in length.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required where gross weight equals or exceeds 1,350kg/2,977lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

Manitoba

LENGTH: Combination length, 21.5m/71ft; trailer length 12.5m/41ft.

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights are required, as are turn signals and reflectors.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required where gross weight exceeds 910kg/2,007lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

OTHER: Interior and left exterior mirrors are needed when towed loads are wider than the towing vehicle.

Saskatchewan

LENGTH: Combination length, 23m/75ft; trailer length, 16.2m/53ft

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: Brake, tail and turn signal lights are required.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required where gross weight exceeds 1,350kg/2,977lb.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

OTHER: The hitch must be connected by a safe clevis or catch. Ball hitches mounted on bumpers are allowed up to 1,400kg/3,087lb.

Alberta

LENGTH: Combination length, 20m/66ft

WIDTH: Trailer width, 8'6"; mobile living accommodations, 3.05m/10ft.

HEIGHT: 4m/13'1.5"

LIGHTING: Tail (two), brake (two) and license plate lights are required. Turn signals, clearance and side markers are also required.

BRAKES: If gross laden weight of trailer is 909kg/2,004lb or over, or if gross trailer weight is over half that of the unit, independent braking system is required.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

OTHER: Two side view mirrors are required on towing vehicles where rearview is obstructed by the trailer.

British Columbia

LENGTH: Combination length, 20m/66ft; trailer length, 12.5m/41ft.

WIDTH: 8'6"

HEIGHT: 4.15m/13'6"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights are required. Turn signals are needed if the towing vehicle's signals are obstructed. Reflectors are needed. If the trailer is over 2.05m/6'7" wide, two red clearance lamps on each side of the rear are required, as are two amber clearance lights near the front.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required where gross weight exceeds 1,400kg/3,087lb or one-half licensed weight of towing vehicle.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

Yukon Territory

LENGTH: Combination length, 21.5m/71ft

WIDTH: 8'2"

HEIGHT: 4.2m/13'7"

LIGHTING: Tail, brake and license plate lights are required. Turn signals are needed if the towing vehicle's signals are obstructed by the trailer, or if the trailer is over 203cm/80" wide. Reflectors are required if trailer is over 203cm/80" wide. One amber reflector on each side of front and one red reflector on each side of rear are then needed.

BRAKES: Independent braking system required if gross weight exceeds 910kg/2,007lb or one-half licensed weight of towing vehicle.

SAFETY CHAIN(S): yes (not required for 5th wheel trailers)

OTHER: Left and right mirrors are require