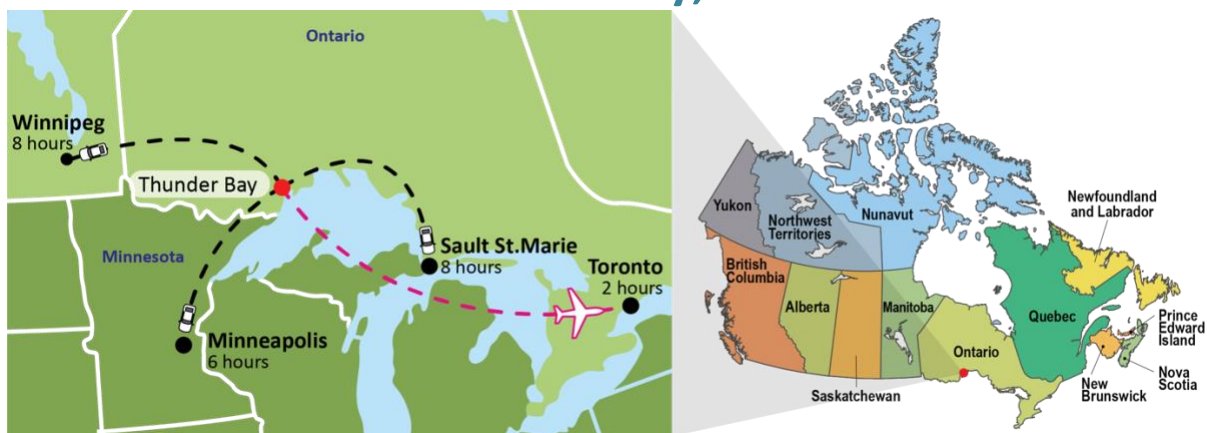


#Welcome Afghans



Welcome Home – Thunder Bay, Ontario



Population: 123,258 people (2021 census)

(includes many South and West Asians, Arabs and Afghans)

About the area

The [City of Thunder Bay](#)¹

- is located in the northwest of the province of Ontario
- has an international airport and is a regional hub for Northern Ontario

Thunder Bay has a significant Indigenous population and the city is growing more diverse as new immigrants arrive. Thunder Bay is situated on the coast of Lake Superior, with breathtaking views, incredible hiking trails, and [spectacular provincial parks](#).

Thunder Bay enjoys four seasons. [Winters](#) are cold and snowy with an average daily low temperature of -18°C in January. Summers are warm with an average daily high of 24°C in July.

¹ All provided here are in English only.





Aerial view of Thunder Bay, Ontario on Lake Superior in summer.

Indigenous land acknowledgement

[Indigenous peoples](#) have lived in Canada since before European settlers and explorers arrived. Thunder Bay is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and Métis Peoples, and Fort William First Nation, signatory of the Robinson Superior Treaty.



Canada Day, cultural festival.

Living, working and going to school

Thunder Bay is a great place to work, do business, study, and live a fulfilling life.

You can find jobs in industries such as

- mining
- education
- transportation
- health

As of January 2023, the [official minimum wage of Ontario](#) is \$15.50 an hour. Thunder Bay is a great place to develop careers, do business, study, and live a fulfilling life.

Housing costs vary. The [average price to buy a single-family house](#) is approximately \$700,000. [Renting a 2-bedroom apartment](#) could cost approximately \$1,200 a month.

Learn more about renting and tenants' rights from the [Government of Ontario](#).

There are many [schools](#), [daycares](#), and after-school programs in both English and French. In Canada, students usually go to school from kindergarten (age 3 or 4) to grade 12 (age 17 or 18). After that, they can go to college or university or start working.

Ontario has 23 [universities](#), with the following within 100 kilometres driving distance of Thunder Bay

- [Lakehead University](#)
- [Northern Ontario School of Medicine](#)

There are also [many colleges](#) where you can study in Ontario. The following is within 100 kilometres driving distance of Thunder Bay

- [Confederation College](#)

Known as one of the main hockey towns in Canada, Thunder Bay also offers a range of other sports, such as

- [curling](#)
- [tennis](#)
- [golf](#)
- [swimming](#)
- [track and field](#)

Find out more about recreation organizations from [Thunder Bay City](#).

The area is known for its active [arts and culture](#) scene including

- concerts
- [festivals](#)
- musicals
- [theatrical productions](#)
- other [events](#)

You can enjoy [public parks](#), campgrounds and other [activities](#) in the [summer](#), and skiing, sledding and skating in the winter.

Religious and cultural associations

Under the [Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms](#), you can practise the religion of your choice in Canada. Your service provider organization can help connect you to local ethno-cultural and multicultural associations in Thunder Bay.

Specialty foods

Several grocery stores in the area sell international goods. Most major supermarkets and many Middle Eastern grocery stores also sell halal meat. Your service provider organization can help you find the store closest to you.

Useful information for newcomers

More resources to help you settle in the area

- [Welcome to Canada: Publications for newcomers](#)
- [Find free newcomer services near you](#)
- [Immigrating and Settling in Canada](#)
- [City of Thunder Bay](#)
- [Thunder Bay Multicultural Association](#)
- [Diversity Thunder Bay](#)
- [Search 211 - Community, Health and Government Services | 211 Ontario North \(211north.ca\)](#)