

# Alberta's Tourism & Hospitality Industry



Alberta's tourism and hospitality industry is a major contributor to the province's economy. It is a more than \$5 billion industry, employing more than 109,000 people and attracting millions of visitors each year.

The industry is broad with many employment opportunities in establishments that provide short-term lodging; food and beverage; recreation and entertainment; travel and transportation services throughout the province. Businesses in Alberta's tourism and hospitality industry range from small, family-run establishments to international hotels and mountain park resort chains. Other industry establishments include convention centers, restaurants, universities and cafeterias.

## Why Alberta?

Part-time and seasonal work opportunities are available and may appeal to young adults looking to gain international work and travel experience, and improve their English. Summer employment is available for International Experience Canada participants, International Students and Open Work Permit Holders. The industry also welcomes newcomers to Alberta by providing an entry-point into the provincial labour market and the opportunity to gain valuable work experience.

## Useful websites:

### Associations:

Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association: [www.ahla.ca](http://www.ahla.ca)  
 Canadian Restaurant and Foodservices Association: [www.crfa.ca](http://www.crfa.ca)  
 Hotel Association of Canada: [www.hotelassociation.ca](http://www.hotelassociation.ca)  
 Canadian Federation of Independent Business: [www.cfib.ca](http://www.cfib.ca)

### Finding a Job in Alberta:

Alberta and Regional Job Banks:  
[www.alis.alberta.ca/employment/jobpostings/ab.asp](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/employment/jobpostings/ab.asp)  
 Jobs in Alberta: [www.AlbertaCanada.com/jobs](http://www.AlbertaCanada.com/jobs)  
 Service Canada Job Bank: [www.jobbank.gc.ca](http://www.jobbank.gc.ca)

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[www.AlbertaCanada.com/immigration](http://www.AlbertaCanada.com/immigration)

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## Competitive wages

The average wage in the tourism and hospitality industry is \$14 per hour (as of 2009). The chart below outlines some examples of current wage rates.

Occupation	Average hourly wage			Average annual salary
	Starting	Overall	Top	
Restaurant manager	\$15.32	\$17.87	\$21.32	\$38,619
Hotel clerk	\$11.58	\$12.80	\$14.99	\$24,380
Chefs	\$15.15	\$17.35	\$22.01	\$35,352

Data source: 2009 Alberta wage and salary survey

Many workers in the industry are also able to supplement their wages with tips and enjoy perks such as meals, accommodation and travel at reduced costs.

## Occupations in tourism and hospitality:

### Hotel and Lodging:

- Hosts / Hostesses
- Hotel Front Desk Agents / Clerks
- Housekeeping Attendants

### Restaurant & Food Services:

- Bartenders
- Cooks / Chefs
- Food & Beverage Servers
- Food Counter Attendants
- Food Service Supervisors
- Restaurant Managers
- Kitchen Helpers

## Government Websites:

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training:  
[www.tradesecrets.alberta.ca](http://www.tradesecrets.alberta.ca)

Alberta Provincial Nominee Program: [www.AlbertaCanada.com/ainp](http://www.AlbertaCanada.com/ainp)

Alberta Wage and Salary information: [www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo)

Citizenship and Immigration Canada: [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)

Travel Alberta: [www.travelalberta.com](http://www.travelalberta.com)



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