



USA

Refugees and the Border



Canada

Roxham Road is no longer a place where people can freely enter Canada to make a refugee claim.

Entering Canada at an official port of entry



According to the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA), many people are not allowed to enter Canada from the US by making a refugee claim. There are exceptions that allow some people to enter Canada under the STCA.

Find out if you meet an exception to the STCA:



or



If you make a refugee claim at the U.S.-Canada border without proof of an STCA exception, you will get an exclusion order and be ineligible to ever have a refugee hearing in Canada.

There are also other eligibility rules. You should **get legal advice** to check your eligibility and to make sure you have the right documents **before you go to an official port of entry**.

Entering Canada between official ports of entry



Crossing the border using unofficial routes is **dangerous**



There may be marshes, rivers, and streams



The weather may be very cold and there may be deep snow in winter



You may lose cell phone service and may be unable to call for help



Police and border agents watch the area near the border

If you are caught in the first 14 days after you enter Canada irregularly, you may be **sent back to the US** without a refugee hearing. After 14 days you can make a refugee claim, but you should have the help of a lawyer.

If you are caught in the US or sent back to the US, you will likely be put in **immigration detention**.