



Discover

Parks Canada



Rideau Canal National Historic Site



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada



welcome TO ONTARIO

Exploring these unique Parks Canada administered destinations is both a privilege and a responsibility. With more than 20 million visitors per year, it's important to plan ahead for your visit and be considerate of the protection of these special places. Visit our website to get started.

Your story starts here!
parks.canada.ca/visit



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Featured itineraries
- 4 Day trips from Toronto
- 5 Science and conservation
- 6 Camping and accommodations
- 8 Staff favourites
- 9 Map of sites in Ontario
- 10 Directory of activities and services

40 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

5 NATIONAL PARKS

2 NATIONAL MARINE CONSERVATION AREAS

1 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

3 DARK-SKY PRESERVES

1 NATIONAL URBAN PARK

70+ RED CHAIRS
#SHARETHECHAIR



ROAD TRIPS AND ITINERARIES



“BACKYARD” FAMILY FUN

Explore lush forests, sandy beaches, and ancient cultural sites on this 3-day family getaway. Climb aboard a historic warship, and even take part in a musket-firing experience. This adventure combines nature, history, and hands-on activities and is ideal for families looking to explore and enjoy the outdoors while learning about Canada’s past.

3 DAYS

Departs from **Toronto**

🚗 **305 km** round trip

Locations:

- ◆ Rouge National Urban Park
- ◆ HMCS *Haida* and Fort George National Historic Sites



DISCOVER CORNERS OF PARADISE

Explore beautiful landscapes, historic sites, and serene waters during this week-long escape. Paddle through scenic waterways, hike along picturesque trails, and immerse yourself in the history of early settlers and famous historical figures. A perfect blend of outdoor adventures and cultural experiences.

7 DAYS

Departs from **Ottawa**

🚗 **420 km** round trip

Locations:

- ◆ Thousand Islands National Park
- ◆ Fort Wellington, Bellevue House, Rideau Canal and Laurier House National Historic Sites



A SUPERIOR ROAD TRIP

Set off on a 7-day road trip filled with nature, history, and adventure. Paddle through scenic waters, explore rugged shorelines, and hike through breathtaking landscapes, all while learning about local Indigenous culture. This itinerary offers a blend of outdoor exploration, cultural discovery, and unique camping experiences, perfect for those seeking a deep connection with nature and history.

7 DAYS

Departs from **Sudbury**

🚗 **1 735 km** round trip

Locations:

- ◆ Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area
- ◆ Pukaskwa National Park
- ◆ Fort St. Joseph and Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Sites

Travelling to Ontario offers a diverse blend of vibrant cities, scenic landscapes, spectacular coastlines and cultural landmarks. Whether you're exploring cosmopolitan hubs or getting lost in nature, Ontario offers a perfect mix of excitement and tranquility.



WEEKEND ESCAPE

Escape the city for a 3-day weekend getaway filled with outdoor adventures and historical discoveries. Enjoy local cuisine along a scenic waterway, relax on an island with campfires and starry skies, and hike through rugged landscapes. Learn about a famous historical figure, and take in views of the area's engineering marvels. Perfect for families or couples looking for a mix of nature and culture.

3 DAYS

Departs from **Toronto**

🚗 **430 km round trip**

Locations:

- 📍 Georgian Bay Islands National Park
- 📍 Trent—Severn Waterway and Bethune Memorial House National Historic Sites

EXPLORE THE ST. LAWRENCE

Set out on a 3-day journey along the St. Lawrence River, filled with history and adventure. Learn to fire a cannon at a historic fort, paddle through scenic islands, and visit a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This trip offers a mix of action and relaxation, perfect for families or history lovers.

3 DAYS

Departs from **Ottawa**

🚗 **410 km round trip**

Locations:

- 📍 Thousand Islands National Park
- 📍 Fort Wellington, Fort Henry and Bellevue House National Historic Sites

Scan for full road trip and itinerary details, as well as other travel ideas in Ontario



DAY TRIPS FROM TORONTO

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES OR PARKS ALL WITHIN 2 HOURS OF THE CITY



Rouge

National Urban Park

40 minutes 1 hour

- Discover Canada's first national urban park! Full of amazing hiking opportunities, join a guided walk and learn about the park's rare forests, restored wetlands, farm landscapes and stunning fall colours.



HMCS Haida

National Historic Site

1 hour 1.5 hours

- Explore the decks and imagine yourself as a crew member on the world's last surviving Tribal Class destroyer ship.



Woodside

National Historic Site

1.5 hours 2 hours

- Tour the preserved Victorian childhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King filled with heirlooms and historic trinkets, then wander the grounds to discover 4.65 hectares of wooded areas, gardens, lawns, and serene pathways.



Fort George

National Historic Site

1.5 hours

- Head to the Niagara Peninsula and tour the principal fortification during the war of 1812. Enter the gates and explore the Soldiers' Barracks or tap your toes to the marching tunes of the 41st Regiment Fife and Drum Corps.
- Head to nearby Queenston Heights National Historic Site to climb the 235 circular steps to the top of Brock's Monument for a spectacular view of the Niagara Frontier.



Trent-Severn Waterway

National Historic Site

2 hours

- Drive to one of the 42 lockstations along the system and marvel at these historic structures still operating today.
- See the Peterborough Lift Lock rise high into the air, watch the Big Chute Marine Railway carry boats over the roadway, or plan a picnic in the heart of a cottage town.



Find more day trips, weekend getaway ideas and week-long itineraries at parks.canada.ca/travel-ontario





CONSERVING

FOR THE FUTURE



FEATURED STORY

THE CHALLENGE

How can we address the decline of reptiles and amphibians in southern Ontario? Working together to make roads safer for wildlife is one of the best ways to help.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Parks Canada works with Indigenous communities, volunteers, universities, and other conservation groups to build eco-passages and track the movements of animals between important habitats. They also protect turtle nests from traffic and predators and increase turtle hatchling survival rates with egg incubation programs. Visitors have the opportunity to play an important role in the protection of these animals by obeying traffic signs and reporting wildlife sightings in the free iNaturalist app.

THE RESULT

Since 2020, over 8 000 animals have been documented using 5 eco-passages, 800 nest boxes have been installed with volunteers, and over 8 000 baby turtles have been released with partners.



GET INVOLVED

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

Learning more is the first step! Get the inside scoop on what scientists are doing to maintain and protect these special places across Canada. Don't miss the *Field Notes* vlogs, *Climate Crew* series or the *Connected* podcast.

Take conservation into your own hands and **participate in citizen science activities**. Record your observations of plants and animals in the iNaturalist app, take a "Coastie" to help monitor coastal changes, clean up shorelines, and more!



Learn more and get involved
parks.canada.ca/science-involved





STAYING THE NIGHT?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED



TENT AND RV CAMPING

Stay close to nature at one of our wonderful campsites – at your preferred comfort level.

Available in Pukaskwa, Bruce Peninsula, Georgian Bay Islands and Thousand Islands National Parks; Fathom Five National Marine Park; and Trent-Severn Waterway and Rideau Canal National Historic Sites.



BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING

The ultimate overnight adventure: just you, your tent and the great outdoors – far from the beaten path.

Available in Pukaskwa, Bruce Peninsula and Georgian Bay Islands National Parks.



ÔASIS

Spend the night under a natural canopy and fall asleep admiring the stars! This tear drop shaped accommodation has a bench that converts into a bed and a suspended hammock loft. Treat yourself to a drop of heaven for the night.

Available in Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site.

Reserve today as
spots book quickly!





oTENTik

The perfect mix of tent and A-frame cabin comes together in our oTENTik with its raised floors and cozy beds; great for campers who want a little extra comfort in the wild.

Available in Point Pelee, Pukaskwa, Georgian Bay Islands and Thousand Islands National Parks; and in Trent–Severn Waterway and Rideau Canal National Historic Sites.



CABIN

Cottage life at its best with a rustic home-away-from-home in the woods. A hassle-free camping experience with a bit more privacy than the campground. Sweet dreams for happy campers.

Available in Georgian Bay Islands National Park and in Trent–Severn Waterway National Historic Site.



YURT

Live life without corners in a circular yurt! This traditional dwelling of Central Asian nomads is just right for a night of camping with a dash of homelike comfort.

Available in Bruce Peninsula National Park.



HISTORIC STAY

Immerse yourself in one of Canada's national treasures with a very special overnight stay in truly historic surroundings.

Davis Lockmaster's House, Newboro Canalman's Cottage and Beveridges Lockmaster's House are available in Rideau Canal National Historic Site.



OVERNIGHT MOORING

Have a unique nautical experience by mooring your boat in one of Canada's historic canals. Relax and enjoy nearby activities.

Available in Georgian Bay Islands National Park and Trent–Severn Waterway and Rideau Canal National Historic Sites.



STAFF FAVOURITES

Get the inside scoop on the very best way to enjoy parks and sites from Parks Canada pros!



Jared
Heritage presentation

HISTORY IN THE HEAT

Among my favourite experiences at **Woodside National Historic Site** is the original Victorian wood burning stove. Nothing is quite as evocative of the Victorian period as the crackle and warmth of the fire and the fresh smell of smoke in the air. Demonstrating how to start and operate the stove always puts a smile on visitors faces and is the highlight of my day.



Jennifer
Product development

GO TO THE SHORE TRAIL

Mdaabii Miikna... It's a magical trail in **Pukaskwa National Park!** From its 360° views of Lake Superior's pristine coastline to the brilliant green hues of its mossy inland terrain, I'm always enchanted by this wilderness trek.



Corrine
Visitor experience

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS AND MORE

One feature you can't miss at **Fort Malden National Historic Site** is the incredible view of the Detroit River. You can easily find a spot along the riverbank to chat with friends and family. The river has been used by First Nations for 6 000 years for travel, trade and resource gathering and it is the only North American river with both Canadian and American heritage designation. I enjoy watching the variety of pleasure boats and working ships pass by and imagining the sailing ships of the past.










DIRECTORY ONTARIO












● National Park
 ● National Historic Site
 ● National Marine Conservation Area
 ● National Urban Park
















SERVICES

-  Access for persons with reduced mobility
-  Restaurant
-  Gift shop
-  Picnic area/Shelter
-  Playground
-  Wi-Fi (in certain areas only)
-  Equipment rental (varies by site)

ACCOMODATION

-  Camping
-  Recreational vehicle
-  oTENTik
-  Yurt
-  Cabin
-  Historic stay
-  Overnight Mooring
-  Equipped camping
-  Oasis

ACTIVITIES

-  Interpretation
-  Cycling
-  Mountain biking
-  Backpacking/Hiking
-  Birdwatching
-  Beach
-  Canoeing/Kayaking
-  Motorboating
-  Fishing
-  Scuba diving
-  Winter activities
-  Dark-Sky Preserve
-  Xplorers activities
-  Mobile guided tours
-  Red chairs



1 Pukaskwa

A wilderness woven with Canadian Shield, enriched by Anishinaabe First Nations culture.

DON'T MISS

- Taking in an impressive view, high above a waterfall on the White River Suspension Bridge Trail.
- Exploring rocky nooks and paddle along crystal-clear waters.



Heron Bay – 320 km from Thunder Bay; 410 km from Sault Ste. Marie | 807-229-0801
parks.canada.ca/pukaskwa | @PukaskwaNP #PukaskwaNP

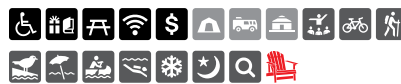


2 Bruce Peninsula

The park boasts limestone coasts, mixed-wood forests, cliffside cedars and blue waters of Georgian Bay.

DON'T MISS

- Hiking along some of the most challenging and spectacular parts of the Bruce Trail.
- Enjoying family camping along the shores of Cyprus Lake.



Tobermory – 295 km from Toronto
519-596-2233
parks.canada.ca/bruce | @BrucePNP



3 Point Pelee

For more than a century, Point Pelee has protected its unique southern flora and fauna.

DON'T MISS

- Paddling the wetlands on a freighter canoe excursion and look for beavers and muskrats.
- Exploring the entire park by bike on winding trails through lush forests.



Leamington | 519-322-2365
parks.canada.ca/pelee | @PointPeleeNP #PointPeleeNP



4 Georgian Bay Islands

Part of the world's largest freshwater archipelago, home to thousands of years of Indigenous history.

DON'T MISS

- Exploring Beausoleil Island, the largest of 63 idyllic boat-only access islands.
- Hiking rugged trails or joining one of many interpretive experiences.



Honey Harbour – 165 km from Toronto
705-526-8907
parks.canada.ca/gbi | @GBINP

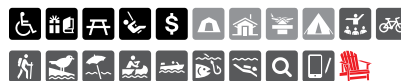


5 Thousand Islands

Islands and inlets to explore along the St. Lawrence River.

DON'T MISS

- Island-hopping via kayak or canoe through a vibrant freshwater biosphere.
- Getting a breath of fresh air on the trails at Mallorytown Landing, Jones Creek or Landons Bay.



Mallorytown – 135 km from Ottawa; 230 km from Montreal, QC; 320 km from Toronto
613-923-5261
parks.canada.ca/ti | @TINationalPark



6 Sault Ste. Marie Canal

Once the longest lock in the world and the first to operate using electricity.

DON'T MISS

- Learning about the canal and the significance of the area to the Anishinaabe and Métis people in the new exhibit.
- Enjoying over 3 km of trails through wetlands by foot or fatbike.



Sault Ste. Marie | 705-941-6205
parks.canada.ca/sault | @SaultCanalNHS #SaultCanal



Grab your **souvenirs** at one of our gift shops or at parkscanadashop.ca



7 Fort St. Joseph

Explore the remains of a thriving community of soldiers, Indigenous People and fur traders during the early 1800s.

DON'T MISS

- Experiencing life at the fort through daily heritage demonstrations.
- Winding through forested trails on foot or fatbike to Lake Huron's edge.



Hilton Beach | 705-246-2664

parks.canada.ca/joseph | [@FortStJosephNHS](https://twitter.com/FortStJosephNHS)
[#FortStJoseph](https://twitter.com/FortStJosephNHS)



8 Fort Malden

The principal military station for the defence of the western frontier.

DON'T MISS

- Getting a bang out of Fort Malden and firing a Brown Bess musket – an authentic 1812 experience.
- Experiencing heritage cooking, blacksmithing and gardening demonstrations while exploring historic buildings from the original fort.



Amherstburg | 519-736-5416

parks.canada.ca/fortmalden | [#FortMalden](https://twitter.com/FortMalden)



9 Woodside

The childhood home of Canada's 10th Prime Minister, William Lyon Mackenzie King.

DON'T MISS

- Exploring the grounds, which consist of 11.5 acres of mature woodland accessible year-round.
- Taking a self-guided tour around this historic family home packed with original heirlooms.



Kitchener – 105 km from Toronto

519-571-5684

parks.canada.ca/woodside

[#Woodside](https://twitter.com/Woodside)



10 HMCS Haida

The world's last surviving Tribal Class destroyer ship.

DON'T MISS

- Walking the decks of the most famous ship in the Royal Canadian Navy.
- Exploring HMCS *Haida's* authentic naval history on guided tours.



Hamilton – 70 km from Toronto

905-526-6742

parks.canada.ca/haida

[#HMCSHaida](https://twitter.com/HMCSHaida)



11 Queenston Heights

A battlefield where British/Canadian forces fought off an attempted invasion by American troops.

DON'T MISS

- Climbing the 235 steps up Brock's Monument for the spectacular view of the Niagara Frontier.
- Touring the battlefield as costumed guides bring that bloody October day in 1812 to life.



Niagara-on-the-Lake – 130 km from Toronto;

20 km from Niagara Falls | 905-468-6614

parks.canada.ca/queenstonheights



12 Fort George

The principal fortification on the Niagara Peninsula during the War of 1812.

DON'T MISS

- Catching the flash of fire and hearing the blast of a Brown Bess musket fired by soldiers of the 41st Regiment.
- Tapping your toes to the sound of the marching tunes of the 41st Regiment Fife and Drum Corp on parade.



Niagara-on-the-Lake – 130 km from Toronto;

20 km from Niagara Falls | 905-468-6614

parks.canada.ca/fortgeorge | [@FortGeorgeNHS](https://twitter.com/FortGeorgeNHS)

[#FortGeorge](https://twitter.com/FortGeorgeNHS)



13 Bethune Memorial House

The birthplace of Norman Bethune, an international hero.

DON'T MISS

- Testing your battlefield skills in a First World War trench.
- Discovering the life story, medical innovations and worldwide influence of Dr. Bethune.



Gravenhurst – 170 km from Toronto
705-687-4261
parks.canada.ca/Bethune



14 Trent-Severn Waterway

A 386 km travel route connected by 42 historic locks between Lake Ontario and Lake Huron.

DON'T MISS

- Boating through the heart of cottage country, visiting vibrant communities along the way.
- Taking a road trip to see the Big Chute Marine Railway - part boat, part train, all awesome.



Peterborough – 135 km from Toronto;
270 km from Ottawa | 1-888-773-8888
parks.canada.ca/trentsevern
@TrentSevernNHS | #TrentSevern



15 Bellevue House

Bellevue House presents the complex legacy of Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald.

DON'T MISS

- Taking part in immersive experiences to discover the life and times of the 1840's.
- Experiencing the site, to engage in conversation about Canadian history.



Kingston – 195 km from Ottawa;
265 km from Toronto; 290 km from Montreal, QC
613-545-8666
parks.canada.ca/Bellevue



16 Fort Wellington

A historic fort dating back to the War of 1812.

DON'T MISS

- Getting hands-on training as a Royal Artilleryman and firing a 19th century cannon.
- Grabbing a copy of the Xplorers booklet and getting the inside scoop on the fort's mysteries.



Prescott – 95 km from Ottawa;
185 km from Montreal, QC | 613-925-2896
parks.canada.ca/wellington



17 Rideau Canal

A 202 km waterway connected by 24 historic lockstations between Kingston and Ottawa.

DON'T MISS

- Staying overnight at a UNESCO World Heritage Site and experiencing the life of a lockmaster.
- Paddling routes that include beautiful lakes, peaceful rivers and charming historic towns.



Smiths Falls (Kingston to Ottawa)
613-283-5170 | parks.canada.ca/rideaucanal
@RideauCanalNHS | #RideauCanal



18 Laurier House

The former residence of two of Canada's most important Prime Ministers.

DON'T MISS

- Stepping into a 1940s kitchen and contributing to the Second World War effort.
- Learning about William Lyon Mackenzie King's practice of spiritualism and gaze into his famous crystal ball.



Ottawa | 613-992-8142
parks.canada.ca/laurierhouse



Download the Parks Canada app:

Your hand-held guide to the perfect visit!

parks.canada.ca/app





19 Lake Superior

A freshwater inland sea where human history is intertwined with rich natural heritage.

DON'T MISS

- Exploring the rugged and historic shoreline during a guided voyageur canoe or kayak program.
- Creating a superior work of art inspired by the breathtaking landscape during a guided painting program.



Nipigon | 807-887-5467

parks.canada.ca/superior

@LakeSuperiorNMCA | #LakeSuperiorNMCA



20 Fathom Five

Iconic flowerpot formations and scenic limestone islands with underwater treasures.

DON'T MISS

- Enjoying a boat tour to Flowerpot Island and hiking to the historic Light Station.
- Diving into Lake Huron and discovering an underwater world of natural and cultural treasures.



Tobermory – 295 km from Toronto

519-596-2233

parks.canada.ca/fathomfive

@BrucePNP



21 Rouge

Canada's first National Urban Park, home to biodiversity, rich natural, cultural and agricultural heritage, and hiking opportunities!

DON'T MISS

- Paddling a canoe through Toronto's largest remaining marshes and wetlands.
- Heading out on a guided cultural and historical excursion.



Toronto | 416-264-2020

parks.canada.ca/rouge

@RougePark | #RougeNUP

Discover Parks Canada!

Your **Discovery Pass** provides admission for a full year to over 80 Parks Canada destinations from coast to coast to coast.

Start planning your adventure!

450 000 km² OF STORIES

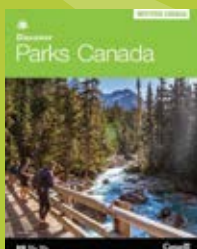


PLAN YOUR VISIT

PARKS.CANADA.CA
1-888-773-8888

5 OTHER REGIONS TO DISCOVER

LOOK FOR THESE
BROCHURES ON
OUR WEBSITE



WESTERN CANADA



NORTHERN
CANADA



CANADIAN
PRAIRIES



QUEBEC



ATLANTIC CANADA

FOLLOW US

 facebook.com/parkscanada

 youtube.com/parkscanada

 x.com/parkscanada

 instagram.com/parks.canada

All images © Parks Canada unless otherwise noted
© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada,
represented by the Chief Executive Officer
of Parks Canada, 2025.

Cette publication est également disponible en français.

