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EXPERIENCE

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Ontario



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INFORMATION

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1-888-773-8888



Welcome

While forts dramatically echo the gunfire of the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837-38, historic houses mirror the lives of Canada’s prime ministers and a legendary hero. The historic canals and waterways unlock the mysteries of early transportation and commerce. The beautiful national parks and national marine conservation areas introduce you to Ontario’s most spectacular landscapes and unique ecosystems.

A variety of visitor experiences await as you discover your heritage. Treasure it, enjoy it and protect it as if it were your own, because it is.

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THE GREAT epic

Discover the absorbing culture, people, and settings of our national historic sites and immerse yourself in the rich experiences at each location.

Get to know our country's heroes, see first-hand the icons of a bygone era and rediscover important places and great moments in Canadian history.



Discover the birth place of a hero!

In the heart of Muskoka cottage country, discover the remarkable achievements of Dr. Henry Norman Bethune, a battlefield surgeon, activist, inventor, humanitarian, teacher, and artist, as displayed in stunning new exhibits and a brand new Visitor Centre! You will be moved and inspired by his humanitarian spirit which reflects the profound effect of one man's quest for justice and greater good of mankind.

Bethune Memorial House National Historic Site p. 11



Explore a fort on the brink of war

Discover Fort George, a main British headquarters during the War of 1812. Experience the ambience as the air is filled with music and smells of the kitchen. Feel the power of musketry and artillery as passionate staff offer an exciting menu of presentations that bring the drama of the war to life.

Fort George National Historic Site p. 11



Relive the stories of the War of 1812

New exhibits and displays transport you to a time when the War of 1812 raged between Britain and America. Discover why Fort Wellington was built at Prescott, how gunboats protected the St. Lawrence River shipping route and see a rare 1812-era gunboat wreck for yourself. Can you find the keys to unlock its mystery?

Fort Wellington National Historic Site p. 11



Experience military life

Come for live demonstrations, tours, and a hands-on experience of military life as experienced by the soldiers and their families stationed at Fort Malden nearly 200 years ago. Surround yourself with the sights and sounds of this 18th century outpost. Listen to fascinating stories, tour the soldiers' barracks and cook-house, witness musket demonstrations, and explore the fort's colourful history.

Fort Malden National Historic Site p. 10



History with a view

Atop the picturesque Niagara Escarpment, the Battle of Queenston Heights saw an American invasion force defeated in 1812. Two hundred years later, revel in the majestic views of the Niagara River while enjoying a picnic, following a tour of the historic battlefield, or climbing Brock's Monument, the final resting place of Major-General Isaac Brock.

Queenston Heights National Historic Site p. 11

THE IDEAL getaway



Are you looking for relaxation and the simple pleasures of experiencing the outdoors with family and friends? Ontario's national parks, national historic sites, and national marine conservation areas offer a variety of worry-free and secure experiences that will help you kick back, relax, and get away from it all.



Travel light. Stay in a yurt!

Ten yurts along the shore of Cyprus Lake are a unique and new camping experience available at Bruce Peninsula National Park. Kick back and feel the lake breeze from your deck. Cozy up to the campfire or woodstove and watch the sunset over the lake. Gaze up at the starry sky through the skylight dome as you drift off to sleep in a comfortable bed. Book a yurt today to begin a magical vacation in Bruce Peninsula National Park! Insider's tip: the yurts are busy during summer, but spring and fall are great times of year to come!

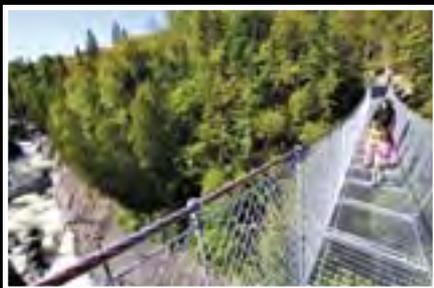
Bruce Peninsula National Park p. 10



Paddle in style

See the Thousand Islands with an experienced guide and get the best of both worlds – an island escape with a bit of luxury. Rest and refuel after your paddle in Thousand Islands National Park by indulging in a sumptuous gourmet shore lunch or with a relaxing stay in Parks Canada oTENTik accommodations. Go ahead, you've earned it.

Thousand Islands National Park p. 10



On the edge of wilderness

Escape to the edge of wilderness on a day trip to the White River Suspension Bridge. Take Pukaskwa's Coastal Hiking Trail through the quiet of the boreal forest, and stop for a picnic break on the beach along the way. Savour a moment on the bridge as the water rushes through the gorge beneath your feet, then head back for a relaxing evening around the campfire at Hattie Cove Campground.

Pukaskwa National Park p. 10



A roof over your head

Experience the iconic scenery of Georgian Bay Islands National Park first-hand from the comfort of a rustic cabin. Spend some time exploring the lush hardwoods or fall asleep to the sounds of Georgian Bay waves lapping at the shoreline. The park's rustic cabins and boat service provide everything you need to escape and recharge your batteries in comfort.

Georgian Bay Islands National Park p. 10



Travel over 200 km of heritage discovery

Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2007, the Rideau Canal is a beautiful system of lakes, rivers and canals. It winds 202 kilometres from Ottawa, Canada's capital, to Kingston, passing through the scenic countryside, historic towns and quaint villages of Eastern Ontario along the way. There's so much to see and do along the Rideau Canal.

Rideau Canada National Historic Site p. 11

THE PLEASURE of togetherness

Looking for relaxation, ease, and a chance to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends?

These simple, accessible experiences in our national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas are sure to please.



©NoemiPhotography.com

Permission to come aboard

Don't forget to have your station card ready to present as you board Canada's most famous warship. The officer of the day will be on-hand to return your salute and post your station card until the end of your visit. Picture yourself in the ship's gallery cooking stew for 200 hungry sailors, stand watch by one of the guns or put your feet up in the officers' wardroom and listen to Canada's wartime prime minister address the nation.

HMCS *Haida* National Historic Site p. 10



Tour Flowerpot Island

Absorb the beauty and tranquility of Fathom Five National Marine Park on a glass-bottom boat tour to Flowerpot Island. Relax and enjoy the incredible rock formations that are among Canada's most recognized and popular natural attractions. Hike the island's trails, explore the cave, or simply take in the flowers and wildlife.

Fathom Five National Marine Conservation Area p. 11



© Ryan Plimiskem



Search for birds at the festival

Flock to Point Pelee National Park to experience one of the most spectacular birding hot spots in North America. The lush Carolinian forest is an oasis for migrating songbirds in the spring and high-flying raptors in the fall. Hike along with a guide during the Festival of Birds in May and see first-hand the colourful cascade throughout the woods.

Point Pelee National Park p. 10



© Gary and Jeane McCullfin.com

Float on the world's largest freshwater marine protected area

Cruise the wild, remote region of the Great Lakes in this corner of paradise. More than 70 species of fish inhabit the near-pristine waters of Lake Superior, the largest of the Great Lakes. Watch gulls, herons, eagles and pelicans as they feed in these waters. As many as 50 shipwrecks rest within the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area, attesting to the power of the greatest of the Great Lakes.

Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area p. 11



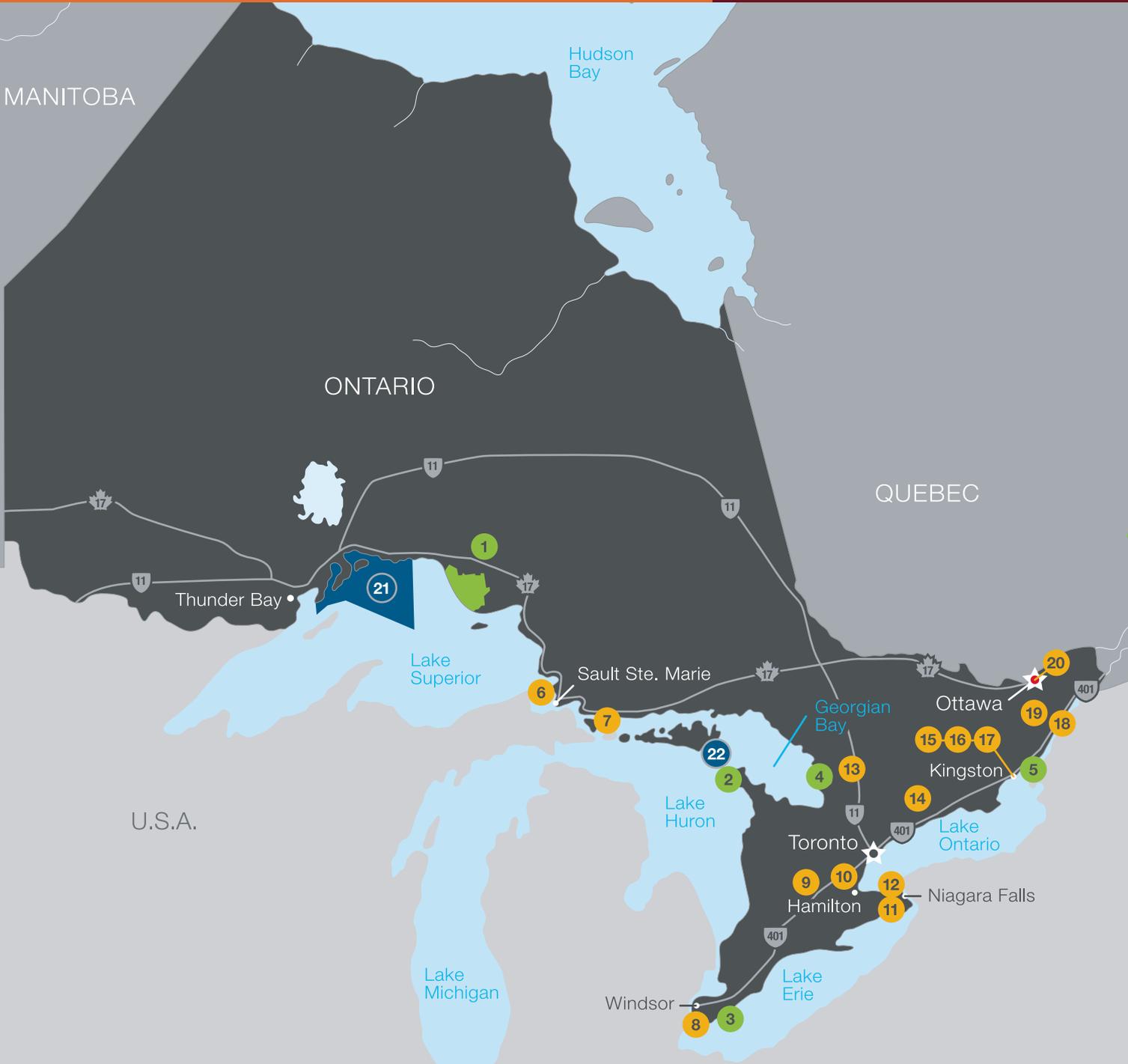
Plan a Picnic

The picturesque setting of the canal grounds with its historic red sandstone buildings and century-old trees is the perfect place for a summer picnic. Play a game in an open space or just relax in the shade with a good book. Pick up a sweet treat in the Visitor Centre gift shop and spend the afternoon watching the boats go by.

Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site p. 10

Ontario

National Parks, National Historic Sites
and National Marine Conservation Areas of Canada



Directory

The following section provides more information on unique places and experiences in Ontario.

Services and activities legend

The legend below identifies some of the services and activities that may be available at the parks and sites. Watch for these symbols when planning your visit.

 Information	 Scuba diving
 Parking	 Cabins
 Access for the physically disabled	 Yurts
 Interpretation	 Teepees
 Bus parking	 Parks Canada oTENTik
 Restaurant	 Geocaching
 Gift shop	 Marine mammals
 Camping	 Hot springs
 Picnic area	 Photography
 Backpacking/hiking	 Tobogganing
 Playground	 Mountain/Ice climbing
 Lookout	 Windsurfing
 Recreational vehicles	 Water-skiing
 Cycling	 Rafting
 Swimming	 Golfing
 Canoeing	 Downhill skiing
 Kayaking	 Horseback riding
 Motorboating	 Dog-sledding
 Sailing	 Snowmobiling
 Winter activities	 Beaches
 Fishing	 Tennis
 Cross-country skiing	 Picnic shelter
 Birdwatching	 Mountain biking
 Ice skating	

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Directory

Pukaskwa National Park

© Garry & Joanne McGuffin

Fort George National Historic Site

© Parks Canada - J. Bernard

1 Pukaskwa



Pukaskwa National Park's exceptional beauty is revealed in its vistas of Lake Superior and in the rugged, ancient landscape of the Canadian Shield and northern forest. Pukaskwa is Ontario's largest national park, protecting 1878 square km of boreal forest and the most pristine shoreline anywhere on the Great Lakes. Home to Ontario's most remote backcountry trail, the Coastal Hiking Trail, the park also offers car campers unparalleled solitude and privacy at Hattie Cove Campground.

Heron Bay, ON

1-807-229-0801 | parksCanada.gc.ca/pukaskwa

2 Bruce Peninsula



In the heart of a world biosphere reserve, 'the Bruce' protects one of the largest pockets of wilderness remaining in Southern Ontario. It boasts spectacular shoreline cliffs gazing out at Georgian Bay, crystal clear turquoise water, sinkholes, ancient coral reefs and sea caves.

Tobermory, ON – 296 km from Toronto, ON

1-519-596-2233 | parksCanada.gc.ca/bruce

3 Point Pelee



A lush Carolinian forest oasis, the park resounds with the songs of migrating birds in the spring, hums with cicadas in the summer, flutters with Monarch butterflies in the fall, and is a peaceful place of reflection in the winter. The small but extraordinary park juts out in to Lake Erie at the southernmost point of mainland Canada.

Leamington, ON

1-519-322-2365 | parksCanada.gc.ca/pelee

4 Georgian Bay Islands

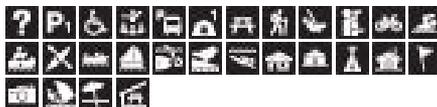


Discover the iconic Canadian landscape of Georgian Bay Islands National Park. Located in the world's largest freshwater archipelago, the 30,000 islands, it is at Georgian Bay Islands National Park that you will discover spectacular landscapes, time-worn rock faces, diverse habitats, the rugged beauty of the Canadian Shield and cultural history dating back 5,000 years. The park's islands offer outstanding hiking, camping, and boating experiences.

Honey Harbour, ON – 165 km from Toronto, ON

1-705-526-9804 | parksCanada.gc.ca/gbi

5 Thousand Islands



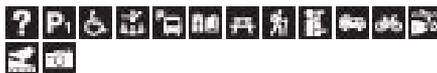
The rocky islands, windswept pines, and cool waters of Thousand Islands National Park have the flavour of the northern wilderness just a few hours from Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. Majestic castles and historic summer homes stand in contrast to rugged islands of granite and pine that are home to lumbering turtles, soaring eagles, and countless other species.

Mallorytown Landing, ON – 136 km from Ottawa, ON;

230 km from Montréal, QC; 319 km from Toronto, ON

1-613-923-5261 | parksCanada.gc.ca/sli

6 Sault Ste. Marie Canal



Completed in 1895, this canal formed the last link in an all-Canadian navigation system stretching from the St. Lawrence River to Lake Superior. It was the world's longest lock and the first to operate with electrical power. It was also novel in using an emergency swing dam to protect the lock in case of accident. Today, the canal serves recreational boaters and offers a host of other activities.

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

1-705-941-6205 | parksCanada.gc.ca/saultstemariecanal

7 Fort St. Joseph



On the north shore of Lake Huron, Fort St. Joseph was the base of the first successful British attack against Americans in the War of 1812. Today, visitors can wander amongst the ruins of the fort, take a guided tour, explore the visitor centre and walk the nature trails.

St Joseph Island, Ontario

1-705-246-2664 | parksCanada.gc.ca/fortstjoseph

8 Fort Malden



Fort Malden has been an army garrison, British Indian Department post, dockyard for the Upper Great Lakes, and the meeting place for Chief Tecumseh and British General Brock during the War of 1812. Explore this British empire outpost.

Amherstburg, ON

1-519-736-5416 | parksCanada.gc.ca/fortmalden

9 Woodside



Woodside is the boyhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canada's longest-serving prime minister. Set in a stunning urban park, the 1891 home reflects the comforts middle-class families like the Kings enjoyed. Have a picnic, take photos, stroll the paths, and discover the significance of Woodside to Mackenzie King and his family.

Kitchener, ON – 107 km from Toronto, ON

1-519-571-5684 | parksCanada.gc.ca/woodside

10 HMCS Haida



HMCS *Haida* is one of 27 Tribal class destroyers built for the British, Canadian and Australian navies. Of these 27 ships built, 13 were sunk and 13 were scrapped – *Haida* is the sole survivor. Tour the ship, hear stories, and experience what life was like on-board.

Hamilton, ON – 70 km from Toronto, ON

1-905-526-6742 | parksCanada.gc.ca/haida

11 Queenston Heights



The Battle of Queenston Heights took place in October of 1812, when an American invasion force was defeated. The battle was instrumental in contributing to the development of Canadian national consciousness. Since then, the 'Heights' have been enjoyed by generations of nature lovers, hikers and history enthusiasts alike.

**Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON – 132 km from Toronto, ON;
22 km from Niagara Falls, ON
1-905-468-6614 | parksCanada.gc.ca/queenstonheights**

12 Fort George



Nestled within the picturesque town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Fort George is located along the scenic Niagara River. A key strategic point, the British headquarters at Fort George was the focus of a number of American attacks during the War of 1812. Come and enjoy a performance by the internationally renowned Fife and Drum Corps and discover an exciting time when Canada's existence hung in the balance.

**Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON – 132 km from Toronto, ON;
22 km from Niagara Falls, ON
1-905-468-6614 | parksCanada.gc.ca/fortgeorge**

13 Bethune Memorial House



Visit the birthplace and childhood home of Dr. Henry Norman Bethune, renowned internationally for his medical achievements and personal sacrifices made in the cause of humanitarian principles. Most famous for his heroic work in China, his story continues to be taught to millions, generations after his death.

**Gravenhurst, ON – 170 km from Toronto, ON
1-705-687-4261 | parksCanada.gc.ca/bethune**

14 Trent-Severn Waterway



The Trent-Severn Waterway is a vast and intricate system of lakes, rivers and canals stretching from Lake Ontario all the way to Georgian Bay. Today, boats travel the 386km waterway thanks to 44 locks, including the world's highest hydraulic lift lock and North America's only marine railway. Less than two hours from the Toronto area, it's ideal for a day or weekend getaway.

**Peterborough, ON – 136 km from Toronto, ON;
272 km from Ottawa, ON
1-888-773-8888 | parksCanada.gc.ca/trentsevern**

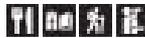
15 Bellevue House



Bellevue House honours Sir John A. Macdonald's role as the first prime minister of Canada and the Father of Confederation. This house is also commemorated for its rare style of Italianate villa architecture, one of the first and finest of its kind in Canada.

**Kingston, ON – 197 km from Ottawa, ON;
263 km from Toronto, ON; 290 km from Montréal, QC
1-613-545-8666 | parksCanada.gc.ca/bellevue**

16 Fort Henry



Passing through Fort Henry's wooden gates is to step back through time. Visitors pass from present day into a vibrant and dynamic 19th century military fortification. Costumed living history interpreters offer guided tours, musical performances and precision drills that highlight the activities of the fort's original military residents.

**Kingston, ON – 197 km from Ottawa, ON;
263 km from Toronto, ON; 290 km from Montréal, QC
1-613-542-7388 | www.forthenry.com**

17 Kingston Fortifications



The Kingston Fortifications include Fort Henry, Fort Frederick and three additional towers: Murney, Shoal, and Cathcart (please call for hours of operation). Together they defended Kingston and the Rideau Canal from attack. Share the vistas with a massive cannon, take a photo of Shoal Tower rising from the water, or imagine the life of a soldier inside a fort.

**Kingston, ON – 197 km from Ottawa, ON;
263 km from Toronto, ON; 290 km from Montréal, QC
1-613-544-9925 (Murney Tower/tour Murney)
1-613-541-6000 x 664 (Fort Frederick)**

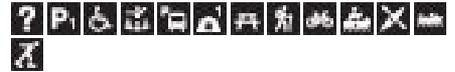
18 Fort Wellington



Fort Wellington was built during the War of 1812 to defend the St. Lawrence River shipping route between Montreal and Kingston from attack by the United States. Explore the wreck of an 1812-era gunboat, try on a costume and take part in military drill, witness a cannon firing, savour period treats cooked over an open fire, or play games from long ago.

**Prescott, ON – 95 km from Ottawa, ON;
187 km from Montréal, QC
1-613-925-2896 | parksCanada.gc.ca/wellington**

19 Rideau Canal



The Rideau Canal, Ontario's only UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a chain of beautiful lakes, rivers, and canals winding over 200 km between Kingston and Ottawa. The Rideau Canal is the oldest authentic continuously run canal in North America. This internationally recognized marvel can be enjoyed year-round, by walking, driving, biking, boating, or skating along its route.

**Smiths Falls, ON (Kingston, ON to Ottawa, ON)
1-613-283-5170 | parksCanada.gc.ca/rideau**

20 Laurier House



Laurier House commemorates two of Canada's most notable prime ministers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King. For over fifty years, from 1897 to 1948, the house occupied a central position in the political life of Canada, as the place of residence of Laurier and, after his death, of Mackenzie King.

**Ottawa, ON
1-613-992-8142 | parksCanada.gc.ca/laurierhouse**

21 Lake Superior



Once established, this National Marine Conservation Area will be the largest freshwater protected area in the world. The area boasts many unique attractions related to geology, human and natural history. Aboriginal presence dates back at least 5,000 years and continues to this day.

**Nipigon, ON
1-807-887-5467 | parksCanada.gc.ca/superior**

22 Fathom Five



The deep and sparkling waters at the mouth of Georgian Bay are home to a rich cultural legacy that includes 22 shipwrecks and two historic light stations. Composed of green islands, lake bottoms and clear cold water, you will find some of the best freshwater diving opportunities in the world in Fathom Five. At Flowerpot Island, enjoy the incredible rock formations that are among Canada's most recognized and popular natural attractions.

**Tobermory, ON – 296 km from Toronto, ON
1-519-596-2233 | parksCanada.gc.ca/fathomfive**

NOW THAT'S awesome!



From coast to coast, Parks Canada protects and presents some of the most amazing places.

44

national parks

Spectacular landscapes, fascinating wildlife, precious habitats, gateways to adventure.

167

national historic sites

Fascinating reminders of Canada's past, conserved for the future.

4

national marine conservation areas

Getaways to nature, adventure, learning and discovery.

Louisbourg300

Come celebrate!



The Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site in Nova Scotia will erupt with festivity and merriment in 2013 to mark the 300th anniversary of Louisbourg's founding. Join us for a celebration three centuries in the making. Dance, sing and dine in this 18th century fortified town.

FIND MORE ON EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT
parkscanada.gc.ca/louisbourg300

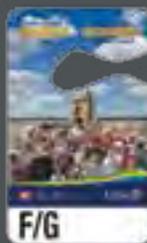


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BRUCE PENINSULA NATIONAL PARK



FORT GEORGE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



FORT MALDEN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



FORT WELLINGTON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



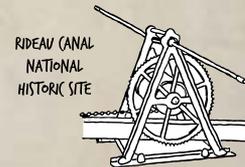
GEORGIAN BAY ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK



H.M.S. HAIDA NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



POINT PELEE NATIONAL PARK



RIDEAU CANAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



ST LAWRENCE ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK



SAULT STE MARIE CANAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



TRENT-SEVERN WATERWAY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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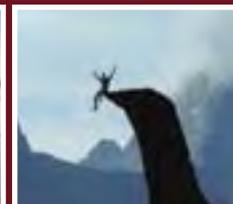
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