



## PARLIAMENT HILL

A trip to Ottawa isn't complete without a visit to Parliament Hill. Even if you aren't passionate about politics, you can't deny the site's beautiful architecture and historical value. The hill is open to the public with free guided tours of Centre Block.



## HAUNTED WALK

Whether you love horror or hate hauntings, channel your inner masochist on a Haunted Walk – a lantern-lit journey through Ottawa's ghastly past. One tour features the former jailhouse gallows; another includes pub pit stops to drink your fears away.



## NEPEAN POINT

One of the best views of the city. Hang out with French explorer Samuel de Champlain – atop the vista sits a statue of him holding his famous astrolabe (read: old-school navigational tool) next to an amphitheatre called Astrolabe Theatre.



## MAJOR'S HILL PARK

Need a quick retreat from the city streets? This park was Ottawa's first green space and is full of thriving trees, ahh-worthy gardens and so much lawn. It's a short walk from Shopify, and a great place for frisbee or a picnic.



## RIDEAU CANAL

Stroll, bike or rollerblade down this historic, 200 kilometre long waterway. In the winter, lace up your skates and tackle the world's longest skating rink – 7.8 kilometres long. Take a hot chocolate break while warming your toes on a firepit along the frozen river.



## 6 BEAVER TAILS

WTF's a BeaverTail and why would you want to eat it? Don't worry – it's not a REAL beaver's tail. It's a fried pastry stretched to look like one, topped with all kinds of sweet and savoury treats. Our recommendation? The Killaloe Sunrise, loaded with sugar, cinnamon and lemon.

## 7 RIDEAU CENTRE

More than 180 shops and services make up Ottawa's largest high-end shopping mall. Retailers include Zara, Sephora, and the Apple Store. It's a good spot to get your department store fix – but don't forget to take a gander at the amazing boutiques in the ByWard Market!

## 8 CONFEDERATION PARK

There's always something going on in Confederation Park – Canada Day festivities, Winterlude activities, the Ottawa International Jazz Festival, street performers or just passersby that are reeeally fun to people-watch. You'll encounter many memorials, including a fountain for Colonel By.

## 9 BLUESFEST

Every July, dozens of acts head to Ottawa to perform at Bluesfest. Despite its name, the festival features many genres including pop, folk and electronica. Previous performers include B.B. King, Rush, Snoop Dogg (pardon us, Snoop Lion) and deadmau5.

## 10 LAFAYETTE HOUSE

Ottawa's oldest bar is an attraction in and of itself. Founded in 1849 as Grant's Hotel, it made the name switch in 1936. Now, it's known lovingly as The Laff – our dirty bar of choice. Don't forget to ask the bartender about the secret tunnel underground...

## 11 GATINEAU PARK

Experience Gatineau's rolling hills and gorgeous landscapes over 361 square kilometres of natural wilderness. Go for a bike ride, hike on a trail and pack a picnic. In the wintertime, go skiing or snowshoeing.

## 12 DOW'S LAKE

In the spring, take in some of the thousands of tulips blooming near this lake for the Canadian Tulip Festival. Rent a canoe or paddleboat and go for a spin. When it gets cold, extend your Rideau Canal skate onto the lake. Afterward, indulge in a lake-facing restaurant along the shore.

## 13 CDN. WAR MUSEUM

Offering a glimpse into Canada's military past and present, the national war museum features more than 13,000 artifacts in numerous interactive exhibits. The museum was entirely rebuilt in 2005, and the building's architecture alone makes it worth the visit.

## 14 MUSEUM OF NATURE

Dinosaurs and spiders and blue whales, oh my! The castle housing Canada's Museum of Nature features more than 10 million artifacts. Terrified of tarantulas? Stay away from the Animalium, which features all kinds of creepy crawlers.

## 15 HOG'S BACK FALLS

If water is therapeutic, waterfalls are a full-on therapy session. You can find the falls inside Hog's Back Park on the Rideau River. There's a concession stand for snacks, which is licensed to sell alcohol. For real. Go get yourself a (legal) beer in a (beautiful) public place.

## 16 CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Formerly called the Museum of Civilization, this museum celebrates the 20,000 year history of humans, with a focus on Canadians. It's one of North America's oldest cultural institutions.

## 17 MACKENZIE KING ESTATE

Dying to know more about Canada's 10th Prime Minister William Lyon King Mackenzie King? No? Regardless, stop by his former estate for the beautiful gardens, ruins and cottages that King lived in for almost 50 years.

## 18 BREWER PARK FARMER'S MARKET

Between May and November, more than 100 vendors sell local produce, preserves, cheeses and desserts at this weekly market. There are tons of picnic tables in case you can't wait to get home to test your treats!

## 19 SPARKS STREET

There are all kinds of neat events that tuck themselves within this outdoor mall, including Ribfest, International Buskerfest and Winterbrewed, a wintertime beer festival. Sparks Street was founded in the early 1800s and has become a hub for shopping, dining and special events.

## 20 BYWARD MARKET

The greatest place to eat, work and play. Think we're biased? The Market is one of Canada's oldest and largest public markets, with eateries, boutiques and a culture so thriving it's tangible. There are even cobblestone streets if you're curious enough to find them. Go explore.