## **Venturing Beyond Toronto:**

# **Exploring Ontario's Beautiful Lake Country & Vineyards**

We would like to invite you to consider discovering the beautiful cottage country and vineyards in Ontario, either before or after the conference in Toronto this June. It is an ideal time to take advantage of a low Canadian dollar and build an extended vacation in Ontario for you, and loved ones, this summer. Also please note that 2017 is Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday and towns large and small will be hosting special celebrations on July 1/2017. The biggest celebration will be in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada's capital city, and as an added bonus, it is highly likely that a lucky few will have a chance to snap a selfie with our Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, at that event.

# Vacationing in 'Cottage' Country.

Just 2-3 hours north and east from Toronto, Ontario has one of the most extensive array of accessible lakes in Canada, with an extensive network of 'cottages' and lakeside resorts available for rental accommodation. While we have highlighted a couple of our favourite 'go to' lakes and cottage towns below, more information about each of these destinations, and additional vacationing options, can be easily accessed at www.ontariotravel.net/Summer.

**Algonquin Park**: About 3 hours north/east of Toronto, experience the ultimate Canadiana wilderness in this iconic park, year-round activities include hiking, paddling and dog-sledding. www.ontariotravel.net/Summer.



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#### **Must-Sees**

- <u>Backcountry campers</u> are treated to two thousand kilometres of canoe routes, nearly 2,000 campsites and vast expanses of rugged beauty.
- <u>The Algonquin Park Visitor Centre's</u> viewing deck offers a breathtaking panorama of the wild Algonquin landscape. Ask about the 'Calling the Wolves' howl tours.
- <u>The Algonquin Art Centre</u> showcases work from Group of Seven painter Tom Thomson, Robert Bateman and many other artists inspired by the Park.
- <u>The Algonquin Logging Museum</u> brings to life the story of logging from the early square timber days to the last of the great river drives.
- Killarney Lodge. Indulge in comfort in the heart of Ontario's most famous wilderness.
  Spectacular views. Exciting wildlife viewing. Private, beautifully decorated waterfront cabins. Gourmet meals & personal canoe included! www.killarneylodge.com

**Georgian Bay/Thirty Thousand Islands: Parry Sound.** About 2 ½ hours north of Toronto, explore 30,000 islands and seven provincial parks, and one of Canada's UNESCO Biosphere Reserves. www.ontariotravel.net/Summer



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### **Must-Sees**

- The Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve is one of just 15 Canadian sites recognized by UNESCO for its unique environmental heritage, and encompasses the region's famous 30,000 islands, the world's largest freshwater archipelago.
- <u>The Island Queen</u> explores the region's famous 30,000 islands and its remarkable wilderness of narrow channels and shallow waterways.

- <u>Parry Sound</u>, centre of Georgian Bay's 30,000 islands, is home to the <u>Festival of the</u> Sound and the Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts.
- <u>Home to seven Provincial Parks</u> (Grundy Lake, Sturgeon Bay, Massasauga, Killarney, Killbear, Oastler and Six Mile Lake), you'll find great paddling, hiking and camping.
- <u>The Georgian Bay Airways</u> offers a birds-eye-view of Parry Sound & Area's remarkable ecosystems.

**Muskoka:** Bala, Port Carling & Bracebridge. About two hours north of Toronto, you will discover a best-in-class destination for golf, stunning scenery, and excellent local brews. www.ontariotravel.net/Summer. If you visit the Muskoka region, be sure to plan a car trip to Bala and Port Carling, two historic lakeside towns that are boating destinations for local cottagers, and visitors alike.



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### Must-Sees

- Golf Muskoka; we are home to some of North America's best courses such as Taboo,
  Windermere and Deerhurst.
- <u>The Algonquin Theatre</u> in Huntsville, and the renowned Huntsville Festival of the Arts are both crowd-pleasers.
- <u>Santa's Village and Sportsland</u> is a family fun attraction in Bracebridge.
- <u>Paddle our lakes</u>, including the "big three" lakes; Muskoka, Rosseau and Joseph, as well as Lake of Bays, Fairy, Mary, Peninsula, and dozens more.

**Haliburton Highlands/Kawartha Lakes:** . Just two and half hours NE of Toronto, naturally beautiful Kawartha Lakes on the Trent-Severn Waterway is an ideal getaway. Outdoor adventure on water and land abounds and small communities along the way invite you to stop and linger while you enjoy friendly hospitality. <a href="www.explorekawarthalakes.com">www.explorekawarthalakes.com</a>.



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### **Visiting Ontario Vineyards.**

**Niagara on the Lake:** About 2 hours south west of Toronto, catch a show, stroll through the historic Old Town or cycle through the vineyards to enjoy a taste of one of Canada's prettiest towns, and hottest wine and culinary destinations. www.ontariotravel.net/Summer



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#### Must-Sees

- <u>The Shaw Festival</u> is one of the top repertory companies in the world featuring musicals, comedies and provocative dramas.
- <u>Twenty-seven wineries</u> are scattered amidst a landscape of vineyards and orchards stretching along the picturesque Niagara River Parkway. Inniskillin Winery's Extreme Canadian Icewine Experience is a Canadian Signature Experience.
- <u>Fort George</u> served as the headquarters for the Centre Division of the British Army during the War of 1812.
- <u>Culinary excellence</u> is a trademark of this town, from the abundance of local produce and world-class wineries to the many renowned restaurants and Signature Kitchens.

**Prince Edward County:** About 2 hours east of Toronto, follow the Taste Trail and discover why Prince Edward County is renowned for our food as much as our wine. Take in a theatre performance, or stop by one of the quaint shops and meet friendly artisans. www.ontariotravel.net/Summer.



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## **Must-Sees**

- Travel Prince Edward County's <u>Taste Trail</u> and visit vineyards, breweries and restaurants inspired by the county's agricultural heritage and farm to table food movement, including Huff Estates Inn and Winery, a Canadian Signature Experience.
- <u>The Regent Theatre</u> in Picton is a rare example of a still intact Edwardian opera house. Plan a visit and take in live theatre, music, first run movies and art films.

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