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Visitor Information

705-742-2201
 Toll-Free: 1-800-461-6424
thekawarthas.ca
info@thekawarthas.ca

- /TheKawarthas
- @TheKawarthas
- @thekawarthas

Peterborough & the Kawarthas Tourism is a division of Peterborough & the Kawarthas Economic Development and the Official Destination Marketing Organization for the City & County of Peterborough, Ontario, Canada.

Proudly located in



Cover art: Jason Wilkins, @artofwilkins

CHECK THEM OFF AS YOU GO!

Iconic Peterborough & the Kawarthas Experiences

- Visit the Peterborough Lift Lock
- Take a hike (or spelunk!) at Warsaw Caves
- Visit the new Canadian Canoe Museum
- Step back in time with historic learning at Lang Pioneer Village Museum
- Learn about Indigenous culture at Petroglyphs Provincial Park
- Hold hands with your sweetheart at the Adam & Eve Rocks
- Sing along at Peterborough Musicfest on Little Lake
- Cheer on the 2023 OHL Champs, the Peterborough Petes
- Hit the road on the Peterborough & the Kawarthas Classics Road Cycling Routes
- Monkey around at Riverview Park & Zoo

Watch for these icons!

Peterborough & the Kawarthas is a destination to discover in all four seasons. Look for icons to guide you through our favourite spots to enjoy in winter (snowman), spring (flower), summer (sandcastle), and fall (leaf). Keep an eye out for the camera to see the region's most photo-worthy moments.



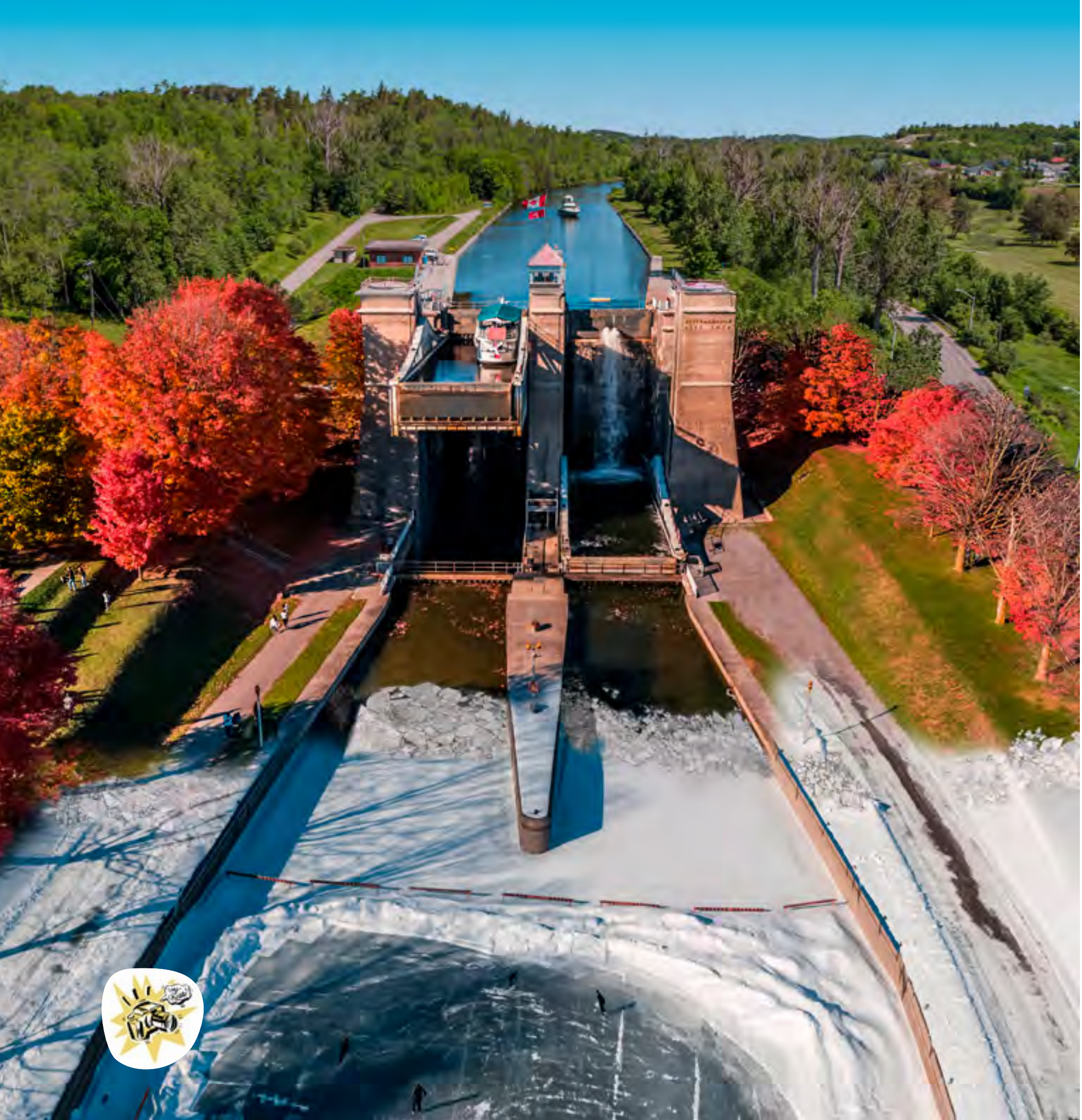
Stay a While

Whether you're staying in Peterborough & the Kawarthas for a night or two, or planning out a longer trip to the region, you'll find a warm welcome waiting for you here. Whether you opt for a branded hotel, a family-run cottage resort, a campground, or some of our more unique accommodations, here you'll find rooms with a view (and personality too!)



Find places to stay:
thekawarthas.ca/stay





Water connects us all.

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg. We offer our gratitude to the First Peoples for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honour those teachings.



Welcome to Peterborough & the Kawarthas — a place where water serves as the original open road, families make memories, and our paddles find purpose moving us forward.

The region is rooted in the ever-flowing energy that “Canada’s Treasured Waterway” embodies. Togetherness, passion, and the joys of simple pleasures allow us to kindle meaningful connections throughout each of the four seasons, as well as the seasons of our lives.

Here, we are no strangers to blazing trails and carving our own path. The spirit of innovation, collaboration, and knowledge sharing is at the core of communities — from the Kinomaage-Waapkong (‘teaching rocks’) at Petroglyphs Provincial Park that has been utilized by generations of Anishinaabeg as a sacred teaching site, to Red Fife Wheat crops innovated in the rolling hills of centuries-old farmland, to our beginnings as a hub for industry — with a proud history as the world’s canoe manufacturing epicenter, and a place that iconic innovator Thomas Edison chose as a place to set up shop.

Whether you’re fortunate enough to call this region home, or you’re planning a visit for a short while, we hope that you continue to add to the collective effervescence that lights our communities, to protect the land and waters for the next visitors and generations to enjoy, and carry (and share) fond memories of this special place with you. When we care for the land and water in the ways it cares for us, we create a place where we can continue to make cultural discoveries, forge new friendships, lose ourselves (and, in turn, find ourselves) in the great outdoors for many years to come.

Thank you. Merci. Miigwetch. We are grateful that you have chosen to share some of your time with us.



Photo by Justen Soule

Set Down Roots in Peterborough & the Kawarthas

New to the area, or considering relocating? You're in good company. Here are some commonly-requested resources to get you acquainted.

Start Exploring

The Peterborough & the Kawarthas Visitor Centre is a great first stop when you want to immerse yourselves in all that the region has to offer.

Visitor Centre:
270 George Street North,
Downtown Peterborough
thekawarthas.ca/visit
1-800-461-6424



Weather | Experience all four seasons of classic Canadian weather.



Spring:
Rainy and mild



Summer:
Hot and humid



Fall:
Cooler, shorter days



Winter:
Cold and snowy

Home to World-Class Education

Peterborough & the Kawarthas is well-known as a hub for world-class post-secondary education and is home to Trent University (Ontario's #1 primarily undergraduate university), Fleming College (one of Canada's top 50 research colleges), and the Seneca College School of Aviation, as well as Lakefield College School, a prestigious private day and boarding school. Students and scholars from around the world choose to study in Peterborough, and in turn shape many facets of our communities.

Put Your Talents to Work

Seeking employment in the region? The **Workforce Development Board's Job Map** pulls in comprehensive job listings for employers hiring for diverse positions and skillsets across the region.
wdb.ca/map

Find Your Fit

Looking to find the perfect neighbourhood for you? Check out our community guide on pages 42-45.

A Diverse and Welcoming Community

New Canadians Centre
705-743-0882 | nccpeterborough.ca

Services related to immigration and settlement, employment, community connection and language learning.

Welcome Peterborough
welcomepeterborough.ca

Taxes

A Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) of 13% is levied on most purchases. Additionally, a by-law endorsed by City Council has implemented a 4% municipal accommodation tax at hotels in the City of Peterborough.

DID YOU KNOW?

Peterborough & the Kawarthas is part of three provincial and federal political ridings/electoral districts? Peterborough-Kawartha, Northumberland-Peterborough South and Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

Important Numbers

Emergency Services

Police/Fire/Ambulance Call 9-1-1

Peterborough Police Service

(Inquiries and Non-Emergencies)
Peterborough Office: 705-876-1122
Lakefield Community Office: 705-652-3307

Ontario Provincial Police (Non-Emergencies)
1-888-310-1122

Hospitals & Healthcare

Peterborough Public Health

705-743-1000 | peterboroughpublichealth.ca

Peterborough Regional Health Centre

705-743-2121 | prhc.on.ca

Health Connect Ontario

(24/7 medical advice from a registered nurse)
1-866-797-0000 or 811 | health811.ontario.ca

Government Offices

Passport Canada 1-888-242-2100

Service Canada 1-800-622-6232

Service Ontario 1-800-267-8097

For municipal government offices, see page 42-45

Education

Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

705-742-9773 | 1-877-741-4577 | kprschools.ca

Peterborough Victoria Northumberland Clarington Catholic School Board

705-748-4861 | 1-800-461-8009 | pvncdsb.on.ca

Lakefield College School

705-652-3324 | lcs.on.ca

Trent University

705-748-1011 | 1-855-698-7368 | trentu.ca

Fleming College

705-749-5530 | 1-866-353-6464 | flemingcollege.ca

Seneca College School of Aviation – Peterborough Campus

705-775-2376 | www.senecapolytechnic.ca

Getting Here and Getting Around

Where we are: Peterborough & the Kawarthas is located in Central Ontario. An easy 90 minutes northeast of Toronto, and 3 hours west of Canada's Capital Region in Ottawa.

STUNNING!



Drive Times

Toronto	1 hr 40 mins
Ottawa	3 hrs 16 mins
Kingston	2 hrs 10 mins
Niagara Falls	2 hrs 58 mins
Buffalo, NY	3 hrs 56 mins

Transportation

→ Taxis & Ride Shares

- Capitol Taxi**
1-888-271-8613
- Call-A-Cab**
705-745-2424
- Y-Drive and U-Ride**
Mobile app ride share service; download through your App Store

→ Peterborough Transit

peterborough.ca/transit
705-745-0525

Peterborough Transit operates full-size buses that run on regular and express routes, as well as Accessible Van Service, and the Community Bus. Peterborough Transit also operates The Link, a commuter bus with connections to Lakefield, Ennismore, Bridgenorth and Curve Lake First Nation.

→ Go Transit

gotransit.ca

Go Transit offers bus service between Peterborough and Oshawa (with connections to Lakeshore East train to Union Station in Toronto and other destinations). Buses run daily with 10+ trips. This also serves as a connection point to those coming to the area on Via Rail.

→ Parking

There are municipal parking lots throughout the City and County of Peterborough, as well as on-the-street parking (please observe rules around no parking, and time limits). During the winter months, on-the-street overnight parking is prohibited throughout the region. Please follow local regulations.

Looking for a place to plug-in your Electric Vehicle (EV)?

Check out our parking and transportation information.
thekawarthas.ca/visit



Explore our Routes & Road Trips

Self-Guided Road Trips

Special curated trips through the region including the Garden Route, #FallforPtbo Driving Tours, Brews, Bites & Barns Brewery Route, and the Chip Truck Trail – great options for visitors to hit the road and get exploring.

Cycling Routes

Peterborough & the Kawarthas is a cyclist's dream, boasting more than 300 kms of signed trails and bikeways, as well as the Peterborough & the Kawarthas Classics Road Cycling Routes (more on page 12-13).

Signature Paddling Routes

Experience Canada's canoe capital by kayak or canoe! We have signature paddling routes that are tried-and-true favourites.



→ Boating and Marinas

Peterborough & the Kawarthas is ideally situated along the Trent-Severn Waterway, one of the finest interconnected systems of navigation in the world (with locks 19-31 located in the region). Peterborough Marina is a short walk from downtown Peterborough and the Peterborough & the Kawarthas Visitor Centre.

→ Highway Access

Conveniently located between Canada's capital, Ottawa, and Canada's business centre, Toronto, and easily accessible from Highway 401/115. If a slower pace suits you better, you can tour the stunning countryside via Highway 7, or various scenic, rural roadways.

→ Peterborough Airport

The Peterborough Airport has the longest paved, lighted runway between Ottawa and Toronto, and has service for charter and private flights.

The Great Outdoors

GET A BIRD'S EYE VIEW!

THE MUST-DO LIST

- Hit the **Peterborough & the Kawarthas Classics Road Cycling Routes** and cruise the country roads
- Hike, splash, play, and visit the animals at **Riverview Park & Zoo**
- Connect with nature at **Ecology Park** and engage in hands-on learning focused on making the world a greener place
- Hunt for simple treasures as you **geocache** through the region, the caches contain tokens, but memories made will be golden
- See some of the oldest maple trees in the province at **Mark S. Burnham Provincial Park**
- Take a **walk on the wild side** as you spy birds and other Kawarthas wildlife including osprey, black-capped chickadees and Peterborough's official bird, the Great Blue Heron
- Enjoy a day of skiing or snowshoeing at **Kawartha Nordic Ski Club**
- Play a round of golf** out on the links at one of our region's golf courses and driving ranges
- Enjoy **ice skating** on the Trent Canal at the base of the Peterborough Lift Lock, on the lake, or at Quaker Foods City Square

Discover an incredible variety of outdoor experiences that await you here:

thekawarthas.ca/outdoors



THE VIEWS ARE TREE-MENDOUS

Spending time surrounded by unspoiled natural beauty is one of life's most rewarding experiences, and there is plenty of it here in Peterborough & the Kawarthas. Explore our region's trails, get out on the waterway, and take some time away to play outside.



Get Off the Beaten Path

Explore our scenic country roads, integrated urban cycling network, and mountain biking trails.



- Silver Bicycle Friendly Community Designation*
 - 300+ kms of signed cycling routes
 - Home to world-renowned outdoor sports company Shimano's Canadian headquarters
 - Downtown Peterborough is a designated bike-friendly business area by Ontario By Bike
- *As rated by the Share the Road Cycling Coalition



Check out some of the cycling community's favourites:

▶ Peterborough & the Kawarthas Classics Road Cycling Routes

The Cottage Country 100

Chris Mitchell | @travelingmitch

"We rode along the south side of Stoney Lake, on down through McCracken's Landing, then headed back to Peterborough along Centre Dummer Road, and capped it all off with a meal and a few beverages at Ashburnham Ale House (but not before some ice cream sandwiches in Warsaw, Ontario, of course).

[...] This is one of the premier regions for cycling and mountain biking in the province. For gravel riding in particular, it's just off-the-charts. When it comes to Ontario travel, I've come to learn that I'm happiest with a paddle, or on a saddle."

Lakes, Rivers and Cafés

Canadian Cycling Magazine | @canadiancycling

"A route that gives riders a sampling of some of the region's best features with rolling roads near bodies of fresh water and through lakeside communities. On route, riders will ride along the Bridgenorth causeway, past the locks on the Otonabee River, through Millennium Park and past Trent University."

Hills, Views and Pastries

Peterborough & the Kawarthas Visitor Centre Team | @thekawarthas

"This route hits all the best views in southern Peterborough County. The rolling hills along the ride offer challenging climbs and rewarding views in every direction. Freshly made pastries are a tasty way to recharge and are accessible at several locations along this ride."



The geography of our region makes it a cyclist's dream. Cruise through the city on an integrated network of trails and bike lanes, get gritty on gravel, and put your endurance to the test over hills and down dales



▶ A Cycling Daycation

Kieran Andrews | @kieranwro

"We start our trip at the Silver Bean Café before making our way up toward River Road. Almost immediately we turn onto the quiet gravel roads as we loop first east and then south toward Keene and Muddy's Pit BBQ for a superb spot of lunch. On the way it is worthwhile to stop by Hope Mill Conservation Area or even Lang Pioneer Village if time permits."

▶ Riding the Snowscape

Ontario By Bike | @ontario_by_bike

"If you're craving a more mountain bike-type experience, Harold Town Conservation Area is a local favourite. Just be aware some trails are steep, with numerous hairpin turns that will make for a formidable challenge in winter. Not to be outdone, Millbrook is also home to some top-notch fat bike routes. Trails range from highly technical (such as Backstage Pass and Trench Town) to easygoing (the Deyell Detour)."

Learn more about Cycling in Peterborough & the Kawarthas:
thekawarthas.ca/cycling

Explore Canada's Treasured Waterway



THE MUST-DO LIST

- Paddle on the historic **Trent-Severn Waterway** (bonus points for ascending the world's highest hydraulic liftlock at the annual **Lock and Paddle** event)
- Get hands-on at a workshop at the **Canadian Canoe Museum** — the world's largest collection of canoes, kayaks and paddled watercraft
- Enjoy a **lakeside sunset** from a cottage resort, dockside restaurant, or waterfront trail
- Cast a fishing line** (maybe you'll reel in a big one!) at a family fishing resort, at annual events like O.F.A.H.'s Under the Lock Fishing Derby and Family Ice Fishing Day on Chemong Lake, or off the dock at a local resort
- Cruise through the region with **Liftlock and the Riverboat Cruises**, the **Kawartha Voyageur**, or cruise your very own license-free, luxury houseboat with **Le Boat**

thekawarthas.ca/tsw



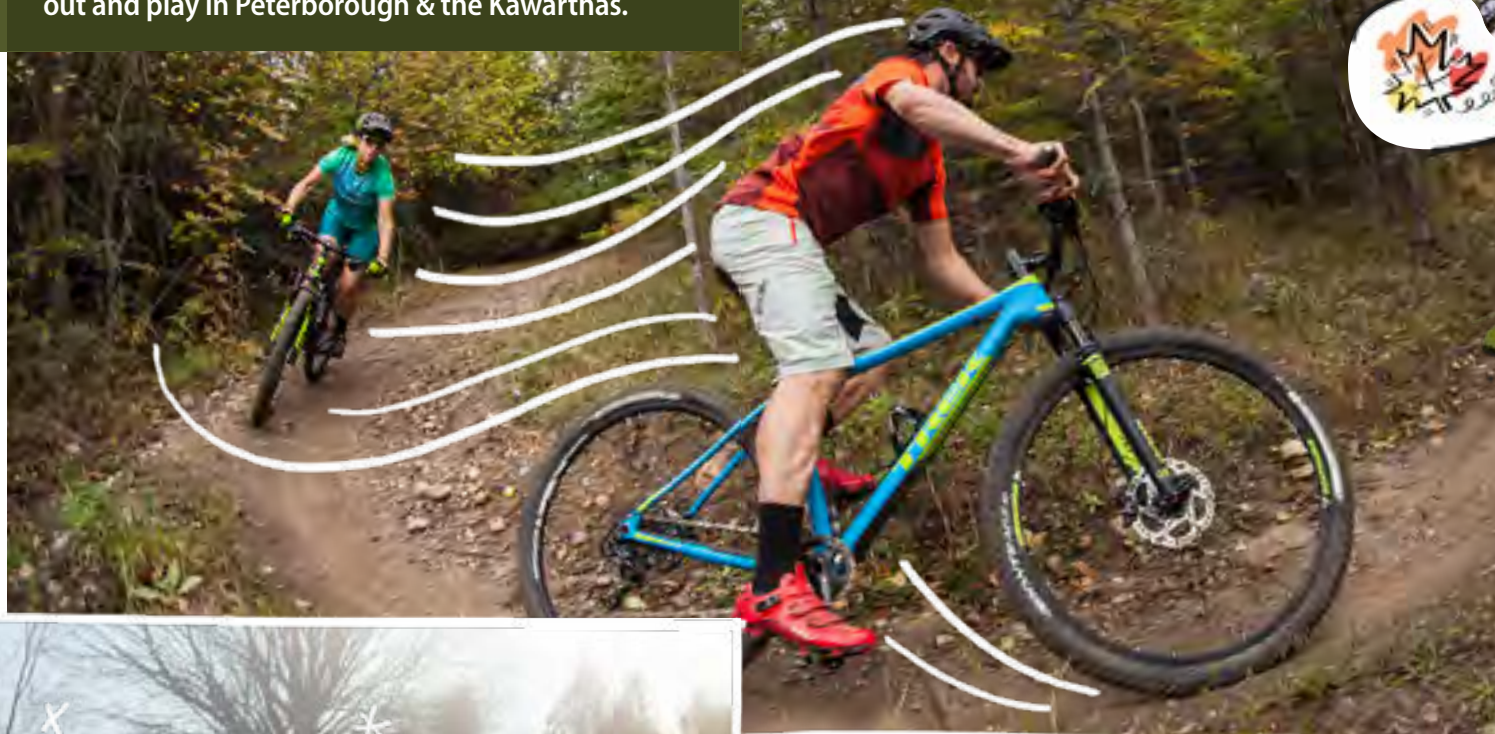
NEW!

A favourite fishing destination to share with the next generation of anglers. A paddler's paradise with a proud tradition of canoe craftsmanship (and a national museum to honour the quintessential Canadian vessel). With 150 lakes for boating, cottaging, and more, create memories you'll treasure on the historic Trent-Severn Waterway right here in Peterborough & the Kawarthas.



Let's Play Outside!

Do you like to get moving? Then we have that in common! Here are some of our favourite ways to get out and play in Peterborough & the Kawarthas.



On Two Wheels

A designated bicycle-friendly community, our region is a favourite for leisurely rides, long-distance treks and fat biking on the trails. Peterborough & the Kawarthas has hundreds of kilometres of trails and cycling routes ready to explore.

In the Snow

Strap on those skis (or snowshoes!) Wintertime is a great time to get out and active on local trails including at **Kawartha Nordic**.

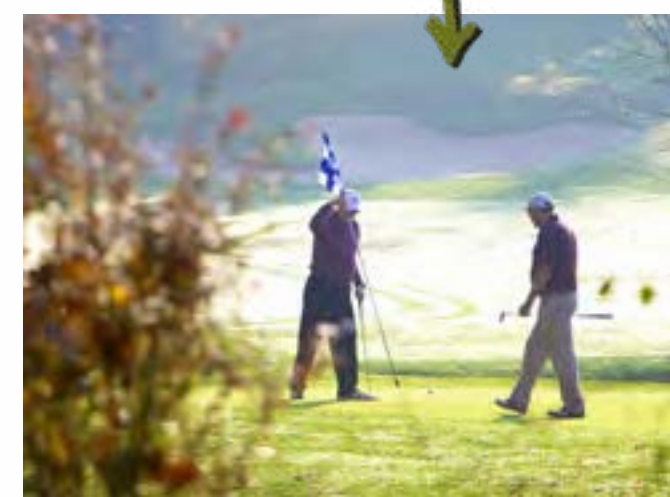
Warsaw Caves reverts back to glacier days and makes for a stunning winter hike. Snowmobilers will find hundreds of trails that are well-integrated into the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs network.

On the Ice

Embrace opportunities to strap on a pair of skates on the Trent Canal, at the **Ontario Speed Skating Oval**, or on a frozen lake for a game of shinny hockey. Head out for a day of ice fishing with your friends or little ones. Cheer on our hometown Peterborough Petes (the oldest team in the Ontario Hockey League).

On the Links

If a round of golf sounds like a fantastic day of relaxation, more than 15 golf courses and driving ranges in the region are waiting **fore** you!



Sports Community

Peterborough is well-known as an enthusiastic and active sports community. The Peterborough Lakers (Major Series Lacrosse) and the Peterborough Petes (Ontario Hockey League) are winning teams! (and be sure to check out the Sports Hall of Fame at the Peterborough Memorial Centre while you're there). Trent University's varsity teams for rowing, rugby and lacrosse are also known to draw a crowd — including at the annual Head of the Trent rowing regatta.

Something a Little Different

Axe throwing. Rock climbing. Ultimate frisbee. Pickleball. Lawn bowling. Disc golf. Board games and escape rooms too. Play your own way!



On the Trails

Our region's green spaces are a breath of fresh air for all seasons, activities and levels of **outdoorsy-ness** from more challenging treks along landscapes shaped by the Canadian Shield to trails along the river and rail beds.

Under the Stars

Whether you're a first-time camper, international traveler or looking to branch out of your ordinary experience in the woods, **Camp Rentique** literally (and figuratively) has you covered. Specializing in camping equipment rentals, they will deliver everything you need for a great camping trip direct to your door.

There are lots of camping options throughout the region at private campgrounds, Ontario Parks, and in an **oTENTik** along the Trent-Severn Waterway.

Find Yourself Immersed in Nature

An inside perspective on some of the best outdoor experiences that Peterborough & the Kawarthas has to offer.



▶ A Multi-Species Fishing Adventure on Lower Buckhorn

Fishing writer and angler Ashley Rae, @shelovestofish

"I had an opportunity to spend a few days exploring Lower Buckhorn Lake for a memorable kayak fishing adventure with my partner, Eric.

[We had the chance] to check a variety of species off our list during our short visit here, including: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, yellow perch, black crappie, pumpkinseed, and musky."



Discover even more trip inspiration from our insiders.
thekawarthas.ca/insider



▶ Backcountry Camping and Paddling: Serpentine Lake to Copper Lake

Adventure Family Travel Expert, Kevin Wagar | @wanderwagars

"Once we entered Serpentine Lake, it was pretty clear why the Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park canoe route was named after it. Serpentine Lake is gorgeous. A winding, shallow, rocky body of water that looks like it would be right at home in Group of 7 paintings.

When we reached [Copper Lake], I had a yearning to stretch the trip by a day just so that we could camp one night on Serpentine Lake.

The Serpentine to Copper Lake Portage is a short and easy 220 meters."

▶ Hiking and Wildlife Appreciation on the Stony Lake Trails

Travel Writer, Doug O'Neill | @dougoneill

"Peterborough & the Kawarthas has plenty to offer nature-lovers. The Stony Lake Trails — and the beautiful woodlands surrounding them — are located on what's known as the Ingleton-Wells Property [home to open fields, swamps, an upland forest, an aged orchard and other areas that provide habitats for various wildlife], which is just one of about a dozen protected properties managed by and cared for by the Kawartha Land Trust, a not-for-profit group dedicated to conserving the natural environment and enhancing quality of life in Peterborough & the Kawarthas."

▶ Beginner Paddling: Crab Lake and Blueberry Mountain

Author, Canoe Enthusiast, Kevin Callan | @KCHappyCamper

"Crab Lake is much bigger than it first appears. It has five main bays that head off in all directions — which is why the locals call it Star Lake. Each inlet has one or two prime campsites, complete with an exposed chunk of granite to catch a breeze on and a snug canopy of pine, maple and birch to pitch a tent under. There's also a bonus hike up Blueberry Mountain (Sharpe's Rock) in



the southwest bay as well. The view is stunning and it's labelled Blueberry Mountain for a reason; the rocky crest is covered in the ripe fruit by mid-summer."

▶ Warsaw Caves Camping

Trent University graduate, Advocate for Black visibility in the Outdoors, Zwena Gray | @just.zee

"Warsaw Caves is a hidden gem just 20 minutes from the city, and during the fall, it transforms into a mesmerizing tapestry of colors that cascade over the rocks, while the symphony of nature's sounds captivates your soul. There are eight caves to explore, from wide openings to tight crawls each offering a unique adventure. Whether you seek a hike, caving adventure, or a peaceful camping retreat, Warsaw Caves has it all, offering an unforgettable escape."

▶ Snowshoeing and Cross-Country Skiing at Kawartha Nordic Ski Club

Inside Scoop from the Peterborough & the Kawarthas Visitor Centre team | @thekawarthas

"The Kawartha Nordic Ski Club has groomed skate and classic cross-country ski trails with distances ranging from 1 km to 30 km and a cozy chalet to warm up in. Whether you're an avid skier or snowshoe enthusiast, searching for that backcountry experience or just looking for exceptional winter scenery you'll find it here."

Find dedicated nordic ski trails for:

- Classic skiing (46 km)
- Skate skiing (27 km)
- Snowshoeing (9 km)
- Night skiing (2 km)



Local Food & Drink Experiences



THE MUST-DO LIST

- Locally-made craft beer, cider, wine, and spirits
- The **Hunter Street Café District**
- Treats made with Red Fife Wheat
- Enjoy an immersive wilderness forage feast with **Rare Escapes** (a FeastON® certified experience)
- Ooey... gooey... **Butter tart** goodness!
- Fresh local **strawberries**
- Sweet **maple** syrup and products
- Food & drink festivals throughout the year
- Farmers' markets** throughout the region
- Lakeside dining at cottage country resorts



**FUEL YOUR JOURNEY. FILL YOUR CUP.
ENJOY A TASTE OF OUR REGION'S BOUNTY.**

The fruits of our centuries-old farmlands (grown, created, and served up by wonderful and welcoming people) have been a mainstay on our local menus. Here, passionate producers, inspired chefs, and curious foodies celebrate what it means to come together to share something delicious.

This is just a taste!
Discover all that Peterborough
& the Kawarthas has for
food and drink lovers.
thekawarthas.ca/eat-drink



Rooted in Deliciousness

Get a taste of our food and drink scene with these popular local experiences and ingredients.



Brews, Bites & Barns

Quench your thirst for craft beverages! Hop to stops on our Brews, Bites and Barns Brewery Route.



Peterborough Picnic

Forage a feast complete with local ingredients and pack up a #PtboPicnic ready to be enjoyed with scenic views, lakeside air, and stunning scenery all year round.

A Rare Escape Awaits

Hike to a dining destination and enjoy a unique fresh air, FeastON® certified local dining experience.

Hunter Street Café District

Fresh flavours and local ingredients are on the menu in Peterborough's diverse downtown restaurants and ready to be savoured along Peterborough's yummiest street.

Sip & Savour

Award-winning fruit wines, jellies, vinegars and ciders, and wood-fired pizza at **Kawartha Country Wines**.

Maple Meanderings

From maple menu items to sugar making experiences, the sweet essence of an iconic Canadian treat is on tap in Peterborough & the Kawarthas.

Farmers' Markets

There's nothing like a farmers' market to bring a region's food community together. In peak season, numerous farmers' markets *crop* up around the region.

Be sure to look for Kawartha Choice Farm Fresh banner — a celebration of locally-produced goodness.



Food Festivals

There's nothing quite like sinking your teeth into fun eats at a fair or festival. Some local favourites include: the Peterborough Mac and Cheese Festival, Kawartha Craft Beer Festival, and Applefest at **Lang Pioneer Village Museum**.

Entomo Farms

Something to chirp about. Here in our region, an innovative and sustainable solution to global food security — in the form of cricket protein.

Red Fife Wheat

In the 19th century, Peterborough & the Kawarthas farmer David Fife left an indelible mark on North American agriculture by introducing one of the hardiest and best grains to grow in Canada — one that is now grown and milled across the country — and celebrated at **Lang Pioneer Village Museum**.

Manoomin/Wild Rice

Steeped in generations of cultural and spiritual significance, manoomin (also known as "the gift of the Creator" and "the good seed") is being restored in the region's waterways under the leadership of local Indigenous communities. Together, the community practices an intergenerational method of planting, tending, gathering and processing manoomin wild rice. Find wild rice at local shops.



Stay A While

A few accommodations that are a feast for the senses and rooted in the local food scene.

Elmhirst's Resort

On the menu: 'Tutored tasting' in their stunning underground wine cellar; farm-to-table freshness (for guests and other visitors) – this working farm sources menu items from animals raised and produce grown on-site

Beachwood Resort

On the menu: fine country cuisine (for guests and other visitors); lakeside patio; summertime fish fry

Honey Cove

On the menu: Off-the-grid, on-the-farm goodness; Basket of local goodies; wood-fired pizza oven for your own culinary creations.

Holiday Inn Peterborough Waterfront

On the menu: A downtown waterfront patio favourite (complete with live music); smoked in-house BBQ favourites; local craft beer.



Berry Fun Times



Pick-your-own or pick-up when you're on the road! Local strawberries and raspberries are cropping up as a favourite sun-drenched summertime snack.

Butter Tart Touring

Enjoy butter tarts by the dozen? Sink your teeth into a favourite Ontario cottage country treat with stops on the **Kawarthas Northumberland Butter Tart Tour**.



Quakerborough

Since 1902, Quaker Oats products have been proudly made on the shores of the Otonabee River on Hunter Street in Peterborough. *An added bonus:* that sweet aroma of warm oatmeal is often in the air.

Globally-Inspired. Locally-Sourced

Excerpts from Tim Johnson (@timjohnsontravels) "Dine Around the World" Peterborough & the Kawarthas blog series.



St. Veronus Café and Taproom (Belgian)

129 Hunter Street West, Peterborough

"Flemish to the core, "brown cafes" (sometimes known as "brown bars") are a favourite place for people to gather over a quality pint of beer — regardless of class or income. [...] Peterborough has had its very own brown café, St. Veronus, named for the (Belgian-born) patron saint of brewers, and fashioned after its counterparts across the pond. It's all brown paneling and velvety banquettes and snug corners for conversation, and it's been an institution on the corner of Hunter and Water Streets since 2002."

Known for: Cozy vibes, incredible selection of (mostly Belgian) beers, and their comforting, beer-inspired cuisine — moule-frites, stoemp, and the owner's personal favourite, waterzooi, a seafood stew comprised of cod, shrimp, mussels and scallops, simmered in a blonde brew from Averbode Abbey.

Publican House Brewery & Pub (Local)

294 Charlotte Street, Peterborough

"Come for the beer, you'll definitely stay for the food."

Known for: seasonal menus, wood-fired pizzas, locally-sourced ingredients, everything from mushrooms to meats and strawberries to goat cheese.

La Hacienda (Mexican)

190 Hunter Street West, Peterborough

"[They] prepared an enchilada for me. Filled with chicken and smothered with mole pablano from Oaxaca — a chilli-based sauce with hints of chocolate that's been developed over literally hundreds of years — it all tastes super-fresh — [because it is]. Nothing is frozen, and everything is prepared fresh every day, from making salsa and sauces to boiling chickens.

Known for: Authentic Mexican dishes with simple combinations that explode with flavour.

The Friendly Greek (Greek)

360 George Street North (Unit #61), Peterborough

"They keep the menu simple, serving classics like spanakopita (spinach pie in a filo pastry, with feta cheese), saganaki (always an addictive dish — a flambéed Greek cheese), as well as dolmades (grape leaves, stuffed with rice and spices) and charbroiled lamb chops."

Known for: Chicken souvlaki, Greek salad, and delicious dips.

Rolling Grape Vineyard (Local)

260 County Road 2, Bailieboro

"You won't find any wine snobbery here — rather, the friendliness of a family farm. Visitors are welcome to take a little tour amongst the vines, with staff, and often the winemaker himself, pointing out the different types of grapes."

Known for: Spectacular vineyard vistas, wines and sangria, charcuterie and brunch boards, and wood-fired pizzas.

Read the full
"Dine Around the
World" series



Shafiq's Taste of India (Indian)

301 George St. South, Peterborough

"The menu — which is peppered with little anecdotes, historical notes and explanations (for example, details about the "amazing tandoor," a clay oven fired by hardwood charcoal that "simultaneously bakes, roasts, grills and smokes food," noting that the one here is imported from India). Plus, helpful asides about individual dishes, where they originate, how they're cooked — Madras, for example (fish, chicken, lamb, beef or veg, from the south, very hot), or saag (with shrimp or meat), a leafy green, moderately spiced, from the east."

Known for: "Butter chicken [...] best sopped up with a slice of garlic naan, still hot from the tandoori oven."

Island Cream (Caribbean)

227 Hunter Street West, Peterborough

A sign on the front of this cheery, small restaurant in the heart of Peterborough's Hunter Street Café District declares it "Home of the Mighty Roti." Ford says fully 90 percent of his customers order this West Indian flatbread.

Known for: Roti, Caribbean classics, including curry goat, jerk chicken, oxtail, and ackee and salt fish.

Cosmic Charlie's (Thai)

170 Charlotte Street, Peterborough

Dishes ranging from across Southeast Asia to Canada, including everything from spring rolls to satay and stir fries, to ribs and steaks. [...] The restaurant also offers a nice cocktail menu (think: red lotus martini, or red sangria, which always goes well with a spicy dish), as well as a half-dozen craft beers on tap.

Known for: Loyal return customers, inclusive menu for dietary restrictions — gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian, cool vibes.

Hey Friends!

Colour, create, play and laugh your way around Peterborough & the Kawarthas with these fun activities!

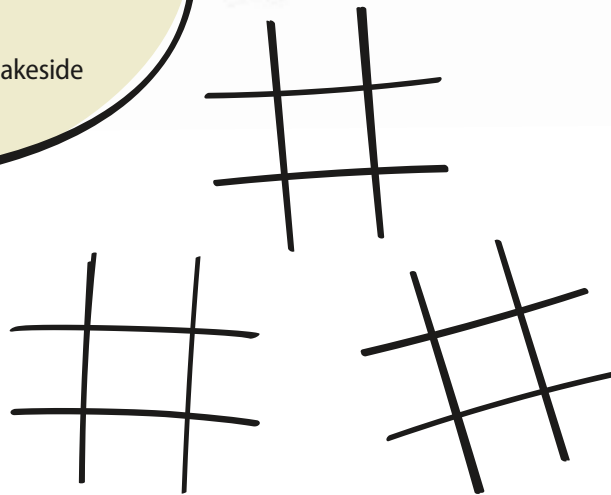
Did you hear about the restaurant on the moon?
Great food, no atmosphere.



Would you rather...

- Go spelunking in glacier-formed caves?
- OR
- Stay up late and enjoy a lakeside concert in the park?

TICTAC TOE!



Decorate your own ice cream cone

Create the ice cream cone of your dreams! Which flavours will you choose, how many scoops can you fit, and what name will you give your yummy creation?



Riddles

I am bright, but not smart. I burn, but am not a campfire (or a s'more). Many people have seen me, but I'm not famous. I only come out at night. What am I?
Answer: A star

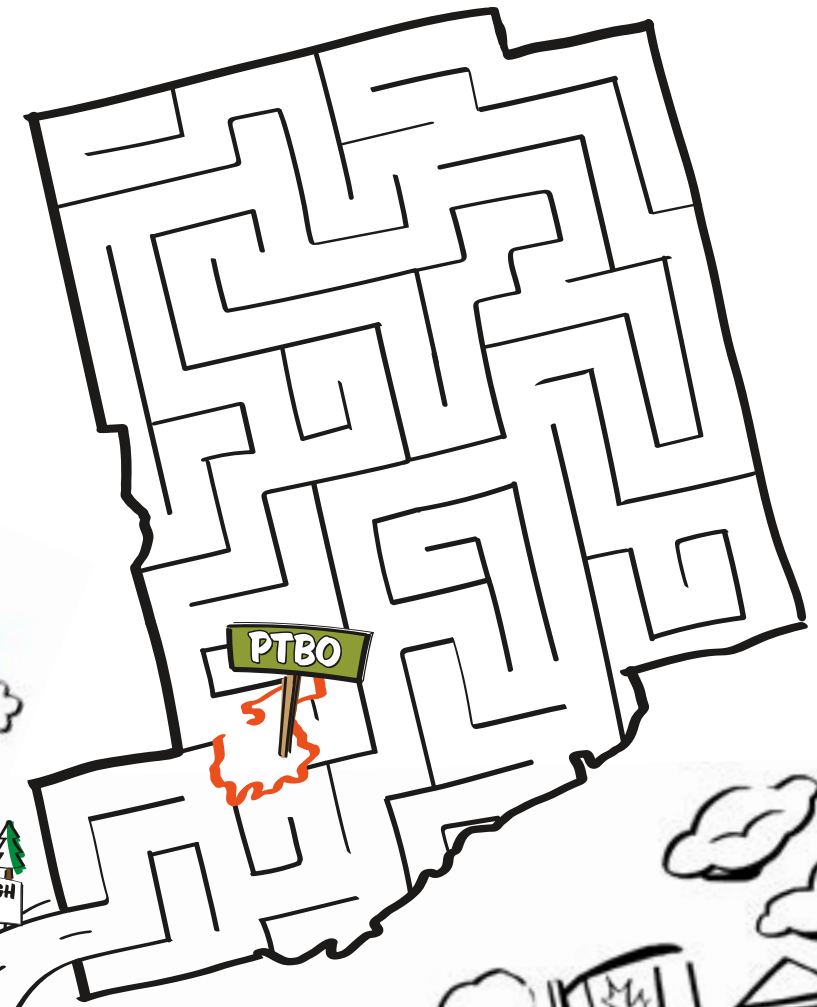
I have a bed but never sleep. I have a mouth but do not eat. You see me run, I never walk. What am I?
Answer: A river

What clothes should you pack in the fall?
A har-vest!



One A-maze-ing Road Trip!

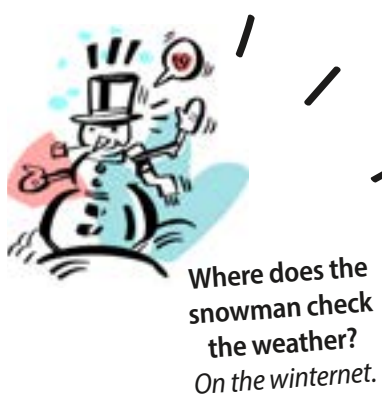
Visit all corners of the Kawarthas as you find your way to the City of Peterborough.



Build Your Best Peterborough & the Kawarthas Vacation Ever

If you were in charge of planning your family vacation — where would you stay? What would you eat? And how would you play?

Use our Trip Planner on thekawarthas.ca



Experiences for the Kids

(...and Kids at Heart)



Keep the kids entertained in all seasons with playgrounds, camps, beaches, skating, splash pads and more!

thekawarthas.ca/kids



Experience Life on the Farm

- Walk the Alpacas at **Wanderlight Alpaca Experience**
- Be a Farmer for a morning at **Harley Farms**

Create an Escape Route

With four indoor escape rooms, four outdoor escape trails, and even glamping experiences, **Escape Maze** is a smart kid's favourite. Don't miss Halloween and their "Stalking Dead" game

Lift Lock Escape – escape rooms, a board game café, and VR experiences too! (Check out: a game inspired by Thomas Edison, who historically chose Peterborough as a place to do business)

Please Touch! Hands-on Attractions

Canadian Canoe Museum – The museum's new lakefront location offers ways to explore Canada by Canoe, including hands-on workshops, voyageur canoe tours, and canoe and kayak rentals.

Peterborough Museum & Archives – Kids will love interactive elements including scavenger hunt, playground, and their monthly "Discovery After Dark" after hours experience. Also located on Peterborough's favourite toboggan hill, Armour Hill.

Art Gallery of Peterborough – Inspiring and accessible art experiences, art workshops, kids camps, and Family Sundays.

Lang Pioneer Village Museum – Kids will love taking a step back in time visiting a Victorian school house, the Aabnaabin Camp, Blacksmith, and Weaver's Shop (plus time-treasured festivals — like the Father's Day Smoke and Steam Show, Pioneer Corn Roast, All Hallow's Eve, and Christmas by Candlelight!)

Hutchison House Museum – Historic home of Peterborough's first doctor (and later Sandford Fleming — a Canadian of historical importance who was involved in surveying for the Canada Pacific Railway and as the inventor of Standard Time). Annual events for the family including Scottish Tea (all summer long) and Hogmanay (traditional Scottish New Year).

O.F.A.H. Hunting & Fishing Heritage Centre – Learn about conservation and the animals that call Canada home. Highlights include the sport fish aquarium, wildlife displays, Shimano Fish Pond, Excalibur Archery range and Stoger airgun range, and more.

Peterborough Public Library – crafts, games, a vibrant children's library, and events like Drag Queen Storytime.

Peterborough Axe Club – A welcoming, safe and engaging place to have fun in the sport of axe-throwing! They host leagues, group bookings, and walk-ins.

Kid-Friendly Events – Touring children's performers, monster truck shows and more at our region's venues.

Play in Nature

Canada's Dinosaur Park – 100 animatronic dinosaurs including a life-sized replica of the largest T-Rex ever discovered.

Riverview Park & Zoo – Canada's only CAZA-accredited free zoo. 55 acres to explore, famous miniature train ride, splash pad, playground, Meet the Otters (and other animals), disc golf course.

Peterborough Green-Up Ecology Park – Located near the Beavermead beach and playground, a natural place to play tucked away from the city's hustle and bustle.

Kiss a Snout at **Pearly Acres Pig Sanctuary**

Beaches of Peterborough & the Kawarthas – Wade into our region's waters and explore shorelines that are perfect for tracking turtles and building sandcastles.

Kid-Approved Food Experiences

Boardwalk Board Game Lounge (Peterborough): Board games, popcorn and fun lunches.

Publican House Brewery & Pub (Peterborough): Pizzas and kids' menu favourites.

Sam's Place (Peterborough): 'Samwiches' for the whole family!

Canoe & Paddle Pub (Lakefield): Cozy family pub atmosphere.

Central Smith Creamery (Selwyn Township): Favourite local stop for ice cream cones and sundaes; sweet photo-ops.

Muddy's Pit BBQ (Keene): Brisket, ribs, salads and old-school arcade games!

Apollo Grill (Peterborough): Soft-serve cones, burgers, milkshakes.

ESCAPE MAZE

Family Fun in Peterborough & the Kawarthas

Excerpts from Parenting To Go, Yashy Murphy (@_parentingtogo_) shares places to make memories with friends and kids in Peterborough & the Kawarthas.

ENTRANCE

WANTED!



HOW CUTE IS THIS?!



Get Your Shopping On at Whetung Ojibwa Centre

"This seventh-generation family-run business focuses on Indigenous arts and crafts. Everybody who works at Whetung's is a member of Curve Lake First Nation and I was lucky to be served by Michael Whetung himself during my visit. He graciously helped me pick out some Moccasins as a gift for my mother and humoured me while I tried a variety of footwear."

Don't miss: Opportunities to hear stories behind the paintings.

Walk Alpacas

"Wanderlight Alpaca is a working farm where owner Katie will greet you with a bag of Alpaca treats so you can befriend these cute animals from the very moment you arrive. The Alpacas are free to roam on their own for most of the day. This family-friendly experience was definitely a highlight for the kids who loved guiding their own Alpaca."



Go to Petroglyphs Provincial Park for the Indigenous Rock Carvings and also see the Meromictic Lake

"Learn about Indigenous traditions at this Ontario Park! There are a variety of hikes one can embark on but the highlight for us was seeing and learning about the largest known concentration of First Nation Petroglyphs. This is a sacred site and no photography and videography is allowed and I highly recommend chatting with the staff on-site to hear about the stories and meaning behind the rock carvings."

Check out: McGinnis Lake — one of only a handful of meromictic lakes in Canada (it's fascinating to see the mix of colours here).

Solve Riddles at Escape Maze

"If you enjoy a good escape maze, you'll want to try your hand (and brain) at their outdoor adventures. Our group of friends had a great time here and even the kids joined in the fun. Most of their trails are for those 13 and above but younger kids can partake as long as there's an adult. Armed with an old-timey map we ran around their farm looking for different stations along the route. At each stop on the Gold Rush Trail, there was a challenge to complete and we were on a mission to beat the clock."

Hold Hands at Adam and Eve Rocks

"A quick stop here to follow folklore stating that if you and your partner hold hands and touch one of the two large glacial rocks, your lives will be eternally blessed. If you have a rockhound, they'll certainly be amazed by the terrain in Peterborough & the Kawarthas."



Places the Kids Will Cozy Into

- Best Western Plus Otonabee Inn, Peterborough
- Pine Vista Resort, Lakefield
- Holiday Inn Peterborough-Waterfront, Peterborough
- Pigeon Lake Resort, Trent Lakes
- Elmhirst's Resort, Keene
- Comfort Inn, Peterborough
- Viamede Resort, Woodview
- Hampton Inn, Peterborough

Check out even more great accommodations options: thekawarthas.ca/stay

Grab Something Sweet at Mclean's Berry Farm

"Pop by this family-run farm to pick up some fresh in-season fruits and veggies but don't forget to also pick up some butter tarts and maple syrup. You're in butter tart country after all!"

Don't miss: Pumpkinfest (running October weekends). Here, you can take a wagon ride out to the pumpkin patch, pick your own pumpkin, go through haunted forests and explore corn mazes.

Bite into Muddy's Pit BBQ

"Definitely stop in at this street-side BBQ hut where you'll enjoy some great smoked meats. My kids loved the ribs and I was a huge fan of the pork tacos. From pulled pork and briskets to baked beans and salads, they have enough options to make a carnivorous belly very happy. You won't regret stopping in for some authentic maple log wood BBQ."



Something Spectacular: Sights, Stories & Sounds

Photo: Heather Doughty.

CELEBRATING THE LOCAL ARTS AND CULTURE THAT BRINGS OUR DESTINATION TO LIFE.

The most beautiful parts of Peterborough & the Kawarthas' vibrant arts and culture scene sit at its intersections: where landscapes inspire stunning masterpieces, histories are restored and restored in imaginative ways, and a creative spirit stirs the collective imagination of artists, and people in all corners of our community.



THE MUST-DO LIST

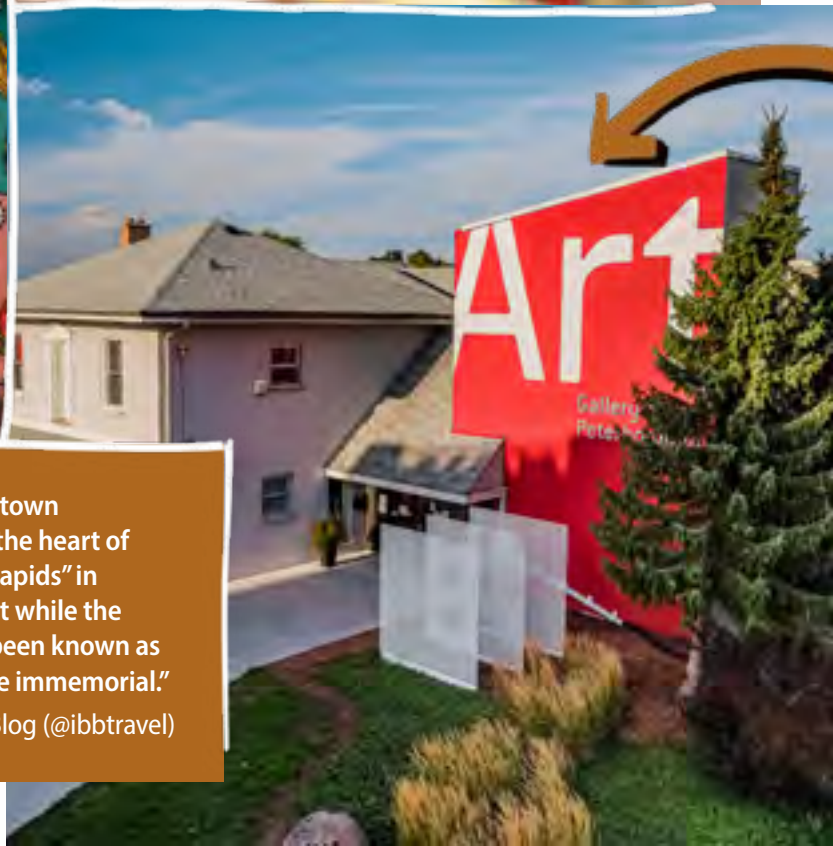
- Step back in time at **Lang Pioneer Village Museum** — exploring the village events and visiting the Aabnaabin Camp and Weaver's Shop
- Dance, sing or 'stomp' along at summertime concerts like **Peterborough Musicfest** and **Peterborough Folk Festival**
- Heighten your awareness of Indigenous traditional knowledge and culture at **Petroglyphs Provincial Park** — home to the largest-known concentration of Indigenous rock carvings in North America
- Dive into local stories from our region's rich literary past (with iconic authors like Susanna Moodie, Margaret Laurence, and Catharine Parr Traill) — at **Peterborough Museum and Archives** and the **Lakefield Literary Festival**
- Be part of the vibrancy as the downtown Peterborough arts community comes alive for the **First Friday Art Crawl**
- Head to **4th Line Theatre** to take in an open-air performance inspired by local history
- Check out big name acts in intimate venues like **Market Hall Performing Arts Centre** or **Showplace Performance Centre**
- Celebrate Canada Day with us at the **Canadian Multicultural Festival**
- Discover Indigenous art, crafts, and culture at the **Whetung Ojibwa Centre**

Discover all the ways
to get inspired:
thekawarthas.ca/culture



Art & Soul

See the region from the perspective of creatives who call it home. Artists are attracted for the same reasons that you will be: the scenery, the friendly people, the chance to escape the big city. Painters, sculptors, glass and fabric artists, writers, potters and jewellery makers find inspiration here (and you will too!)



"Follow [the Preamble Peterborough downtown walking tour] as you meander throughout the heart of "Nogojwanong". Meaning "the end of the rapids" in Ojibway, it's important to acknowledge that while the city is now known as Peterborough, it has been known as Nogojwanong to the Indigenous since time immemorial."
 - Lindsay Davies, I've Been Bit Travel Blog (@ibbtravel)

Public Art Displays

Find beautiful creations in unexpected places around the region. Here, you can happen upon a renaissance of road murals and poetry gardens in the **Hunter Street Café District**, uncover under-bridge murals rooted in acknowledging the region's proud Indigenous culture and history, follow along on a barn quilt trail in Cavan-Monaghan, or tour through public sculptures on Trent University's thought-provoking Symons campus.

Get Hands On

Roll up your sleeves and explore a new craft as you rub elbows with local artists. Carve your very own paddle at the **Canadian Canoe Museum**, learn to throw on a potter's wheel at the **English Potter**, create candles, melts and mists that include sacred Indigenous medicines at **Indigenously Infused**.

Bound to Literary Learning

Peterborough & the Kawarthas has a remarkably storied past (and present!). Notable authors with roots in the region include Indigenous author and humourist, Drew Hayden Taylor, iconic 19th century settler sisters, Catharine Parr Traill and Susanna Moodie, and prolific Canadian authors Margaret Laurence and Robertson Davies.

As a community that takes pride in incubating talented writers, Peterborough launched a poet laureate program in 2021.

Peruse Local Galleries and Artisan Wares

The **Art Gallery of Peterborough**, **Whetung Ojibwa Centre**, **Artspace**, and **The English Potter and Co.** are all incredible spaces to see works created by local, regional and nationally-significant artists.



Take a Little Piece of Peterborough & the Kawarthas Home With You

Here are some great places to pick up locally-inspired souvenirs:

Watson + Lou

383 Water Street, Peterborough

Living Local Marketplace

1179 Chemong Road, Peterborough

Peterborough Northern Originals (at Flavour Fashion)

383 George Street N., Peterborough

Whetung Ojibwa Centre

875 Mississauga Street, Curve Lake

Craftworks and Antiques at the Barn

124 Lindsay Road, Selwyn

Modern Makers Market

651 Chamberlain St, Peterborough

Festivals & Events

Art & Craft Shows

Favourites among locals and visitors alike include Lakefield Jazz, Art & Craft Festival (July), Buckhorn Festival of the Arts (August), Buckhorn Craft Show (Spring & Harvest), Hand of Man Art & Craft Show

September Studio Tours



Kawartha Autumn Studio Tour & Apsley Autumn Studio Tours (self-guided driving tours) take place in September each year.

Artsweek Peterborough

Peterborough's biennial festival of the arts, a 10-day, multi-disciplinary showcase of local creativity.

Lakefield Literary Festival

An annual celebration celebrating Lakefield's rich literary history and contemporary Canadian literature, held each July on the weekend closest to Margaret Laurence's birthday (July 18).

Take the Stage

Come and see the stars (Peterborough & the Kawarthas style). We're acting up, singing out, performing and playing around! Be awestruck by incredibly moving theatre. Whatever tempo you're looking for you're sure to find some fun to join in.



Photo by Wayne Eardley, provided by 4th Line Theatre



Pow Wows

Hiawatha First Nation hosts their annual Pow Wow on the third weekend in May. Curve Lake First Nation's Pow Wow is held on the third weekend of September. Additionally, Pow Wow events take place for National Indigenous People's Day.

Market Hall Performing Arts Centre

Located below the iconic clock tower in downtown Peterborough, this 350-seat performance venue is a beautifully restored, fully accessible, and a favourite amongst artists for their stellar acoustics.

Showplace Performance Centre

A favourite downtown Peterborough venue for live music and other performance arts events. Their unique Showplace Lounge events create an ideal intimate atmosphere.

4th Line Theatre

Idyllic, rural, and quintessentially Canadian, 4th Line Theatre creates unforgettable and epic outdoor theatre experiences with plays written by and about Canadians, from small-town stories to broad national sagas.

Hittin' the Town

Small stages where many iconic Canadian artists and bands got their start (and the venue where Tom Connors added the *Stompin'* to his name). Downtown Peterborough — a favourite for the hometown crowd, students and visitors alike — comes alive.

Peterborough Musicfest

Did you know that our region is home to Canada's longest-running free outdoor concert series? On Wednesdays and Saturdays in July and August, Downtown Peterborough comes alive with free concerts overlooking Little Lake.



Gettin' Down on the Farm (or by the Lake)

From live music in the vineyard to patio pints or drag queen performances on farm homesteads to rocking BBQ joints, the hills and lakeside venues truly sing with entertainment experiences.

Nogojwanong Indigenous Fringe Festival

Each June, Trent University's Symons Campus (which boasts the incredible Nozhem Indigenous Performance Space) plays host to the first and only Indigenous fringe festival in the world.

Peterborough Folk Festival

A free and family-friendly festival alongside the maple trees at Nicholls Oval Park. The Peterborough Folk Fest welcomes local and nationally acclaimed performers each August.

Entertainment at the Peterborough Memorial Centre (PMC)

In addition to being the home to the Peterborough Petes hockey team for over 60 seasons, when big name acts are rolling through town, many opt to play a gig at the PMC. Some notable acts include Elton John, Brad Paisley, Arkells, and Willie Nelson.



Visit our Calendar of Events:
thekawarthas.ca/events

Taking in Fall Art Classes, Studio Tours and Art Galleries

Excerpts from Bri Mitchell's (@brimitchelltravels) article originally published on UltimateOntario.com.



Peterborough & the Kawarthas is overflowing with ways to get in touch with your creative side this fall. Below, we take you to the best art galleries in Peterborough, studio tours, and art classes that you can enjoy on your next fall visit to the region.

Head to the Art Gallery of Peterborough

"The Art Gallery of Peterborough is an excellent place to begin any art-focused tour of Peterborough & the Kawarthas. Not only is it situated on the beautiful shores of Little Lake, but it's free to visit (with donations gratefully accepted).

The gallery is committed to showcasing work from a diverse array of artists, with a special focus on art created by artists in and around the region."

Support Local Artists and Find Inspiration on an Autumn Studio Tour



"With the inspiring surroundings of countless lakes, rivers, forests and rocky terrain, inspiration flows from every corner of this region. The autumn studio tours are an excellent way to meet and learn from artists all across the region.

Plan to see artist demonstrations, find opportunities to purchase local artists' work, and make connections with people who care very deeply for community through a tour like this."

Take a Walk Along Peterborough's "Renaissance on Hunter"

"Downtown Peterborough and the Hunter Street Café District is a treat for any art lover in the spring, summer and fall months. It's the perfect excuse to stroll along the shops, restaurants and cafes in this picturesque part of town.

You can stroll along the "Renaissance on Hunter" pedestrian area of Hunter Street between George St. North and Aylmer St., and pause to admire the murals painted along the walkway."



Take a Pottery Class

"The Village of Lakefield is a short distance from Peterborough, and it has a potter who's been known to offer exceptional classes to the community for over a decade.

[Gail West — the English Potter herself] offers small, private classes out of her potter's studio in the centre of town. She is a patient and warm instructor, and you won't regret taking one of her integrative classes."

Take a Stroll to See Public Art

"From the Art Gallery of Peterborough is a path along the Trans Canada Trail which runs alongside the Otonabee River. Begin at the gallery and head north through Del Cray Park and continue up the path to the northern end of Millennium Park. It's a peaceful walk that takes you around Little Lake, and up the river, with public sculptures scattered throughout the walk.

From the top of Millennium Park, you can cut across to Water Street between Simcoe and Hunter to see the vivid mural created by Kathryn Durst in the alley beside the storefront for Watson + Lou (a creative shop which showcases local makers and offers hands-on classes too!)."

Forest Bathe on an Inspiring Walk Through Jackson Park

"Jackson Park is to Peterborough what Central Park is to New York City. This scenic park has a series of beautiful paths to take you on a nature-filled walk in the heart of the city.

A highlight on any trip through Jackson Park is to stop at the Pagoda Bridge along Jackson Creek. It's a reconstructed Victorian bridge [...] with paths and benches all around it. It's the perfect place to come for a fall stroll, or sit, meditate and allow your creative juices to flow."





Hear from the Insiders and Friends of Peterborough & the Kawarthas

This region holds a special place in the hearts and minds of people who explore it. Throughout this guide, you have heard from both local insiders — who serve as proud ambassadors of their hometown — as well as friends of our beloved destination. Learn a little about the people behind the perspectives!



Tim Johnson | @timjohnsontravels

Canadian travel writer and contributor to influential publications.

Tim has visited 145 countries on all seven continents, contributing articles to some of North America's most influential publications, including The Globe and Mail, CNN Travel, National Geographic, Bloomberg, the Toronto Star, AFAR, The New Yorker and many others. Born and raised here — he loves to return home and explore familiar, but much-loved territory.

Doug O'Neill | @dougoneill

Writer. Communications professional. Nature guide book author. Hiker.

Doug O'Neill discovered (much to his surprise) that he had various connections to Peterborough & the Kawarthas which he's been using to get the inside scoop on our region. He brings an insight about how to best tap into the 'real flavour'.

Kevin Wagar | @wanderingwagars

Award-winning travel writer and photographer. Passionate about exploring the world with his family.

Kevin was born and raised in Peterborough before setting out on a life of adventure that has taken him through 45 countries across five continents. Throughout his travels, he has always been drawn back home to the Kawarthas. On his journeys around the world, he has chronicled his experiences on his website, Wandering Wagars — Adventure Family Travel and is also one of the founders of Ultimate Ontario.

Local Insiders

Kieran Andrews | @kieranwro

Passionate cyclist. Long-time Peterborough business leader. Community builder.

With a belief that business should build community, Kieran and his partner have used Wild Rock Outfitters as a conduit to enrich Peterborough's outdoor community, clubs and culture. A community expert, Kieran has explored and mapped every corner of Peterborough County and spearheaded the creation of both a local cycling map and the Peterborough & the Kawartha Classics Road Cycling Routes.

Justen Soule | @justensoule

Filmmaker, photographer capturing incredible perspectives of Peterborough & the Kawarthas and beyond.

Justen captures unique and stunning viewpoints of our destination from community aerials to local businesses and festivals. Many well-loved photos of the region were taken by him (including the four-season composite of the Peterborough Lift Lock in the Welcome message of this guide).

Yashy Murphy | @yashianthi

Toronto-based travel content creator and expert on traveling with kids.

Yashy is a branding specialist by profession, who launched Parenting to Go with a goal of encouraging young families to maintain the pre-baby life, post-kids. Having dined out and traveled to over 200 cities in over 20 countries since their first baby was born in 2011, she encourages readers to travel and enjoy the culinary offerings in your own backyard.

Bri Mitchell | @brimitchelltravels

Toronto-based travel content creator and content creator.

After years of living abroad, Bri happily returned to rediscover all there is to do and see in this beautiful province. She loves sharing all things nature, food, and culture.

Bri works as part of the Ultimate Ontario team where she shares her experiences doing everything from adventure travel in the backcountry to staying at boutique hotels.



Friends of Peterborough & the Kawarthas

Chris Mitchell | @travelingmitch

Canadian travel writer and content creator based in Toronto.

Chris is a well-known travel industry voice in Ontario and has visited 80 countries around the world. He is the co-founder of the Toronto Bloggers Collective and is the editor and co-founder of Ultimate Ontario.

Lindsay Davies | @ibbtravel

Canadian travel writer. Graphic designer by trade but a wanderer by heart.

A Canadian gal that's been bit by the travel bug. A graphic designer by trade but a wanderer by heart. While in Peterborough & the Kawarthas, she can be found exploring the region's waterways by kayaks and learning more about Indigenous knowledge and communities. As editor of I've Been Bit Travel Blog, she hikes new trails, discovers waterfalls, and indulges in anything local from coffee shops to wineries!

Share Your Experiences

We know your visit will be filled with beautiful sights and sounds, moments and memories. Share them with us using the hashtag #VisitPtboKawarthas for the opportunity to be featured on our website, social media and for upcoming future publications.

#VisitPtboKawarthas

@thekawarthas

/TheKawarthas



Kevin Callan | @kchappycamper

Kevin Callan is the author of fifteen books, including the best-selling "The Happy Camper", and an incredibly popular series of paddling guides. He is a winner of several National Magazine Awards and film awards and has been listed as one of the top 100 modern day explorers by the Canadian Geographical Society. He was also made Patron Paddler for Paddle Canada.

Zwena Gray | @just.zee

Environmentalist. Climate activist. Trent University student.

Zwena Gray is a 21-year-old Black environmentalist and climate activist passionate about creating a pathway for environmentalism in BIPOC communities. In 2022, Zwena took on a personal mission, titled #BlackontheBruce, where she thru-hiked over 900km of the Bruce Trail from Niagara Falls to Tobermory. Originally from Detroit, Zwena is studying at Trent University in Peterborough.

Briagh Hoskins-Hasbury & Bretton Clark | @thelandcanadianadventures

Outdoor adventure enthusiasts (in all four seasons). Local business owners.

These two love an adventure! Their small business — The Land Canadian Adventures — specializes in all-inclusive, four-season, day excursions, overnight trips and outdoor team building in the Kawarthas' most beautiful locations. Canoeing when the water is open and trekking by snowshoe during the winter months, they are committed to sharing their favourite aspects of Peterborough & the Kawarthas with the world.

Have Some City with your Country

Whether folks are sharing stories about Peterborough as a hub for higher education, singing praises about our lively arts community, dishing about what makes it a haven for food lovers, or enthusiastically affirming our reputation as a place for sports fans. You'll quickly realize for a variety of reasons, Peterborough is a city *outside the ordinary*. Get to know the neighbourhoods in the City of Peterborough.



▷ Downtown (Town Ward)

A celebrated food scene and active arts community create the vibrant vibe that Peterborough & the Kawarthas is known for. Affectionately known as “The Boro”, visitors and locals alike enjoy public art and parks, historic homes, opportunities to explore great shopping, get active outdoors, and the connection to water along Otonabee River and Little Lake.

Learn all about Downtown Peterborough: TheBoro.ca

What you'll find here: Hunter Street Café District, Del Cray Park (home to Peterborough Musicfest), Millennium Park, Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, Showplace Performance Centre, Peterborough Marina, Quaker Foods City Square, unique retail shops, dining, galleries and public art.

▷ North End (Northcrest Ward)

A dynamic community of scholars at Trent University (10,000 students strong) anchor this part of town. A popular residential area of the city, the North End is integrated with parks and trails, as well as family-friendly mainstays like parks and splash pads, access to retail area and big box stores.

What you'll find here: Riverview Park and Zoo, Jackson Park, Rotary Greenway Trail, and Trent University.

Get the T-Shirt... or Get Them All!

Whether you're in the City or the County, the neighbourhoods of Peterborough & the Kawarthas inspire a sense of local pride. It has also inspired a little sense of local flair in the form of a 'neighbourhoodies' line of clothing from local retailer Flavour Fashion (as part of their PTBO Northern Originals line).

ptbonthernoriginals.com



▷ South End (Otonabee Ward)

This is the core of our local cheering section! The south end is where our hometown Peterborough Petes (hockey) and Peterborough Lakers (lacrosse) play at the Peterborough Memorial Centre. This is also a retail hub along Lansdowne Street with a mall and city shopping mainstays (and the Peterborough & District Farmers' Market too!).

What you'll find here: Peterborough Memorial Centre, Lansdowne Place, retail shopping, Shorelines Casino Peterborough.

▷ East City (Ashburnham Ward)

Quaint and delightful, Peterborough's Ashburnham area (affectionately known by locals as East City) has a flavour of its very own. Here, you can find iconic area attractions, restaurants, unique shops, trails, sports fields and parks built for nature appreciation and enjoying the waterfront.

What you'll find here: Peterborough Lift Lock, the new Canadian Canoe Museum, Beavermead Park & Campground (and Ecology Park), Nicholls Oval Park (home to Peterborough Folk Festival).

▷ West End (Monaghan Ward)

With a healthcare hub surrounding the Peterborough Regional Health Centre, the Fleming College Sutherland Campus, as well as local sports fields, the city's West End is a favourite place for a growing number of people to set down roots.

What you'll find here: Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Fleming College, retail shopping and restaurants, Kawartha Golf and Country Club, historic architecture.



Have a Little Country with Your City

Eight diverse and idyllic townships. Two vibrant First Nations communities. Get to know the towns and villages that make up the rural routes of the region.



1. Municipality of Trent Lakes trentlakes.ca

A diverse community popular among active outdoor enthusiasts and a natural environment that will satisfy any outdoor adventurer. This township is proudly home to the busiest lock on the Trent-Severn Waterway, and the tri-lakes are a favourite fishing spot. Here, you can find yourself among creatives, go-getters, and avid paddlers and boaters.

Don't miss: Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park, pumpkin patches and strawberry fields at McLean's Berry Farm, cottage living and fishing in the tri-lakes.

2. Township of North Kawartha northkawartha.ca

Set against the backdrop of lush forests and scenic waterfront, the Township of North Kawartha is a vibrant, accessible and growing community. With an active arts community, and natural beauty ready to be explored at area beaches, parks and trails, this is a popular stop for visitors.

Don't miss: Petroglyphs Provincial Park, cross-country skiing at Kawartha Nordic Ski Club, and cottage living.

3. Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen hbmtwp.ca

A charming rural community with an abundance of lakes, rivers, and trails. An ideal location for lovers of the outdoors — opportunities for boating, paddling, ATVing and snowmobiling abound!

Don't miss: Peterborough County Trails ATV Club, Havelock Community Rink, Havelock Fire & Ice Festival, snowmobiling along Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs' trails, Belmont Lake Brewery, Wildflower Bakery

4. Township of Selwyn selwyntownship.ca

Known for its exceptional quality of life, active community members, and storied literary history. Selwyn Township has a welcoming atmosphere that is ideal for exploring quaint downtowns, with scenic nature and lake views.

Don't miss: Lakefield Literary Festival (and the area's unique literary heritage), Polarfest, Lakefield Jazz Art & Craft Festival, Ennismore Shamrock Festival, parks and trails, Ontario Speed Skating Oval, O.F.A.H. Family Ice Fishing Day on Chemong Lake (weather permitting).

Photo: Peterborough County Council



5. Curve Lake First Nation curvelakefirstnation.ca

Through hard work and determination, the ancestors of Curve Lake have shaped a unique and wonderful community. Culture, language, and old ways of living are still proudly integrated here — a model community to surrounding First Nations. Curve Lake is home to Elsie Knott, the very first Anishinaabe Kwe O'gimaa (Native Woman Chief) in Canada. Members of the area's proud arts community include Norman Knott, Alice Williams, David Johnson, and author and humourist Drew Hayden Taylor.

Don't miss: Curve Lake Cultural Centre, Whetung Ojibwa Centre, Curve Lake First Nation Pow Wow (September) and artisan workshops at Indigenously Infused.

6. Township of Douro-Dummer dourodummer.ca

Landscapes that are made for creating memories shine here. The township offers a relaxing atmosphere, well-loved cottage country lakes, several quaint villages, and rich agricultural lands.

Don't miss: Warsaw Caves, Robert Johnston Eco Forest Trails, Harbourtown Marina, Cottage resorts perfect for fishing, boating and enjoying scenic views.

Explore itineraries to immerse yourself in favourite places throughout the region
thekawartha.ca/plan

7. Township of Cavan Monaghan cavanmonaghan.net

Nestled in the rolling hills of southwestern Peterborough County, this township offers a beautiful rural setting, well-preserved historic villages, a tight-knit community with a passion for arts and outdoor activities (also a popular Ontario film location with a Hallmark-movie worthy downtown).

Don't miss: 4th Line Theatre, Millbrook Valley Trails, Kawartha Downs, historic downtown Millbrook, beautiful golf courses.

8. Otonabee-South Monaghan Township osmtownship.ca

A picturesque rural community well-known for its award-winning agricultural businesses and innovative heritage attractions. Nestled on the north shore of Rice Lake, this township is popular for local food, fishing, cottaging and agri-tourism experiences.

Don't miss: Fishing and boating, on-farm fun experiences, Keene Pumpkin Festival, Muddy's Pit BBQ, cycling with views of Rice Lake.

9. Hiawatha First Nation hiawathafirstnation.com

A popular destination for families, outdoor enthusiasts, and anglers. The community remains vibrant, proud, and independent, balanced in the richness of their culture and traditional way of life. Here, visitors are able to explore the natural beauty of the lands and waters on the north shore of Rice Lake, and to learn about the culture, history and stories of the community.

Don't miss: Hiawatha Pow Wow (May), The Old Railroad Stop

10. Township of Asphodel-Norwood antownship.ca

Historic villages and deep agricultural roots lend that classic rural Ontario feel to this friendly and growing community. With picturesque parks and new recreation facilities, this township is ideal for active families.

Don't miss: Norwood Fall Fair (every Thanksgiving), Canada's Dinosaur Park, Rocky Meadows Lavender

Looking for

LOCAL VISITOR

INFORMATION?

The Peterborough & the Kawarthas Visitor Centre provides a wide selection of free information including travel guides, brochures, postcards, road maps and trail guides. Trained travel counsellors are available to assist visitors, locals, seasonal residents and students in person, over-the-phone, and via our social media handles.



Peterborough
THE KAWARTHAS

Visitor Centre

1-800-461-6424
thekawarthas.ca

VentureNorth
270 George Street North,
Suite 101

Located at the corner of King
Street and George Street in
Downtown Peterborough



Taking Transit?

The bus terminal is located in close proximity to the Visitor Centre. Visit Peterborough.ca/transit for bus route information.



King Street Parkade

Recommended parking lot for Visitor Centre guests.

1st hour free
150m to Visitor Centre



PLEDGE

Peterborough
THE KAWARTHAS

Have you taken the O'de Piitaanemaan Pledge?

In Peterborough & the Kawarthas, we believe the water connects us all. It gives us everything we need to live authentically, make new discoveries, gather nourishment, strength, and inner peace.

Drawing on the teachings of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg, the O'de Piitaanemaan Pledge represents a universal and evergreen value – respect – and serves to unify everyone for whom the region lives within their hearts.



Take the O'de Piitaanemaan Pledge today!
thekawarthas.ca/pledge

