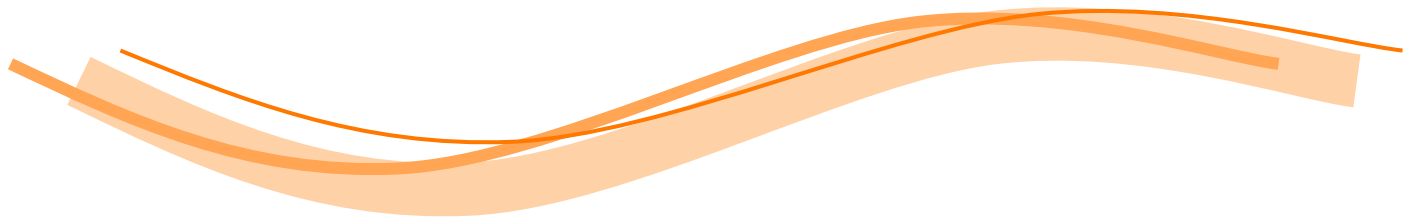




OTTAWA - SUMMER





OTTAWA

Let's go to Ottawa where July First brings fireworks, events and family fun to celebrate Canada Day.

July 8th, 2010 sees the premiere of **Mosaika** – a journey of new sound and light set against the spectacular backdrop of Parliament Hill. Mosaika is the story of Canada – our story. A powerful narrative Mosaika takes the audience on an unforgettable journey of sound and light, exploring Canada's physical, historical and cultural landscapes. This free bilingual show is on nightly until September 12th, 2010.

Visit www.OttawaTourism.ca or phone 1-888 OTTAWA 8 for some great short break ideas. For example, with the **Family Discovery** package choose two attractions such as museums, the Hull Chelsea Wakefield Steam Train or RunRiver rafting. All this plus two nights' hotel for a family of four from only \$297.

Create your own Ottawa Getaway thanks to Ottawa Tourism's website that brings you the ability to book flexible packages online. Get great deals and a wide range of hotel choices as you create your own escape to Ottawa. And with the "print at home" vouchers, you can make your booking right up to the day before departure.

No family trip to Ottawa will be complete without family fun at the **Calypso Water Park** - Canada's largest theme Water Park, opening 7th June, 2010. Guests will enjoy the warm and enchanting Caribbean atmosphere that permeates every corner of the entire theme park. All pools are heated and there are 35 waterslides, 66 water games and 2 theme rivers to enjoy – plus Whitewater rafting and hydrospeed. Young kids will be enchanted by the Zoo Lagoon as they play on its mini slides, enjoy its various water toys and meet friendly animated characters.

There is music in the air in Ottawa this summer! The TD Ottawa **International Jazz Festival** runs June 24 - July 4, 2010. From the avant-garde to big band and swing, this annual festival offers musical styles to suit any jazz aficionado. This year is the 30 year anniversary of the festival. And this July LET'S GO to the **Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest** July 6 -18, 2010– one of the top 10 outdoor music festivals in the world featuring performers like Arcade Fire, Rush and Great Big Sea.

There is always something new going on at Ottawa's many museums. There's a new buzz at the **Canada Agriculture Museum** with the "Taking Care of Beesness" exhibition. Discover the essential role bees play in the pollination of many Canadian food crops such as blueberries

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	<p>and apples, as well as to the production of honey and many other by-products. Explore the role and the tools of the beekeeper. Check out the Museum's live hive and try to find the queen among all the workers and drones.</p> <p>And what an exciting time for the Canadian Museum of Nature! The Victoria Memorial Museum Building has been completely reborn at 100 years old with major refurbishments and new galleries such as the Water Gallery, Earth Gallery and the Talisman Fossil Gallery. The museum houses a complete blue whale skeleton – one of only two in Canada. Kids will enjoy the dinosaurs as well as mammal hall, bird care clinic, Arctic research vessel plus the Discovery Centre. There is even a new HD theatre. And don't miss the AQUA Exhibition, on until September 6th, 2010. Through 360° projections, music, visual effects and water installations, visitors will discover water in all its forms and understand why this resource is an essential part of our lives.</p> <p>Also not to be missed is the "Pop Life: Art in a Material World" exhibition at the National Gallery of Canada that runs until 19th, September 2010. It explores the complex relationship between contemporary art, commerce, marketing and the mass media that has evolved since the late 1980s when Andy Warhol uttered his provocative maxim that "good business is the best art."</p>
Location	Ottawa lies in northeast North America, in the Province of Ontario, Canada. It is bordered by the Ottawa River to the north, while the historic Rideau River and Rideau Canal meander north to south through the city. Directly across the Ottawa River are the City of Gatineau and the picturesque Outaouais region in the Province of Québec, situated 114 metres (374 feet) above sea level.
Geography	These twin cities of Ottawa and Hull are full of unexpected pleasures -- you can watch the debates and pomp of parliamentary proceedings, take in the street scene from a sidewalk terrace, ski or camp or hike in wilderness only 15 minutes away, and then put your feet up before the fireplace of a rustic inn.
Name	Derived from Outaouak, an Algonquin First Nations name
Population	City 812,000 (Ranked 4th) Metro 1,168,800 National Capital Region is 1,451,400
Language	English and French
Government	Ottawa's municipal government consists of a 22 –member council, composed of a Mayor, and 21 councilors (representing the 21 wards of the City. Each councilor is elected, and sits for a three year term. City Hall is located at 110 Laurier Avenue West.
Twin Cities	Beijing, China

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	Buenos Aires, Argentina Catania, Sicily, Italy
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CLIMATE	
General climate	The average Temperatures for the region of Ottawa/Gatineau are: summer max = + 26C; winter max = - 6C
Today's weather	23 Centigrade and cloudy (June 12 th , 2010)
Best time to visit	Any time – there's always something unique and exciting happening in Ottawa...Check out the other Destination files for Ottawa on our website for ideas in all four seasons.

GETTING THERE	
Flying time	It's just 55 minutes from Toronto to Ottawa. Porter Airlines www.flyporter.com Porter operates from its base at Toronto Billy Bishop City Centre Airport (TCCA), one of the most convenient urban airports in the world, and serves Ottawa. From its dedicated terminal, all Porter passengers have access to a modern, comfortable and stylish lounge, including wireless Internet access, refreshments, and computer workstations. While on board, passengers enjoy complimentary premium snacks, wine and beer, a spacious cabin environment with leather upholstery and extra legroom. Up to ten flights a day between Toronto Billy Bishop City Centre Airport and Ottawa. Reservations can be made on Porter's website, www.flyporter.com through its call centre at 1-888-619-8622 or 416-619-8622, or with registered travel agents.
Distances	Distance from Toronto is 450 km or 5 hours; Ottawa to Montreal is 213 km or 2.5 hours
Boats	Paul's Cruise on the Ottawa River - there's no better way to see some of Canada's major national landmarks, including the Parliament Buildings, from a new perspective.
Trains	VIA rail from Montreal is just 1hr 55 mins and fare \$31 one way and \$69 one way from Toronto (as at June 2010) – check out www.viarail.ca
Buses	Ottawa's main mass transit service is OC Transpo (provided by the City of Ottawa). The Ottawa rapid transit system includes the transitway (a network of mostly grade-separated, extremely high-frequency, and reserved bus rapid transit lanes with full stations instead of stops) and a light rail system called the O-Train.
Bus/Boat	Lady Dive Lady Dive started their Ottawa-Gatineau city tours in 1999 with its very popular and unique Amphibus vehicle. In 2002 they purchased Oak Road and their Double Decker buses and in 2009 they purchased Bytown Trolley and Canuck tours. This makes them the one stop destination in Ottawa for all kind of tours. The Hop On-Hop Off Double

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	<p>Decker or Trolley city tours in 2010 will be a division of Lady Dive and called "Oak Road". Adult prices for 2010 are \$30.40. Website: http://www.ladydive.com</p>
Passes	<p>Ottawa's Capital Museums Passport is making it easy for visitors to enjoy the sights and sounds of Canada's capital city. For only \$30 per person or \$75 for family of five (maximum two adults), passport holders can visit 9 of Ottawa's diverse museums from the Canadian Museum of Civilization to the Canada Science and Technology Museum.</p> <p>Canadian Museum of Civilization Canadian War Museum National Gallery of Canada Canadian Museum of Nature Canada Science and Technology Museum Canada Agriculture Museum Canada Aviation Museum Royal Canadian Mint Laurier House</p>

ACCOMMODATION TYPES	<p>While reasonably priced doubles are available at a few B&B inns, you'll have to look to the outer districts for truly inexpensive lodgings, primarily in motels. There are ample choices for mid-priced to first-class rooms, however. There are an unusually large number of suite hotels, intended primarily for businesspeople on long stays in the capital, but ideal for families, with kitchens and beds for four or more. And there are of course some splendid top-end hotels in downtown Ottawa too.</p>
OTTAWA TOURISM GETAWAY PACKAGES	<p>Now you can create your own Ottawa Getaway thanks to Ottawa Tourism's upgraded website that brings you an enhanced ability to book flexible packages online. Get great deals and a wide range of hotel choices as you create your own escape to Ottawa.</p>

TARGET GROUPS	
Kids	<p>Kids love the bands, rifles, and uniforms of the Changing of the Guard on Parliament Hill. The Canada Aviation Museum is a fantasyland for many, especially the mock-ups of cockpits where they can pretend to be pilots. The perennial favorites at the Canadian Museum of Nature are the dinosaurs, the animals, and the Discovery Den, especially created for children. Extra-special attractions at the Canadian Museum of Civilization are the Children's Museum and Cineplus for IMAX movies. Kids enjoy picnicking or taking a hayride at the Central Experimental Farm. At the Canada Science and Technology Museum, the hands-on exhibits entertain while learning. Kids also love the tanks and weaponry on display at the Canadian War Museum and the Royal</p>

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	<p>Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride practices at the Canadian Police College The Canadian Museum of Civilization also has the IMAX Theatre, now playing (June 2010): “Sharks – 3D”, “Avatar - 3D” and “Ride Around the World”. See their website for current films at http://www.civilization.ca/imax/home/index_e.asp</p>
Teens	<p>New for summer 2010: the \$45 million Calypso Theme Waterpark is Canada’s largest water park. Situated on the eastern outskirts of Ottawa near the village of Limoges, attractions include 35 water slides, the biggest wave pool in Canada, a jungle-themed river run and a Zoo Lagoon water park area for the toddlers.</p> <p>Website: http://www.calypsopark.com</p> <p>Teens can go zip-lining at Lafleche Adventure near Val-des-Monts or at Camp Fortune in Chelsea.</p> <p>Visit the Diefenbunker, go white water rafting, experience the Ghost Walk, the Hull-Chelsea-Wakefield Steam Train</p>
Romance	<p>Stroll hand in hand – Ottawa is an eminently walkable city. Along the Rideau Canal, past all the magnificent buildings to Parliament Hill, browsing Byward Market, in the beautiful parks or through the grounds of Rideau Hall.</p> <p>Sound & Light Show - For years Canada's history has unfolded in a dazzling display of sound and light against the dramatic backdrop of the Parliament buildings. This year (2010) on summer evenings, a sound and light show called Mosaika explores Canada’s physical, historical and cultural landscapes (July 8 – September 12).</p>
UNIQUES	<p>Changing of the Guard</p> <p>Until late August, a colorful half-hour ceremony is held daily on the Parliament Hill lawn, weather permitting. Two historic regiments - the Governor-General's Foot Guards and the Canadian Grenadier Guards - compose the Ceremonial Guard. The parade of 125 soldiers in busbies and scarlet jackets (guard, color party, and band) assembles at Cartier Square Drill Hall (by the canal at Laurier Avenue) at 9:30am and marches up Elgin St to reach the hill at 10am.</p>
Surprising	<p>Royal Canadian Mounted Police</p> <p>See the training centre for the famous RCMP musical ride. The Musical Ride, a world-renowned military pageant performed with 32 horses and riders, was first produced publicly in Regina in 1887. The RCMP invites visitors to tour the stables and Visitors’ Centre year-round. It is sometimes possible to see the Musical Ride horses and riders practice when they are not away on tour. The Sunset Ceremonies usually occur at the stables at the end of June each year</p>
History	<p>The Ottawa region was long home to the Odawa or Odaawaa First Nations people. The Odawa are an Algonquin people who called the</p>

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	<p>river the Kichi Sibi or Kichissippi, meaning "Great River". The first European settlement in the region was that of Philemon Wright who started a community on the Quebec side of the river in 1800. Wright discovered that transporting timber by river from the Ottawa Valley to Montreal was possible, and the area was soon booming based almost exclusively upon the timber trade. Liked by many European nations for its extremely straight and strong trunk, the White Pine was found throughout the valley.</p> <p>In the years following the War of 1812, in addition to settling some military regiment families, the government began sponsored immigration schemes which brought over Irish Catholics and Protestants to settle the Ottawa area, which began a steady stream of Irish immigration there in the next few decades. Along with French Canadians who crossed over from Quebec, these two groups provided the bulk of workers involved in the Rideau Canal project and the booming timber trade, both instrumental in putting Ottawa on the map. The region's population grew significantly when the canal was completed by Colonel John By in 1832. It was intended to provide a secure route between Montreal and Kingston on Lake Ontario, by-passing the stretch of the St. Lawrence River bordering New York State (the U.S invasions of Canada in the War of 1812 being a recent memory). Construction of the canal began at the northern end, where Colonel By set up a military barracks on what later became Parliament Hill, and laid out a townsite that soon became known as Bytown. Original city leaders of Bytown include a number of Wright's sons, most notably Ruggles Wright. Nicholas Sparks, Braddish Billings and Abraham Dow were the first to settle on the Ontario side of the Ottawa river.</p> <p>The west side of the canal became known as "Uppertown" where the Parliament buildings are located, while the east side of the canal (wedged between the canal and Rideau River) was known as the "Lowertown". At that time, Lowertown was a crowded, boisterous shanty town, frequently receiving the worst of disease epidemics, such as the Cholera outbreak in 1832, and typhus in 1847.</p> <p>Ottawa became a centre for lumber milling and square-cut timber industry in Canada and, in fact, for North America as a whole. From there, it quickly expanded further up (or westward along) the Ottawa River, and logs were boomed by raftsmen great distances down the river to the mills.</p> <p>Bytown was renamed Ottawa in 1855, when it was also incorporated as a city.</p>
<p>Books</p>	<p>Frommer's Ottawa; Ottawa has been named one of the most underrated cities in the world according to the editors of Frommer's Secret Ottawa by Laura Byrne Paquet</p>

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1000 Places to see before you die	Winterlude and skating on the Rideau Canal
Must Sees	Most visited attractions in Ottawa: 1. Casino; 2. Museum of Civilisation; 3. Parliament Hill

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	
Golf	The Ottawa metro region has over 60 courses , including the one on the premises of the Château Montebello (tel. 819/423-6341) in Québec. Other desirable courses are the Emerald Links Golf & Country Club (tel. 613/822-4653); Canadian Golf and Country Club (tel. 613/253-3290); Le Dome Golf Club (tel. 819/770-5557); and Manderley on the Green (tel. 613/489-2066). Greens fees for these run C\$25 to C\$40
Skiing	Mont Cascades , just 30 minutes north of Ottawa across the Gatineau River, outside of Cantley on Highway 307, has 13 trails, one triple- and three double-chair lifts, and two T-bars. The longest run is 670m (2,200 ft.). There are two day lodges with a cafeteria and a restaurant/bar at the hill. Night skiing is available. During summer, there are six water slides in the state-of-the-art water park. Mont Ste-Marie, 89km north of Ottawa at Lac Ste-Marie, offers skiing on twin hills, with a 380m (1,250-ft.) drop, and a 3km ski run. There are two quads and a Poma.
Rafting	Owl Rafting , Box 29, Foresters Falls, offers 1- and 2-day white-water rafting trips within 90 minutes of the city, pounding over extensive rapids for the fit and adventurous and floating on gentler stretches for families. Prices start at C\$110 per person per day during the week, meals included. (2010) http://www.owl-mkc.ca/owl
Hiking	A band of protected wetlands and woodlands surrounds the capital on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River, and here you can find ideal hiking areas. At Stony Swamp Conservation Area (tel. 613/239-5000) in the region's west end are 39km of trails, including the Old Quarry Trail, the Jack Pine Nature Trail, and the Sasparilla Trail. It's also good for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The Rideau Trail is a 387km network of trails along the Rideau River and canal between Ottawa and Kingston via many of the pretty towns and villages along the way.
Cycling	Ottawa is a cyclist's paradise. Use your bike or inline skates or just hoof it and explore hundreds of kilometres of paved pathways; winding along rivers and the Rideau Canal; flat and easy or mountainous and challenging—the choice is yours. Sunday Bikedays actually closes 52 kilometres of the most picturesque rides to motorized vehicles and let cyclists, inline skaters and runners rule from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sunday Bikedays run from Victoria Day weekend in May to Labour Day weekend in September. More info: www.canadascapital.gc.ca/biking

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<p>CULTURE</p>	<p>There is always so much going on in our cultural capital – here are just a few of the events this summer:</p> <p>Canadian Museum of Civilization This is Canada’s most visited museum and a cultural experience you won’t want to miss! Explore 1,000 years of Canadian history as you travel through life-sized townscapes and environments from across the country, and as you meet some of Canada’s most remarkable figures. Discover a traditional West Coast aboriginal village and take in the world’s largest indoor collection of totem poles. The Museum also features outstanding international exhibitions and is home to the Canadian Children’s Museum, the Canadian Postal Museum and an IMAX® Theatre.</p> <p>“Profit & Ambition: The Canadian Fur Trade, 1779-1821” September 11, 2009 until September 12, 2010 Relive an epic chapter of Canada’s history and embark on a remarkable journey with the voyageurs, explorers and the many others who made up the fur trade. The exhibition retraces the rise and fall of the Montréal-based North West Company, a commercial empire that pushed fur trade routes all the way to the Pacific Ocean. In the end, it laid the foundation for the Canada we know today.</p> <p>“The Horse” May 28, 2010 to January 2, 2011 Explore the profound relationship between horses and humans in the Museum of Civilization's must-see summer 2010 exhibition, The Horse. For thousands of years, we have interacted with horses in many ways, creating hundreds of specialized breeds. Horses, in turn, have shaped human culture, affecting over the years how we worked, waged war, travelled, spoke, displayed our status, engaged in sports, harvested food and soothed our souls. The exhibition explores in-depth how horses and humans have influenced one another. The Horse showcases fossils, models, dioramas, cultural objects from around the world, and looks at horse species of the past and horse art from the Palaeolithic period to the present. It features spectacular artifacts including a full suit of armour for a horse from the 15th century, paintings of the Canadian Cavalry in action during First World War, and a horse-drawn fire engine from the 19th century.</p>
<p>National Gallery of Canada</p>	<p>The National Gallery of Canada is home to the most important collections of historical and contemporary Canadian art in the world. In addition, it has pre-eminent collections of Indigenous, Western and European Art from the 14th to the 21st century, American and Asian Art as well as drawings and photography. Created in 1880, it is among the</p>

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oldest of Canada's national, cultural institutions. As part of its mandate to make Canadian art accessible across the country, the NGC has one of the largest touring exhibition programs in the world. For more information, visit www.gallery.ca

Pop Life: Art in a Material World 11 June - 19 September 2010
Pop Life: Art in a Material World explores the complex relationship between contemporary art, commerce, marketing and the mass media that has evolved since the late 1980s when Andy Warhol uttered his provocative maxim that "good business is the best art." Featuring artists often known as much for their notoriety as for their art, the exhibition traces how Warhol, Jeff Koons, Richard Prince, Keith Haring, Tracey Emin, Damien Hirst, Takashi Murakami, Martin Kippenberger and numerous other high-profile figures from the international art world from the 1980s to today have developed iconic, at times even famous, signature "brands" using their artistic persona as much as their art. Organized by Tate Modern, London, in association with the National Gallery of Canada.

Exhibition Highlights: Pop Life is an entertaining exhibition designed to appeal to a broad range of audiences. Highlights include Keith Haring's Pop Shop, which is the first commercial installation that the Gallery has ever incorporated into an exhibition. Damien Hirst's Untitled (Twins Performance) is another fascinating feature as this installation requires the participation of live identical twins. To date, over 70 sets of twins from across Canada have expressed interest in participating in this work. Other twins who may be interested in registering should consult the Pop Life website at www.gallery.ca/poplife for further information. Jeff Koons popular Rabbit and the Made in Heaven series are also presented as well as Andy Warhol's self-portrait, the famous celebrity portraits of Marilyn Monroe and artist Joseph Beuys, and Gavin Turk's famous sculptural self-portrait as Sid Vicious.

For the first time, a new Pop Kids program for children aged between 6 – 12 years is being organized so that parents can explore the Pop Life exhibition at their leisure. For more information please see the exhibition's website at www.gallery.ca/poplife

Caravaggio and his Circle in Rome 10 June – 11 September 2011
The National Gallery of Canada and the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, are organizing a major exhibition for the summer of 2011 on the theme of Caravaggio and his Roman followers. Not since Michelangelo or Raphael had one artist in Europe affected so many of his contemporaries over such a broad geography and irrevocably changed the course of painting in a major center. This ambitious

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	<p>exhibition intends to explore the profound impact of Caravaggio's work on a wide range of painters of Italian, French, Dutch, Flemish and Spanish origin who resided in Rome either during his lifetime or immediately afterwards. Approximately sixty paintings by some of the most important artists of the Baroque period will be included in this show.</p> <p>Remember to visit the Gallery's website www.gallery.ca You'll get lots of information right up front that will help you plan your visit in advance. There are also some great micro sites dedicated to key exhibitions.</p>
Arts	<p>The Performing Arts - Canadian and international musical, dance, and theater artists - including the resident NAC Orchestra - perform at the elaborate National Arts Centre, 53 Elgin St., at Confederation Square. The building, created by architect Fred Lebensold, is made of three interlocking hexagons beside the Rideau Canal, its terraces tendering views of Parliament Hill and the Ottawa River. There are three auditoriums: the European-style Opera, seating 2,300; the 950-seat Theatre, with its innovative apron stage; and the 350-seat Studio, used for experimental works. The National Arts Centre Orchestra performs in seven or eight main concert series per year.</p>
Museums	<p>The capital region is home to 29 museums, including 12 national museums that appeal to all interests and age groups. Many of these attractions line Confederation Boulevard, "Canada's Discovery Route," which is the site of a variety of events which animate the capital throughout the year. The architecture of Ottawa's museums, the copper roofs and the Gothic towers of Canada's national symbols will provide a long-remembered sight. Here are two lesser known but wonderful museums:</p> <p>Canadian Aviation Museum The Canada Aviation Museum has reopened its doors to the public after months of extensive renovation work. A monumental movement of artifacts involving over 75% of the collection was completed in preparation of the exciting new exhibition Canadian Wings: A Remarkable Century of Flight. The Canada Aviation Museum is Canada's finest aviation museum with an internationally renowned aeronautical collection. The Museum is located at the intersection of the Aviation and Rockcliffe Parkways. Admission is \$6 adults, \$5 for students, \$5 for seniors, and \$3 for children 4-15, free for children under 4. A family pass is \$14. Free parking. OC Transpo bus #129 Rockcliffe also goes to the Museum.</p> <p>Bytown Museum: Located in the heart downtown Ottawa, the Bytown Museum explores</p>

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	<p>the stories of an evolving city and its residents from its early days as Bytown to present day Ottawa. Housed in Ottawa's oldest stone building, the Museum is located at the Rideau Canal locks between Parliament Hill and the Château Laurier—one of the most picturesque sites in the city.</p> <p>Canada Agriculture Museum: Taking Care of Beesness March 1 - October 31, 2010 Discover the essential role bees play in pollination and learn about the production of honey and many other by-products. You'll also explore the role and the tools of the beekeeper.</p>
<p>Canadian Museum of Nature</p>	<p>Housed inside a beautiful heritage building, the Museum has undergone a multi-year renewal, opening many new galleries and facilities in May 2010.</p> <p>The Talisman Fossil Gallery is a favourite with kids, with 300 amazing dinosaur specimens including 25 complete skeletons spanning a period from 85 to 65 million years ago.</p> <p>The Mammal Gallery features the wildlife of Canada, from polar bears to white Arctic hares, moose, bison, caribou and cougars.</p> <p>The Bird Gallery features an impressive collection of 500 specimens of Canada's finest feathered friends.</p> <p>Step outside the Museum and see a cast of a 112-million-year-old dinosaur footprint, then take your picture with giant dinosaur and wooly mammoth models.</p> <p>The Discovery Zone features fun and discovery for kids, including close-up examination of unusual and spectacular specimens, crafts and a trading post where kids can check out fossils, minerals, animal skulls and more.</p> <p>In 1916 the Victoria Memorial Museum Building served as the interim home for the Canadian government while the Parliament Buildings were rebuilt after a major fire that destroyed everything but the Parliamentary Library.</p> <p>In addition, three special temporary exhibitions, AQUA, Frogs – A Chorus of Colours and the Wildlife Photography of the Year exhibition will keep visitors busy. www.nature.ca</p>
<p>Festivals and Events</p>	<p>The 30th TD Ottawa Jazz Festival runs June 24 – July 4, 2010 at Confederation Park in the heart of downtown. Over the past three decades, the Jazz Festival has presented some of the most dynamic jazz artists on the scene, from the traditional to the avant-garde. This year is no exception, with a lineup that includes Herbie Hancock, Josuha Redmen, Medeski, Martin and Wood, Smokey Robinson, Dave Brubeck, Youn Sun Nah, Manu Katche and many more. •The Festival features hundreds of performers - including approximately 300 Canadian performers in the lineup each year - and has attracted up to</p>

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	<p>180,000 fans. Website: http://ottawajazzfestival.com</p> <p>And this July let's go to the Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest July 6 -18, 2010— one of the top 10 outdoor music festivals in the world featuring performers like Arcade Fire, Rush and Great Big Sea. See the special section below for more details.</p>
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<p>ATTRACTIONS</p>	<p>Parliament Hill - Parliament of Canada - Tours Guided tours take visitors through public galleries, to the Senate and House of Commons (when not in session) and to the top of the Peace Tower, where an observation deck provides the most dramatic 360° view of the Capital. Each morning during summer months, the front lawn of Parliament Hill is the setting of the daily Changing the Guard ceremony</p>
<p>Wildlife</p>	<p>Open all year, Parc Oméga, Route 323 nord, Montebello, a nearby wildlife park, is distinctive by seasons, barely recognizable in both fauna and vegetation in summer as compared to winter. At the entrance, elk wait for one of the carrots purchased with your tickets, only a foreshadowing of the animals to be spotted on the drive, most of which stroll up to your car to take their snacks from your hand. Among the most visible are whitetail deer, wapiti, bison, fallow deer, raccoons, and wild boar, all of which roam free. Kept in large enclosures are black bears, timber wolves, and raptors, including bald eagles. With luck, you may see a reclusive moose.</p>
<p>Parks</p>	<p>Gatineau Park Managed by the NCC, Gatineau Park is a superb nature reserve just 15 minutes from Parliament Hill. It serves as a reminder that environmental protection is a cherished Canadian value, and its objective is to ensure the permanent preservation of a vast natural territory for the enjoyment of all Canadians. The Park is endowed with hundreds of kilometres of trails, forests containing more than fifty species of trees, abundant wildlife and numerous crystal-clear lakes typical of the hills of the Canadian Shield. Summer and winter, visitors can participate in outdoor activities or simply enjoy the tranquility of a protected natural environment. http://www.canadacapital.gc.ca/bins/ncc_web_content_page.asp?cid=16297-16299-10170&lang=1</p>
<p>Gardens</p>	<p>As Canada's Capital, Ottawa is well known for its impressive landmarks, sites, and attractions. But equally appealing is the city's beautiful natural setting of rivers, waterways, parks and pathways – and the many marvelous gardens that colour its urban yet unspoiled cityscape. Beginning with the early spring arrival of crocuses on Parliament Hill, then continuing through May's Canadian Tulip Festival and on into</p>

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summer and early autumn, Ottawa's beds are abloom with beauty – and welcome visitors to discover their flowering favourites.

The National Capital Commission maintains 90 flower beds in 30 different sites, including Parliament Hill. In the spring, over one million tulips bloom in the NCC's flowerbeds, along with thousands of daffodils and spring flowering bulbs. After the spring flowers bloom, they are replaced by annuals and perennials, which keep Canada's Capital Region ablaze with colour into the fall.

Home of the Governor General, the Queen's representative in Canada, **Rideau Hall** sits on 79 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds. The grounds were originally styled as an English country estate, with luxurious lawns surrounded by gardens and walking paths through forests. More than 3,000 trees, an inukshuk, totem pole and the Canadian Heritage Gardens - a sweeping arc of roses that symbolizes Canada's cultural mosaic - await you. Many of the trees were planted by visiting Heads of State - look for the small plaques that explain who planted the tree and when. Guided and self-guided walking tours (including ones led by a horticultural expert) are available, and on-site experts are happy to provide tips on everything from rose and organic gardening to landscaping

Ottawa is the only world capital with a working farm at its centre. The **Central Experimental Farm's Ornamental Gardens and Dominion Arboretum** are a piece of paradise in the heart of the city. While strolling the grounds, one can find lilacs, roses, peonies, over 90 hedges, rose and rock gardens and the Macoun sunken garden, as well as magnolias, crab apples, hostas gardens and shrubs, both rare and familiar. The **Canada Agriculture Museum** presents the sights and sounds of typical farm life and explores Canada's agricultural heritage.

Filled with sunny daffodils and flowering trees in May, **Rockcliffe Park and the Rockeries** are a favourite spot for picnics and its lookout a preferred point for viewing the Ottawa River and Gatineau Hills beyond.

Garden of the Provinces and Territories: This patriotic park, located on Wellington Street near the Supreme Court of Canada and Library and Archives Canada, is decorated with the flower emblem and coat of arms of each of the 10 provinces and three territories. Filled with tulips in the spring, then annuals during the summer, you'll also find two beautiful fountains representing the five Great Lakes and Canada's vast forests.

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<p>Landmark Buildings</p>	<p>Rideau Hall Rideau Hall has been the residence of every one of Canada's Governors General (the Queen's representative in Canada). The current resident is Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michel Jaen. Visitors can learn more about the history, roles, responsibilities and activities of the Governor General while exploring this beautiful residence and its grounds. In the winter, there's an amazing outdoor skating rink. In the summer, take a picnic and watch a cricket game or stroll the rose garden. www.gg.ca</p> <p>Laurier House National Historic Site of Canada Home of two Canadian prime ministers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and William Lyon Mackenzie King, Laurier House provides an intimate glimpse into the lives of these great Canadians who governed Canada for the first half of the twentieth century. From artefacts to personal memorabilia, history comes alive in the splendour of this grand residence.</p>
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<p>OTHER ACTIVITIES</p>	
<p>Shopping</p>	<p>From large shopping centres to exclusive local boutiques and unique souvenir stores, shopping in Ottawa is a favoured activity of visitors and residents alike. Downtown Ottawa shopping provides a host of shopping opportunities, from the 160-store Rideau Centre to the boutiques and craft shops of the ByWard Market and Sparks Street – the country's first and oldest pedestrian mall. West Ottawa includes great outdoor stores and a major shopping centre – Bayshore – while east Ottawa is home to two popular regional shopping centres – St. Laurent and Place d'Orleans.</p>
<p>Markets</p>	<p>Ottawa includes more actively-farmed agricultural land within its limits than any city in Canada. Local produce and products can be bought at a number of farmers' markets in and near the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Established in 1830, the Ottawa ByWard Market is the best known farmers' market in the city, with 200 vendors selling fresh local and imported products daily, the year 'round. •The Ottawa Parkdale Market on Parkdale Avenue at Wellington was established in 1927 and is open daily with 20 vendors from April through late December. •The Ottawa Farmers' Market at Lansdowne Park in the Glebe is open Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, depending on the time of the year. •The Main Farmers' Market at St. Paul's University on Main Street is open Saturdays from mid-May through the end of September. •The Ottawa Organic Farmers' Market is open Saturdays year 'round at the Canada Care Building, Bank Street at Heron Road.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Metcalfe Farmers' Market is open Saturdays early-May through mid-October at the Metcalfe Agricultural Society Fairgrounds. •The North Gower Farmers' Market is open Saturdays from late-May through October on Roger Stevens Drive in North Gower. •The Stittsville Farmers' Market is open daily from early June through October at the Ottawa Waldorf School in Stittsville. •The Carp Farmers' Market is open Saturdays from mid-May through late-October at the Carp Fairgrounds.
Nightlife	<p>There are always music festivals and concerts happening in Ottawa – go to the www.ottawatourism.ca website for full details.</p> <p>Bars, clubs & discos - Ottawa has an abundance of English and Irish pubs of varying degrees of authenticity. Check out the Brig, 23 York St., in the ByWard Market area, and the Elephant and Castle, 50 Rideau St.</p>
Casinos	<p>Casino du Lac-Leamy: Under 5km from Parliament Hill and open daily 11am to 3am. Both the exterior and the interior are dramatically landscaped with tropical plants, pools, and waterfalls. There are over 1,800 slot machines and more than 60 gambling tables, including blackjack, roulette, baccarat, and stud poker. A variety of attractions in the Théâtre du Casino, with headliners such as Engelbert Humperdinck and Joe Cocker as well as dance-and music revues, provide respite from losing. The complex also has two lounges and three restaurants - fine dining in Le Baccara, a buffet in Banco, and a snack bar.</p> <p>www.casinosduquebec.com/lacleamy</p>
Spas	<p>Why not pamper yourself at the Spa? Ottawa has lots to offer. The luxurious Holtz Spa for instance, is right in the centre of the city, conveniently located nearby the Fairmont Chateau Laurier and the Westin Hotels. It offers total health and wellness with holistic treatments designed to create harmony of body, mind and spirit. The decor and ambiance provide a quiet sanctuary to relax and rejuvenate. Ancient healing therapies from the East meet contemporary services from the West where highly trained estheticians and body therapists use only the purest botanical products and innovative spa technology to guarantee the Holtz standard of excellence.</p> <p>Contact: Holtz Spa, 45 Rideau St. Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5W8 Toll Free: 1 877 241-8889 Email: info@holtzspa.com Web Site: www.holtzspa.com</p>

CUISINE	
Food	<p>Beavertails Pastry</p> <p>This delicious, fresh, hot pastry treat is shaped like the water-slapping end of a beaver. These wildly delicious pastry treats were first introduced to Ottawa in 1978 and can be sampled at the first permanent BeaverTails store in Ottawa's historic ByWard Market neighbourhood. Even President Obama had to try these!</p>

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Restaurants

Fine dining, a vast selection of international cuisines, relaxed, casual fare – Ottawa offers restaurants and culinary experiences to suit every palate, with a thriving local culinary scene and local chefs making names for themselves at home and abroad.

Dining districts include the courtyards and outdoor cafés of the historic ByWard Market, great Asian dining along Somerset Street West, Italian along Preston Street, and a mix of culinary treats along Elgin Street, Bank Street and surrounding neighbourhoods.

You'll find fine dining in Ottawa and across the Ottawa River in Gatineau alike: Ottawa is home to Le Cordon Bleu Ottawa Culinary Arts Institute including the 5-Diamond Signatures restaurant on the premises. That same distinction is shared by the Casino du Lac–Leamy's Le Bacarra in Gatineau.

As one of Ontario's designated culinary tourism destinations, the city, its restaurants and its local food producers are all working together to bring locally-grown and prepared foods to tables across the region through an initiative called Savour Ottawa. Special culinary events with a local flavour are held throughout the year, including the Ottawa Wine and Food Show in autumn, and Taste of Winterlude leading up to the popular February winter festival.

<http://www.ottawatourism.ca/savourottawa>

Here are two personally recommended restaurants in Ottawa:

le café (@ the National Arts Centre)

Put yourself in the charismatic hands of Chef Michael Blackie! Fine Dining along the Historic Rideau Canal. Situated in Canada's National Arts Centre, le café offers the perfect blend of fine dining and artistic ambience in the heart of downtown Ottawa. The picturesque setting and inspired menu make le café ideal for a relaxed luncheon or a night on the town. Savour the best in contemporary Canadian Cuisine and internationally-inspired dishes. le café is also proud to offer a varied selection of Canadian wines. Reservations recommended. Open Monday to Friday for lunch and dinner, Saturday dinners only and Sunday brunch. <http://www.nac-cna.ca/en/lecafe/lecafe>

Le Cordon Bleu Bistro @ Signatures

The inspiration of their new "Bistro" style restaurant is in recognition of the successful "bistroCordonBleu" operation and the highly acclaimed 5 diamond restaurant "Le Cordon Bleu Signatures". "BistroCordonBleu" offered clients a casual dining atmosphere with high quality food at a great price. This operation was one that was heavily

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	<p>contributed to by culinary arts students both in the kitchen and serving clients. It was developed as a testament to the standard of culinary education and the talent of students that they train in their internationally renowned culinary arts institute.</p> <p>In contrast, the Signatures restaurant presented a formal fine dining atmosphere that celebrated the history and tradition of French cuisine and culture. Fine service, elaborate menu options, an extensive wine list and a truly French ambience were at the premise of this operation. It was proudly nominated as a 5-diamond restaurant by the CAA for a few years.</p> <p>After the success of two restaurant ventures they now present Le Cordon Bleu Bistro @ Signatures. They have taken the best from both operations and merged them into a service offering that is the talk of Ottawa. Every week they feature a new original menu showcasing the talents of their dedicated team. http://www.bistroatsignatures.com</p>
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<p>MORE INFO</p>	<p>Getaway Packages For inquiries or to book your hotel room or Getaway package, please contact Ottawa Tourism's Reservation Centre (operated by Capital Tickets). By Phone: 1.888.OTTAWA8 (1-888-688-2928) By E-Mail: ottawagetaways@capitaltickets.ca</p> <p>Reservation agents are on duty from Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., and Sundays/holidays 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. (all hours EST).</p> <p>Tourist Information You can reach Ottawa Tourism by phone (open Monday thru Friday, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Eastern Time) by calling (613) 237-5150 or 1 (800) 363-4465.</p> <p>For general information on events and attractions in Canada's Capital Region contact the National Capital Commission at (613) 239-5000 or 1-800-465-1867.</p> <p>Visitor Information: The Capital Infocentre (staffed by the National Capital Commission) at 90 Wellington Street, across from Parliament Hill, offers a chance to learn more about Canada's Capital Region with its dynamic exhibits and multimedia show. The Centre is open daily and has a stunning view of Parliament Hill.</p>
<p>Brochures</p>	<p>2010 Visitor Guide online at www.ottawatourism.ca</p>
<p>Website</p>	<p>www.ottawatourism.ca for Ottawa Tourism</p>

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CURRENT DEALS

There's a great deal currently (June 2010). Book a 2-night Ottawa Getaway Package deal on the www.ottawatourism.ca website, and you can stay at a participating Ottawa hotel for a third night at half price. It's an affordable way to extend your stay and enjoy even more of all that Ottawa has to offer. To take advantage of this offer, select the Getaway Package that appeals to you most and then select the 3rd Night 1/2 Price option when checking rates/availability.

<http://www.ottawatourism.ca/en/getaways-and-special-offers>

Now you can create your own Ottawa Getaway thanks to Ottawa Tourism's upgraded website that brings you an enhanced ability to book flexible packages online. Get great deals and a wide range of hotel choices as you create your own escape to Ottawa. Right now (June 2010) there are 8 different packages to suit your needs:

1. Urban Adventure

Thrill-seekers will find what they're looking for with this action-packed getaway. Hold on tight and feel the excitement as you ride the waves down the Ottawa River on a white water raft. Then return to the urban setting to enjoy a visit to Aboriginal Experiences for a unique cultural experience. Relive the adventure over a great meal and cocktails in the funky ByWard Market district. This package includes: Hotel accommodation for your dates of stay; Aboriginal Experiences – Taste of Native Spirit; and a minimum of 2 admissions to the following attractions: Valleyview Little Animal Farm, Family Raft Trips on the Ottawa River with RiverRun Rafting, High Adventure Rafting with RiverRun Rafting on the Ottawa River, Saunders Farm - an award-winning 100-acre destination Farm located in Ottawa; Hull-Chelsea-Wakefield Steam Train Scenic Excursion; Capital Cruises – Historic River Cruise.

2. Celebration Vacation

If you've got an anniversary, birthday or other special occasion coming up, come to Ottawa for a Celebration Vacation. This 2-night getaway package is the perfect way to mark that special day in a very special destination. Come reconnect with those near and dear to you and make new memories with two carefree days of fun, discovery, relaxation and of course, celebration. This package includes: 2 nights' accommodation for 2 people; Certificate to receive Rideau Centre Savings Directory; Dinner for 2 at Le Cordon Bleu Bistro @ Signatures; A Le Cordon Bleu Home Collection Cookbook is also included in this package; and admission to one of the major museums or a \$50 gift card for services at Holtz Spa, or Ottawa Senators Hockey Tickets.

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3. Cultural Odyssey

When it comes to cultural attractions, Ottawa offers the country's most diverse selection. No matter your interests, the city is a veritable showcase of arts, history and culture. Experience it all during this 2-night getaway, which features admission to some of the capital's major attractions—the National Gallery of Canada, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, the Canadian War Museum or a Haunted Walks tour. Add-on tickets to a performance at the National Arts Centre for the ultimate cultural getaway!

4. Sip, Savour & Spa

Pamper yourself with this 2-night getaway to the Capital for 2. Start off with a relaxing treatment at one of Ottawa's most luxurious spas. Then try a little retail therapy at Rideau Centre, the region's premiere shopping centre. Follow it up with a visit to one of the city's great cultural attractions. And cap off this indulgent visit to Ottawa with a fantastic meal at Le Cordon Bleu's 5-diamond Signatures Restaurant—what a treat!

5. Family Discovery

All family members are sure to discover something new and exciting about the Capital, the country and the world beyond with the affordable Family Discovery 2-night getaway. What better way to reconnect than sharing, learning and exploring together? This package features family admission to some of the Capital's best museums and galleries, or hands-on experiences at our most popular attractions. And there are always lots of new shops to discover at Rideau Centre and in the ByWard Market area!

6. Casino Getaway

Visit Canada's Capital Region and be enthralled with entertainment at its best. Surrounded by fountains and lakes, the Casino du Lac-Leamy in Gatineau features more than 1800 slot machines and 64 gaming tables in a smoke-free environment. During your visit, enroll in the Casino du Lac-Leamy free Casino Privileges rewards Program and receive 1500 bonus points. A fabulous location, stunning architecture and a whole new world of excitement. Includes 2 nights' accommodation for 2 people, \$50 in Casino Chips, 2 for the price of 1 buffet at the Banco Restaurant and free entrance to one of the major museums in Ottawa. See www.casinosduquebec.com/lacleamy

7. Girlfriends Getaway

This one's for the girls! Calling all girlfriends to retreat to Canada's Capital - a city bursting with vibrant culture and surrounded by an oasis

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of natural beauty. This package caters to all types and budgets by providing the ability to pick and choose. Spend a couple days shopping, visiting museums and galleries, dining, indulge in a spa treatment or take in a show! Don't forget to check out the funky ByWard Market district, where there's always something happening. It's the perfect scene for a night out on the town with your friends.

8. Rendez-Vous for Two

Sneak away to the Capital with that special someone for a getaway to remember. Stroll along the Rideau Canal. Visit one of the city's great cultural attractions, take a unique tour of the nation's capital, or take in a show at the National Arts Centre. For a touch of luxury, top it all off with a 5-diamond dinner at Le Cordon Bleus Signatures Restaurant. Here's your chance to get away from the ordinary and plan a romantic escape for two in Ottawa.

HOTEL PRIZE PARTNERS

Lord Elgin Hotel (Newstalk 1010 prize)

100 Elgin Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5K8

Tel: (613) 235-3333

Toll Free: (800) 267-4298

Fax: (613) 235-3223

Website: <http://www.lordelginhotel.ca>

A landmark downtown Ottawa hotel and one of the nicest Ottawa hotels, the Lord Elgin is ideally located in the heart of downtown Ottawa - directly across from Confederation Park and the National Arts Centre. It is steps away from the Rideau Canal, Ottawa Congress Centre, Parliament Buildings and the Ottawa Rideau Centre. Lord Elgin's Guestrooms reflect Ottawa's elegance. From the tall picture windows, bold tulip inspired artwork, to Biedermeier style luxury furnishings, you cannot help but feel pampered. Guests enjoy the lap pool with adjoining whirlpool, sauna and varied fitness equipment. They also enjoy skating on the Rideau Canal during the winter and jogging alongside the canal in the other seasons.

Best Western Victoria Park Suites (CJAD prize)

377 rue O'Connor Street Ottawa ON K2P 2M2

Tel: 1-800-465-7275

Fax: 613-567-1161

Website: <http://www.victoriapark.com>

Enjoy comfort and exceptional value at the award winning Best Western

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	<p>Victoria Park Suites in downtown Ottawa. The 123 suites are appointed with elegant furnishings accented with upscale details including pillow top mattress, luxurious duvets, and granite countertops. Kitchenettes in every suite provide the added convenience and value you're looking for.</p> <p>Best Western Victoria Park Suites is located in downtown Ottawa & situated steps away from the world famous Rideau Canal, Elgin Street's shopping and nightlife. Value here includes: convenient kitchenettes and free in room coffee/tea to get your day started on the right foot; free deluxe Continental breakfast including a selection of juices, breads, spreads, bagels, coffees & teas to fuel up for your busy day ahead; and free wireless high speed internet & free local calls keep you connected.</p>
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<p>RAIL TRAVEL PRIZE PARTNER</p>	<p>VIA Rail www.viarail.ca or phone 1 888 VIA-RAIL</p>
<p>Details</p>	<p>VIA Rail Canada run more than 480 trains per week over a 14,000-kilometre network linking more than 450 locations in Canada - that adds up to about four million passengers per year on VIA trains!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connected - Wireless Internet service available in-stations and on select trains lets you email, chat with loved ones or do some research. Get 24 hours of service for as little as \$8.95! - Convenient - Priority boarding, a delicious meal included in the price of your ticket and complimentary newspapers create stress-free travel. - Choice - Facing seats, at-your-seat power outlets for your portable computer and premium lighting create a fine ambience before - and after - your vacation.
<p>CURRENT DEALS</p>	<p>VIA rail from Montreal is just \$31 one way and \$69 one way from Toronto (as at June 2010)</p> <p>Children: this summer up to five children (ages 2-11) per accompanying adult can take the train for only \$10 each.</p> <p>Youths: if you're between the ages of 18 and 25, you're entitled to year-round discounts in Economy class and Sleeper, Touring and Sleeper Touring class.</p> <p>Seniors: As a traveller 60 years of age or over, you can save year round on the adult regular fare in Economy class.</p> <p>For all current deals see www.viarail.ca</p>

<p>PERSONAL EXPERIENCES</p>	<p>Canadian Museum of Civilisation - An architectural masterpiece, Canada's largest and most visited museum offers you a thousand years of Canadian history, the world's largest indoor collection of totem poles and the magnificent First Peoples Hall. It also houses the IMAX Theatre, the Canadian Children's Museum and special exhibitions.</p> <p>Canadian War Museum - A stunning must-see attraction opened in May 2005. This new world-class museum presents exhibits on military</p>
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history and reveals how the nation's involvement in conflict and peacekeeping has shaped the country. Open daily from May to mid October; closed Mondays from mid October to April.

Canadian Museum of Nature - Canada's foremost natural history museum offers comprehensive exhibits about the natural world, from grizzly bears to gems, from insects to dinosaurs.

Canadian Aviation Museum - Canada's rich aviation heritage is revealed through exhibits of vintage aircraft from the museum's permanent collection. Interactive activities, films, demonstrations, and guided tours offer visitors a chance to explore the story of flight.

Haunted Walks Inc - Evening and daytime tours reveal Ottawa's darker past and include visits with ghosts, graveyards, hangings, and haunts. Private group tours available. Various tours available 7 days a week. 90 minute tour \$12

The Diefenbunker: Canada's Cold War Museum - This vestige of Cold War history is a unique reminder of Ottawa's position in global politics. Built in the small town of Carp just west of Ottawa between 1959 and 1961, and meant to house key government and military officials in case of a nuclear attack, this four-storey underground bunker offers tours and unique events to catch glimpses of behind-the-scenes artifacts. Don't miss the decontamination room, the emergency exit hatch, the CBC broadcast studio, the Prime Minister's suite and the Bank of Canada vault. The bunker is named after John Diefenbaker who was prime minister during its construction, but who never visited the site.

www.diefenbunker.ca

ByWard Market – fun to visit at any time of the year

Canada and the World Pavilion – free, 50 Sussex Drive, in Rideau Falls Park, displays on Canadians who are making a difference: music and sport to science and humanitarianism.

Amphibus Lady Dive – sightseeing tour on land and river, under and over Alexander Bridge on the Ottawa River.

National Gallery of Canada – always stunning.

Changing the Guard Ceremony @ 10.00 on Parliament Hill

Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts Institute and Signatures Restaurant

Casino du Lac Leamy and its restaurants **Arome** and **Le Baccara**

Scotia Bank Place for a Senators hockey game

Zak's Diner – in ByWard Market, Canada's oldest continuously operating farmers' market.

The Westin Ottawa Hotel, Fairmont Chateau Laurier, Indigo Hotel.

The Ottawa Marathon – a great race weekend for runners of all kinds held in May each year; I got my qualifying time for the Boston Marathon at this race in 2009.



<p>Special Feature BLUESFEST</p>	<p>The Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest Ottawa July 6-18 2010 http://www.ottawabluesfest.ca</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>Clarence Clemons took the stage in 1994 and helped kick off what would become Canada's fastest growing celebration of Blues and Roots music. Five thousand people descended on Majors Hill Park that first year, probably not realizing the tradition they were helping to create. In the years since, more than a million people have tuned in their ears and opened their hearts to some of the biggest names in the music industry.</p> <p>Since those early days, the Ottawa Bluesfest has grown from a one-stage, three-day event to a multi-staged, 11-day music showcase featuring some of the best talent available on the planet. Bluesfest continues to increase its diversity and programming scope and offers an assortment of stages that incorporate a variety of genres.</p> <p>The organization became a registered charity in 2000 after re-casting its vision and initiating an educational outreach program called 'Blues in the Schools'. In 2002, the festival attracted 200,000 people. Canadian headliners included The Tragically Hip, Jann Arden, Blue Rodeo, and Colin James, to mention a few.</p> <p>In 2003, Bluesfest celebrated its tenth edition by offering fans even more diverse choices of music. Bluesfest continued the expansion of its 'Blues in the Schools' program with assistance from The Trillium Foundation and a fund-raising concert series.</p> <p>In 2004, George Thorogood kicked off festivities on the Main Stage. The following nine days saw a festival site full of rockin' souls who showed up for a series of highly anticipated acts on all four stages, including Main Stage sets by The Tragically Hip, Bryan Adams, Nelly Furtado, Lyle Lovett, and a flashback to the Motown music of the Funk Brothers!</p> <p>Bluesfest attracted over a quarter-million fans in 2006, and the talk of the town was the artistic excellence of the program. From the fist-pumping energy of Canada's own Great Big Sea to the elegant class of Etta James; from the hypnotic rhythm of Konono No. 1 to the driving rock of Canadian indie band, Metric, Bluesfest attracted an eclectic crowd of music fans night after night.</p> <p>In 2007, a new festival site, located at LeBreton Flats Park adjacent to the Canadian War Museum, offered five stages, including twin main stages allowing audiences to transfer between headlining acts. Bluesfest featured additional stages by utilizing all of the green space</p>

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	<p>surrounding the park. These stages featured various eclectic themes—with audience development in mind. More than 300,000 fans attended the 2007 edition of the Ottawa Bluesfest, shattering all previous records.</p> <p>Currently, the Ottawa Bluesfest is the largest music festival in the Ottawa area. It is the biggest blues festival in Canada and one of the most popular music festivals in North America. In 2007, the line-up had some serious star power. From the opening salvo—courtesy of Van Morrison, followed by Bob Dylan, the White Stripes, Manu Chao, Kanye West and others—to the closing volley of the Solid Gold Dance Party, Bluesfest lived up to its promise and delivered a killer onslaught of talent. Festival organizers are equally proud of the discoveries of new and emerging acts offered to festival patrons.</p> <p>The musical flavours at the 2008 Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest included funk, and so much more! From a rocking opening night with Canada’s own The Tragically Hip to the final set by Disco Queen Donna Summer, music fans were treated to 11 straight days of great music, with too many stand-out acts to list.</p> <p>Once again, Bluesfest has endeared itself to a wide range of music fans as a hugely popular music event in Ottawa. It also has established itself as one of the largest international music events in the world, with over 220 musical acts, more than 70 sponsors, 4,400 community volunteers, and crowds of fans that spill out to the city streets. In 2009, there were over 350,000 attendees.</p>
<p>Bluesfest 2010</p>	<p>The 2010 Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest – ranked as one of the top outdoor music festivals in the world – promises something for every musical taste this year. From rock legends Rush and Iron Maiden to the smooth sounds of Santana, to country rocker Keith Urban, to Weezer, The Moody Blues and The B-52s – it’s a multi-stage musical extravaganza you simply don’t want to miss. Among the hundreds of other acts performing at the festival site next to the Canadian War Museum on LeBreton Flats are The Gypsy Kings, The Flaming Lips, Great Big Sea, The Levon Helm Band – plus Kevin Costner & Modern West. This year the Festival will present a second year of free weekend concerts on an outdoor stage in the heart of the ByWard Market.</p> <p>Electric Eclectics Series One of several interesting features offered this year at Bluesfest is a series curated by the artistic team of the “Electric Eclectics” Festival based in Meaford, Ontario. This series will push the boundaries of our programming and feature new ‘cutting edge’ avant-garde and</p>

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experimental music by world-renowned musicians, sound artists, and performance artists.

Blues Meets Folk Series

The Blues Meets Folk series is the result of a partnership between the Ottawa Folk Festival and the Ottawa Bluesfest. This series has been programmed jointly by both organizations in order to feature folk artists at the Ottawa Bluesfest and to further promote the Ottawa Folk Festival <http://www.ottawafolk.org>

Aboriginal Programming

In 2010, the Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest will once again work with organizers of the Odawa Festival to feature some of the most exceptional Aboriginal performers on today's music scene. Ottawa Bluesfest organizers are committed to making Aboriginal programming an ongoing feature of the Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest.

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