

Suggestions for Accompanying Persons

Major Attractions

Parliament Hill

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/Visitors/index-e.asp>

5 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre

The seat of Canada's federal government and the setting for national celebrations the year round, Parliament Hill is the most visited Ottawa attraction. 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.

The ByWard Market

<http://www.byward-market.com/>

8 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre

An historic farmers' market and shopping district by day, a favourite gathering place of restaurants and clubs by night - the ByWard Market just east of Parliament Hill is one Ottawa neighbourhood you won't want to miss.

Gatineau Park

<http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca/>

10 minute drive from Ottawa Convention Centre

Located just minutes from Parliament Hill across the Ottawa River in Gatineau, Gatineau Park is 361 square kilometres of natural wilderness crisscrossed with cycling and nature trails, forest, lakes and lookouts. In warm months, the Park is ideal for cycling, hiking, picnics, canoeing, swimming and camping. Admission to the Park is free.

Museums

Entry fees - \$9-\$12 (Free on Thursdays after 4/5 P.M.)

National Gallery of Canada

www.gallery.ca

11 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre

The stunning National Gallery of Canada presents the country's national art collection and outstanding international exhibitions throughout the year. **Currently featured is the exhibit "Caravaggio and his followers in Rome".**

Canadian Museum of Nature

www.nature.ca

24 min walk / 6 minute drive from Ottawa Convention Centre

Looking for Dinosaurs? Built inside a stunning stone castle, the Museum of Nature houses a mind-blowing collection of natural wonders.

Canadian War Museum

www.warmuseum.ca

32 min walk / 8 min drive from Ottawa Convention Centre

The Canadian War Museum pays tribute to the country's military past, and takes a moving look at the people and the equipment that fuelled it.

Sightseeing Tours

Ottawa haunted walk

From \$13/person

<http://www.hauntedwalk.com/ottawatours.php>

Locals and newcomers alike are fascinated by these glimpses into the darker history and haunting of the Nation's Capital. These tours take place when the lights are low and the atmosphere is just right for a good ghost story. Tours take 1-2 hours. Ticket office is at Elgin and Sparks. (9 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre). Reservation is recommended.

Bike tours/rentals

From \$9/hr

<http://www.rentabike.ca>

Take a guided bike tour of the city or rent a bike and go exploring on Ottawa's many bike paths. Guided tours take 1-4 hours. Located at 2 Rideau Street. (4 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre). Reservation is required.

Boat cruises

From \$19/person

Sightseeing cruises on the historic Rideau Canal as well as on the famous Ottawa River. Capture spectacular views of the city and be enthralled by our entertaining commentary as you journey on one of our sightseeing tours of the Nation's Capital. Tours take 1-1.5 hours.

Paul's Boat Cruises - 2 Rideau Street (4 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre).

<http://www.paulsboatcruises.com>

Capital Cruises - Confederation Square (5 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre).

<http://www.capitalcruisesottawa.com>

Lady Dive Amphibus/Hop-on hop-off bus tours

From \$30/person

<http://www.ladydive.com/>

Bilingual one hour city tours on both land and water. A spectacular way to visit Ottawa and view more than 75 different attractions sites. Ticket kiosk located at corner of Sparks & Elgin and corner of Wellington & Elgin (9 min walk from Ottawa Convention Centre).

Excursions / Day Trips (Car rental required)

Upper Canada Village

From \$21

<http://www.uppercanadavillage.com>

Nestled on the banks of the St. Lawrence River in eastern Ontario, this 60-acre site boasts over 40 heritage buildings to explore, and a host of costumed interpreters who delight in bringing you with them on an entertaining journey into Canada's past. 1.5 hour drive south of Ottawa.

Thousand Islands tour

From \$40 + taxes

http://www.1000islandsinfo.com/boat_tours.htm

Large and small tour boat companies exist all along the Canadian Coast of the Saint Lawrence River (Kingston, Gananoque, 1000 Islands Parkway, Rockport to Brockville) offering cruises to the public. The Boat Tours range from one to three hours and more. 1.5 hour drive south of Ottawa

Whitewater rafting / Kayaking

From \$115

<http://www.wildernesstours.com>

Your day begins with a shoreside safety briefing and paddling practice led by your guide. Above each rapid, your guide will brief you on the run. Each trip is about four to six hours in length with a hearty BBQ half way down the river or at the end of the trip depending on your start time. 1.5 hour drive west of Ottawa

Special Events and Performances

Buskerfest (Street Performers' festival)

http://www.sparkstreetmall.com/Busker_standard.htm

Ottawa's 20th annual Busker Festival (aka Buskerfest) takes place from July 28 - August 1, 2011 on the Sparks Street Mall in downtown Ottawa. There are over 40 performances daily, with entertainers and street performers from across Canada and around the world.

Chamberfest

<http://www.ottawachamberfest.com/>

Now in its 18th edition, this year's two-week international chamber music festival brings together the boldest names in ensemble and solo performance from July 23 to August 5. **Featuring the Cecilia String Quartet (July 29), Nimmons, Braid and Campbell (August 1) and Trio con Brio Copenhagen (August 3).**

National Arts Centre

<http://www.nac-cna.ca/en/>

Located just a short walk from the convention centre, the NAC currently features **Shakespeare's Othello (till July 30) and the musical "The Lion King" (till August 7).**