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There simply is no end of choice when it comes to finding fun things to do or wonderful places to stay when visiting Muskoka. Boasting more than 80 resorts - everything from luxury all-inclusive hotels, family-run lodges, quaint inns, historic B&Bs and rustic cottage resorts - Muskoka's got something for everyone.

Those looking for a back to nature experience are well catered to, with many parks and facilities available. Eleven provincial parks, and one national park - along with some 173,000 hectares of crown land - keep the region's flora and fauna safe, while at the same time allowing visitors to enjoy pursuits such as camping, rock climbing, mountain biking, swimming, fishing, canoeing, kayaking and bird watching. Add to the mix 76 municipal parks and 15 conservation areas and you're spoiled for places to have an old-fashioned picnic.

The list of things to do once you arrive in magnificent Muskoka is equally long. Boaters will want to explore the mile-after mile of shorelines along the region's magnificent, pristine lakes, big and small. Take your pick on how best to do it: area marinas and resorts offer rentals of everything from powerboats to canoes and kayaks, as well as winter equipment such as snowmobiles and snowshoes. Boat ramps and beaches are plentiful if you're bringing your own vessel.

In town, you'll be rewarded with unique dining, shopping and cultural experiences. There are, of course, many other great reasons to visit Muskoka: fantastic golf, relaxing spas, skiing, festivals and art shows... the list is endless.

For more information about Muskoka call 1-800-267-9700 or visit www.discovermuskoka.ca



Ontario is the first province and one of the first jurisdictions in the world to enact specific legislation establishing a goal and time-frame for accessibility. For Accessible accommodation, dining and other services in Muskoka, please contact the establishment directly.

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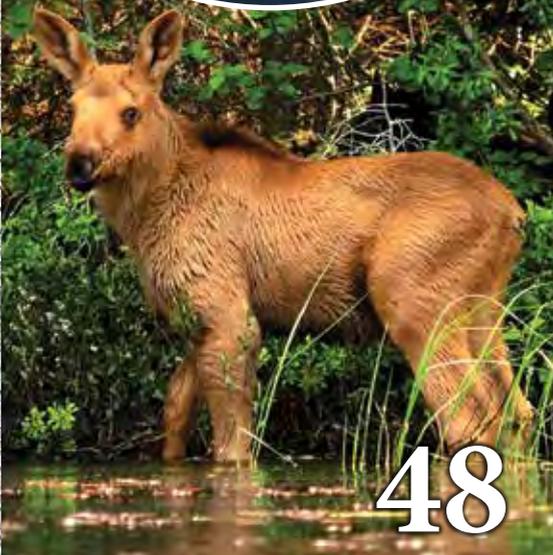
RELAX ~ EXPLORE ~ ENJOY

Discover

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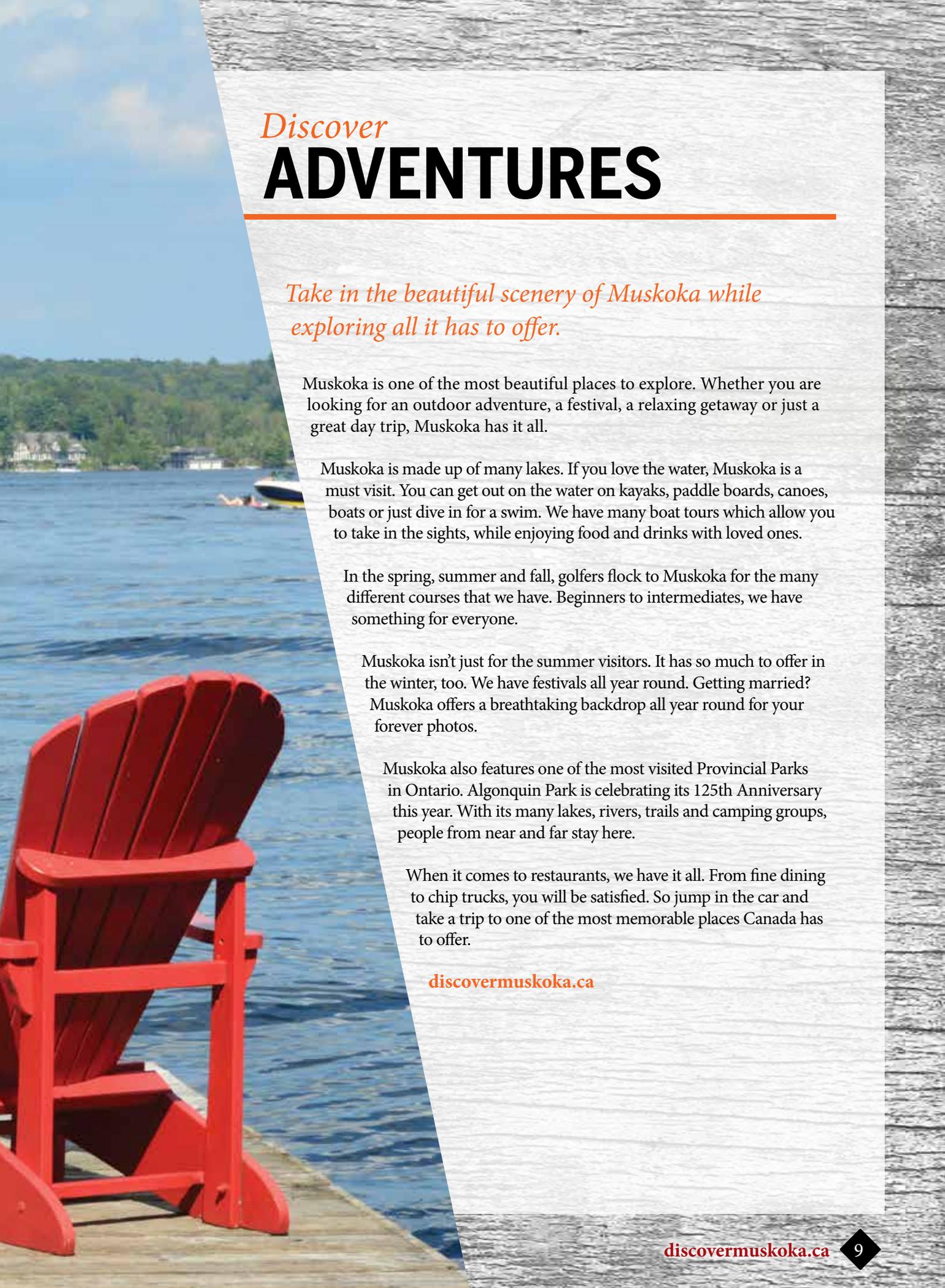
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To all the great photographers who
 contributed to the making of this guide.

Come experience these sights for yourself.
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Discover **ADVENTURES**

Take in the beautiful scenery of Muskoka while exploring all it has to offer.

Muskoka is one of the most beautiful places to explore. Whether you are looking for an outdoor adventure, a festival, a relaxing getaway or just a great day trip, Muskoka has it all.

Muskoka is made up of many lakes. If you love the water, Muskoka is a must visit. You can get out on the water on kayaks, paddle boards, canoes, boats or just dive in for a swim. We have many boat tours which allow you to take in the sights, while enjoying food and drinks with loved ones.

In the spring, summer and fall, golfers flock to Muskoka for the many different courses that we have. Beginners to intermediates, we have something for everyone.

Muskoka isn't just for the summer visitors. It has so much to offer in the winter, too. We have festivals all year round. Getting married? Muskoka offers a breathtaking backdrop all year round for your forever photos.

Muskoka also features one of the most visited Provincial Parks in Ontario. Algonquin Park is celebrating its 125th Anniversary this year. With its many lakes, rivers, trails and camping groups, people from near and far stay here.

When it comes to restaurants, we have it all. From fine dining to chip trucks, you will be satisfied. So jump in the car and take a trip to one of the most memorable places Canada has to offer.

discovermuskoka.ca

Discover LAKES



*Of all the amazing places and experiences in Muskoka,
the area is still most famous for its lakes.
It is a well-earned fame.*

There are more than 1,600 bodies of water in Muskoka, and the district's western edge encompasses hundreds of kilometres of Georgian Bay shoreline and a portion of the 30,000 Islands world biosphere reserve. You can share your solitude with the loons and moose on the smallest, quietest of lakes or enjoy the excitement and activity of life on the large, busy waterways; whatever your pleasure, Muskoka has the perfect lake for you. Here's a look at just a few of the area's largest:

Lake Muskoka

Surface area: 115.78 square km

Islands: >430

Length: 26 km

Width: 10 km

Depth: Average 15 m, maximum 66 m

Muskoka Wharf in Gravenhurst is the historic starting point for exploring Lake Muskoka, and that history is alive today as the home port of the 131-year-old RMS Segwun steamship. Through the narrows, the lake widens and you can take the Muskoka River past Santa's Village right up to the falls at the foot of downtown Bracebridge. The Moon River drains the lake in the west, just past the famous Kee music hall over the Bala Falls and out to Georgian Bay. On the north shore across from Walker's Point is Millionaire's Row, some of the oldest summer homes in Muskoka, built five generations ago for the families of steel magnates from Pennsylvania. A short trip up the Indian River at the northwest reach of the lake is Port Carling, where a lock connects Lake Muskoka to Lake Rosseau and Lake Joseph beyond.



Lake Rosseau

Surface area: 63.78 square km
 Islands: >70
 Length: 18 km
 Width: 11 km
 Depth: Average 24 m, maximum 89 m

Port Carling is known as “the Hub of the Lakes,” and the lock that connects Lake Rosseau with Lake Muskoka sits beside James Bartleman Island Park, home of the Muskoka Lakes Museum, where history is celebrated. A trip into Lake Rosseau quickly takes you past many historic summer homes, including Florence Island, named after actor Billy Florence, who was also one of the founders of the worldwide Shriner’s movement; Ravenscraig, the estate of historic Canadian retail magnate Timothy Eaton; and Llanllar Estate, built by the Miller family from Indiana, owners of the Cummins Engine Company. Nearby is the magnificent Windermere House resort, which maintains the original look and feel of a classic Muskoka resort from the heyday of steam travel on the lakes. High cliffs and scenic shores mark the trip up the lake to the village of Rosseau, and a trip down the

western shore reveals some of Muskoka’s picturesque cottage churches and the JW Marriott and Cleverlands House resorts — the latter of which started life as one of Muskoka’s oldest guest houses in 1869. At the south end of the lake is Port Sandfield and the canal that connects Lake Rosseau with Lake Joseph.

Lake Joseph

Surface area: 51.7 square km
 Islands: >65
 Length: 22 km
 Width: 5 km
 Depth: Average 26 m, maximum 92 m

The disappearing propeller “Dippy” was invented in Port Sandfield beside the massive swing bridge that allows large boats like the Segwun and her sister ship, the Wenonah II, passage between the lakes. Lake Joseph is rich with the history of bygone resorts, such as Summit House, Prospect House, Elgin House, Belmont House and The Pinelands. One that still exists is the charming 77-year-old Sherwood Inn, located on the western shore. Lake Joseph is known for its clear water and rugged scenery, and the long ▶



bay known as Little Lake Joe was once the destination of the old Muskoka Lakes Navigation Company's famous 100-Mile-Cruise.

The Huntsville Chain of Lakes

Mary Lake

Surface area: 10.6 square km

Islands: 8

Length: 6.6 km

Width: 2.3 km

Depth: Average 25 m, maximum 56 m

Lake Vernon

Surface area: 15.6 square km

Islands: 9

Length: 10 km

Width: 2.8 km

Depth: Average 14 m, maximum 38 m

Fairy Lake

Surface area: 8.4 square km

Islands: 5

Length: 5 km

Width: 2.5 km

Depth: Average 22 m, maximum 69 m

Peninsula Lake

Surface area: 7 square km

Islands: 5

Length: 5.6 km

Width: 3 km

Depth: Average 11.7 m, maximum 37 m

The Muskoka River, a lock and a canal connect four of Muskoka's most charming lakes, Mary, Fairy, Vernon and Peninsula. Starting at scenic Port Sydney at the south end of Mary Lake, you'll sail past Crown Island and along shores marked by steep rocks and rolling hills and up into the Muskoka River at the north end, where a lock in Huntsville will lift you into Fairy Lake. The town of Huntsville dominates the southwest side of the lake, where great dining and shopping await just steps from the town docks, past the old swing bridge. Past the rail lands at the south end of town, under Highway 11 and through the narrows lies Lake Vernon, the largest lake of the four. With its deep waters and quiet coves, Lake Vernon is one of Muskoka's best fishing lakes, with an excellent reputation for both bass and pike. Back through the narrows and past Huntsville, the Mark O'Meara-designed Grandview Golf Course straddles the hills at the far end of Fairy Lake, where a canal dredged in 1886 will take you into Peninsula Lake. Pen Lake, as it ►



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is known, is home to the expansive Deerhurst Resort, home of world-class dining and golf and host to the 2010 G8 Summit. Around the namesake peninsula that dominates the lake lays Wolf Bay, where steamers once docked at North Portage and passengers and cargo rode the shortest commercially operated railway in the world to reach Lake of Bays beyond. The Portage Flyer has been fully restored and now runs out to a lookout on Fairy Lake from Muskoka Heritage Place in Huntsville.

Lake of Bays

Surface area: 67.6 square km

Islands: >30

Length: 19 km

Width: 15 km

Depth: Average 224 m, maximum 70 m

Tucked away from major centres and thoroughfares, Lake of Bays' quiet, scenic shores are dotted with coves and inlets and bays of all sizes. Bigwin Island and a large, irregular peninsula bisect the lake. Lake of Bays forms a (very) rough triangle, with a village at each point — Baysville to the southwest, Dorset to the east and Dwight to the north. Dorset is home to the one-of-a-kind Robinson's General Store, great dining and spectacular views from the top of the Lookout Tower.

Baysville boasts several charming shops and eateries and hosts an Antique and Classic Boat and Car Show every August. Craftspeople in Dwight are hard at work making everything from fine canoes to some of the best baked goods around, and the sandy beach is home to an annual fireworks display. Near the end of the peninsula is Port Cunningham, where family members of one of the area's earliest settlers still help run the lodge he started at his lakefront home 126 years ago. One of Canada's finest golf courses graces the grounds of the former Bigwin Inn on Bigwin Island, where Clark Gable and Carole Lombard once honeymooned. Today, the inn's Marine Dining Room remains as part of the Bigwin Golf Club, one of Canada's finest courses. Rugged and scenic, Lake of Bays is a fine example of the treasures of Muskoka's lakes.

Countless others in the region hold their own charms as well, and with names such as Skeleton, Go Home, Sparrow, Kahshe and Gloucester Pool, you can be sure mysteries, adventure, quiet respite and whatever else you may be seeking on the water can be found on Muskoka's lakes.

With thanks to the District of Muskoka Geographic Information System. An online Muskoka Web Map is available at www.map.muskoka.on.ca. 

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← MUSKOKA



Discover

HIKING & WILDLIFE



Explore some of the oldest rock formations on the face of the planet or find yourself face-to-face with a young deer bounding into its first summer.

When it comes to outdoor adventure, Muskoka is one of a kind. With 11 provincial parks, 76 municipal parks, 15 conservation areas and even a national park, where you'd like to explore is limited only to your imagination.

The region boasts a trail network that covers some 4,000 square kms of terrain, making it ideal for hiking and wildlife watching.

With so much ground and so many varied ecosystems, what you can expect to find on your adventure can change by the season or even the time of day. Muskoka is situated on the Canadian Shield and some of the trails cross lunar-like landscapes that date back more than a billion years. In areas like the Hardy

Lake Trails system in Muskoka Lakes Township or the Torrance Barrens in both Muskoka Lakes and Gravenhurst, the effects of erosion and glaciation, as well as more modern effects like timber harvesting mark the landscapes in these areas. The soil is often thin, leaving large swaths of pink granite exposed and the dry conditions allow lichens and mosses to thrive among craggy rock outcroppings and shallow ponds.

In some parts of Muskoka, these ecosystems also serve as home to massasauga rattlesnakes, the rare eastern bluebird and Cooper's Hawk, and even Ontario's only lizard - the five lined skink.

Where the shield rises, several trails lead to wind



swept outlooks that offer stunning panoramic views over the lakes, fields and forests below. In the autumn, hikers are rewarded for the climb by an explosion of colour. Guests to the Fire Tower in Dorset, Huckleberry Rock in Muskoka Lakes Township or

With so much ground and so many varied ecosystems, what you can expect to find on your adventure can change by the season or even the time of day.

Lions Lookout in Huntsville are in for an autumn vista that is unmatched in Ontario.

Where the soil allows trees, white pine, black spruce and sugar maples help comprise the area's many woodlands. The woodlands make an ideal home for some of the more than 250 species of birds which call Muskoka home. Small mammals like chipmunks and

squirrels bound from tree to tree, and hiking trails can reveal deer, fox and packs of wild turkey searching the forest floor. Larger mammals like moose, bear and lynx are more illusive, and thankfully so, as they must be treated with some caution.

The Town of Bracebridge has several woodland trails, including the Bracebridge Resource Management Centre and High Falls Trail (which also looks out over one of Muskoka's largest waterfalls), and Algonquin Park is world famous for its forest hikes.

Renown for its waterways, there are dozens of trails in Muskoka that wind their way along lakesides, marshes and bogs, or near waterfalls large and small. There are even several trails that offer the chance to beat the heat and jump right in.

Boardwalks on multiple trails, including the School House Trail in Georgian Bay Township, as well as an extensive system in Algonquin Park, allow the hiker to stroll right through the wetlands and get a chance to watch the myriad wildlife. The Muskoka watershed ▶



is home to multiple species of trout and bass, as well as snakes and frogs and an abundance of waterfowl, including loons, herons and osprey. Lucky guests might even get the chance to spot the iconic beaver hard at work building dams and lodges.

In total, Muskoka is home to more than 50 types of mammals and 25 different kinds of amphibians. That leaves a lot of ground to cover - so lace up those boots and hit the trail to your own Muskoka adventure. 🐾

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EarlyON programs offer safe, welcoming environments to all families with young children. This is where questions get answers, anxiety turns into peace of mind and a sense of solitude turns into a spirit of community.

EarlyON programs are located throughout Muskoka. Join us for an enriching, play-based, drop-in experience!



Child and Family Centre



To view our current programming schedule please visit us at www.muskoka.on.ca/earlyon



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405 Muskoka Rd. S (705)-640-0224

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The Nest is a gathering place for families in Muskoka, providing access to community resources and family supports, as well as low-cost baby supplies and a wide range of gently-used clothing, toys and equipment for toddlers and children of all ages.

For info, hours and to learn how to donate visit www.muskoka.on.ca/thenest or email us at thenest@vianet.ca

The Nest relies on donations of gently-used clothing, toys and equipment to support local families. Cash donations are also welcome.



Lake Country
Community Legal Clinic

Discover GOLF



Muskoka's got something for all levels of golfer.

Thanks to its spectacular scenery and proximity to Toronto — it's just two hours' drive from Canada's largest city — Muskoka has been luring tourists northward for close to 150 years. While the big draw remains its countless pristine lakes, vast unspoiled tracts of forest and varied wildlife (many of the region's existing resorts started out as hunting lodges), these days Muskoka is as likely to appeal to sports enthusiasts looking for a little action and adventure as it will those looking for a spot of rest and relaxation.

Despite its rugged terrain — perhaps because of its rugged topography — Muskoka has also earned a well-deserved reputation for its superlative golf. In fact, cottage country is now home to more golf courses than any reasonable players could expect to handle in a season, with estimates of total yardage being somewhere in the region of 166,000 yards from the white blocks, and 155,000 from the blue. From picture-perfect, park-like nine-hole courses to challenging championship 18-

hole affairs literally carved out of the Canadian Shield, Muskoka's more than 30 golf courses offer something for players of all levels.

Wherever you tee off — you're never more than a few minutes (or yards) from great golf in Muskoka — the region's abundance of trees, rocks and water provide a unique backdrop you'll not find anywhere else in the world. It's an incredible landscape that has inspired some of the industry's best-known course designers to show off a little as they express their wild side. Rather than shy away from the endless granite, great course designers such as George Cummings, Stanley Thompson, Nick Faldo, Thomas McBroom and Doug Carrick chose to ensure their courses look as natural as possible, and they succeeded. In most cases, they blend in so well, you'd be forgiven for thinking they've always been there.

A rich history of golf

While Muskoka these days is considered a world-class golf destination — The Globe and Mail's Globegolf

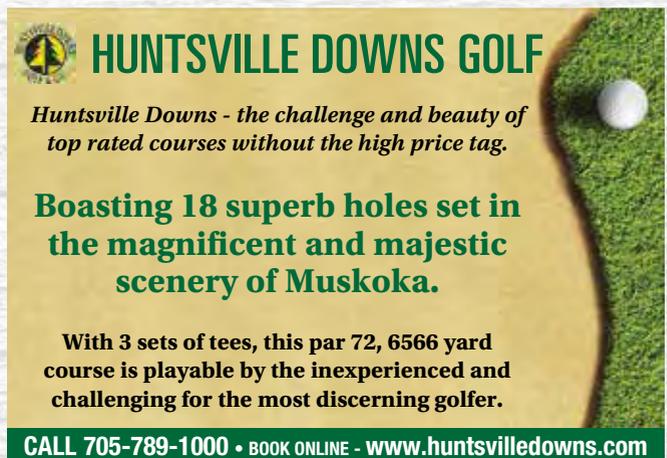


magazine recently rated the region one of Canada's top six golf destinations and included three Muskoka courses in its list of the country's top 100 courses — the sport experienced somewhat humble beginnings here. The region's first course, built adjoining the historic Windermere House resort, was established in 1919 as a semi-private golf and tennis facility catering to guests. The core group behind the course included some of Toronto's leading bankers, merchants and barristers — most of them summer residents— who took it upon themselves to build the course to make the area an even more desirable place to vacation. Land was purchased, and the then-head professional at Toronto Golf Club, George Cumming, was retained to design it. Although plans were for an 18-hole course, only nine holes were initially developed, though this was increased a few holes at a time, until finally reaching a full 18 holes some decades later.

While the course's \$1 green fees are very much a thing of the past, golfing in Muskoka needn't break the bank. The area boasts a number of excellent value-for-money options, from a handful of nine-hole public courses perfect for families to a number of affordable mid-range 18-holers that offer enough challenge to still be entertaining for more experienced players.

And for more serious golfers, there's no end of choice, from championship public courses that regularly boast celebrities and leaders of industry amongst their clientele, to members-only affairs set on their own private islands.

Whatever your preferred level of expenditure, Muskoka's got something for all levels of golfer. Framed by white birch, hemlock, pine and maple trees, deep bunkers, granite outcroppings, spectacular views, ponds, marshes and abundant wildlife, it's a golf experience you won't soon forget. 🏌️



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For those who crave peace and tranquility, the frozen lakes and snow laden tree bows provide the perfect backdrop for snowshoeing adventures and nights by the roaring fire.

Those looking for a little more adrenaline in the winter months can head to Muskoka's very own ski hill, go for a cruise on a snowmobile or try their hand at ice climbing.

By the time the first snows arrive the larger crowds of summer have typically dissipated and the beauty of Muskoka's natural surroundings has taken on a new appearance.

Muskoka's proximity to Georgian Bay and Lake

Huron result in some of the highest snowfall accumulations in all of Ontario (on average about 282.7 cm or 111.3 inches every year). Oftentimes, even while our friends just to the south are still waiting for the white stuff to get started, the forests and rocky outcroppings of the Canadian Shield are already draped in snow.

Hidden Valley Highlands Ski Area just outside Huntsville is a favourite of locals and guests alike. The hill boasts a top elevation of 1,276 feet (390 metres) and has four ski lifts and 13 runs.

For those who prefer to do their skiing on more level ground, there are a multitude of cross-country skiing trails across the region including Arrowhead



Park near Huntsville, the Bracebridge Resource Management Centre and the KOA just off Highway 11 in Gravenhurst.

Snowmobiling is a huge favourite among Muskokans and every year more guests come to take advantage of the abundance of snow and more than 1,600 kilometers of trails. Food and accommodation providers have recognized the importance of these winter visitors and are offering increasingly competitive offers to entice sledders into the area.

In recent years, ice trails have become a major attraction in the area. The original and most popular is the ice skating trail in Arrowhead Park, which winds 1.3 km through dense evergreen forest. On Fire and Ice nights, thousands of tiki torches line the trail for an experience that continues to draw guests from across the province.

When it comes to festivals and events, the party runs 12 months a year and Muskokans don't let a little snow get in the way of a good time.

Established in 2016, the Bracebridge Fire and Ice Festival is already a roaring success. The January event sees the main street in town transformed into a massive tubing run, while a skiing trail and ice sculptures take over the main park. Vendors and entertainers fill the downtown area to make the party complete, and the day is capped with a stunning fireworks display in Bracebridge Bay.

*In recent years, ice trails have become a major attraction in the area...
On Fire and Ice nights, thousands of tiki torches line the trail.*

In Gravenhurst, the party lasts for five days in February during the Gravenhurst Winter Carnival. There are pond hockey tournaments, “puddle jumping” contests on snowmobiles, and a demolition derby, to name just a handful of the many events. Port Carling’s Winterfest has been going strong for ▶

50 years and the event packs as much fun into a single weekend as possible. There are fireworks, axe throwing competitions, plenty of activities for the little ones and the ever popular polar dip at Hanna Park.

In Port Sydney, their Winter Carnival has been bringing the February fun every year for more than six decades. They have something to offer the entire family, not to mention a snowman building contest that often results in some of the largest snowmen you're likely to find anywhere.

Whether it's skating, snowshoeing or just enjoying fine food and drink by the fire, there's no place quite like Muskoka in the winter. ❄️



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“There isn't really a similar experience to Muskoka anywhere in Europe, and as far as I can tell in the world. I've brought Belgians, Spaniards and Brits to Muskoka and they're surprised by the combination of the warm lakes in summer, ubiquitous boats and cottage culture in general.

My grandparents had been coming up to Muskoka for years before I was born and had a small cottage on Lake Rosseau when I was about eight. I enjoyed swimming, water-skiing - fishing not so much. Having grown up with it, it was only when I got older that I appreciated how unique it was.

The large navigable waterways, the rocky cliffs and bright green forests, the fact that there are communities and towns on the lakes. The deep clear water for swimming off a dock is my favourite swimming anywhere in the world.”

**RYAN KRALIZ
LONDON, UK**

WHERE WINTER TRADITIONS BEGIN

You have your Summer traditions at the lake, so why not create new Winter traditions here at the Muskoka Ski Club at Hidden Valley Highlands Ski Area!

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MUSKOKA AIRPORT



Big History and Bright Future

The Muskoka Airport (CYQA) is a Transport Canada Certified facility owned and operated by the District Municipality of Muskoka. The airport provides a vital link to the air transportation industry in the Muskoka area. The airport operates 24 hours a day, seven days per week, 365 days per year. The public terminal building is located at the south end of the air field and hosts a Little Norway Memorial display and a 24-hour pilots' lounge.

The airport continues to grow with the times, and to host guests by offering the greatest “little” airport and services around. The 6,000 ft. long, 150 ft. wide main runway was fully reconstructed in 2015, and there is an average of 15,000 aircraft movements on the main runway each year for economic, travel and leisure purposes.

Muskoka and its people, landscapes and lifestyles have attracted the attention of Europeans, Americans and other international air travellers for decades. The airport provides international customs for prearranged flight and the airport is now considering options to facilitate regular scheduled commercial flights that could bring more visitors from across the world to discover what makes Muskoka so special.

The airport's runway length, rating capacity and customs service are advantages that distinguish it from many other small airports. The economic spin-offs for Muskoka linked to tourism, cottaging and business are estimated to be close to \$40 million. That includes everything from land and building lease at the airport to landing fees, fuel purchases and indirect benefits like guests spending their dollars at hotels and restaurants throughout the District.

Many major events have taken place at the airport over the years, including serving as a landing location for some of the key World Leaders who congregated in Muskoka for the G8 Summit in 2010.

Muskoka has had a long love affair with aviation that continues to this day. The airport was built in 1933 as a make-work project during the Depression. At the time, a man and a team were paid \$1 per day, plus keep, to help clear and level the landing strip.

The first airplane landed at Reay Airport (named after what was then known as Reay Township) in 1935. In 1938, the Reay Airport was officially renamed the Muskoka Airport. During the Second World War, the airport was more commonly known by another name – Little Norway.

When Nazi Germany attacked Norway on April 9, 1940, with only a small number of modern aircraft on order from U.S. manufacturers taken on charge, the Royal Norwegian Air Force was unable to mount a sustained defence.

In an effort to train what remained of the decimated Norwegian Air Force, the first Little Norway training facility was established in Toronto, and later moved to the Muskoka Airport in 1942. From then until February 1945, Little Norway trained 2,000 pilots, crew and ground crew.

To mark the airport's significance as part of Norway's wartime history, King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway made a state visit to Canada in May 2002, and a memorial at the airport was officially opened in 2007 to much fanfare. 🇳🇴

Discover

ACCOMMODATIONS



Whether you're the DIY type or a person who likes to have every detail taken care of, the region's accommodation providers have you covered.

Muskoka's reputation as one of the country's prime tourism destinations was built alongside its resorts more than a century ago.

Those resorts were famous for offering luxury in the midst of the rugged beauty of the Canadian Shield. Some of those same resorts that welcomed guests 100 years ago, still play host to visitors from around the world.

Windermere House on Lake Rosseau, Port Cunnington Lodge in Dwight and Cleavelands House in Minett were all built in the 1800s. You can experience that old world charm for yourself, as all three are still in operation. Many guests have returned to these iconic resorts for generations.

These days, the classic resorts of yesterday have been upgraded with modern touches and amenities. Guests can now find everything from beauty salons and spas, to golf and tennis courts, as well as the best in modern cuisine.

Many of the classic resorts of years past have disappeared from the Muskoka landscape, but new resorts specializing in luxury accommodations have sprung up to take their place. Destinations like Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville and the J.W. Marriott The Rosseau Muskoka Resort & Spa in Minett are regularly ranked as some of the leading resorts in the country.

Throughout Muskoka there are also a wide range of family resorts and lodges that partner the unique



experience of having your own cottage with the benefit of services like housekeeping and a high end restaurant experience. There are a wide range of accommodations offered, from cottages to more contemporary suite and condominium style settings.

There is also a plethora of accommodation providers who specialize in renting cottages. Everyone wants their own little slice of Muskoka and these rental specialists offer you the chance to get one for yourself without the full commitment of purchasing. It's also a great way to try out different areas of Muskoka if you're thinking of buying later on.

Bed and breakfasts dot the landscape, putting their own charming spin on Muskoka. That personal touch, and meals that are second to none, are just two of the reasons people choose to book their stay at local B&Bs. Many area bed and breakfasts are situated in historic buildings, and you can find providers specializing in accommodations for couples and larger groups.

Of course, there's nothing quite like roasting marshmallows over the open fire or lying on your back and staring out at the canopy of stars. For those who prefer to get as up close and personal with nature as possible, there are many options available.

Algonquin Park is world famous for its camping and it also offers yurts and areas for trailer camping. There are well maintained trails throughout the park, as well as museums, backcountry sites and excellent restaurants.

Just outside Huntsville, Arrowhead Provincial Park offers space in the great outdoors to set up tents, as does the KOA just off Hwy 11 in Gravenhurst. Both have room for trailers and enough activities on grounds to fill up a weekend or a week.

Whatever your preference, the accommodation experience in Muskoka is limited only by your imagination. 🍷

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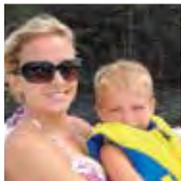


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 [facebook.com/ResidenceInnGravenhurstMuskokaWharf](https://www.facebook.com/ResidenceInnGravenhurstMuskokaWharf)



“

As children, my mother, my sister and I spent two weeks every summer at my uncle's cottage on the Severn River and remember it fondly.

So when my niece had her second child in 2009, my sister and I decided that we would take her and her family to a resort for a week in the summer. We've returned for a week in the summer ever since.

There is something about the Muskoka landscape – the rocks, the lakes, the light, the clean, clear air – that speaks to something deep in the Canadian spirit.

The memories carry us through the long winter, and almost as soon as we leave, the children are asking, 'When are we coming back?'

**ELEANOR WESTNEY
TORONTO**

”



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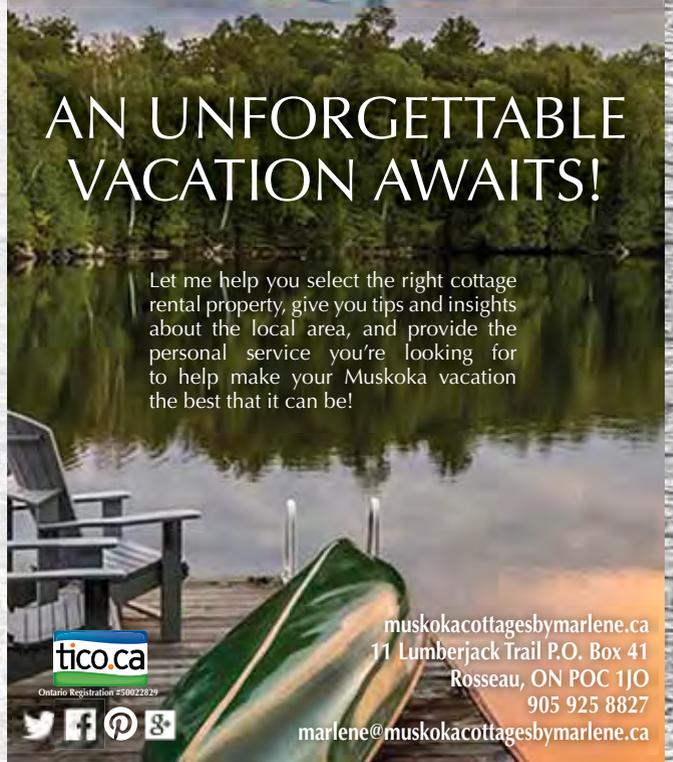


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Discover WEDDINGS



For decades Muskoka has drawn couples from around the world who are searching for the perfect backdrop to their big day.

It doesn't take much searching to understand why. The windswept rocks, picturesque lakes and quiet wooded glades can make fairytale weddings a reality.

The rugged beauty of the area sees weddings booked all four seasons, and each presents its own set of attributes depending on what you're looking for. Typically by late March the snows have begun to recede and Muskoka is set to burst forth with an abundance of life and colour. The bright greens of new foliage and the early blossoms take over as the ice draws back from the lakes. Add in the warmer weather and the stage is set to make some unforgettable memories.

The bigger crowds typically have yet to arrive, giving those planning spring weddings first pick of the area's many caterers and chefs, jewelers and fashion specialists, wedding planners, florists, decorators and some of the most highly regarded wedding photographers in the entire province.

Summer is the high season for weddings and Muskoka is in its full glory. The scenery is at its iconic peak and the towns and resorts bustle with vibrancy. Wedding parties and their guests can enjoy drinks on the patio, hit the water to cool off or break out the golf clubs on the one of the area's many breathtaking courses.



Those same courses and resorts often double as wedding venues, and wedding vows take place along panoramic waterfronts, sprawling manicured lawns or in wedding halls both rustic and opulent.

The transition of summer to fall brings an explosion of colour to the region. Across Muskoka the foliage reveals the beauty it's been saving for the autumn months. The shoreline is a spectacular wedding venue during this time of year, as the bright reds and yellows of the leaves match their own reflection on the calm autumn water.

A wedding aboard one of the area's classic steamships or cruise ships takes on an added quality in the fall. Guests will be taken in by the view from the water, and there's nothing quite like saying "I do", as the wedding venue itself gently carves its way through Muskoka's iconic waterways.

Winter is often overlooked as a season for wedding vows, but recently the area has begun to cater much more specifically to couples considering the season.

The season presents some of the most stunning backdrops for wedding celebrations, as the area blankets itself in a canopy of white. There's something romantic about the snowy setting, and the peace and calm of a Muskoka winter make a winter wedding an experience unlike any other season.

Summer is the high season for weddings and Muskoka is in its full glory.

Once the nuptials have ended, guests and the happy couple alike can warm themselves with a hot drink and a roaring fire.

Activities abound, as snowmobiling, skiing and skating venues dot the area, and many accommodations ▶



providers offer winter packages for wedding guests.

Muskoka is known as a four season playground but it could just as easily be called a four season wedding destination. With unmatched natural beauty and service all year, Muskoka is the quintessential setting 365 days of the year. 📍

“
My first time visiting Muskoka was when I was quite young. I remember fishing with my father, feeding the chipmunks, swimming all day. . . complete freedom, and the beauty of the lake and the call of the loons. As an adult I wanted that feeling of Muskoka for my children.

This is our touchstone. For my kids, for my extended family. We can all get together, enjoy each other and make memories which will last a lifetime. It spans all ages - from newborn to grandparent.

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Discover

ARTS & CULTURE



With inspiration around every corner, it's no wonder Muskoka has long been known as a hotbed of artistic activity.

With inspiration around every corner, it's no wonder Muskoka has long been known as a hotbed of artistic activity.

The natural beauty that first drew the famous Group of Seven to the area continues to spark artists of all mediums and the area is awash in galleries and studios which welcome visitors year round.

The shadow cast by the Group of Seven continues to emerge over Muskoka and the surrounding areas and their lasting influence is quite literally painted on the walls.

From a single mural of Tom Thomson's *The Jack Pine* painted on the exterior wall of a Huntsville business in 1997, the Group of Seven outdoor gallery has grown to become one of the most noted outdoor art exhibits in Ontario. The experience now includes incredible replica artwork of the collectives' most famous works drawn by some of the most accomplished artists in Canada. The gallery can be experienced by regular guided tours, or you can head out on your own using one of the self-guided tour maps.

If you're looking to combine Muskoka's unparalleled natural beauty with the beauty created by our most



talented artists then the Muskoka Autumn Studio Tour is a must. The tour typically takes place in late September to coincide with the explosion of colour that marks autumn in Muskoka.

The tour allows guests to bridge the gap between patron and artist as they explore the studios of painters, sculptures, woodworkers and photographers - to name just a handful. The tour includes stops throughout the Muskoka region, as it winds down picturesque country lanes and along waterways and forests.

Artists of the Limberlost is another favourite on the annual arts calendar, taking place in the late summer. Located between Huntsville and Algonquin Park, the Limberlost Road is a mecca for the arts in Muskoka. Guests can typically visit up to 20 artists working out of seven different locations. The route winds through forests and wetlands along the rugged Canadian Shield.

The Muskoka Arts and Crafts Summer Show in Bracebridge draws big crowds to Annie Williams Park along the banks of the Muskoka River. Held in July, the festival boasts more than 200 artists from across the country and typically draws more than 20,000 art lovers over the course of a weekend.

Located on the outskirts of Bracebridge, the Artful Garden is an art exhibit unlike any other. For several weeks in late July and early August, the spectacular gardens of Jon and Suzann Partridge are transformed into an artistic wonderland thanks to the works of more than 40 artists.

In August, the Dockside Festival of the Arts takes over the Muskoka Wharf Special Events Field in Gravenhurst with more than 100 artists, vendors and musicians.

For more than three decades the Baysville Riverfront Group has hosted the Baysville Arts and Crafts Festival in August. The festival draws dozens of ▶



artisans specializing in everything from fashion and accessories to furniture and pottery.

Farmers markets are also a hub of artistic activity, and they can be found on a weekly basis in many communities in Muskoka.

Add to that the many galleries and studios and even artists-in-residence programs at some resorts that are open to the public and it isn't hard to see why Muskoka has become known for its thriving arts scene. 📍



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Discover EVENTS



MARCH 2018

March 24
Honey Harbour Maplefest
10am -2pm
facebook.com/HoneyHarbourCoop

March 23 – 25
**41st Annual Spring Members Show
Muskoka Arts & Crafts**
Bracebridge
muskokaartsandcrafts.com

APRIL 2018

April 1
**Muskoka Heritage Place & The Nutty
Chocolatier Annual Community
Easter Egg Hunt**
12pm
muskokaheritageplace.org

April 21
Muskoka Maple Festival
muskokamaple.ca

April 27 – 29
**Muskoka Builders' Association
Home & Cottage Show**
Gravenhurst Centennial Centre
muskokabuilders.com

MAY 2018

May 5
Baysville Community Yard Sale
baysvilleontario.com

May 6
**Dwight Outdoor 3D-Target
Archery Tournament**
lakeofbaysalgonquin.com

May 9
Fresh Spring Fashion Show
Gravenhurst BIA
gravenhurstbia.com

May 12
May Marche
Grandview Golf Club
huntsvillefestival.on.ca

May 19th
**Muskoka Bass Anglers' Lake
Muskoka Pike Open**
Muskoka Wharf
7:30-4pm
muskokapike.webs.com

May 19
Victoria Day Open House
Muskoka Lakes Museum
mlmuseum.com

May 19
Muskoka 24 Craft Beer Festival
Huntsville
downtownhuntsvilleadventures.ca

May 26
Spin the Lakes Tour
bikemuskoka.ca

JUNE 2018

June 2
Port Sydney Village Wide Yard Sale
portsydneycoc.com

June 9
Band on the Run
Huntsville
bandontherun.ca

June 9
SS Bigwin Community BBQ
ssbigwin.com

June 15
Spotlight on Muskoka Lakes
The Kee to Bala, 6-9pm
Muskokalakeschamber.ca

June 16
25th Annual Gravenhurst Car Show
www.gravenhurstcarshow.com

June 16
Father's Day Beer Tasting Cruise
Rain date: June 17
(SS Bigwin & Lake of Bay Brewery)
ssbigwin.com

June 17
Father's Day Car Show
Bracebridge 9am-3pm
downtownbracebridge.com

June 17
**Father's Day Cruise aboard Sunset
Cruises**
At the locks in Port Carling
SunsetCruises.ca

June 23
Baysville Surf 'n' Turf
baysvilleriverfront.ca

June 23 – 24
Torc Boat Races
Gull Lake Rotary Park
Gravenhurst
torc.ca

June 23
Spring into Summer Art Crawl
Key locations around Gravenhurst
gravenhurstbia.com

June 30
Honey Harbour Canada Day Festival
9am to 2pm
facebook.com/HoneyHarbourCoop

June 30
Baysville Canada Day Fireworks
Rain date July 1

June 30 – July 1
Bala Craft and Gift Fair
balacraftandgiftfair.com

June 29 – July 1
Bala Antique and Nostalgia Show

June 30
Fireworks at Walkers Point Marina
Gravenhurst
walkerspointmarina.com

JULY 2018

July 1 – August 19
Music on the Barge
Gravenhurst
Sunday's only at 7:30pm
Rain or lightning concerts will be cancelled
gravenhurst.ca

July 5 – August 17
Huntsville Festival of the Arts Season
huntsvillefestival.on.ca

July 21 – August 12
The Artful Garden
Open Daily 10am to 5pm
theartfulgarden.ca

July 1
Dominion Day
Strawberry Social & Steam-up Day,
Huntsville
muskokaheritageplace.org

July 1
Canada Day Huntsville
downtownhuntsvilleadventures.ca

July 1
Canada Day Boat Parade
Port Severn
www.gloucesterpool.ca

July 1
Port Sydney Canada Day
portsydneycoc.com

July 1
Canada Day in Bracebridge
11:00am to 10:45pm
bracebridgefireworks.com

July 1
Canada Day Celebrations
Minett, 5pm-7pm & 10pm-11pm
muskokachautauqua.com

July 1
Canada Day Celebration
Gull Lake Rotary Park
Gravenhurst
gravenhurst.ca

July 1
Canada Day at Muskoka Lakes Museum
Port Carling
mlmuseum.com

July 1
Canada Day Fireworks Cruise
Sunset Cruises, Port Carling
sunsetcruises.ca

July 7
Rotary Dockfest
Noon – 5pm
Huntsville
huntsvilleadventures.com

July 7
Heritage Day at Dorset Heritage Museum
dorsetheritagemuseum.ca

July 7
Limberlost Challenge
Huntsville
thelimberlostchallenge.com

July 7
Dorset Kids Fish Derby

July 7
38th Annual Summer Vintage Boat Show
Gravenhurst
acbs.ca

July 7
Dog Fest Muskoka
Annie Williams Memorial Park
Bracebridge
dogfestmuskoka.ca

July 8
IRONMAN 70.3 Muskoka
Huntsville/Lake of Bays
ironmanmuskoka.com

July 12
Flavours of Muskoka Chautauqua Gourmet Graze
JW Marriott, Minett
7pm-10pm
muskokachautauqua.com

July 14
Gravenhurst Triathlon
multisportcanada.com/gravenhurst

July 14
Butter Tart Festival
Muskoka Lakes Museum
Port Carling
mlmuseum.com

July 14 – 15
Muskoka Pioneer Power Show
Bracebridge
muskokapioneerpower.ca

July 14 – 15
Muskoka Yoga Festival
Bracebridge
facebook.com/muskokayogafestival

July 20
Midnight Madness-Street Dance
Huntsville
downtownhuntsvilleadventures.ca

July 20 – 22
56th Muskoka Arts & Crafts Summer Show
Annie Williams Memorial Park, Bracebridge
muskokaartsandcrafts.com

July 24
Everything Anne of Green Gables Day
Bala's Museum
705-762-5876
1:30pm
balasmuseum.com

July 27 – 29
Muskoka Ribfest
Muskoka Wharf, Gravenhurst
muskokashows.com

July 27 – 29
Muskoka In-Water Boat & Cottage Show
Muskoka Wharf, Gravenhurst
muskokashows.com

July 28
Make a Splash Festival
Gravenhurst
gravenhurst.ca

July 28
Baysville Walkabout Festival
Over 120 Arts & Crafts vendors.
baysvillewalkabout.com

July 28
Loggers Day
Algonquin Park
algonquinpark.on.ca

July 28
Nuit Blanche North
edgeofthewoodstheatre.com

July 29
The Wakami Wailers Concert
7 pm Outdoor Theatre at 35.4 km
Algonquin Park
algonquinpark.on.ca

AUGUST 2018

August 2 – 4
Huntsville Jazz Festival
facebook.com/HoneyHarbourCoop

August 3
Bracebridge Midnight Madness
6pm to Midnight
downtownbracebridge.com

August 4
Fireworks Gravenhurst
gravenhurst.ca

August 3 – 5
Sawdust City Music Festival
Gravenhurst
sawdustcitymusicfestival.com

August 4
Muskoka Comic-Con
Bracebridge
muskokacomicon.com

August 4
Griffin Session Muskoka
Annie Williams Memorial Park
Bracebridge
sessionmuskoka.ca

August 10 – 11
Celebrate Gravenhurst Annual Street Festival & Sidewalk Sale
gravenhurstbia.com

August 11 – 12
Baysville Arts and Crafts Festival
baysvilleriverfront.ca

August 11
Muskoka Lakes Antique Boat Show
mla.on.ca

August 17 – 19
27th Annual Veridian Dockside Festival of the Arts
Gravenhurst Muskoka Wharf
docksidefestival.com

August 18
Summer Sidewalk Sale
Huntsville
downtownhuntsvilleadventures.ca

August 18
August Brews Cruise
SS Bigwin/Lake of Bays Brewery Co.
ssbigwin.com

August 18
Honey Harbour Jazzfest
In Honey Harbour Park
12pm-3pm

August 18 – 19
Artists of the Limberlost Studio Weekend
Huntsville
artistsofthelimerlost.ca

August 18 – 19
Muskoka Muscle
Bala
improvefitnessguelph.com

August 19
Lake of Bays Antique Classic Boat & Car Show
baysvilleontaro.com

August 21 – 24
Opera Muskoka
muskokachautauqua.com

August 24 – 26
35th Annual Bracebridge Antique Sale
Bracebridge Fairgrounds

August 25
Muskoka Craft Beer Fest
Gravenhurst Muskoka Wharf
muskokacraftbeer.com

SEPTEMBER 2018

September 8
Severn Bridge Fall Fair
severnfair.org

September 8
Muskoka Fall Classic Rowing
Gull Lake Rotary Park
severnriverrowingclub.com

September 14 – 16
Bracebridge Fall Fair and Horse Show
JD Lang Park
bracebridgefair.com

September 15
Macaroni Festival
downtownhuntsvilleadventures.ca

September 21 – 23
Huntsville Fall Fair
huntvilleadventures.com

September 22 – 23 & 29 – 30
Muskoka Autumn Studio Tour
muskokastudiotour.com

September 28 – 30
Culture Days in Muskoka
culturedays.ca

September 28 – 30
What's Cooking
Bracebridge
bracebridge.ca

September 29
Doors Open Gravenhurst
doorsopenontario.on.ca

September 29
Traditions Transformed music and art exhibition
Bethune House, Gravenhurst
muskokachautauqua.com

OCTOBER 2018

October 6
Thanksgiving Open House
Muskoka Lakes Museum
Port Carling
mlmuseum.com

October 6
Great Muskoka Paddling Experience
Bracebridge
muskokapaddlingexperience.com

October 12 – 14
Bala Cranberry Festival
balacranberryfestival.on.ca

October 13
Bala's Museum CRAN-ANNE Contest
Registration 1:30pm
Judging 2pm
balasmuseum.com

October 27
Let the Spirits Rise
Downtown Gravenhurst
705-644-9392
gravenhurstbia.com

October 31
Annual Great Pumpkin Trail
Muskoka Heritage Place
Huntsville
muskokaheritageplace.org

NOVEMBER 2018

November 3
Muskoka Lakes Christmas Market
Port Carling
muskokalakeschamber.com

November 9 – 11
Huntsville Girlfriends Getaway Weekend
huntsvillegirlfriendsgetaway.ca

November 16 – 18
38th Annual Christmas Show and Sale
Bracebridge Sportsplex
muskokaartsandcrafts.com

November 17
Bala Santa Claus Parade
muskokalakeschamber.com

November 17
Port Carling Santa Claus Parade

November 23
Black Friday Celebrations & Annual Christmas Tree Lighting
Gravenhurst
705-644-9392
gravenhurstbia.com

November 23
Christmas Tree Lighting, and Carol Sing
Bala Community Centre
muskokalakeschamber.ca

November 24
Gravenhurst Santa Claus Parade
gravenhurstchamber.com

November 25
Dorset Community Christmas Tree Lighting & Dinner

November 25
Making Spirits Bright-Community Tree Lighting
Port Sydney
portsydneycofc.com

November 30
Huntsville Santa Claus Parade
huntvilleadventures.com

November 30
Black Friday
Downtown Huntsville
huntvilleadventures.com

November 30
Santa's Moonlight Shopping Party/ Featuring the Festival of the Lights
Bracebridge
downtownbracebridge.com

November 30 – December 2
XMUS Festival
Bracebridge
eventsinmuskoka.com

DECEMBER 2018

December
Flash Mob Caroling, Minett
muskokachautauqua.com

December 1
Light up Dwight Night
lakeofbayslibrary.ca

December 1
Bala's Trek to Bethlehem

December 2
Rotary Bracebridge Santa Claus Parade
bracebridgesantaparade.com

December 8/9, 15/16 & 22/23
SantaFest, Santa's Village
Bracebridge
santasvillage.ca

December 9
Baysville Santa Claus Parade Only
Parade that goes around twice

December 22
Portage Flyer Christmas
Huntsville
muskokaheritageplace.org

December 24
Christmas Eve Torch Light Parade
Huntsville
skihiddenvalley.on.ca

December 31
New Years Eve Fireworks
Huntsville
skihiddenvalley.on.ca

JANUARY 2019

January
Muskoka Wedding Show
Muskoka Discovery Centre,
Gravenhurst
facebook.com/MuskokaWeddingShow

January
Muskoka Arrowhead Nordic Loppet
Arrowhad Prov. Park, Huntsville
arrowheadnordic.ca

January
**Taylor Cup Pond Hockey
Championship**
Bayview Wildwood Resort
Port Stanton
taylorcup.ca

January 26
Fire & Ice Festival
Downtown Bracebridge
fireandicebracebridge.com

FEBRUARY 2019

February 1 – 3
Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Snow Run
Hidden Valley Resort, Huntsville
breastcancersnowrun.org

February
Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival
dorsetsnowball.com

February
Port Carling Winterfest
portcarlingwinterfest.ca

February
Port Sydney winter Carnival
Port Sydney Community Centre

February
Dwight Winter Carnival
dwightwintercarnival.com

February
**North American Cup Original
Pond Hockey Classic**
Gravenhurst
onthepondcanada.com

February
Baysville Family Day Winterfest
baysvilleontario.com

February
Gravenhurst Winter Carnival
gravenhurstwintercarnival.ca

MARCH 2019

March
Honey Harbour Maple Fest
facebook.com/HoneyHarbourCoop

March
Spring Members Show
muskokaartsandcrafts.com

APRIL 2019

April
**Muskoka Heritage Place
& The Nutty Chocolatier Annual
Community East Egg Hunt**
12pm in Huntsville
muskokaheritageplace.org

April
**Muskoka Builders' Home
& Cottage Show**
muskokabuilders.com

April
Muskoka Maple Festival
muskokamaple.ca

FARMERS' MARKETS

May 16 – October 31
Gravenhurst Farmers' Market
Muskoka Wharf
Across from Boston Pizza
Wednesdays 9am – 2pm
gravenhurstfarmersmarket.com

May 19 – October 6
Bracebridge Farmers' Market
Memorial Park,
Beside Norwood Theatre
Saturdays 8:30am – 1pm
thebracebridgefarmersmarket.com

May 17 – October 4
Huntsville Farmers' Market,
Canadian Tire Parking Lot
Thursdays 9am – 2pm

June 29 – August 31
Rosseau Farmers' Market
at the waterfront
Fridays 9am – 2pm
rosseaumarket.com

June 25 – September 3
Bala Farmers' Market
Jaspen Park
Mondays 9am-2pm
balafarmersmarket.com

June 26 – August 28
Dwight Farmers' Market
1009 Dwight Beach Rd.
Tuesdays 9am – 1 pm
dwightfarmersmarket.ca

June 29 – August 31
Baysville Farmers' Market
Baysville Corner Store
Friday 2pm -6pm
baysvillefarmersmarket.com

June 28 – August 30
Port Carling Farmers' Market
Hanna Park on Bailey Street,
Thursdays 9am-2pm
portcarlingfarmersmarket.com

Summer Waterski Shows
Show time: 7:30 pm to 8:30pm
Mondays: Clevelands House Resort,
Minett
Tuesdays: Windsor Park, Bala
Wednesdays: Boston Pizza,
Gravenhurst
Thursdays: Bayview Wildwood Resort,
Sparrow Lake
[summerwatersports.com/
shows/#MuskokaShows](http://summerwatersports.com/shows/#MuskokaShows)

discovermuskoka.ca
For event details 📍

Discover

ALGONQUIN PARK



Algonquin Park. The name alone instantly conjures up breathtaking images for anyone who's been there and even for many who haven't.

Measuring a staggering 7,630 square km (roughly one and a half times the size of Prince Edward Island), the park contains some 2,456 lakes and 1,200 km of streams and rivers.

Situated on the pre-Cambrian Shield, the park is famous for the multitude of wildlife that call it home. There have been over 280 bird species spotted in the park, 50 species of mammals, 14 species of reptiles and 17 species of amphibians. There are more than 50 species of fish alone within the park boundaries, including lake trout and brook trout, as well as iconic mammal species such as moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, wolf and beaver.

Its proximity to larger centres like Toronto (it's roughly a three hour drive) draws guests seeking to experience

it's wilderness-like qualities, camping and hiking opportunities, bird and wildlife viewing, fantastic fall colour displays and excellent trout fishing. As a park that is easily accessible, it is an amazing place to explore for a day or a week. Many have made the trip an annual tradition.

It was a much different story 125 years ago when Algonquin was established as the first provincial park in Canada. In the early days, there were few visitors. Those who did typically arrived by train for camping and fishing trips.

The Algonquin name dates back to the seventeenth century when French voyageurs encountered the Algonquin people in the area. The interpretation of the word usually given is "the place of spearing fish from



the bow of a canoe” but the park was named Algonquin to honour the indigenous people from the area.

Over time, lodges, campgrounds and stores were established and the highway opened in 1935. Today there are over 1,300 car-camping sites and 2,000 backcountry sites. There are close to 2,000 km of canoe routes, and hundreds of kilometres of backpacking and hiking trails.

The park has been transformed over the years into a four season destination that offers so many opportunities – front country camping, backcountry canoeing or backpacking, lodges, stores, museums and trails. These days Algonquin receives approximately 1 million visitors each year.

The Algonquin Visitor Centre is the perfect spot to begin any trip into the park. It features displays on the history of the park, as well as a large and detailed relief map of all of southern Ontario, to give visitors an idea of just how large the park is. There are taxidermied displays of the animals who live in the park, artifacts, videos and a panoramic outdoor viewing deck.

One of the most iconic parks in Canada, Algonquin Park will be a site for celebration in 2018 as it marks its 125th anniversary.

To honour the occasion, Algonquin Park will host a series of special events this year including Winter in the Wild, Family Fishing Day, Meet the Researcher Day and Halloween Weekend.

The Algonquin Logging Museum is another “must visit” stop within the park. In addition to the museum building itself, which details the park’s logging history, the museum also features a 1.3 km trail through a recreated logging camp, past logging equipment and interpretive panels. A high point on the annual calendar is Logger’s Day, typically held in late July or early August each year. The event includes musicians, a logger’s old style lunch, activities for children and interpretive actors.

Check OntarioParks.com or Algonquinpark.on.ca for details. 📍



Discover **OUR COMMUNITIES**

Experience the individual Muskoka communities.

Officially, Muskoka is made up of three Towns and three Townships, but it's much more than that. There are many, unique communities and villages and each offers a different experience.

The main ones are listed in the next few pages, but it's just a start. There is so much more.

The population of Muskoka is 60,599 according to the 2016 Census. Plus about 100,000 more are seasonal property owners - cottagers who used to be just summer visitors but many now spend time in Muskoka year round. And of course, visitors grow the summer population too, staying everywhere from family resorts and bed & breakfasts to motels and campgrounds.

As a result, Muskoka has that personal service and quality that one expects in smaller communities but also offers world class accommodations, food, entertainment and recreation.

Most communities are nestled along the shore of lakes and rivers, and most are accessible both by car and boat. That means it's easy to find a place for a great meal or an afternoon coffee or tea with a great view.

The area's beauty seems to encourage the arts as the creative community in Muskoka is impressive. Festivals, artisans, music, and theatre are a fundamental part of the Muskoka landscape.

The area's colourful history of logging, travelling by steamships and free land grants is on display at area museums and attractions.

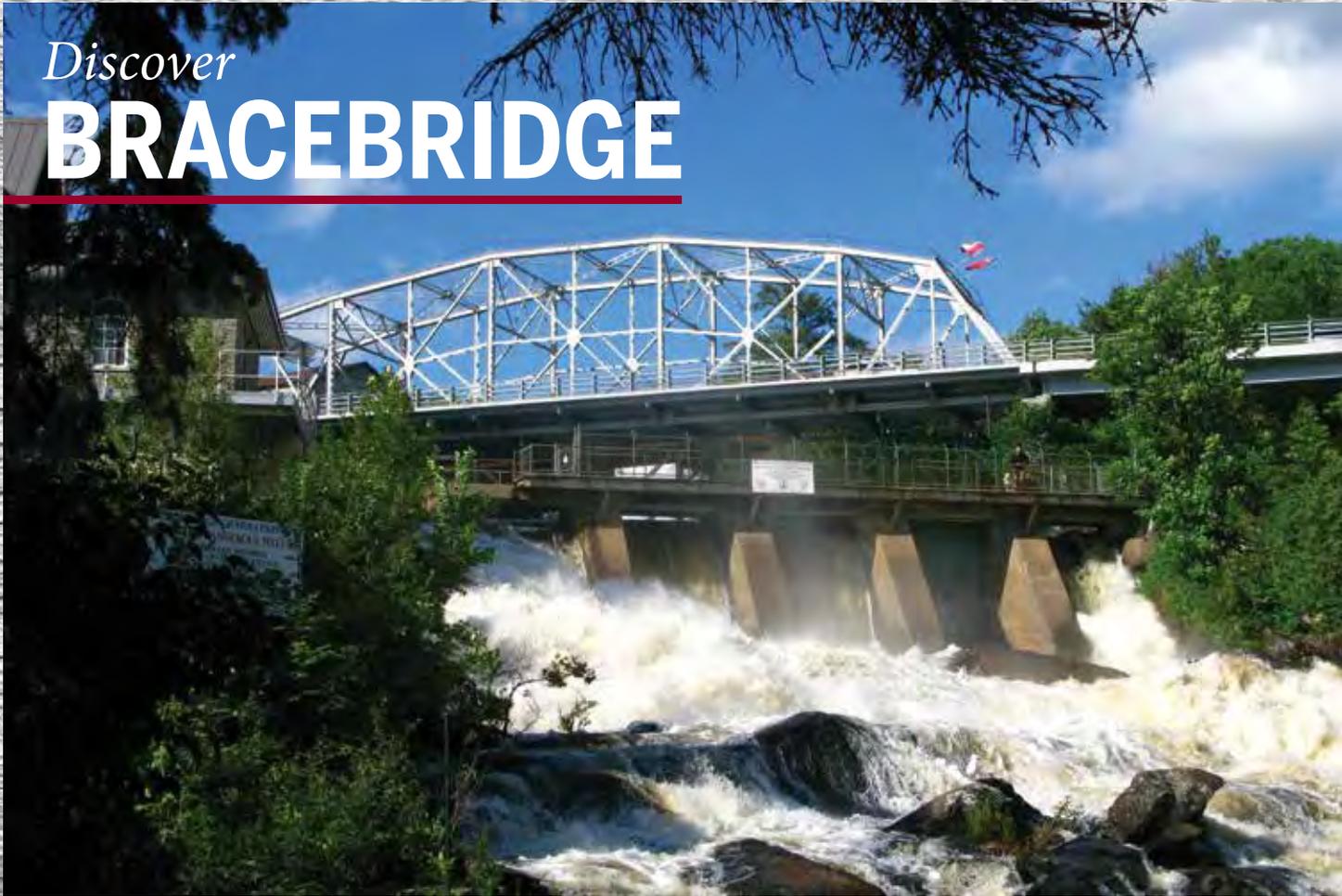
It truly is the nature, the hundreds of gorgeous lakes, forests, and rocky Canadian Shield that attract so many. But it might be the people of the communities, that convince them to return again and again.

Enjoy Muskoka!

discovermuskoka.ca

Discover

BRACEBRIDGE



Whether you are a thrill seeker, art enthusiast, foodie, nature lover, shopper or festival goer, Bracebridge has it all!

Once you arrive, it doesn't take long to feel yourself relax. While shopping in local stores, you will connect with the merchants and business owners who are sure to make you feel at home. You will be pleasantly surprised by the range of unique shops and services the town has to offer.

From Thai to Irish, Mexican to Japanese, quaint bistros to deli-shops, and everything in between – family-owned restaurants wait to inspire your taste buds. The craft-beer enthusiast can sip the exceptional and refreshing brews at our local restaurants or take a tour at Muskoka Brewery to see first-hand how their award winning brews are produced.

Explore the town's historical streets, or take a leisurely walk, snowshoe or cross-country ski on one

of the interesting trails. Experience simplistic living at its finest – wind down and enjoy the best that nature has to offer right here in “THE BRIDGE.” Bracebridge has been a sanctuary for artists, musicians, and cultural enthusiasts for many years. For those looking to explore the cultural scene, take some time to enjoy local theatre, live music, or visit an artist's studio.

The Bracebridge Falls alongside Bracebridge Bay provide a scenic anchor to the historic downtown core. Sit and enjoy a picnic, swim at the beach, or take a stroll and explore the town's Historic Walk.

For the athlete in the crowd, or those looking to try something new, Bracebridge is home to many outfitters equipped to sell or rent canoes, kayaks, stand-up



paddleboards, skis, snowshoes, fat bikes, and more.

The young, and the young at heart, always love to spend time at Santa's summer home while in Bracebridge. From magical wonders to heart racing rides, there's something for everyone at Santa's Village.

However you decide to spend your time in Bracebridge, it is sure to change, engage, and inspire you. Come taste, create and live "THE BRIDGE" your way.

*Experience simplistic living
at its finest – wind down and enjoy
the best that nature has to offer...*

Check out visitthebridge.ca to learn more and design your vacation or stop in to see us at the Bracebridge Visitor Information Centre at 3 Ecclestone Drive (at the base of the Bridge.) 📍





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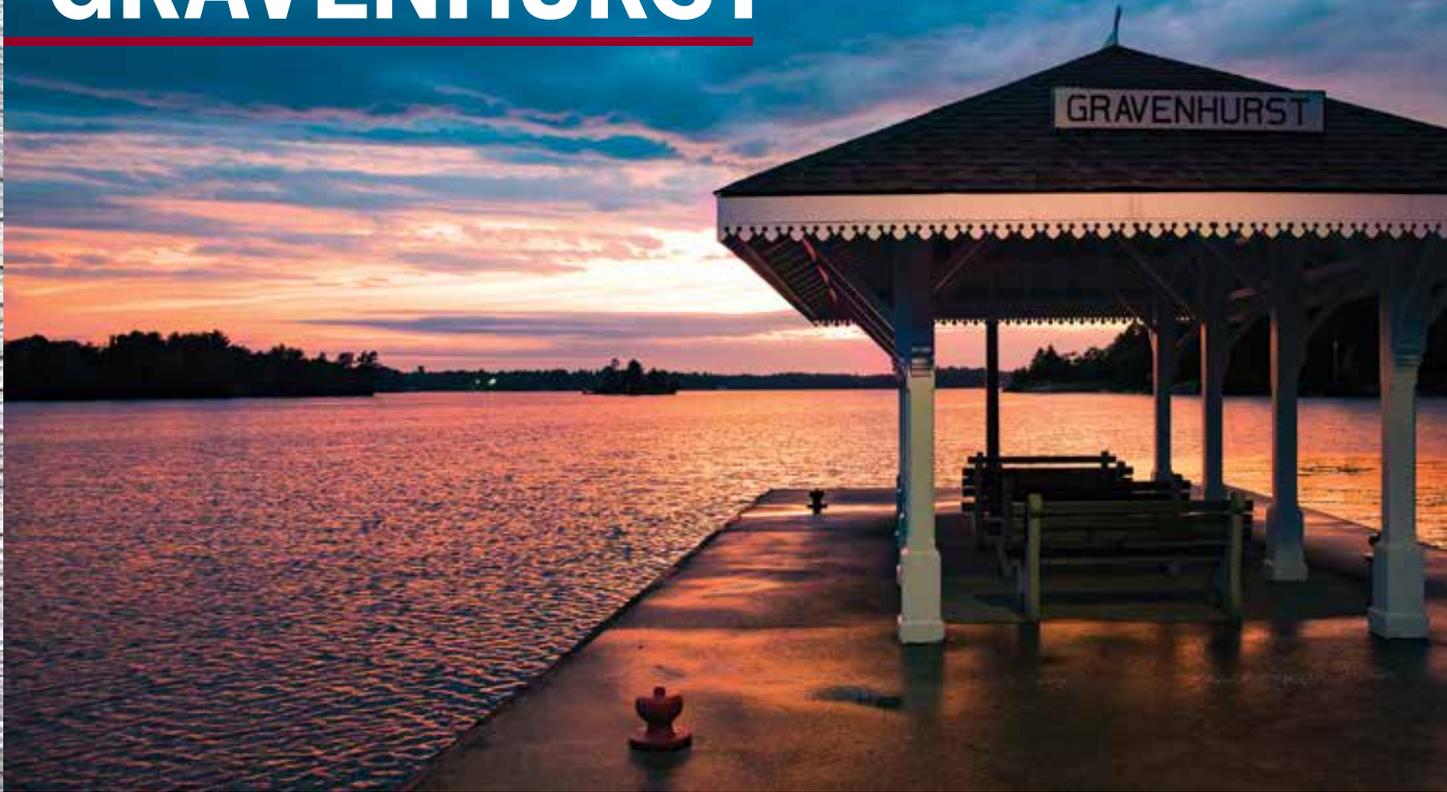


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Discover GRAVENHURST



Gravenhurst, known as the gateway to Muskoka, has a vibrant arts and entertainment community, more than 50 lakes and countless trails and parks. Visitors have been coming here for more than 150 years.

Today, take a step into the past by cruising on one of the historic ships that ply Muskoka's big three lakes. The RMS Segwun, at 130-years old, is the oldest operating steamship in North America.

Gravenhurst has a colourful history. Lumbering and sawmills were important. In fact, at the turn of the century, there were sawmills on Gull Lake and Lake Muskoka, with logs floating to cover much of Gravenhurst Bay.

The mills are now gone, and today the Muskoka Wharf is buzzing with different activity. A scenic boardwalk traces the same shoreline. Along the way,

stop to enjoy a meal at one of the many places to delight the palate - everything from chef-prepared specialities, more casual meals and even a coffee shop and tea house. The wharf is anchored by the historic steamship cruise office at one end and the Muskoka Discovery Centre museum at the other.

Visitors today can also appreciate the past by visiting the Gravenhurst Opera House in Historic Downtown Gravenhurst. The building, nestled in an area of unique shops and restaurants, has a century-long tradition of professional theatre but also offers an assortment of musical entertainment. Gravenhurst has small intimate music venues offering big memorable experiences. The Barge at



Gull Lake is a Sunday night tradition where people gather with lawn chairs to enjoy music. Restaurants, the brewery and a small one of a kind almost home-like theatre regularly offer live music.

Public beaches offer swimming, hiking and more. Gull Lake Park has a public beach, complete with lifeguards on afternoons in the summer. In the winter, the park is a parking area for snowmachine trailers. During the Second World War, a prisoner of war camp was located in Gravenhurst. Remains of it and a small plaque mark the spot at Ungerman Park.

Treasure hunters will enjoy Gravenhurst's arts, antiques and collectibles. The restored Albion Hotel is home to an artists' gallery and many more have studios in the area. Shops specialize in everything from antiques and collectibles, including furniture and decor to great food and fashion.

Boating is big in Gravenhurst. It is home to classic wooden boatbuilders and restorers, annual power boat races, an annual rowing regatta, classic boats, fishing tournaments and a weekly summer water ▶





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ski show. It is a great place to get out on the water to enjoy big lake boating or exploring one of the many smaller lakes.

There is something exciting happening almost every weekend, all summer long. The Gravenhurst Car Show, taking place the day before Fathers' Day has been a tradition for over 20 years, the BIA hosts a popular sidewalk sale, The Annual Antique and Classic Boat Show takes place early in July. The Muskoka Wharf has regular events, too, including the popular Ribfest in July and Docksides Festival arts show in August.

The colourful leaves, a thriving arts community and a more relaxed pace attract autumn visitors. Winter is a time of activities such as pond hockey, winter carnival, snowmobiling and snowshoeing or ▶





**GRAVENHURST
OPERA
HOUSE**

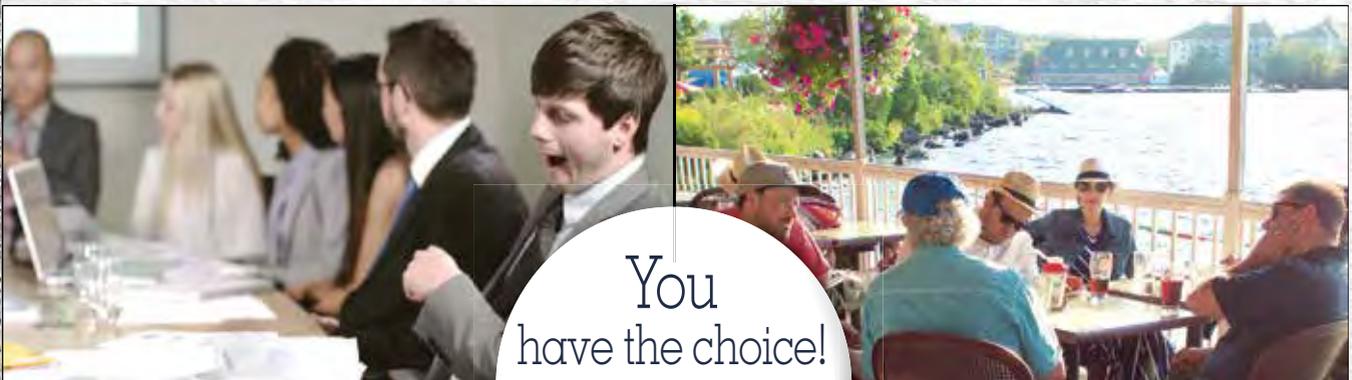
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Gravenhurst, ON

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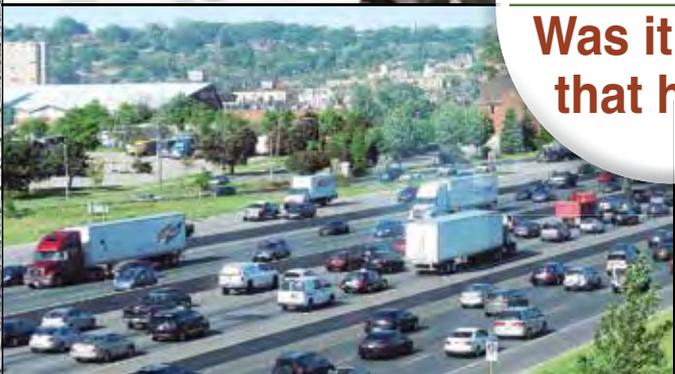
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Hear the real stories and learn more at Gravenhurst.ca/Livehere

a time to enjoy the indoors, perhaps at a restaurant or the brewery. Spring is time to get back on the water and onto the trails and explore the community.

*A scenic boardwalk traces
the same shoreline.*

For more information about events in Gravenhurst, contact the Gravenhurst Chamber of Commerce at 705 687 4432 or visit www.gravenhurstchamber.com or www.experiencegravenhurst.ca or in Gravenhurst, come to the visitor centre at 275 Muskoka Road South in the Carnegie Building beside the Gravenhurst Opera House. 📍



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Discover

GEORGIAN BAY



Hospitality has been a way of life in Georgian Bay Township since the first resorts and boat liveries sprang up more than a hundred years ago.

Welcome! Georgian Bay Township has much to offer when it comes to life on the water. In fact, along with a national park, a provincial park and many lakes and rivers, Georgian Bay Township is the southern gateway to the globally significant Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve designated by UNESCO.

Georgian Bay Islands National Park, one of Canada's finest, consists of 14 square kilometres of spectacular landscapes, diverse habitats and rugged beauty of the Canadian Shield! The beaches in this park and at Six Mile Lake Provincial Park provide access for swimming, canoeing and fishing.

By boat or by car, no visit is complete without a trip to the one-of-a-kind Big Chute Marine Railway

on the remarkable 396 kilometre Trent-Severn Waterway, or to Lock 45, where the waters rush out to Georgian Bay.

Known for friendly courteous people, Georgian Bay Township provides the best services: the marine mechanic who fixes your boat; the staff who serve up wonderful home-style or gourmet meals; the builders who craft fine homes, quaint cabins or grand, Muskoka-style cottages; the fishing guides who know just where to catch that big fish; and the shop-keepers who provide quality foods, supplies, craft and gifts, and service with a smile.

Locals and visitors alike enjoy the cuisine and cultural atmosphere our many fine restaurants and cafés offer. Distinctive improvisational stylings of



jazz musicians or local rock bands can be heard from waterfront restaurants. So, after a day in the sun, or after a game of golf at Oak Bay Golf Course, Muskoka's newest 18-hole golf course on the shores of Georgian Bay, or to warm up after a day of winter sports, the hospitality of these fine establishments is a welcoming end to a perfect day.

Locals and visitors alike enjoy the cuisine and cultural atmosphere...

Awaken your adventurous spirit on the numerous scenic biking trails and extensive marked trails for ATV-ing and snowmobiling can be found throughout the township. ▶





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For more information, visit SEGBAY Chamber of Commerce at segbay.ca. 📍



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Discover

LAKE OF BAYS



*Home to one of the largest lakes in Muskoka,
Lake of Bays invites you to explore
the great outdoors.*

Township of Lake of Bays is an outdoor enthusiasts' oasis in the northeastern section of Muskoka, adjacent to world renowned Algonquin Park. The Township is home to Lake of Bays, one of the largest lakes in Muskoka, which provides four-season fun from boating and paddle boarding to snowmobiling and ice fishing. The Township boasts picturesque landscapes, over 100 pristine lakes, unique cottage resorts, distinct cultural attractions, and outdoor activities for every season.

The three vibrant and inviting communities of Baysville, Dorset, and Dwight offer a variety of restaurants, galleries, specialty shops, and each have their own self-guided Heritage Tour to enable

visitors to learn about the history of the area. Known most popularly as a summer playground, Lake of Bays is also a sparkling, white wonderland for winter sports enthusiasts and each village hosts a unique winter festival on weekends throughout February – not to be missed!

Some of the must-see attractions in the area include:

Gateway to Algonquin Park: Lake of Bays is the western gateway to world-renowned Algonquin Park. Come for a day hike, an overnight camping trip or an extended canoe and portage excursion. Limberlost Forest and Wilderness Reserve, Ragged Falls and several other parks are also nearby.

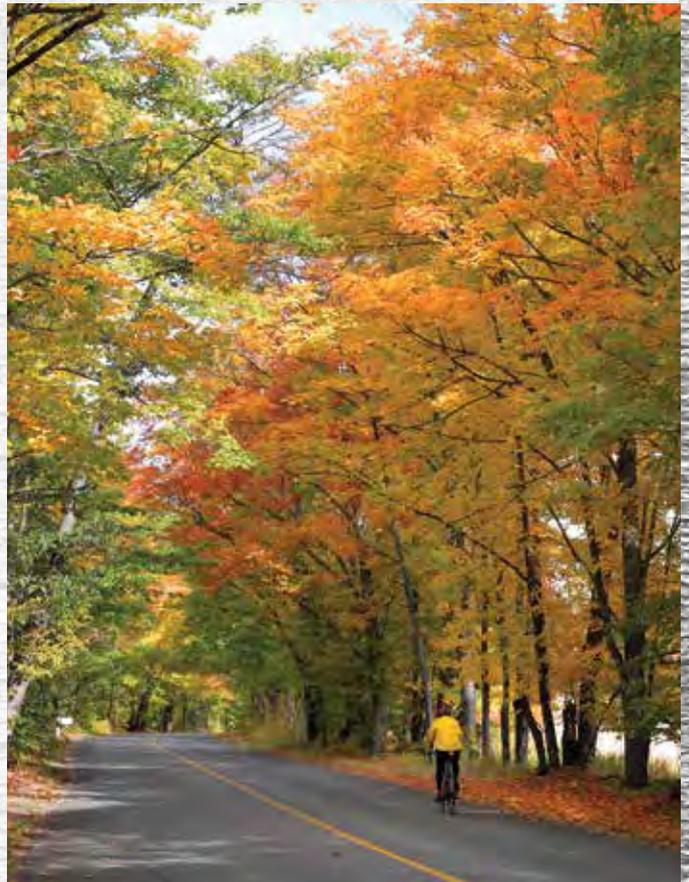


Dwight Beach: This sandy public beach nestled in Dwight Bay is the perfect spot to swim or picnic in the summer sun. Launch your boat to enjoy some watersports or stay on land and explore the self-guided Dwight Heritage Tour.

SS Bigwin & Lake of Bays Marine Museum: Cruise on Lake of Bays aboard a historical wooden steamship recently restored as an green tourism award-winning hybrid. Built in 1910, the SS Bigwin has carried historical guests such as Clark Gable, Winston Churchill and Great Garbo. Cruises depart from Dorset docks adjacent to the Marine Museum. Book online at ssbigwin.com.

Dorset Tower & Heritage Museum: Climb this former fire tower built in 1922 to experience a spectacular panoramic view from 142 metres (456 feet) above Lake of Bays. Don't miss the Heritage Museum's exhibits of early pioneer life or explore the self-guided Dorset Heritage Tour.

Lake of Bays Scenic Drive: Sometimes the journey ►





Launch your boat to enjoy some water sports or stay on land and have a picnic in the summer sun.

can be as enjoyable as the destination. Travel the 80 km loop around Lake of Bays with stops in Baysville, Dorset and Dwight. This winding route offers spectacular views of lakes, rock cuts, and magnificent fall colours in September and October.

Local Flavours: Tour Lake of Bays' own craft brewery, sample the treats at decadent bakeries, and dine at fabulous restaurants. Enjoy delicious homemade jams, local maple syrup, or authentic wood-fired pizza. Farmers' Markets are open seasonally in Baysville and Dwight.

Artists' Playground: An area rich in culture, there are many galleries, artists' studios, and studio tour events offering the chance to view local artists' work. Tom ▶

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For more information about Lake of Bays:
www.lakeofbays.on.ca 

Discover

MUSKOKA LAKES



*Muskoka Lakes is beautiful all year round.
We invite you to explore everything we
offer in all seasons.*

Early morning on the lake and you're at one with your stand up paddleboard. Later, you'll browse hip boutiques before joining friends for cocktails. Then it's decision time: where to dine with so many great restaurants to choose from. Perhaps you'll dance the night away at The Kee to Bala, and then leisurely make your way back to your resort or cottage in an antique boat under an amazing starry sky. Vibrant and natural, Muskoka Lakes attracts visitors from around the world.

In Muskoka Lakes Township you can find the very best that the region has to offer wrapped up in one picturesque package. Whether it's art galleries, or scenic trails and our world famous waterways, you can find it all here.

Muskoka Lakes includes the three big lakes that define the Muskoka experience: Lakes Muskoka, Rosseau and Joseph. Enchanting Muskoka cottages and boathouses dot our shores. Still, more than 80% of our land retains its natural cover, which is especially breathtaking during fall colour season. Parks and beaches provide public access to our pristine waters.

Natural wonders include the striking geological and biologically diverse Torrance Barrens. It's also North America's first dark sky preserve. Along with the hiking trails at the Barrens, nearby Hardy Lake Provincial Park and the Huckleberry Rock Lookout are two more of several trails not to be missed. In winter, there are trails for snowmobiling,



snowshoeing and skating.

The character of the township is reflected in its eclectic mix of events, such as the award-winning Bala Cranberry Festival (always the weekend after Thanksgiving). There's also the Port Carling Winterfest, antique and craft shows, the Bala Trek to Bethlehem, the Flavours of Muskoka Chautauqua culinary experience, art studio and cottage garden tours and farmers' markets in Bala, Port Carling and Rosseau.

You can explore our heritage at the Muskoka Lakes Museum, which includes an original settler's log home and a view of how local craftsmen once made Muskoka North America's wood-boat-building capital. 2018 is a particularly significant year for Bala as it celebrates 150 years of its settlement back in 1868 by Thomas Burgess. Watch for special events to mark Bala's 150th anniversary this year.

In Bala, Dunn's Pavilion (now The Kee to Bala) is a historic music hotspot. Built in 1942, Dunn's

Natural wonders include the striking geological and biologically diverse Torrance Barrens.

has drawn such famous and varied acts as Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, the Ramones and Snoop Dog. The Kee continues to draw big crowds, and big name acts, all summer long.

The Johnston family has been farming cranberries in Bala for three generations. Today, Johnston's Cranberry Marsh and Muskoka Lakes Winery offer Bog to Bottle, Wagon and Wine Makers tours. A celebrated ice skating trail and snowshoe trails add winter magic to the scenic cranberry farm.

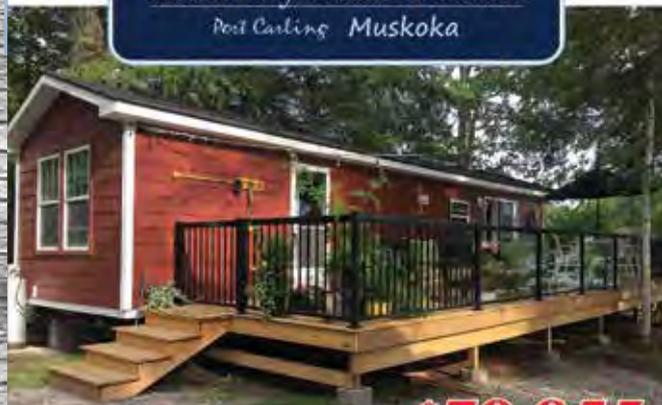
When the ice melts, you can see people waterskiing, wakeboarding, stand-up paddle boarding and more. ▶



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Ensnconced among towering century-old pines on Lake Joseph, Sherwood Inn is a year round retreat unlike any other. Each guestroom and cottage suite is decorated to reflect the traditional character of Muskoka and is complete with every modern convenience. Easy access to The Lake Joseph Club and Rocky Crest Golf Club.

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Beginners can learn at our resorts; private outfitters help as well, and our water ski shows are famous. So is The Wall in Port Carling, a digital installation of over 9,000 pictures that together create the image of the RMS Sagamo passing through the Port Carling locks circa 1922.

For the golfer, Muskoka Lakes offers 12 public and private golf courses.

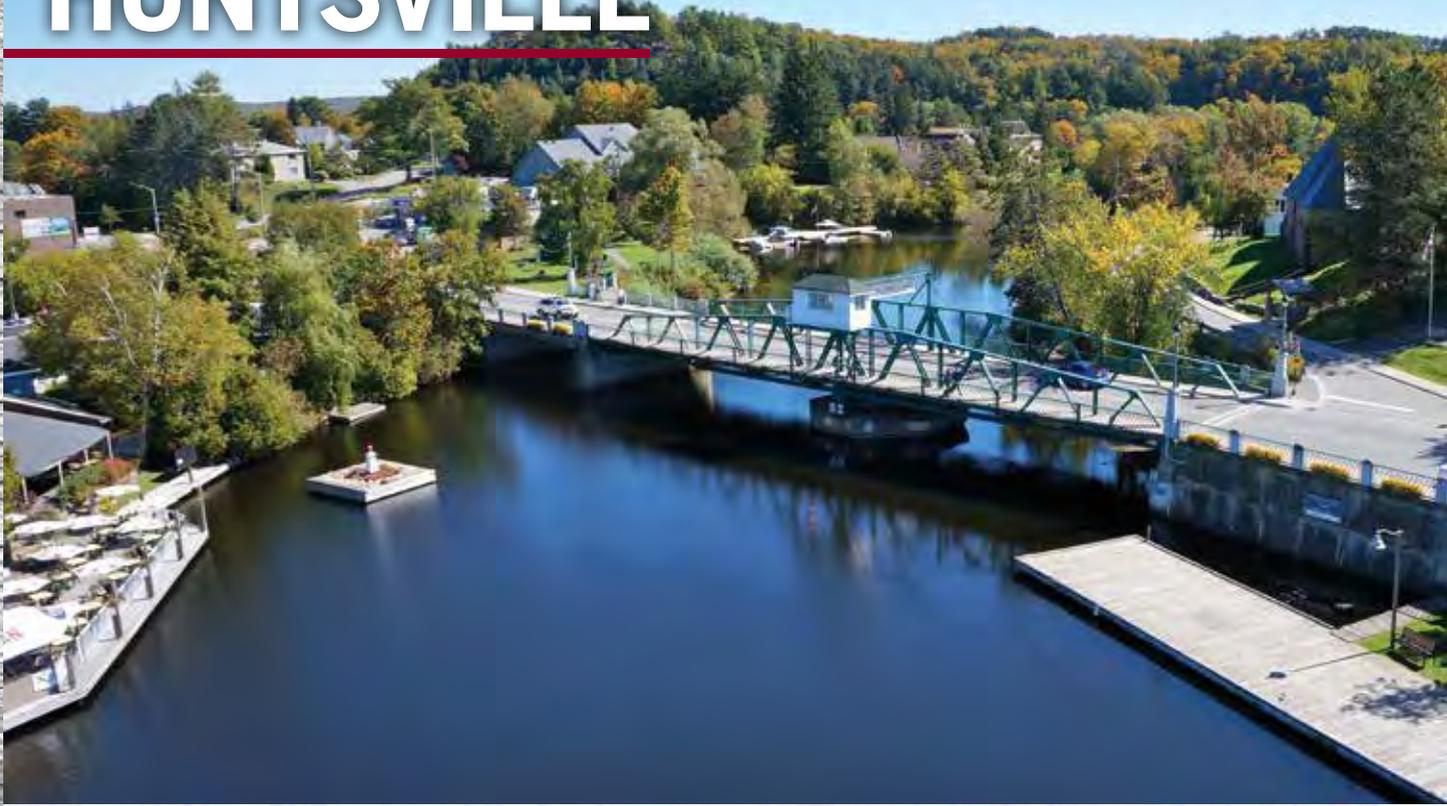
For shoppers, there's something for everything, from the row of shops on Highway 38 coming into Muskoka Lakes via Wahta Mohawk Territory to the boutiques, bakeries, antique and garden stores found throughout our towns and villages.

When it's time to dine, you'll discover casual eateries and craft breweries as well as an abundance of fine dining establishments to please the most discerning palate.

To learn more about Muskoka Lakes, visit muskokalakeschamber.ca.

Discover

HUNTSVILLE



Welcome to Huntsville – one of Ontario’s most beloved four-season destinations.

Huntsville is a vibrant, vast and wondrous playground that attracts visitors from every corner of the world to enjoy the serenity and warmth of a small community nestled among the lakes and trees overflowing from nearby iconic Algonquin Provincial Park.

What makes Huntsville so special? Connecting our souls with the outdoors... while experiencing everything a flourishing community can offer.

This is a community where you can shop with warm welcomes and extraordinary customer service in a beautiful, historic downtown, dotted with Group of Seven outdoor murals. Gather supplies from retailers across the community or from Muskoka’s only indoor shopping mall.

Every ingredient you need is easily accessible in our community, or choose from a wide variety of culinary experiences – from chocolate treats to coffee shops, cafes, pubs overlooking the water and fine dining with sophisticated fare. You will find homegrown, local flavor at every turn notably situated on the water’s edge, sheltered by our stunning pines and hardwood forests or conveniently located on your way to your next adventure.

Experience our unique and friendly events ranging from international triathlons, cycling tours, marathons (with musicians en route!), paddling events, hockey tournaments and ski loppets - parades, a bathtub derby (yes bathtubs... with motors!), beer festivals and fall fairs to farmers



markets, fishing derbies, maple festivals and artist tours. And of course don't forget our annual Girlfriends Getaway Weekend where 'girls just want to have fun!'

Huntsville has something for everyone to do, and ample space for you to rest your head. Huntsville has numerous options to catch some winks before you head out to explore or experience our special corner of the universe – whether you are here to vacation, do business or appease your adventurelust – we have the right place for you – from family-operated lodges and resorts, cozy bed and breakfast homes, cottage rentals and full amenity hotels and spectacular resorts – or... relish the natural beauty of the many area campgrounds as you drift off to sleep under a blanket of stars.

Take your time and be sure to visit our unspoiled beaches, meandering trails and unique attractions starting with Lion's Lookout; a glorious view to open all of your senses. Take a step back in time at Muskoka Heritage Place; home of the Muskoka

This is a community you can shop with warm welcomes and extraordinary customer service in a beautiful, historic downtown.

Museum, Muskoka Pioneer Village and the Portage Flyer Train or venture off the beaten path to take in some incredible local art by visiting artists' studios. And then casually end your day's itinerary with a performance at our incredibly intimate and state of the art Algonquin Theatre. Indulge in a musical treat during our annual 'Festival of the Arts' featuring Jim Cuddy, Downchild Blues Band, Michael Kaeshammer, and Doc Walker, just to name a few.

If you are travelling with young adults and monopoly or go-fish isn't doing the trick – what about a tree-top trek between boughs of a tightly ▶



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For more information about Huntsville – call Barb at 705-789-4771, barb@huntsvillelakeofbays.on.ca or visit www.HuntsvilleAdventures.com. 📍



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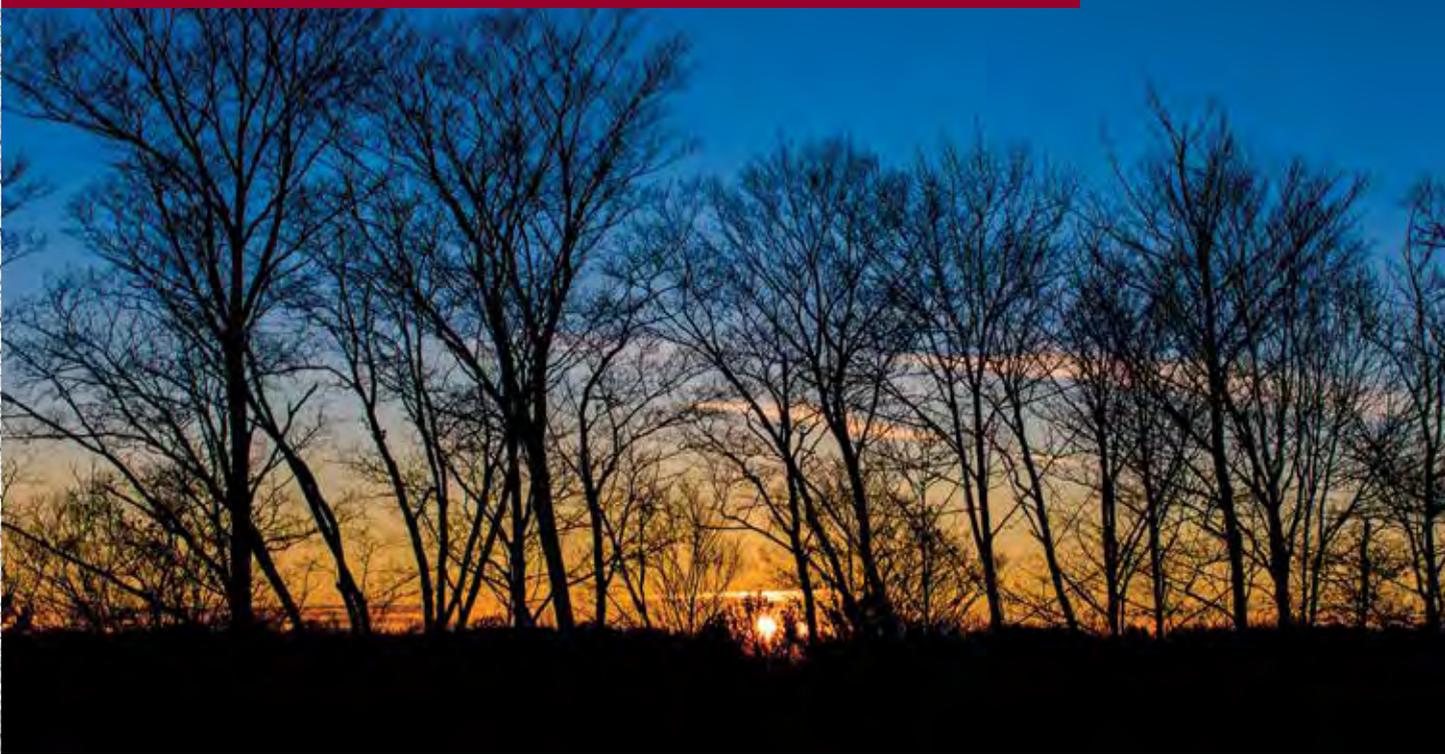
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Discover

VILLAGE OF ROSSEAU



The Village of Rosseau is still the quintessential cottage town, where cottagers like to bring out-of-town guests for a Sunday stroll.

This village is rich in history, and still has that small-town feel. You can visit by car or boat, and walk about town with that old-fashioned scoop of ice cream in hand. Come any day in the summer and see many groups of families, including the family dog, simply sitting outside the 1874 Rosseau General Store, and enjoying an ice cream. Or one can enjoy lunch/dinner outside over looking Lake Rosseau, at Crossroads, or down the street at Cottage Law Canteen.

It is the home of the Sequin Sled Dog Mail Run, The Friday Rosseau Market, the Saturday & Sunday Antique Markets, the Classic Car and Antique Boat Show, the Rosseau Summer Regatta, the Rosseau Fall Fair, and the most fun of all the Thanksgiving

Rosseau Pumpkin Festival.

The village was founded back in 1866, and soon after that, one of the first of the grand Muskoka hotels was built. The Rosseau House or more commonly known as Pratt's Hotel, was built as a three storey first-class hotel, where guests would travel all the way from Toronto to this very inaccessible place. Then the Monteith House was built around the same time and became very widely known for all the activities one could participate in. Neither are standing, but there is a lot to see. The original 1874 Rosseau General Store stands, and one can still enjoy the well-worn floors of a beautiful, rich in history building. The 1875 Ditchburn house, where canoes were finished, and the famous Muskoka Ditchburn boats started,

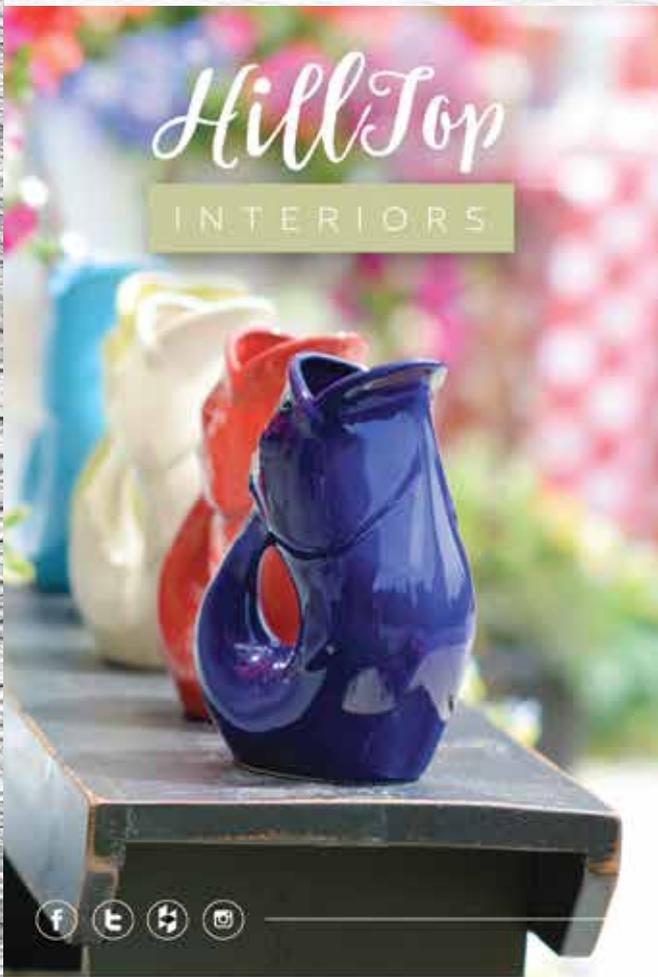


is still in existence and owned by a family member. Back in 1906 the Eatons purchased a property as a cottage for their family. After that the property was sold, and used as resort as Kawandag, and then established in 1967 as Rosseau Lake College, a coed school, and celebrating 50 years this year. The 1870's Orange Hall, the 1924's Stone House, the 1924's Rosseau Memorial Community Hall, the 1925's

*You can visit by car or boat,
and walk around the town
with that old fashioned scoop
of ice cream in hand...*

building where HillTop Interiors resides, the 1877's St. Andrew's United Church, the 1873's Anglican Church of the Redeemer, the St. Michael's Catholic Church, the 1890's Lake Rosseau Lighthouse, plus ►





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the beautiful waterfront, are all places to see when in the village.

The Village of Rosseau helped create the flurry of travellers to Muskoka, and was the home where the most famous Ditchburn boats was born. What better reason to come for a self-guided walking tour of this village? 📍



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