

NOTL

A GUIDE FOR DISTINGUISHED EXPLORERS

SUMMER 2023



TASTY EATING

Relax at some of NOTL's best restaurants and read about our 2023 top picks.

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SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Discover great destinations, spots for adventures and activities to do in town.

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A BIT OF HISTORY

Explore the rich history of Niagara-on-the-Lake with a series of stories.

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NOTL: A GUIDE FOR DISTINGUISHED EXPLORERS

Niagara-on-the-Lake lies within the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. Niagara Now Ltd. and The Lake Report acknowledge that our municipality is established on land that has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples for millennia. As Canadians, we're grateful for the opportunity to live, work and play here and we thank all those who have served and continue to serve as stewards of this special place. Recognition of the important contributions of Indigenous peoples is consistent with our commitment to making the promise of Truth and Reconciliation real in our communities.



Photo by Richard Harley

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A message from our chief editor.

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A MESSAGE FROM TOURISM NOTL

Tourism NOTL president Minerva Ward writes a bit about what makes this town so special, as well as things to do.

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NOTL FOOD & WINE

Whether it's gourmet dining or a picnic, NOTL is one of the best places to have a luxury meal, paired with a glass of Niagara wine.

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THE HOBNOB

Dine with us at one of NOTL's fine restaurants, the HobNob. We share our dining experience that earned it the honour of being one of our Top Summer Picks.

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Some of the best activities in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

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Little-known history about the Battle of Fort George and how the Americans once took over NOTL for a brief period of time. Then we burned down the White House.

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NARVIL DAVIS: A SEASONAL FARMWORKER'S STORY

Read about one of the seasonal farmworkers who helps pick Niagara-on-the-Lake's famous fruits and vegetables.

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INTERESTING FACTS

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NOTL HELICOPTER MAP

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THE MONUMENTS MEN

Read about some of the heroic men whose names are inscribed on NOTL's cenotaphs.

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THE GHOSTS OF NOTL

Read some spooky NOTL ghost stories and legends that are sure to make your hairs stand up.

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PLUS A LOT MORE!



JUMP IN



Richard Harley
Editor-in-Chief

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Summer is a cherished time for Canadians. After the snow melts and spring blooms, our little corner of the globe wakes up and brings out a magical, idyllic landscape.

With the hot weather, the flowers blooming and the sun staying out until late in the evening, a whole world opens up.

As a lifelong resident of Niagara-on-the-Lake, I have never needed to go far to find activities to fill my calendar during the summer months.

Whether it's getting corn on the cob at the town's fruit festivals, preparing a picnic lunch and heading to one of

NOTL's beautiful parks, or simply sitting back on a patio with a cold beverage, there's no shortage of ways to enjoy the sunshine and fresh air.

It is important to The Lake Report, NOTL's premiere news publication, that we show the millions of visitors to our town just how special it is each year. So, we created this high-quality visitor's guide for you to take home as a long-lasting souvenir.

As well as offering advice on some of the finest places to go eat, sip, stop and shop, it's also meant to be a reminder of our town for those who stop here, a little bit of history for

locals who love the town, and, for The Lake Report, a memento of some of the best photos we've taken of NOTL in the summertime.

If you're out exploring, the businesses featured in these pages are great places to start.

We hope you find it a helpful guide, if not just a beautiful souvenir of our wee town. Please, write us from where you are in the world when you get back home. Send us a photo of you with the magazine and you just might be featured in an upcoming special edition.

Now, go explore!

RICHARD HARLEY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

CONTRIBUTORS

Richard Harley

Harley is the publisher and editor-in-chief of The Lake Report, Niagara-on-the-Lake's longest standing independent newspaper, as well as a lifelong local. Find him at one of NOTL's parks enjoying the sun with his family.



Ron Dale

Dale is the town historian. His feature, The Monuments Men, tells the story of one soldier whose name is on the century-old cenotaph.



Dave Van de Laar

Van de Laar is an award-winning photographer for The Lake Report.



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Slobodian is a staff reporter for The Lake Report, focused on agricultural issues. She is sponsored by the Local Journalism Initiative program of Canada.



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MacLean is the managing editor of The Lake Report. He is also a former journalism instructor at Toronto Metropolitan University and retired after a long career as a senior editor at the Toronto Star. Find him on the links at the NOTL Golf Club.



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Julia Sacco

Sacco is a staff reporter for The Lake Report. Find her around town covering social events.



Cary Frank

Frank is a freelance illustrator for The Lake Report. See his map of NOTL on Pages 40-41.



Special thanks to Tourism NOTL, NOTL Museum, Friends of Fort George, NOTL Chamber of Commerce, Minerva Ward, Amanda Gamble, Aiden Lord, Scott Davidson, Linda Fritz, Tim Johnson, Conor MacNeill, Sonja Schindeler, Alana Hurov, Alan Ziemiainin, John Petis, Kaya Jasinski, Cary Frank and many more members of the NOTL community.



WELCOME TO NOTL: A PLACE TO CELEBRATE!

Welcome to Niagara-on-the-Lake:
A Place to Celebrate!

As the president and CEO of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake, it is my great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our charming town.

Nestled in the northeast corner of the Niagara region, just downriver from the magnificent Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake is a hidden gem that epitomizes historical charm and offers a wealth of experiences for every traveller.

For nearly 50 years, honeymooners and romantics of all kinds have been drawn to Niagara-on-the-Lake for its picturesque scenery, vibrant theatre, enchanting heritage district and world-class attractions.

The allure of our town lies not only in its natural beauty but also in the warmth and hospitality of its residents. As you wander through the Heritage District, you'll discover whimsical boutiques, enthralling antique shops and delightful bistros. Perhaps you'll even catch a glimpse of a horse-drawn carriage, adding a touch of nostalgia to your experience.

Beyond the quaint old town, Niagara-on-the-Lake invites you to explore the area's renowned wineries, breweries and distilleries. The fertile lands surrounding us give birth to exceptional wines that have garnered international acclaim.

“We take great pride in announcing that TripAdvisor has named Niagara-on-the-Lake as the Number 2 Best of the Best Destination in Canada for 2022, a testament to our commitment to providing exceptional experiences to our visitors.”

Our town stands proudly as a testament to the artistry of winemaking, with vineyards stretching as far as the eye can see. Immerse yourself in the vineyards, breathe in the intoxicating scents of the grapes, and indulge in the fruits of their labor.

Forty wineries grace our renowned wine trail. Explore the tasting rooms, savour the exquisite flavours, and discover why Niagara-on-the-Lake's wineries have become synonymous with excellence.

Beyond its vineyards, Niagara-on-the-Lake proudly embraces its status as an agro-

tourism destination. Acres of fertile land flourish with orchards, farms and artisans who produce the crops for our culinary delights.

Speaking of culinary delights, Niagara-on-the-Lake's farm-to-table culinary scene is a gastronomic paradise. Local chefs harness the bountiful harvest of the land, crafting exquisite dishes that showcase the freshest ingredients sourced directly from neighbouring farms.

The flavours dance on your palate, each bite a symphony of taste and texture. From quaint bistros to elegant restaurants, our town boasts a diverse culinary landscape that satisfies even the most discerning of palates.

One of the highlights of Niagara-on-the-Lake is the world-class Shaw Festival, where you can immerse yourself in outstanding theatre productions and witness the talent of well-known actors. The Shaw Festival brings stories to life, enchanting audiences with its captivating performances. Make sure to check the festival's schedule and indulge in an evening of theatrical brilliance.

The natural beauty of Niagara-on-the-Lake is another attraction in itself. Our town inspires walkers, hikers, joggers and bike riders to immerse themselves in its captivating landscapes.

In season, the main street of our Heritage District blooms with lovingly tended plantings, boasting beds of flowers in every



color. And for those seeking moments of serenity, a well-landscaped park awaits, complete with benches where you can daydream while enjoying the mesmerizing sunset over the shimmering lake.

Niagara-on-the-Lake played a substantial role in the shaping of Canada’s history, especially in the War of 1812. Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, British, Canadian and Indigenous allies fought tirelessly to protect Canadian sovereignty and culture.

Fort George served as the headquarters for the Centre Division of the British Army during the War of 1812 and played a pivotal role in the defense of Upper Canada. The Indian Council House site located on the Commons was the meeting place of over 25 Indigenous nations from around what is today called Canada and the United States, and representatives of the Crown of England from the mid-1700s.

It was also the signatory location of several of Canada’s existing and historic treaties and a location of neutrality between nations wishing to meet with each other. Niagara-on-the-Lake was a major entry point for Black people fleeing slavery in the United States and finding freedom and refuge in Canada. These freed Black people flourished in Niagara-on-the-Lake, eventually owning property, businesses and serving on the town’s Council.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, restored Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre and Voices of Freedom Park all bear testimony and tell stories of Niagara-on-the-Lake’s vibrant history.

We take great pride in announcing that TripAdvisor named Niagara-on-the-Lake as number two in the Best of Best Destinations in Canada for 2023, a testament to our commitment to providing exceptional experiences to our visitors. Our wineries, attractions, Fort George National Historic Site and the renowned Shaw Festival have also been recognized among the top 50 attractions in Ontario.

These accolades underscore the power of our wine industry, the cultural significance of our festivals and the enduring charm of our Heritage District.

Whether you’re seeking a romantic escape, celebrating a special milestone, or embarking on a corporate retreat, Niagara-on-the-Lake offers the perfect backdrop. With centuries-old world-class historical hotels and tree-lined streets dotted with preserved heritage homes transformed into bed and breakfasts, you’ll find the ideal setting to create lasting memories. Imagine exchanging vows amidst acres of vineyards and orchards or fostering team camaraderie against the backdrop of lavish wineries or rustic charm.

Niagara-on-the-Lake is not only a place for history and culture; it is a haven for celebration.

Join us in experiencing iconic annual events that showcase the best of our town.

From the Ice Wine Festival and Dig Our Roots, celebrating our thriving wine industry, to the White Effect Dinner, Artistry by the Lake, Peach Festival, and Shades of Summer Street Dinner, there is always a reason to rejoice. The Candlelight Stroll, summer carnivals and music festivals infuse the air with joy and create lasting memories for all who participate.

As you embark on your journey through Niagara-on-the-Lake, allow yourself to be embraced by the beauty, charm and celebration that define our town. We invite you to indulge in the sights, flavours, and experiences that have earned NOTL its rightful place as a destination of choice.

Whether you are seeking a romantic escape, a cultural adventure, or a joyous celebration, our town promises to exceed your expectations.

On behalf of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake, I extend our heartfelt welcome. Come celebrate with us and experience the very best of what our charming town has to offer.

Warm regards,
Minerva Ward
President & CEO
NOTL Chamber of Commerce
Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake



NIAGARA - ON - THE - LAKE

A Place to Celebrate

niagaraonthelake.com





food & wine



NOTL SUMMER MENU

Find NOTL's best restaurants and see our patio indicator.

PAGE 11

THE HOBNOB RESTAURANT

A fine French dining experience in a historic NOTL inn.

PAGES 12-13

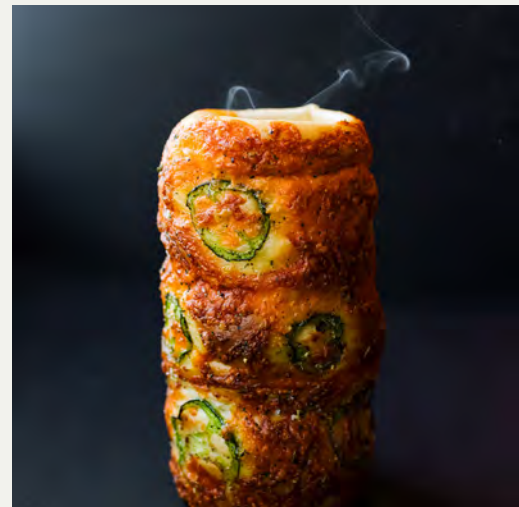
NOTL! BY TREADWELL

Upscale digs, great food and cocktails, but without all the posh.

PAGES 16-17

BUDAPEST BAKESHOP

A Bakery Experience Like No Other!



We did not invent the Chimney Cake. Its origins go back more than 300 years in Hungary. What we did do, though, is take it to another level of deliciousness!

Every single Chimney Cake is prepared, hand-rolled and baked from scratch every day and throughout the day. When you enter Niagara-on-the-Lake and turn down Queen Street, just follow the smell of freshly baked goodness and you'll find us!

When you walk into our bakeshop, you get to see first-hand the entire process right before your eyes — the mixing, the rolling, the rising, the baking, the toppings and fillings!

It's time you tasted our cakes, that aren't really cakes at all!



www.budapestbakeshop.com
[@budapestbakeshop](https://www.instagram.com/budapestbakeshop)



118 Queen St.
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
L0S 1J0



905-468-7778

NOTL SUMMER MENU 2023

All items served with a side of local.

Canada doesn't really have a "national dish," unless you count poutine and maple syrup. Luckily, cultures from around the world are represented in Niagara-on-the-Lake cuisine. It's the Canadian way.

Here are some of the best choices Niagara-on-the-Lake has to offer:

ITALIAN

- ☼ Ruffino's Pasta Bar & Grill
- ☼ Twisted Vine
- ☼ The Old Winery Restaurant

MEDITERRANEAN

- ☼ Fornos Restaurant
- ☼ Old Firehall
- ☼ Gyros on the Lake

ASIAN

- ☼ Ginger Restaurant
- ☼ Niagara's Finest Thai
- ☼ Masaki Sushi
- ☼ Aura on the Lake

CANADIAN/FUSION

- ☼ Epicurean Bistro
- ☼ The Golf Club
- ☼ Corks Winebar & Eatery
- ☼ BarBea
- ☼ Benchmark Restaurant at Niagara College
- ☼ Garrison House
- ☼ LIV Restaurant
- ☼ Treadwell
- ☼ Queenston Heights Restaurant
- ☼ Zees Grill
- ☼ Bricks and Barley
- ☼ Shaw Cafe & Wine Bar
- ☼ Bistro Six-One
- ☼ The Grist
- ☼ Firehouse Flame
- ☼ 11th POST on Queen

WINERY RESTAURANTS

- ☼ Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery
- ☼ Kitchen 76 at Two Sisters Vineyards
- ☼ The Winery Restaurant at Peller Estates
- ☼ The Farmhouse Cafe at Caroline Cellars Winery
- ☼ Trius Winery Restaurant
- ☼ OLIV Tapas Bar & Restaurant at Strewn Winery
- ☼ BarrelHead at Pillitteri Estate Winery

HOMESTYLE (AND EASY ON THE WALLET)

- ☼ Silk's Country Kitchen
- ☼ Sono's Cafe
- ☼ Stage Coach Family Restaurant
- ☼ Sunset Grill
- ☼ Husky House Restaurant



HOTEL & RESORT KITCHENS

- ☼ Churchill Lounge at the The Prince of Wales
- ☼ Noble at The Prince of Wales
- ☼ The Drawing Room at the Prince of Wales
- ☼ Restaurant at the The Oban Inn
- ☼ Vintages Wine Bar & Lounge at the Pillar & Post
- ☼ Bacchus Lounge & Patio at Queen's Landing
- ☼ Tiara Restaurant at Queen's Landing
- ☼ Cannery Restaurant at Pillar & Post
- ☼ The HobNob Restaurant at the Charles Inn
- ☼ Play Bar & Grill at White Oaks Resort & Spa
- ☼ The Oaklands at Riverbend Inn
- ☼ NOTL! Bar and Lounge at 124 on Queen Hotel & Spa

WHERE THE LOCALS GO

- ☼ Royal Canadian Legion for fish and chips on Thursday
- ☼ \$5 burgers on Wednesdays at the Prince of Wales

PUBFARE

- ☼ The Irish Harp Pub
- ☼ Sandtrap Pub & Grill
- ☼ The Olde Angel Inn
- ☼ Butler's Bar & Grill

BAKERIES, QUICK STOPS & SANDWICH SHOPS

- ☼ Budapest Bakery
- ☼ Hendriks Independent Grocer
- ☼ NOTL Home Bakery
- ☼ Teenie Panini
- ☼ McFarland House Tea Room
- ☼ MJ's Own Munchies
- ☼ Willow Cakes & Pastries
- ☼ Sweet & Swirls Cafe
- ☼ Nina Gelateria & Pastry Shop
- ☼ Old Town Goodies
- ☼ Plant No. 1
- ☼ Soko Bakery Cafe

PIZZA & MORE

- ☼ Garage Pizza
- ☼ Italian Pizza & Subs
- ☼ Bricks and Barley
- ☼ BarrelHead
- ☼ Nacho Business



OUR TOP SUMMER PICKS:

- The HobNob at the Charles Hotel.
- NOTL! Bar & Lounge

Read about our dining experiences on Pages 12-13 and 16-17.



PATIO INDICATOR

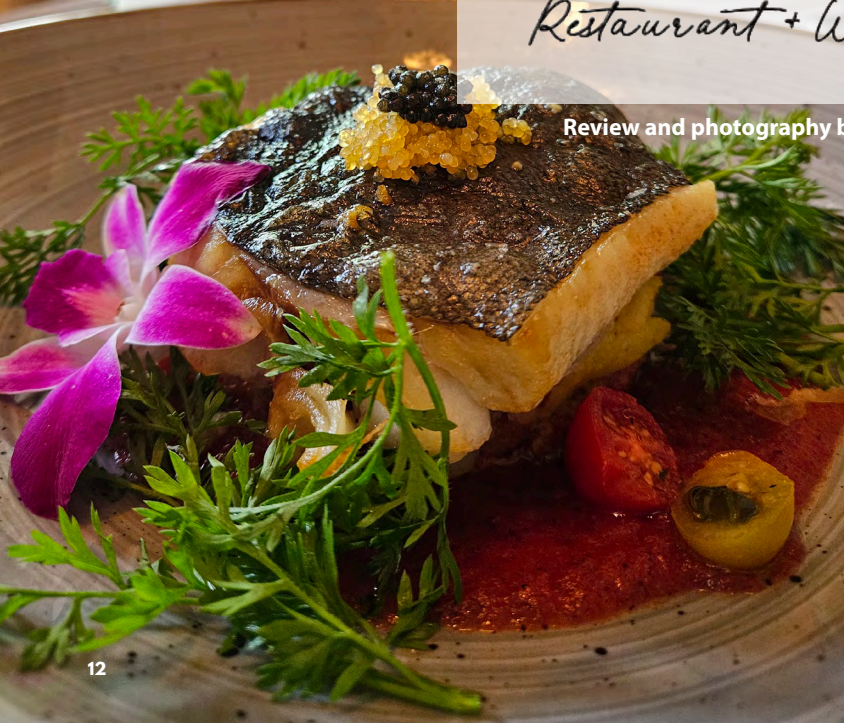
Places with this icon have an outdoor patio.



HOB NOB

Restaurant + Wine Bar

Review and photography by Richard Harley



Step into a piece of NOTL history at the HobNob

Located in the old parlour of a beautifully restored 1832 Georgian manor house, now called the Charles Hotel, the HobNob Restaurant & Wine Bar brims with historical elegance. With views of the NOTL Golf Club (the oldest course in North America) and Lake Ontario, the hotel is adorned by a sparkling crystal chandelier, carved wooden doors, a stately fireplace and original oil paintings. This building was established 35 years before Canada was officially a country. That's pretty old.



Rich French flavours pack a punch

Sitting down at the HobNob, you have two options — the “fancy” French side has more of a fine dining feel, while the bar lounge offers a more casual place to have lunch or appetizers and a glass of wine.

As manager Alan Ziemanian puts it, “On one side you can get wagyu and the other a cup of soup.”

Today we’re talking about some fantastic French fusion on the fine dining side.

Chef Beil Wang, while not French, has focused on traditional flavours, mixed with seasonal Canadian touches to bring his dishes together.

Starting out, you’re greeted with warm, fresh bread. A staple of good French cuisine.

The servers are knowledgeable and the wine pairings by the in-house sommelier are expertly selected to go with the variety of flavours on the menu.

To get things started, we tried the foie gras — a rich, generous portion served with seasonal berries and tart gastrique on crispy truffle crostini. How can you go wrong? Paired with a sweet late harvest icewine from 13th Street Winery, you really can’t.

The foie gras is from Quebec, where they truly understand French cuisine. Sweet and sour flavours of the berries and icewine are a delicious complement to the rich fatty liver.

We also opted for the smoked salmon tartare and the scallops.

The scallops are a treat. Sourced from Nova Scotia, they are cooked without much seasoning so the natural delicate flavour shines through. Accompanied by caviar and some citrus, the medley sings a delicate tune that will leave you craving more.

The salmon tartare is the opposite of that — it packs a

smooth, salty and pronounced punch. It’s made with shallots and served with dollops of hot mustard and toast. It’s an appetizer that says, “I’m here. I’m delicious. Eat me now and come back for more later.”

Moving to mains, we chose the black cod, the lamb chops and the tenderloin.

The black cod is served with fingerling potato mash and a red sauce — but wait, red sauce on white fish? It’s unconventional, but it works. Topped with two kinds of salty caviar, the cold tangy tomatoes really add to the dish and bring the tastes together.

The tenderloin was a special creation that isn’t on the menu, so we can’t comment too much on that, but it was made with truffle gravy and truffle paste, which we had no complaints about. Chef Wang knows my partner and I love mushrooms, so he surprised us with this

truffle experience.

The dish is typically served with a layered prosciutto potato pavé, which is a delicious, creamy and salty bite. A must-try.

The lamb chops are served with mint couscous, seasonal vegetables and red wine gravy.

Cooked perfectly rare, the chops pair well with the couscous and vegetables (and wine) to round out a nice dish.

For dessert we tried the chocolate strawberry mousse and the strawberry rhubarb tart. Both are sweet ways to finish off a “tres bon” experience, served with ice cream and berries with the same house gastrique as the foie gras.

Note: These dishes are from the spring menu, but stop by and see what summer options are available.

And try the lobster mac and cheese if you’re there for lunch. You won’t regret it.

Bon appetit.

Chef Beil Wang

Chef Beil Wang is from Shanghai, China, and has cooked around the world in some of the finest five-star hotels, including the Park Hyatt, Shanghai. He started cooking in 1994 and has learned from top chefs from around the world, working in parts of China, France and Nova Scotia. His work led him to explore different kinds of cooking, from his traditional Chinese flavours to Italian and French. In 2010, Wang worked with world-renowned Michelin Star chef Alain Ducasse, picking up tips on fusion cooking. He moved to Canada in 2016, where he spent time cooking in Halifax before relocating to Niagara-on-the-Lake. Now head chef at the HobNob, also one of NOTL’s finest small hotels, he brings his years of experience to the table, cooking up French cuisine that’s worth writing about. He prides himself in using local seasonal ingredients to bring another level of authenticity to his cooking. Whether it’s fresh foraged mushrooms or seasonal fruit and vegetables, there’s always a hint of NOTL in his dishes.



MENU



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LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN TO DO ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE? WE HOST UNIQUE AND EXCITING EVENTS FOR PEOPLE (AND DOGS) OF ALL AGES! WE HAVE WEEKLY LIVE MUSIC, TUESDAY NIGHT MUSIC TRIVIA, WEDNESDAY NIGHT UNPLUGGED PATIO PERFORMANCES, AND REGULAR FOOD & DRINK FEATURES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR - ALL FREE ADMISSION!

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FOR UPCOMING EVENT DETAILS, VISIT: THEIRISHHARPPUB.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

THE HOME OF THE Fruit Stand

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST



TOMATOES

Niagara-on-the-Lake becomes a haven for tomatoes in the summer. Around July, we start to feast. Caprese salads, fresh salsas, hearty sauces, and meaty slices on sandwiches and salads — right up to the end of the season when we fry up green tomatoes with bacon for breakfast.

CHERRIES

Cherries are NOTL's second fruit harvest of the summer. We revel in these little red balls of sweetness just as much as strawberries. Black, red, sweet and sour, all cherries are some of Niagara's most cherished treasures.

STRAWBERRIES

The Niagara strawberry is a thing of beauty. Unlike the store-bought kinds grown in California, Niagara produces a sweeter, smaller strawberry that bursts with flavour. Thanks to "ever bearing" strawberries, there are two harvests in much of Niagara, in the early summer season and another in the fall.

PLUMS

If you've ever had a Niagara plum, you know there is no plum on the planet that compares. With sweet and sour varieties of all colours and sizes, NOTL offers the plum lover a diverse selection that is sure to leave your taste buds tingling. Sweet inside, often sour skinned, it isn't hard to find you've devoured an entire bag of them in no time.

ASPARAGUS

Ontarians have a love affair with fresh asparagus. It comes around once a year, and we can't resist it. We betray the sprouts and the broccoli for the green spears, and when they come sautéed in butter, we don't regret it one bit. Until it's gone. Luckily, Niagara-on-the-Lake is home to one of Ontario's biggest asparagus producers. Get your hands on some while you can.

GARLIC

Garlic has three harvests in a season. Garlic greens are the first harvest, taken in early spring, when garlic plants are about a foot tall. The second harvest is around mid-June, when farmers take the scapes from hardback varieties. The final harvest of the garlic bulbs is done between the first week of July and the middle of August.

PEACHES

The Niagara-on-the-Lake peach is like no other peach. Bursting with juice and bold flavours, these are some of the region's finest stone fruits, which are still a significant export from the town. Niagara peaches fetch top dollar at farmer markets across the province because people just know, if you're going to eat a peach, you want it to be a Niagara peach.

NUTS

Niagara-on-the-Lake can get a little nutty sometimes. Little known to many, a variety of nuts grow in southern Ontario. We have walnuts in abundance, along with heartnuts, sweet chestnuts, peanuts, hazelnuts, almonds, hicans and pecans, to name a few. You can find a number of farmers selling home-harvested nuts across town.

GRAPES

Niagara-on-the-Lake just wouldn't be the same without its luscious vineyards and bustling wine scene. Whether it is wine grapes or eating grapes, Niagara's farms produce some of the best-quality fruit in the country. Niagara eating grapes, while most may have seeds, are sweeter and smaller than store-bought grapes. Purple varieties have a taste of Welch's grape juice, while green varieties can taste like cotton candy. A wine grape doesn't exactly please the palate raw, but turned into a fine wine, it certainly does, especially when paired with a meal in one of our finest restaurants.



NOTL!

BAR & LOUNGE

(AT 124 ON QUEEN)



Pork Belly Bao

Hot honey glazed pork belly, kimchi, hoisin sauce, steamed bao bun.



Casual elegance meets fine food & drink

Review and photography by Richard Harley

When you think of Q124 and its restaurants like the Gate House and Treadwell, you tend to think “fine dining.”

But at NOTL, Stephen and James Treadwell’s newest Niagara-on-the-Lake venture, things are a little different.

It’s casual eating, set in an upscale lounge that’s consistent with Treadwell’s elegance and quality — but without all the posh.

But don’t think of this as an afterthought. The lounge knows its purpose. Set in the heart of Old Town on historic Queen Street, it offers a sunny patio and lots of natural light for sun-seekers.

And while some of the same sides are showcased with the food options — like the balsamic aioli that comes with the frites — the menu offers different items from the other restaurants.

With a short list of mains that features beef short ribs, steak frites and burgers, this restaurant really isn’t about the mains.

It’s all about the apps and the cocktails.

When you sit down, a server will tell you about some of the summer options conceived by the mind of head mixologist Kaya Jasinski.

For our visit, I had the “Octane” — a smoky old-fashioned made with Casamigos mezcal, maple syrup and smoke and oak bitters.

My partner needed an alcohol-free option (we are expecting) and Kaya prepared a sweet summer blood orange colada, made with coconut cream, blood orange syrup, maple syrup, pineapple juice and lime.

A well-made drink by a passionate mixologist sets you on the right path for a great experience.

For apps, we shared the arancini and the pork bao. And we wish we tried more.

The pork bao bun slaps you in the mouth with flavour.

It’s crispy pork belly, with Treadwell’s signature hoisin sauce, on a fluffy bao bun served with kimchi and house-pickled onion.

As our top pick from NOTL for the summer, it’s a must-try.

The arancini uses a robust tomato sauce to complement the blend of provolone, Parmesan and pecorino cheeses.

You’ll want to give it a minute and have a few sips of your drink to clear your palate before you order mains because the apps are just so flavourful.

Steak frites is a dish Treadwell has always done well at all of its restaurants. Experienced chefs know how to get it how you like it. If you want medium-rare, that’s what you’ll get.

And each restaurant showcases steak differently. At NOTL, they serve a New York strip. It’s a lower pricepoint than tenderloin or ribeye, which suits the casual atmosphere and won’t break the bank.

Served with crispy house frites and aioli, it’s bound to satisfy those red meat cravings.

The burger is a shining star of any lounge menu — and Treadwell nails it. Greasy, topped with caramelized

onions, smoked bacon and Balderson double-smoked cheddar.

As at Treadwell, the chefs focus on bringing local ingredients to the table when possible, and that shows in the desserts. Over the summer they will bring in berries and vegetables from MacSween Farms and the family’s Quiet Acres stand on Lakeshore Road.

We tried the fudge brownie and the almond cake with prosecco marinated berries — minus the prosecco because of reasons previously stated.

John Petis, junior sous-chef for the Treadwell properties, came out to tell us about the meals. And while that’s not something everyone should expect, we can tell you the passion for cooking shines at this place. A team of chefs working toward a goal of providing fresh, seasonal items that will have you coming back for seconds.

So what are you waiting for? Stop in — and tell them this magazine sent you.

Nothing beats a picnic in **NOTL**

There's just something about a picnic.

It can say "romance" or be a casual time with family and friends. Either way, there aren't many things that beat having lunch in the great outdoors on a summer day. Put together the perfect picnic during your visit this summer. You can find a great selection of picnic-perfect items at Hendrik's Independent on Queen Street.

- › Fresh baked breads & rolls
- › Deli meats & gourmet cheeses
- › Fresh-cut fruit & salads to go
- › Fresh-made sandwiches
- › Bento Sushi
- › Local fruits & vegetables
- › Hot chicken & potato wedges
- › Cold drinks & frozen treats
- › Friendly, helpful staff
- › President's Choice selection



For all your supplies and more, visit:

 **Independent**[™]
Your Independent Grocer

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Niagara-on-the-Lake
905-468-7731

OUR TOP **4** PICNIC HOT SPOTS

Queen's Royal Beach

Here you'll find the iconic NOTL gazebo, from which one can look across the Niagara River and see the U.S. Fort Niagara. You can almost see the boats in the river during the war if you imagine them. This spot is typically busy but the view is brilliant.



Simcoe Park

While usually busy, there's never a shortage of shady spots to set up for a picnic in Simcoe Park. The park has a number of historic monuments and a wading pool for the little ones.



Niagara Parkway

The Parkway is a fairly diverse option. Since it stretches from NOTL to Niagara Falls, there is never a shortage of fantastic picnic spots to enjoy while overlooking the mighty Niagara River. Watch the jet boats go by, set up a barbecue and relax.



Queenston Heights

Look out from Brock's Monument across the mighty Niagara River. This scenic spot is a photographer's fancy, with historic plaques, an Indigenous display and plenty of picnic tables.





THE OLDE

ANGEL INN

est. 1789

ESTABLISHED IN 1789 AND REBUILT IN 1815 AFTER THE WAR OF 1812, THE OLDE ANGEL INN IS A PERENNIAL FAVOURITE AMONG LOCALS AND TOURISTS ALIKE.



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OLDE TYME CANDY SHOPPE

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, NIAGARA FALLS, VANCOUVER
RADIUM HOT SPRINGS, CANMORE, LAKE LOUISE, VICTORIA

Nostalgic journey through time on historic Queen Street

The shelves at Olde Tyme Candy Shoppe are lined with a tantalizing array of candies from everyone's past, evoking memories of carefree days and innocent joy.

Stepping into the store, you're greeted with a kaleidoscope of colours and candies, glistening jars of old-fashioned sweets, funky toys and tins and fridges full of unique, cold drinks.

The store focuses on original brand retro favourites from everyone's youth, including original brands from Canada, USA, Germany, Holland, Japan and more.

From classic favorites like jawbreakers, licorice, and bubble gum to rare confections you thought were lost in time, the store carries the finest selection of candies that are sure to leave you wide-eyed and filled with delight.

The store also has an extensive selection of retro and new toys, collectibles, exotic chocolate bar flavours and selections imported from across the globe.

New this year is an old-fashioned arcade for kids of all ages to play games and spend a few minutes out of the hot sun.

The first Olde Tyme Candy Shoppe was established in 1997 in the Canadian Rockies. Since then, the store has opened several locations in Canada.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake location opened in 2015 and has since expanded and more than tripled in size.

Store owner Rob Munger knows his candy. He started out in the confectionery industry more than 20 years ago, working in the parent company's first store.

He is committed to ensuring the store only stocks original products from people's youth, accepting no imitations, all while bringing you the new, unique and exciting products that are always fresh.

Stop in for some treats. The helpful and knowledgeable staff is always available to help you find what you're looking for.



43 Queen St
Niagara-on-the-Lake
905.468.4994

5725 Victoria Ave.
Niagara Falls
289.296.2554

OPEN LATE ALL SUMMER!

CHOCOLATE IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL.

POURING UP EXCELLENCE & VARIETY

Decadent and delicious, the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Company carries a wide selection of chocolates, desserts and treats for any sweet tooth.

Walking into the store, visitors are greeted with the alluring scent of melted chocolate. Owners Bruce and Laura Cochran decided to purchase the franchise in 2014, opening their first location at the Outlet Collection at Niagara.

They have since purchased another two locations in Niagara.

The candy apples created onsite are some of the most popular items sold in each location. Boasting an offering of ice-wine truffles, the Cochran's three Rocky Mountain locations are the only ones of the franchise that offer the bitter-sweet treat.

The store also carries decadent selections of homemade fudge.

With the use of the chocolate tempering machine, which is a counter-top appliance used to regulate the melting of chocolate, candy is dipped and comes out crisp and smooth.

Locations:

70 Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake

300 Taylor Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake — located in The Eatery at the Outlet Collection at Niagara.

7500 Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls
(Canada One Outlet Mall)



GRAB A BREW

Niagara-on-the-Lake isn't just home to great wineries, it's also home to some of Ontario's best craft breweries. While you're out exploring, make a pint of stopping in at some of these locations:

Niagara Oast House Brewers

2017 Niagara Stone Rd.
oasthousebrewers.com

Silversmith Brewing Company

1523 Niagara Stone Rd.
silversmithbrewing.com

The Exchange Brewery

7 Queen St.
exchangebrewery.com

Niagara College Teaching Brewery

135 Taylor Rd.
ncteachingbrewery.ca

The Grist

78 Four Mile Creek Rd
thegrist.ca



Oast House's Barn Raiser is a NOTL favourite, also available at most restaurants. Stop by and see what summer-inspired beers it has on tap.

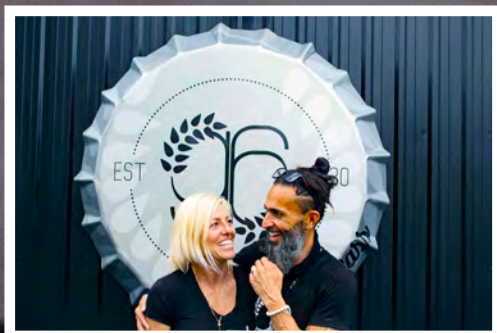
Silversmith's dark lager is a highly sought-after beverage. Situated in an old church building in Virgil, Silversmith has become a big hit for beer aficionados.



The Exchange is right on historic Queen Street so you can grab a flight while you're exploring. Read more about the history of the Exchange building on Page 75.



Niagara College's Teaching Brewery is run by professors and students of the brewmaster program, the first program of its kind in Canada. Each year they win awards for innovative beers. It's definitely worth the stop.



The family-owned Grist brewery is located on the first-ever site of the Sleeman's brewery. It's got roots to the beer world and it shows.

Drink responsibly.
Don't drink and drive.
NOTL Taxi: 905.468.2661



It would take some time to visit every winery Niagara-on-the-Lake has to offer, but we recommend spending a day or two trying some out depending on your stay. Each winery in NOTL has something new and different to offer. From the smallest vineyards to estate wineries, the distinguished wine lover will have an unforgettable afternoon wine tasting in NOTL wine country.

Interested in free wine tastings?

Some NOTL wineries offer free tastings with the purchase of a bottle of wine. When you're out sipping, ask about offers. It's a great way to cut the cost of the afternoon, while stocking up your cellars and supporting local businesses.

NOTL wineries to visit:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 20 Bees Winery | Inniskillin |
| Between the Lines | Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate Winery |
| Cattail Creek Estate Winery | Joseph's Estate Winery |
| Chateau des Charmes Wines | Konzelmann |
| Colaneri Estate Winery | Lailey Vineyards |
| The De Moura Winery Way | Lakeview Cellars Estate Winery |
| Diamond Estates Winery | Maleta Estate Winery |
| Ferox Winery | Marynissen Estate Winery |
| Five Rows Craft Wine | Niagara College Teaching Winery |
| Frogpond Farm Organic Winery | Palatine Hills Estate Winery |
| Hillebrand Winery | Peller Estates Winery |
| Hinterbrook Estate Winery | Pillitteri Estates Winery Inc. |
| The Ice House Winery | Pondview Estate Winery |
| Icellars Estate Winery | Queenston Mile Vineyard |

TASTE



Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery
Reif Estate Winery
Reimer Vineyards Winery
Riverview Estate Winery
Shiny Apple Cider
Southbrook Vineyards
Stratus Vineyards
Strewn Winery
Sunnybrook Farm Estate Winery
The Hare Wine Co.
Trius Winery
Two Sisters Vineyards
Wayne Gretzky Estates Winery
Ziraldo Estate Winery

Photo by Dave Van de Laar



RAVINE VINEYARD

ESTATE WINERY

Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery is a timeless Niagara destination for award winning wines and world class farm-to-table dining which is steeped in history, family legacy and agricultural heritage.

Situated in the heart of St. Davids, our charming and historical property offers a unique escape from the everyday hustle and bustle. We offer both in and outdoor dining and wine tastings, along with the ultimate patio experience, that includes live entertainment, wood-fired pizza and good times.

We look forward to hosting you on our family farm and sharing our passion for wine and culinary experiences alongside breathtaking views of our rolling organic vineyards. Come visit us today!



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT NOTL WINE



FOUR MILE APPELLATION

The Four Mile Creek sub-appellation makes up much of Niagara-on-the-Lake's wine country. Below the bench of the Niagara Escarpment, with warm days and cool nights during the growing season, Four Mile Creek is the largest sub-appellation in the Niagara Peninsula.

ST. DAVIDS APPELLATION

Some NOTL wine comes from the St. David's Bench – which is the natural bench formed on the Niagara Escarpment. The steep ridge provides steady air circulation. It runs from the Niagara River to Beechwood Road. Moderately well drained with ground water flow from the base of the escarpment provide steady moisture throughout the growing season. The escarpment provides early spring warming and good air circulation and frost protection.

ORIGINAL FRUIT WINERY

Sunnybrook Farm Estate Winery was established in 1993 and is recognized as Canada's original fruit winery. Sunnybrook boasts creating its wines from 100 per cent locally grown berries, stone and tree fruit.

ICEWINE HARVEST

Icewine is typically harvested in January or February, when temperatures are freezing, although in rare years, like 2018, it is harvested in late fall. The harvest time, and number of freeze-thaw cycles, affects the flavour of the grapes.

MIGRATING A WINERY

Konzelmann Estate Winery was initially established in Germany in 1893. Family-owned and operated, it was re-established in Niagara-on-the-Lake in 1988. Four generations of oenology come together to produce nationally and internationally award-winning wines.

FIRST ORGANIC WINERY IN ONTARIO

Niagara-on-the-Lake is home to Ontario's first certified organic winery. Frogpond Farm Organic Winery on Larkin Road has been open since 2001 and continues to operate under environmentally sustainable practices.



Find more facts
on Pages 56-57.



AWARD-WINNING SPIRITS

Our unique spirits are distilled from ripe and fallen fruit straight from our farm. We specialize in Eau de Vie, Whisky, Vodka, and Gin and have won international awards in all categories. Tours and tastings are offered daily.



The building replicates an early 1800's Queenston home



Farm to Glass spirits

NIAGARA INSPIRED COCKTAILS & CUISINE

Come to the Confessional Lounge for delicious cocktails and cuisine. All food served at our distillery is sustainably focused and sourced from the Niagara region.

LIVE MUSIC WEEKLY

Join us every Monday, Thursday, and Friday for jazz, blues, and piano tunes from a rotating lineup of local musicians.



Hidden Gem Patio with orchard view

458 LAKESHORE ROAD, NOTL | 905 934 1300 | SPIRITINNIAGARA.COM



play

WHAT'S ON FOR CANADA DAY

A mammoth cake that feeds thousands, plus more free activities.

PAGES 32-33

NOTL SUMMER FESTIVALS

Cherries, peaches, carnivals. Find out where to be this summer.

PAGE 35

LIVE MUSIC IN TOWN

Discover the best places to hear live music, whether big shows or bar bands.

PAGES 44-45

PARKS

PLENTY TO EXPLORE

QUEEN'S ROYAL PARK

Queen's Royal Park sits along the shore of the Niagara River just off Ricardo Street in Old Town NOTL. The park is now home to the famous gazebo which has become a staple landmark of the town. Long before the installment of the gazebo in the same location, the Royal Niagara was erected in 1869 – a first-class hotel which later changed its name to the Queen's Royal Hotel. The hotel closed in 1927 and in 1930 the building was demolished to make room for the park of today.



NELSON PARK

Featuring a small gazebo, this quaint park is located at Ricardo and Nelson streets, where the Niagara River flows into Lake Ontario. With the King's Point condominium building on one side and Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club on the other, visitors can enjoy a short stroll here. Nelson Park also serves as one of the main access points to the Waterfront Trail.



SIMCOE PARK

On Picton Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake sits Simcoe Park, named after John Graves Simcoe, Upper Canada's first Lieutenant Governor from 1791 to 1796. Featuring a bandshell, the park serves as a venue for countless community events and concerts for the town. The park is also equipped with washrooms, picnic tables, a wading pool and playground equipment, making it an ideal location for residents and tourists alike to spend an afternoon. It is now maintained by the town but was considered Crown land until about the 1930s.



RYERSON PARK

It may be a quiet little park but it provides one of the best sunset views in Niagara-on-the-Lake. On a clear day, visitors can see Toronto across Lake Ontario. Located on Niagara Boulevard, Ryerson Park has picnic tables and benches where visitors can wind down after a long day and enjoy scenic views of the lake. Parking is extremely limited so walking to the park is recommended.



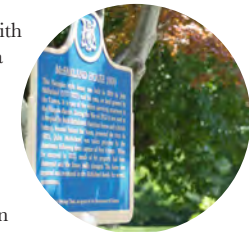
MEMORIAL PARK

Located at 370 King St., it's also referred to as Veterans Memorial Park. A plaque in the park recounts the story of Veterans Memorial Grove – a grove of maples planted to commemorate NOTL residents who lost their lives defending Canada. The trees were planted in 2005. Memorial Park is home to many of NOTL's sports fields and services, with an outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts, two regulation soccer fields and two mini fields, one lit baseball diamond and an outdoor beach volleyball court. The park also has washroom facilities, picnic tables and playground equipment.



McFARLAND PARK

This park is an ideal place to have a picnic with friends and family. Located at 15927 Niagara Parkway, the park has a covered picnic pavilion which can accommodate around 250 people. The historic McFarland House, one of the oldest surviving structures in the Niagara Region, is located at the park and is also adjacent to the Niagara River Recreation Trail. With a playground and a baseball diamond on site, the park is also equipped with water and washroom facilities.



CENTENNIAL SPORTS PARK

Also known as Virgil Sports Park, it can be found behind two arenas in Virgil. Featuring two playgrounds and four soccer mini-fields, the park has three lit baseball diamonds and a splash pad. The park is also a venue for the Virgil Stampede, a popular annual festival in town.



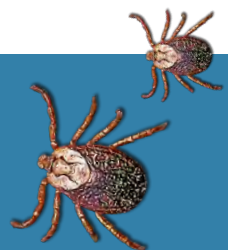
THE COMMONS

The Commons leash-free dog park is located near Butler's Barracks national historic site, which was the home of Loyalist military officer John Butler. Owners will need to have full control of their dogs before allowing them off leash as the park isn't fenced in. The tree-lined park is ideal for cycling and walking as well.



LOOK OUT FOR TICKS ...

Ticks are prevalent in the entire Niagara region. They love long grass. If you're out hiking, check yourself and your pets for ticks when you get back to where you're staying. Ticks can carry Lyme Disease, which can be transferred to humans via a bite.





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For more information visit NiagaraHelicopters.com

CANADA DAY

JULY 1, 2023

One of Niagara-on-the-Lake's favourite traditions is the Canada Day celebrations at Simcoe Park and Fort George. During the day, the park is filled with activities, including a pancake breakfast, children's activities, live entertainment and a barbecue. That is followed by the famous Cake Parade, which sees a 1,000-pound cake wheeled into the park to be sliced up for all to share. The cake is generously donated by local bakery Willow Cakes and Pastries. Owner/chef Catherine O'Donnell and her team spend up to 400 hours creating the mammoth dessert, which feeds hundreds of people. Every year there is a new Canadian-inspired theme that's kept top secret until the event. At the Fort there are free tours all day, food trucks in the afternoon and a dazzling fireworks display at night. **See this year's schedule below.**

SIMCOE PARK

PANCAKE BREAKFAST | 8 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

BARBECUE | 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

CAKE PARADE | 3 P.M.

KIDS ACTIVITIES | ALL AFTERNOON

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | ALL AFTERNOON

FORT GEORGE

FREE TOURS | 10 A.M. - 10 P.M.

FOOD TRUCKS! | 4 P.M.

HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS | 6:30 P.M.

LIVE MUSIC | 7:30 P.M.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY | 10 P.M.





ALSO CHECK OUT THESE CELEBRATIONS

ARTISTRY BY THE LAKE

July 1 -3, 2023

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce presents a juried show of over 80 artists and artisans. The show takes place in scenic Queen's Royal Park overlooking the mouth of the Niagara River and Lake Ontario. Free Admission.

www.niagaraonthelake.com/artistry-by-the-lake

FREE ADMISSION AT NOTL MUSEUM

Admission is free on Canada Day to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum (open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.). The Tiny Museum will be out in the community with an exhibit inside.

www.notlmuseum.ca

FIREWORKS AT RAVINE

Every Canada Day, Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery goes all out for its celebration. There's live music late into the evening and a fireworks display that make the night sparkle. Each year it attracts crowds of people to enjoy a glass of wine, beer or a cold cider to take in Canada's birthday. As proprietor Paul Harber puts it "We're going to light up the sky."

www.ravinevineyard.com



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SUMMER FESTIVALS



The Cherry Festival

The Cherry Festival returns on July 8, hosted by St. Mark's Anglican Church. The popular festival celebrates the cherry harvest in Niagara and is the place to get your fix of all things cherry — cherry jams, cherry desserts, baked goods and the church's famous cherry pies. People line up around the block to make sure they get a pie, so don't miss out!

July 8 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Free admission



St. Davids Carnival

The St. Davids Lions Carnival is back July 26 to 29, at the St. Davids Lions Club. The carnival features rides for children and teens, bingo, and crown and anchor for the adults, the nickel sale, corn on the cob and a barbecue. "All the food booths are coming back with our famous Lion burger, peameal bacon on a bun, french fries and onion rings. Our onion rings seem to sell out every year no matter how much we increase the stock," says Lion Glenn Miller.

July 26 to 29
Free admission

Peach Festival

Every year Queen Street closes for vehicle traffic for a day to celebrate Niagara-on-the-Lake's peach harvest. Shop merchants bring their wares out to the road, live music fills the air, the smells of gourmet peach foods and desserts waft over the crowd. And, of course, fresh Niagara peaches are in abundance. It's a tradition we've come to know and love, and it's something the distinguished explorer shouldn't miss out on.

The major event on Aug. 12 is hosted by the NOTL Chamber of Commerce, and traditionally the next day St. Vincent de Paul church also hosts its community Peach Festival just down the road.

Aug. 12 | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Free admission



And you just missed the annual Strawberry Festival, held on June 17. Come earlier next year for the first festival of the season.



GET TICKETS NOW AT NIAGARAJAZZFESTIVAL.COM 2023 SUMMER TD NIAGARA JAZZ FESTIVAL LINEUP!

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023

JAZZ under the STARS

Jackson-Triggs Winery, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Laila Biali and Band & John Sherwood Trio

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

JAZZ PICNIC

Willowbank, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Alex Pangman & Her Alley Cats

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023

FUSION JAZZ on the ROOF

Niagara Artists Centre, St. Catharines
Wojtek Justyna Tree Oh!
& Various Photographers

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

SOUL JAZZ in the VINEYARD

The Hare Wine Co, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Cinnamon Jones & Quincy Bullen Trio

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023

VIBES in the VINES

Henry of Pelham Winery, St. Catharines
David Friedman Quartet

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023

After Hours JAZZ JAM

Mahtay Café and Lounge, St. Catharines
TD NJF House Band & Special guests

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

MUSIC in the PARK

FREE Family event Simcoe Park, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Various Jazz & World Music Artists

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023

After Hours JAZZ JAM

Irish Harp, Niagara-on-the-Lake
TD NJF House Band & Special guests

SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2023

VIBES on the BEACH

Club LaSalle
Various Jazz DJ's & Special guests

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JOEL PARSONS

ASHLEY KENNEDY

UNO + TWO

INSET PHOTOS BY DAN BROWN

BACKGROUND PHOTO BY JEFF ON CAMERA / ARTIST: TAMIYA COX

The Lake Report

THE VOICE OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Niagara-on-the-Lake is a special town — one that deserves a special newspaper.

That's why we created The Lake Report five years ago — to bring NOTL the best community newspaper one can find.

Since 2018, The Lake Report has established itself as the most-read newspaper in town, dedicated to producing hyperlocal news about our wonderful community.

A small-town paper with a big city attitude, we're proud that our readers continually tell us we provide a way for them to feel more connected to their neighbours than ever before.

It has been our honour to serve the community, and to receive support and encouragement daily from readers.

Since 2021, The Lake Report has earned an incredible 61 national and provincial awards in recognition of the newspaper's journalism, photography, graphic design, advertising and community service.

In national and provincial newspaper competitions since then, The Lake Report has garnered more awards than any other publication in the entire country.

Niagara-on-the-Lake native Richard Harley, founder and editor-in-chief of The Lake Report, said, "It's humbling and an honour to be recognized and singled out by your peers in the media industry."

He added that "it wouldn't be possible without our dedicated staff, readers and advertisers who help us to produce Canada's highest-quality community newspaper."

Nationally in 2020, the paper won first place for best news feature photo (for a picture of a kid at the newly built skatepark in Virgil), first place for outstanding community service (for a spotlight on local businesses during the peak of COVID restrictions), and first place for best sports coverage.

Nationally in 2021, the publication won first place for best local editorial

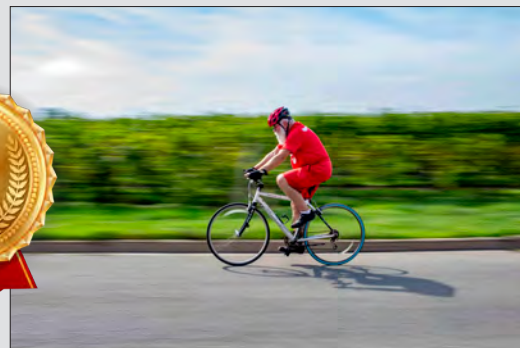
(for a piece exposing influence by the short-term rental industry), first place for best historical story (about a Victoria Cross soldier) and first place for best news feature photo, again. As well The Lake Report earned several other awards in a number of categories.

Provincially in 2021, the paper won best front page and first for best rural story, best news photo, best feature/unit pages, best in-house promotion and third place for general excellence.

In Ontario in 2022, The Lake Report won best front page again, as well as first place prizes for best feature/unit pages, best creative ad, best in-house promotion, best breaking news video,

And the 2021 winter issue of this magazine, "NOTL: A Guide for Distinguished Explorers," won a silver medal nationally in the best special section category.

Pick up a paper today.



FOLLOW THE LAKE REPORT!



@NIAGARAONTHELAKEREPORT



NIAGARANOWMEDIA



**NIAGARA
PARKS**

Rediscover NIAGARA PARKS

EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF NIAGARA PARKS' ATTRACTIONS BELOVED BY EXPLORERS FOR MORE THAN 130 YEARS

From Journey Behind the Falls, at the very base of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls, to a ride over the vibrant, teal-coloured waters of the Niagara River in the historic Whirlpool Aero Car, and the serene setting of the Butterfly Conservatory, there's no shortage of adventure to discover at Niagara Parks.

Visit the all-new Niagara Parks Power Station, explore the century-old hydropower generating station with interactive exhibits, carefully restored machinery and captivating stories from the archives. Then travel 180 feet below to explore the 2,200-foot-long tunnel that leads to the edge of the Niagara River for a never-before-seen view of the magnificent Falls!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
NIAGARAPARKS.COM





We've re-imagined NOTL from a new angle.

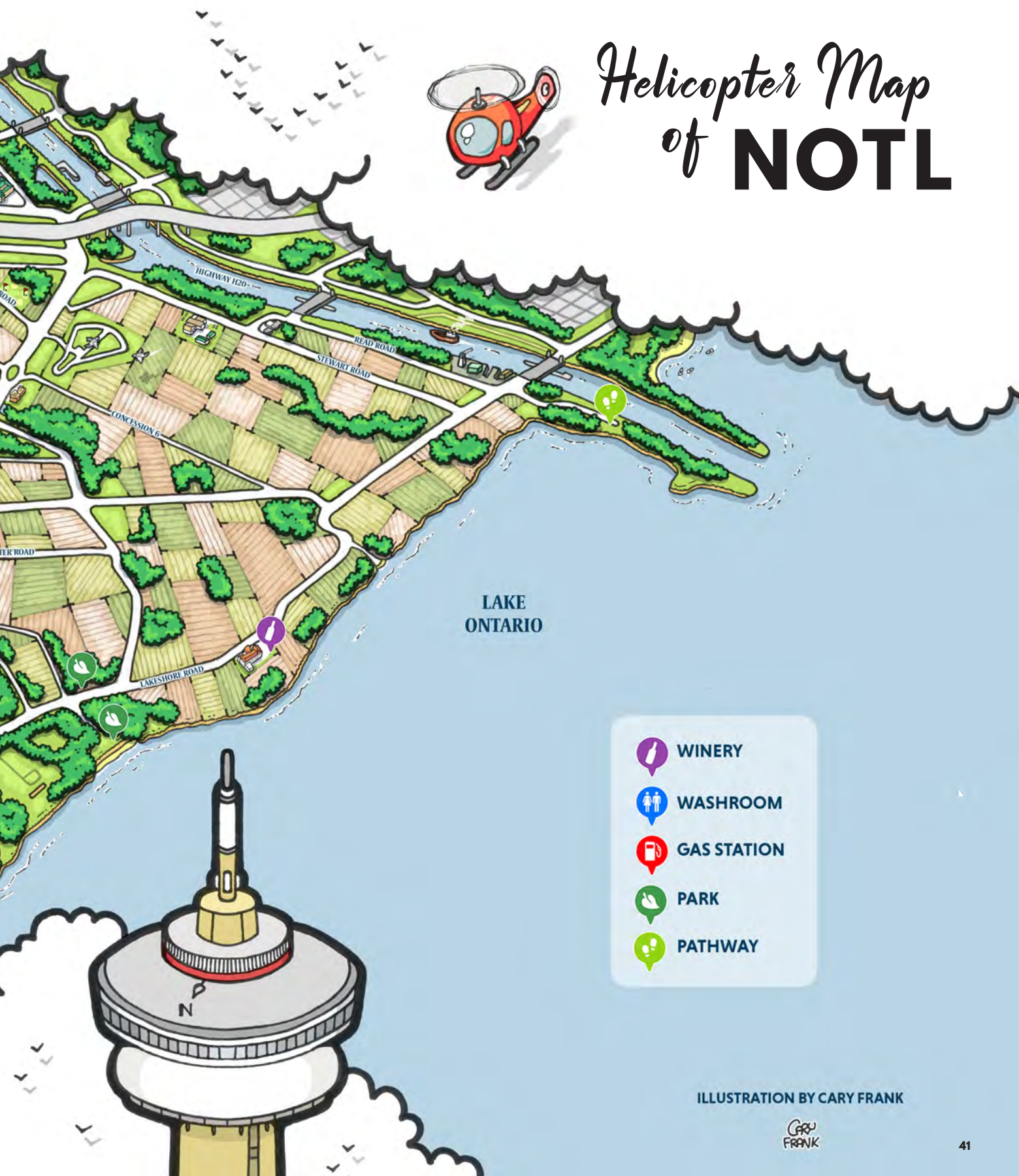
Our "helicopter map" looks southeast toward Niagara-on-the-Lake so you can get a better view than ever.

Although the map is not to scale, it is a (fairly!) accurate representation of many of the major routes in town.



The Lake Report

Helicopter Map of **NOTL**



LAKE
ONTARIO






-  WINERY
-  WASHROOM
-  GAS STATION
-  PARK
-  PATHWAY

ILLUSTRATION BY CARY FRANK

CARY
FRANK



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Est. 1999

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Here's a tip: Free walking tour offers colourful perspective of NOTL



Niagara-on-the-Lake's unique history is told by its one of its most unique characters — and it's basically free.

Visitors might check out Ross Robinson's free walking tour for his account of the town's history, but they come back for the man himself.

Robinson laces every tour with a few unique pieces of local history and more than a few of his infamous "dad jokes."

His favourite part about the tour is the new people he gets to meet each day.

"It's fascinating, the diversity of the people that come to Niagara-on-the-Lake to visit," says Robinson.

The long-time NOTL resident stands outside the old Court House on Queen Street with his bright red "Free Walking Tour" sign every day at 10 a.m. and again at 3 p.m. — rain or shine.

In fact, he's been there daily for more than 100 days — and vows to never miss a day, no matter the weather.

"The weather will be perfect," he likes to say.

In a tightly packed 90 minutes, Robinson walks his visitors through the historic former capital of Upper Canada, weaving in the odd story or two of the people who lived there.

Robinson also likes to cover lesser-known topics, like why NOTL's cenotaph is the only of its kind in Canada to be built in the middle of the street.

At Queen's Royal Park, he reminisces about Marilyn Bell, who, on Sept. 8, 1954, was the first to swim across Lake Ontario.

Robinson says tourists and residents alike leave knowing a little more about NOTL than when they arrived.

"They say, 'Wow, we're so happy we found out about it. Because we have learned so many interesting historical factoids,'" he says.

Tours run every day at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. All tours are free, though, as Robinson likes to say, "Canoes tip and I hope you do too."

Reserve your spot at Notfreewalkingtours.com or just head over to 26 Queen Street at the above times to join the tour.

Music

ON-THE-LAKE

People don't always think of Niagara-on-the-Lake as being a place for music. Usually it's the wine or theatre or boutique shopping.

But that's where they'd be wrong. Summertime in NOTL never fails to offer a diverse range of listening experiences for the distinguished explorer. Here are just a few of the options. There are also great musical acts at local restaurants and pubs, music at most of the summer festivals, a historical fife and drum band, and, of course, musicals at the Shaw Festival. No matter one's musical taste, Niagara-on-the-Lake is full of musical talent. Head out and explore.

MUSIC AND EVENTS AT LOCAL PUBS

Irish Harp Pub: Live music inside every Wednesday to Sunday
Wednesday, Thursday 7:30 - 10:30 p.m., Friday, Saturday 8:30 - 11:30 p.m., Sunday 2 - 5 p.m.

Spirit in Niagara (Summer of SIN Series):
Thursday Night Delight 5 - 7:30 p.m., Monday Blooz & Jazz 6 - 8 p.m.

The Olde Angel Inn: Live music every Friday to Sunday, 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

MUSIC NIAGARA SUMMER SEASON

- June 19 - Dang Thai Son at St. Mark's | 7 p.m.
- June 29 - If it ain't Baroque... at Grace United Church | 7 p.m.
- July 3 - The Fitzgeralds at Chateau Des Charmes | 7:30 p.m.
- July 4 - Quartetto Gelato "Tasty Tunes" at Chateau Des Charmes | 7:30 p.m.
- July 5 - Steve McDade Jazz Quintet at Chateau Des Charmes | 7:30 p.m.
- July 6 - Heather Bambrick at Chateau Des Charmes | 7:30 p.m.
- July 9 - Peter Millard with the CamerAtis Ensemble at Ironwood Cider House | 7 p.m.
- July 18 - "Guess what, it's a spoiler alert!" at Chateau Des Charmes | 7:30 p.m.
- July 23 - Ensemble Obiora at Ironwood Cider House | 7 p.m.
- July 29 - Masterclasses by Solomiya Ivakhiv at Grace United Church | 4 p.m.
- July 30 - Glory to Ukraine at St. Mark's Church | 4 p.m.
- August 7 - Toronto All-Star Big Band at Ravine Estate Winery | 7 p.m.
- August 11 - Emma Meinrenken in Recital at St. Mark's Church | 7 p.m.
- August 12 - Kiri Quartet & Friends with Conductor Maria Fuller at Grace United Church | 7 p.m.
- August 13 - Masterclasses by Kiri Quartet at Grace United Church | 2 p.m.
- August 13 - Talents of the Royal Conservatory at Ironwood Cider House | 7 p.m.
- August 29 - Season Finale at St. Mark's Church | 7 p.m.

Canadian music star Randy Bachman is headed to Jackson-Triggs for two nights August 10 and 11.



JACKSON-TRIGGS SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Jackson-Triggs will welcome a long list of musicians to its Niagara Estate Amphitheatre this summer, including top Canadian artists like Randy Bachman, Serena Ryder and Jann Arden. The Jackson-Triggs Summer Concert Series is something you don't want to miss out on. Enjoy music in the wineries' outdoor venue. Here's the complete 2023 schedule:

June 16	The Trews	July 21 & 22	Chantal Kreviazuk
June 17	Serena Ryder	August 10 & 11	Randy Bachman
June 22	Colin James	August 18	Charlotte Cardin
June 23	Jann Arden	August 19	Matt Andersen
June 24	Donovan Woods	August 24 & 25	Bahamas
July 7	The Strumbellas	August 26	William Prince
July 8	Tim Hicks "Campfire Acoustic"	September 8 & 9	The Reklaws
July 14	The Rural Alberta Advantage	September 15	Dwayne Gretzky
July 20	James Barker Band		

For tickets and information and the complete lineup, visit the Summer Concert Series website at www.jacksontriggswinery.com

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creative lift ...”*

*“Amazing collection of
depth, expression and pure
talent.”*



Michael Man has lead role as Prince Caspian at the Shaw Festival this season.

The Man, the Prince and his story

A glimpse into the life of the Shaw actor who helped bring ‘Prince Caspian’ to life

Story and photography by Evan Loree

The 34-year-old star of “Prince Caspian” is right at home when he’s on stage at the Royal George Theatre in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

“You can feel when the audiences are listening and you can feel whether or not they’re with you,” says Michael Man, the star of the Shaw Festival’s stage adaptation of the C.S. Lewis fantasy novel.

“Prince Caspian” tells the story of a young prince in a mythical land called Narnia, who must enlist the help of four English children from the real world to take the throne from his wicked uncle and usher in an age of peace.

Man says the eyes of the crowd can make you feel a little naked. He calls the feeling “exhilarating.”

The play is geared toward young children and their families. It’s an audience to which Man feels a special connection.

Man moved from Hong Kong with his parents and sister when he was seven.

It was tough, he says, being “thrust into a completely new environment,” and losing much of the social support he’d had back home.

But the childlike love of make-believe stuck with him.

Even before he left Hong Kong, he says he always wanted to be an actor.

“I think just making make-believe is so much fun,” he says.

Man says “to make a career out of it is a real privilege,” but that there’s a whole lot they don’t cover in theatre school.

“Theatre school does not teach you the business of acting,” he says.

Actors like Man have to follow the work wherever it goes, and sometimes work opportunities are few and far between.

“I move where the work is. And in so doing, I am faced with so many new experiences,” he says.

It’s not always easy, but he says young actors “need to find a way

to keep their love for what they do alive.”

For him, that means collaborating with new artists and friends on side projects.

“I have now created a wonderful supportive network of artists and friends and mentors that can help me through some more difficult times,” he says.

While working on Prince Caspian, Man says he finds himself thinking a lot about growing up, and the capacity of children to make believe.

Offstage, Man is also a new uncle and says he gets to watch his nephew experience new things all the time.

“It’s really inspiring to know that there are other humans on Earth that are experiencing things for the very first time,” he says.

While he plays a hero on stage, he sees real heroism in his sister, who is raising her first child, and in his parents, who had the courage to move to a new country when he was a child.



SHAW FESTIVAL

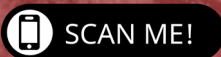
"The word 'Festival' in our name invites you to expect more than just a theatre. That is why we are always coming up with new events, new performance spaces and new ways of engaging with you. This year we have some really special treats up our sleeve. So, no matter which of our world-class shows you are coming to see, be sure to give yourself plenty of time before and after. You'll be glad you did."

— Tim Carroll, artistic director

Inspired by the spirit of Bernard Shaw, the Shaw Festival creates unforgettable theatrical encounters. The Shaw is a place where people who are curious about the world gather to share the unique experience of live theatre and to create a deeper human connection with the artists, the beauty and abundance of Niagara and with each other.

See a full season line-up of plays and other events at shawfest.com, or scan the QR code below.

See what's on:



The Shaw's 2023 Season — Summer plays

Gypsy (2023) | Prince Caspian | Blithe Spirit | Playboy of Western World | On the Razzle | Village Wooing
The Apple Cart | A Grand Night for Singing | The Shadow of Doubt | The Clearing | The Amen Corner

Plus check out Outdoors at the Shaw 2023 events like these:

MOTHER, DAUGHTER

Celebrated play Mother, Daughter explores the ever-changing relationship between children and parents. This intimate and poignant one-act features Vinnie Alberto**, Shane Carty, Patty Jamieson, Jade Repeta and a different real-life mother and daughter from the community on stage at every performance.

THE GAME OF LOVE AND CHANCE

A marriage has been arranged for two young people. Unbeknownst to each other, they both assume their servants' identities to check each other out. Mayhem and mistaken identities ensue, revealing how untamable love really is. Matching the spirit of this romantic comedy, a different cast will perform at each show, assuring a different experience at each performance. It's a theatrical free-for-all featuring Kristopher Bowman, Sochi Fried, Martin Happer, Deborah Hay, Rebecca Northan, Travis Seetoo, Graeme Somerville and Jenny L. Wright.

A SHORT HISTORY OF NIAGARA

Returning for its third season, this charming half-hour of pure storytelling features stories about the Maid of the Mist to Laura Secord to the founding of the Shaw Festival. Wordless puppets, accompanied by sound effects and music, bring the rich history of the Niagara Region to life. Featuring Alexandra Montagnese and Mike Petersen. Stage manager is Carolyn Mackenzie.

AND LOTS MORE ...

Check shawfest.com for more shows, performance dates, location and times.



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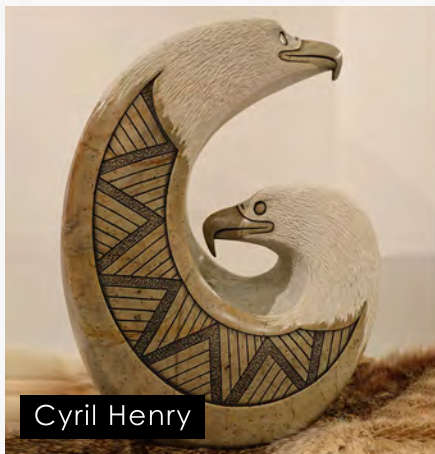
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THE BATTLE OF FORT GEORGE

*This year marks the 210th anniversary of the Battle of Fort George.
This is a story about the battle and how, for a time, what is now
Niagara-on-the-Lake was controlled by the Americans.*

By Amanda Gamble & Aiden Lord, Friends of Fort George | Photography by Dave Van de Laar

When U.S. declared war and attacked Upper Canada

Between 1796 and 1802, Fort George was constructed on the western shores of the Niagara River to counter the imposing Fort Niagara just across the water.

Fort Niagara had been turned over to the newly formed republic of the United States during peace negotiations at the end of the Revolutionary War.

Although Fort George was built as a field fortification, whose main purpose was to protect the British trade route along the Niagara River, it played a major role throughout the War of 1812.

It became the headquarters for the centre division of the British Army in Upper Canada (Ontario) and housed a large contingent of British regulars within its walls.

On June 18, 1812, U.S. President James Madison declared war on Great Britain.

The Americans planned a three-pronged attack against Upper Canada: the first would be along the Detroit frontier, the second would be

along the Niagara frontier and the third attack would be at Montreal.

However, the Americans found Upper Canada better defended than anticipated and their attempt to capture the Detroit frontier failed in August 1812.

In October 1812, the Americans tried to cross again, this time along the shores of the Niagara River at Queenston, but were repelled by the British and their allies.

Over the winter of 1812, the Americans prepared a new plan of attack, which included targeting Kingston, York (the provincial capital) and Niagara.

On April 27, 1813, the Americans launched an amphibious attack on York (Toronto), known as the Battle of York. The Americans were successful in landing and capturing the town, but as the British retreated they blew up the powder magazine at Fort York.

The explosion was so powerful that it rattled the windows at Fort Niagara and a massive

mushroom cloud was clearly visible from Niagara.

Within two days, news had spread to the British at Fort George that Fort York was now in American hands.

The British knew that an attack on the Niagara Frontier was imminent, but they didn't know where the assault would take place, or when.

Additionally, there was a big problem for the British stationed along the Niagara Frontier: many of their cannons had been relocated in the fall of 1812 and a new supply was on its way from England.

Unfortunately, those new cannons were still at Fort York when the Americans invaded.

Under these circumstances, the best British Gen. John Vincent could do was spread out his men along the Niagara Frontier and establish small batteries that could monitor the opposite shores for any movement.

And so the British and their allies waited in anticipation — but they wouldn't have to wait long before the Americans made their move.

Americans bombard Niagara and capture the town

Dawn breaks on the morning of May 25, 1813.

The crisp morning air is pierced by the crack of naval guns and shore batteries from the American side of the river and the waters of Lake Ontario.

The target of this barrage of cannon fire is Fort George, the sole British bastion at the northern end and mouth of the Niagara River.

It is the beginning of the bombardment by both naval craft from Admiral Isaac Chauncey's fleet, shore batteries, fort guns (from the neighbouring Fort Niagara on the American side) and mortars.

It spelled disaster for the defenders of the fort and lasted into the mid-afternoon.

The British attempted to return fire, launching a counter barrage on the opposing shore and Fort Niagara.

However, it was feeble and ineffective, as the fort had been stripped of most of its guns.

At its conclusion, the bombardment permanently silenced Fort George's guns and left most of the fort's buildings in ruins.

The British defenders remained stationed in the Commons nearby and the small garrison inside the fort attempted to salvage what they could of their position, hoping to regain some measure of defensibility.

After the Americans consolidated their forces on May 26, a time was set to attempt an invasion, the goal of which was to seize the British fort and destroy the British forces there and in the surrounding area.

On the morning of the 27th, as a thick fog blanketed the shores of Lake Ontario, the British sentries heard an American force approaching somewhere between One Mile Creek and Two Mile Creek, not far from the mouth of the Niagara River.

The invasion was afoot.

The American ships anchored offshore, sent a multitude of small craft, heavily laden with soldiers, toward the shore while they bombarded the shoreline with cannon fire. Fort Niagara did likewise.

The Americans landed and formed up in the shelter of the high clay banks onshore. However, as they did so, they were struck by volley after volley of musket fire from British forces who had sheltered through the worst of the artillery barrage nearby.

Elements of the Glengarry Light Infantry, the Lincoln Militia, the Grenadiers of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, and Indigenous warriors, engaged the American vanguard, determined not to let them land uncontested.

This bought time for the remaining British forces coming from the area of Fort George to muster alongside their comrades – the remainder of the Royal Newfoundlanders, more Glengarries, and a sizable portion of the venerable Coloured Corps composed their reinforcements.

They held their ground for a spell, repeatedly harassing and pinning the Americans on the beach.

However, this was not to last, as the Americans' ever-increasing force eventually got the best of them, aided by heavy cannon fire, which tore through the British line.

The British were eventually forced to retreat and regroup farther inland, but they did not go quietly. This game of fire and retreat (once overwhelmed) continued, with the British yielding ground only when they absolutely had to.

Every bit of ground the Americans seized they paid for in blood.

As the Americans continued to advance through the town, all those in the garrison at Fort George and all remaining British troops were ordered to abandon their posts, and withdraw toward Burlington Heights (Hamilton).

Fort George and what is now Niagara-on-the-Lake were in American hands.

When NOTL became American territory, briefly

It's late May 1813. The beachhead has been successfully established by the American forces, after bashing through the lines of the British defenders.

The British are routed and heading for Burlington Heights. The American force sweeps up from the landing grounds, through the streets of Niagara-on-the-Lake and into the charred remains of Fort George.

The American occupation of Niagara has begun.

Once the Americans secured Fort George, they were faced by their first set of problems.

Their supply lines had not had time to catch up with them and as a result they did not receive their tenting equipment, mess kits, rations or any other crucial supplies.

So, they were left with one option, forage.

They scrounged what they could from Government House in Newark and the surrounding land, acquiring some food and drink. They then slept on the rough ground of the fort for the night, having no alternative.

All the buildings had been destroyed, burned by hot shot from their own bombardment and finished off by the retreating British force. This was only the start to the Americans' perilous time occupying Fort George; it essentially foreshadowed the misfortune to come.

During the coming months of 1813, their situation was not an easy one to be subjected to. No buildings were rebuilt for the force to occupy within the walls

of the fort, so they lived in basic tents, a canvas village of its own, separate from the town.

The American supply chain also struggled to bear the weight of its many soldiers and they were forced to turn to alternative means. They raided farms and the nearby township for some of their food supply and, as for the remainder, they enlisted some locals such as Mrs. Whitten to bake bread for them.

In addition, they enlisted other locals to fulfil their other needs, such as the Mississauga Point lighthouse keeper's three daughters, who were recruited as laundresses to clean the soldiers' clothing.

For the Americans, it was a rather miserable and harsh summer, not knowing if their next meal would be as hearty and full as the last, if it came at all, their only respite being to retire to their tented city within the grounds of the fort.

It was decided that this stalemate had gone on long enough and the Americans, under Gen. Henry Dearborn attempted to send a large army inland.

They were repulsed in the disastrous battle of Stoney Creek on the night of June 6, 1813, and the following battles of Forty Creek (Grimsby) against the British and their Indigenous allies sent them back to Fort George.

Once again, a breakout was attempted at Beaverdams, however word was carried through of this by Laura Secord, which resulted in a large Indigenous force soundly defeating the American attackers. As a result, the Americans withdrew

from Fort Erie in the south of the peninsula and concentrated their efforts and men at Fort George.

After this the British slowly encroached on the American positions, gradually surrounding them with advance pickets which would skirmish often to keep the Americans in disarray, stop them from plundering supplies or moving farther inland.

Then more ill news for the Americans struck, a typhoid outbreak in their camp incapacitated and killed many of their number. Even General Dearborn himself was bedridden.

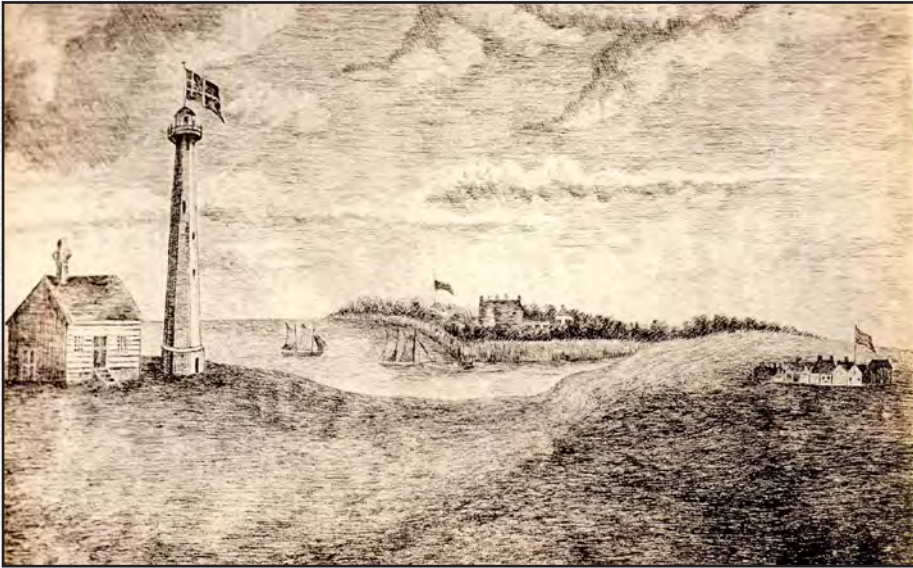
Afterward, the general decided to focus on other fronts, slowly siphoning what men he retained at Fort George to Sackets Harbour for other plans. This left a dwindling number of Americans, who were also rather disorganized within Fort George.

By the winter of 1813, the Americans decided to retreat to their own side, abandoning their position and foothold in area.

But just before they withdrew, they told the citizens of Newark to leave their homes. They burned the village to stop it being occupied for the winter by the advancing British forces. However, this also put all the townsfolk out of their homes and shelter for the approaching winter.

For seven months, since its capture in May of 1813, the fort and town were in American hands.

Although they were plagued by many hardships during that time, it was the American "stronghold" in the British side of the peninsula, up until their withdrawal in December 1813.



The first lighthouse on the Great Lakes was erected on Mississauga Point, in 1804, more than 200 years ago. The Assembly of Upper Canada, in its 1802-03 session, authorized the construction of three lighthouses on Lake Ontario. These were to be placed on Mississauga Point, at Gibraltar Point in Toronto harbour and on Isle Forest near Kingston. Lamps and oil were ordered from England. By the fall of 1803 at least one lamp arrived and was ordered to Niagara. Captain Nicholls was the engineer in charge of constructing the lighthouse. The instructions he received included the cautionary line that "it is not intended to go to any expense with respect to ornament for this building. You will principally consult utility and at the same time make it substantial." Nicholls estimated it would cost £178 and he only exceeded this by £18. The lighthouse stood until the early months of 1814 when it was demolished to make room for the construction of Fort Mississauga. Some of the materials used in the construction of the fort came from the lighthouse.

FIRST LIGHT ON THE LAKE



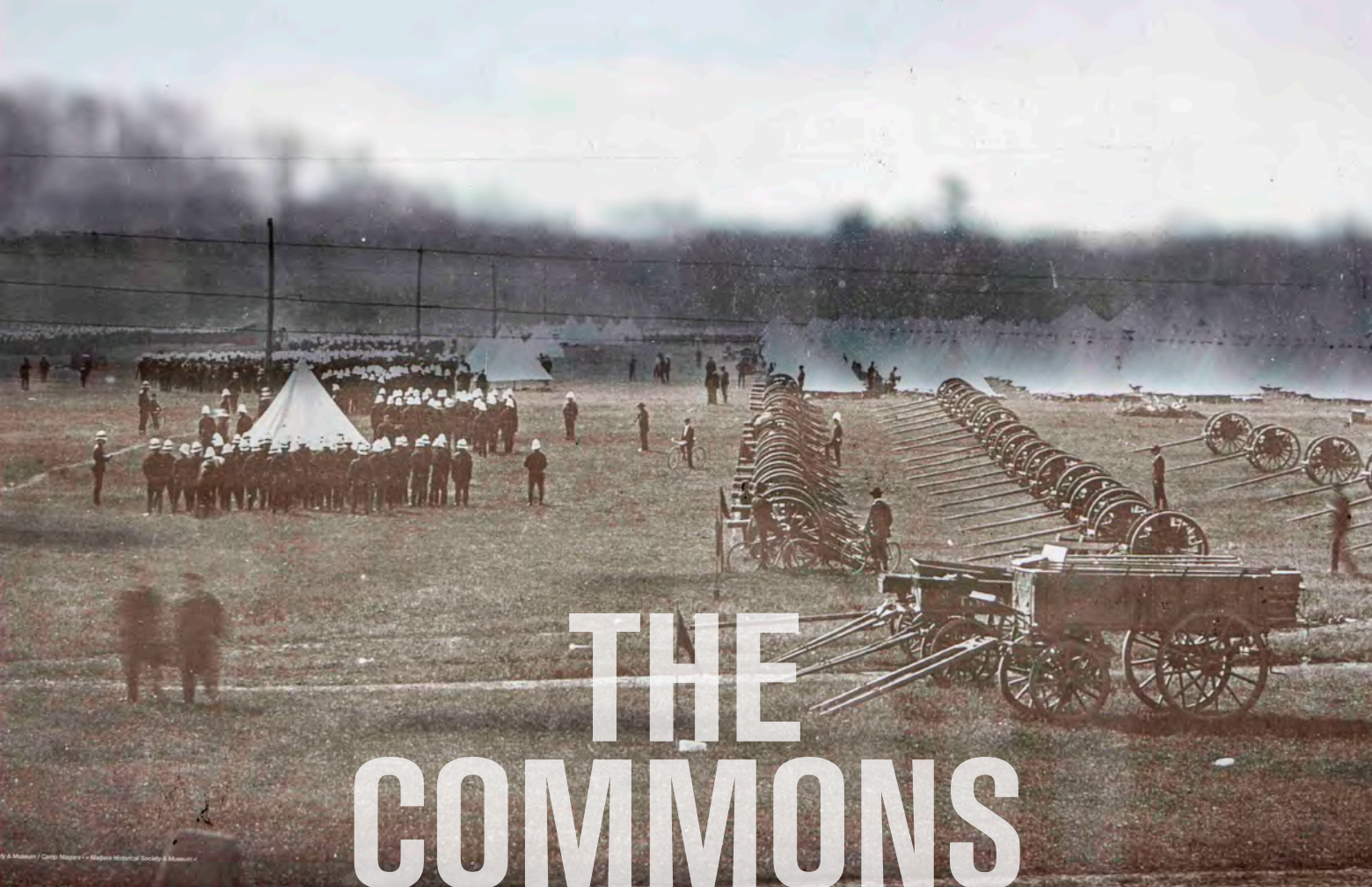
FISHING FOR STURGEON IN THE NIAGARA RIVER

This circa 1920s photograph is of two local fishermen, William Ball and Jim "Pud" Patterson, with a young child and a sturgeon caught in the Niagara River. Lake Sturgeon are native to the Great Lakes Basin and have been called a living dinosaur. Some say they look part shark and part alligator. They were initially viewed as a pest as they would often damage fishing gear. Their economic importance was discovered in the 1850s and they were heavily fished until the early 1900s. Sturgeon have a life span of 50 to 100 years and have been known to grow up to six feet long. They are now an endangered species.



BLANKET TOSSING AT NIAGARA CAMP, 1872

This illustration shows a blanket tossing at the Niagara Camp military training grounds in 1872. This activity was originally practised by the Inupiat and Inuit from the northern communities. They used a seal skin. It was helpful for hunting parties who were scouting the land. Today, it is used by these same groups for celebrations. Over time it has also been used for many army training camps, for recreation or, depending on the regiments, for hazing of new recruits. As you can imagine it could result in injuries and was therefore frowned upon by many officers.



THE COMMONS

A SITE OF CANADIAN HISTORY

By Evan Saunders

The sounds of cannon fire, acrid smoke, marching drums and firing muskets used to be as common as ice cream stores in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Nowhere were these sights and sounds more at home than in the Commons, also known as the Military Reserve.

When Niagara-on-the-Lake was more a military camp than anything else, the Commons was the focus of battles during the War of 1812 and the home of military camps and barracks, many of which still stand today.

The Commons has been an integral part of modern Canadian history for 200 years.

During the Great War, more than 14,000 Canadian soldiers of the 2nd Division of the Canadian Expeditionary Force trained here. For thousands of soldiers, who fought and died at Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele and the Somme, their last Canadian home was on the Commons.

Butler's Barracks was also the training camp for men in the Polish Army and was known as Camp Kosciuszko in 1917.

Also known as Camp Niagara, Butler's Barracks reached its peak during the Second World War. At that time, the grounds were covered with buildings, tents, parade grounds, streets and

other necessary facilities. Camp Niagara remained in active use until the 1960s.

In its more than 100-year history, the Commons was home to soldiers who fought in the Boer War in the 1890s, both World Wars, the Korean War in the 1950s and in various peacekeeping missions throughout the later half of the 20th century.

Many of these soldiers played polo to pass the time and that long-standing tradition has not been forgotten. Every other year the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum hosts a full polo match, replete with horses and Victorian outfits.



Battle of Fort George re-enactment | July 15-16

Re-enactors from all over North America will descend upon Fort George with battles throughout the weekend, to commemorate the 210th anniversary of the Battle of Fort George.

For more information, call Parks Canada at 905-468-6614.

INTERESTING facts ABOUT notl



NOTL was home to Ontario's first newspaper

NOTL, when it was called Newark, was home to the first editorialized newspaper in Ontario, led by William Lyon Mackenzie, who also served as mayor of York (now Toronto).



Trivial Pursuit was started in NOTL

The hit trivia game "Trivial Pursuit" was created here in NOTL in 1981. Since then, the game has sold more than 100 million copies.

Little Hollywood

According to a popular movie database IMDb, Niagara-on-the-Lake has been a filming location for more than 30 movies, including RED (2010), The Dead Zone (1983), The Ref (1994), The Recruit (2003) and Amelia (2009). It's also a popular spot for filming Hallmark movies.



NOTL once burned down The White House

Well, not us, but in 1814, in retaliation of the American soldiers burning our town during the War of 1812, Canadian (British then) soldiers marched to Washington and burned down the White House.

Mississauga vs. Mississagua

“Mississagua” is an Anglicized version of “Misi-zaagiing,” the name of the tribe of Anishinaabe First Nations people who temporarily made their home (“Second Stopping Place”) at the mouth of the Niagara River.

Misi-zaagiing is only one of a number of phonetic renderings of their name, which means “people of the great river mouth.”

The tribe migrated from Niagara to several successive stopping places and are now acknowledged to reside mainly on Manitoulin Island. There are a number of different English and French renderings of “Misi-zaagiing” including Mississagua, Mississauga, Mississagi, Massassauga, Massassagua, Mississaugua and Mississaga.

Mississauga is actually the French version

of Misi-zaagiin, used by fur-traders who had a trading post at the mouth of the Credit River near Toronto. The Port Credit area was a point on the migration route of the Misi-zaagiing people after they left Niagara.

This version of the name was adopted when the City of Mississagua was incorporated in 1974 because Mississauga encompasses both the lands of the former trading post and an interim territory of the “Misi-zaagiing” people. You’d have to ask the City of Mississauga about the exact origin of name and spelling, but their use of the name is considerably more recent than the street name in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

There is a road called Mississagua Street in town, which is the correct spelling of that particular street name.

Many names

What is now the historic town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has had several names in its history: West Niagara, Butlersburg, Lenox, Newark, the Town of Niagara and Niagara-on-the-Lake. The names Niagara, Ontario and Canada all come from Iroquoian words. Lawrenceville was the original name of Virgil.

Burning of NOTL

The town was captured by American forces on May 27, 1813, and occupied by them until Dec. 10, 1813. The entire town was burned by them on their retreat.

All walks of life

Famous visitors to Niagara include Queen Elizabeth (and the Queen Mother), Winston Churchill, future President William Henry Harrison, ex-President of the Confederate States of America Jefferson Davis, Underground Railroad hero Harriet Tubman, heroine Laura Secord and Joseph Brant.

The Dockyard

Some of the largest passenger steamers on the Great Lakes were built in the Niagara dockyard in the 1840s and 1850s, including the ice-breaking passenger ship “Chief Justice Robinson.”

Town of firsts

NOTL is a town of firsts: First Capital of Upper Canada (Ontario), the first newspaper published in Upper Canada, first lending library in Upper Canada, first agricultural fair in Upper Canada, place where the first anti-slavery legislation in the British Empire was passed, place of the founding of the Law Society of Upper Canada, headquarters of the British Indian Department and the British Army in Upper Canada at the beginning of the War of 1812, first golf course in Ontario, first public school in Upper Canada (honour shared with two other towns).

More facts on Page 71.

NARVIL DAVIS

A SEASONAL FARMWORKER'S STORY

Story and photography by Somer Slobodian

If you see Niagara-grown tender fruit in grocery stores this year, it's probably there because of hardworking, seasonal migrant workers.

People like 52-year-old Narvil Davis from St. Mary, Jamaica, who has worked at Tregunno Fruit Farms in Niagara-on-the-Lake for the past nine years.

He's one of more than 9,000 Jamaican workers who arrive in Canada each year to work for up to eight months under the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program.

He travels more than 2,000 kilometres to Niagara every February so that he can make enough money to support his wife Mary and five children back home.

Because of this job, he's able to not only pay the bills but help his 18-year-old daughter, Jeleaice, finish college in June.

While he's at Tregunno Farms, he does a lot of physical work such as pruning trees and picking juicy fruit people across the region have grown to love: fruit like peaches, plums, nectarines and grapes.

Davis works long days in all sorts of temperamental, Canadian weather.

"Jamaica has steady weather, the weather is not like up here (in Ontario)," says Davis.

Farming is easier in Jamaica, he says, since the weather is always warm and he can plant all year round.

"You plant all different types of things in Jamaica, all different types right through the year," he explained.

But regardless of what the

weather has in store for him here in Canada, he wakes up early and starts his shift around 7 a.m. during the summer months and sometimes doesn't finish until 6 p.m.

He spends all day in the fields, his body covered in clothing from head to toe to protect his skin from the sun's rays.

He says the work gets tougher once July comes and it's time to harvest the plums and peaches — both popular Tregunno staples.

They need to work fast to get the peaches picked and ready to go, he says, and describes it as a very "sticky" task.

"I know it has to be done, so it don't give me any problem to do it," says Davis.

It might be hard working out in the fields with the sun beating on your back all day, or with the rain soaking through your clothes — but he doesn't mind it, and he likes his employers.

"I am really happy and grateful working with those guys," says Davis.

He's never had any complaints and says he wouldn't want to transfer farms.

Tregunno Farms supplies many of the big grocery stores in the area like Loblaw's.

Something people may not know is how much the company gives back to charity.

The farm is the largest donor to Food For Life, the biggest food rescue organization in Hamilton and Halton. It provides healthy food to those who may not be able to afford it.

Tregunno Farms donates anywhere from nine to 12 pallets of imperfect peaches and nectarines weekly to the organization in the summer.

According to owner Phil Tregunno, that equals about 32 tonnes of donated fruit each summer — all thanks to the hard work of Davis and his co-workers.

Davis has a charismatic, charming personality and once you meet him, you can't forget him.

One cannot forget the sound of his distinctive, raspy voice.

Tregunno says that the nickname "The Godfather" was given to him because his voice resembles that of the popular movie character.

So, it might come as a surprise to people when they learn that Davis also loves to sing — and he's quite good at it.

Davis says his talking voice and his singing voice are two completely different things, and others who have heard both also agree.

Back home in Jamaica, when he isn't working on the farm, driving a taxi on the side, or singing, he's relaxing in his house watching television or cleaning.

"I love to sing and I love to clean where I live," says Davis.

But, until he can return to his family in the fall, he'll be here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, putting fresh fruit on our tables.

So, if you see seasonal farmworkers outside harvesting fruits and vegetables, or even out in town, give them a wave, say hello, and thank them for their hard work.



Narvil Davis travels more than 2,000 kilometres from St. Mary, Jamaica to Niagara-on-the-Lake every year to work at Tregunno Farms and send money home to his family.

Read about NOTL's seasonal fruits and vegetables on Page 15.



Vintage Hotels— Explore *local* this Summer

This summer, fall back in love with your hometown. Don't wait for friends and family to visit to indulge in the luxuries of Niagara-on-the-Lake when you can stroll down the flower-filled streets of Old Town or sip cocktails on a sunny patio any day of the week!

Enjoy the benefits of living in one of the most beautiful regions in Canada in its most abundant season, with gourmet meals and world-class wines at your doorstep. Vintage Hotels has everything you need to make lasting summer memories closer to home.



Stunning Summer Dining

Your special occasions deserve a thoughtful gourmet menu from our world-class culinary teams. At Vintage Hotels, we make your dining experience memorable by harnessing the natural abundance of our lush Niagara Region and sourcing only the freshest local ingredients and drinks from nearby award-winning wineries and craft breweries. Whether you prefer fine dining or a more casual experience, our signature restaurants and lounges have an atmosphere for every taste. Our beautiful patios transform outdoor summer dining into a magical experience you'll never forget.



A French Oasis in the Heart of Niagara

Inspired by the Monet Gardens in Giverny, France, the Pillar and Post is home to a stunning 6-acre private garden adorned with thousands of perennials, shrubs, ferns, rose bushes, seasonal flowers and hundreds of trees, complete with water features.

Beautifully lit pathways are woven throughout, allowing visitors to stroll through the serene landscapes day or night. The OutPost is open daily offering visitors culinary treats and beverages. Plus there are lawn games to play and a relaxing shaded area with Muskoka chairs to enjoy your refreshments.

Savour Summer Tea Time

You needn't look further than your own hometown to indulge in the elegant tradition of Afternoon Tea. At the Prince of Wales, the ornate décor of The Drawing Room, delicate tea sets, imaginative menus with delicate desserts and impeccable service will make you feel like you've been transported to Victorian England.

Escape to Secret Garden Spa

Rejuvenate your mind and body at the oasis that is Secret Garden Spa at Prince of Wales. Our full-service spa borrows its aesthetic from the natural elements of earth, fire and water and is designed to soothe your soul with our calming atmosphere as well as holistic treatments like our Aromaflex reflexology and Weekender rejuvenating shea butter body wrap. During your spa day, enjoy access to the relaxing spa lounge and magnificently designed indoor pool that will make you feel transported to a Mediterranean paradise.

Wash Away Your Worries at 100 Fountain Spa

Experience all the luxury amenities of a spa resort without the travel! At 100 Fountain Spa at Pillar and Post, relax head to toe with an extensive menu of curated spa treatments from Cleanformance healthy glow facials to slow-aging Signature Body Wraps. As our spa guest, your visit includes access to the fireplace lounge in the interior seating area as well as our one-of-a-kind hot spring pool.

Lounge in Style

This summer, choose a new local that blends the casual and comfortable environment of a pub with the gourmet locally-sourced ingredients you expect from Vintage Hotels. After a long day at the office or fresh off an adventure, enjoy gourmet pub fare and a handcrafted cocktail at The Churchill Lounge at Prince of Wales, revel in the panoramic marina view in the Bacchus Lounge at Queen's Landing, or sip on a local favourite at Vintages Wine Bar & Lounge at Pillar and Post. With curated weekly specials like the \$5 Burger & Fries or 1/2 Price Crispy Beer Battered Fish & Chips at The Churchill Lounge, there's a drink and bite to please every palette.



“The staff were outstanding, from registration to dining room to in-room services. This is a wonderful example of old-world elegance, with modern commitment to customer service.

We dined on-site several times, and enjoyed top-quality fare, beautifully presented, with top-notch service. Staff were consistently professional, responsive, and attentive to every detail.”

TripAdvisor Review

Summer Lovin' Staycation Package

Sample everything we love about summer in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Vintage Hotels has everything you need for a perfect staycation, from relaxing pools and hot spring pool and fragrant flower-lined patios to gourmet seasonal dining paired with world-class local wine. Feel a million miles from home while enjoying luxurious overnight accommodations, a bottle of wine delivered to your guestroom and a gourmet 3-course dinner for two. You'll also have access to hotel amenities, including your hotel's pool. You know it's not really summer without a dip or two!

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VOICES OF FREEDOM PARK

A CELEBRATION OF NOTL'S RICH BLACK HISTORY

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has set aside a significant site in the heart of the Old Town to understand, celebrate and honour its Black history. Voices of Freedom is an experiential art installation designed to engage, educate and challenge visitors about this most important aspect of our history. Voices from the past will tell their stories, enriching visitors' understanding of how they shaped our town and nation.

CHLOE COOLEY TAKES CANADIAN SPOTLIGHT

Staff at the NOTL Museum were happy to consult on the development of Canada Post's latest stamp, which features a local historical figure, drawing attention to her harrowing story.

Chloe Cooley was enslaved by Queenston farmer Adam Vrooman in 1793. At his farm, Cooley was likely responsible for domestic tasks such as household chores, child-rearing, laundry, food prep or harvesting crops. She had previously protested her enslavement by acting in "an unruly manner," refusing to work, stealing property entrusted to her and leaving for periods of time. When Vrooman, a member of the Legislative Assembly, heard that Lt.-Gov. John Graves Simcoe was determined to pass anti-slavery legislation, he bound and forcibly transported Cooley across the river to a U.S. buyer. This is the scene portrayed in the stamp's imagery.

The man standing at Vrooman's Point on the right portrays Peter Martin, a Black loyalist and former Butler's Ranger, who provided one of two witness statements about the incident. William Grisley, a local resident who worked on the Vrooman farm and who was on the boat, was the second.

Unfortunately, Vrooman had not broken any laws. However, the incident and the eyewitness accounts led to the Act to Limit Slavery being passed on July 9, 1793. It was the first step towards the abolition of slavery here in Canada.

Chloe Cooley was never heard from again and quite possibly had no idea of the effect her experience had on the lives of many enslaved in Upper Canada. In honour of the 230th anniversary of this historical event, the NOTL Museum will host an exhibition on Cooley and enslavement in Upper Canada.



THE AGE OF Sail and Steam

A brief Maritime history of Niagara-on-the-Lake

By Tony Chisholm



Because of the town of Niagara's strategic location at the mouth of the Niagara River, from the earliest days it was one of the first stops for shipping across the Great Lakes. In the early years only small schooners, a few brigs and other square-rigged vessels navigated the lakes to Niagara and sailed up the river to Queenston. Here the ships could be unloaded and the goods transported to Chippewa, bypassing the Falls. Many ships forwarded their cargoes through the Town of Niagara which created a bustling business centre, until the first Welland Canal opened.

After the War of 1812, sailing vessels started travelling regularly between all the ports of the lake. By 1820 there was a regular – every other day – connection between York and Niagara by a sloop of 100 tons called the “Duke of Richmond.”

Then in 1832 the Niagara Harbour and Dock Company began dredging for a harbour, wharf and docks at the mouth of the Niagara River (the present-day NOTL Sailing Club site). Pumps operated by a steam engine drained the marsh while men with wheelbarrows excavated the

area by hand. Forty acres were reclaimed by this method.

The major business of the Dock Company was ship building and the 108-ton schooner “Princess Victoria” was launched in 1833. But the Dock Company was plagued by financial problems. However, it attracted other businesses to town. There were forwarders, shipbrokers and agents to handle the merchandise of every description. But the bright spot was the building of passenger steamboats and in 1836 the first steamboat built was the Traveller – 140 feet long. She was a side paddle wheeler.

This time period also marks the end of the sailing era and the beginning of the more comfortable steamship travel on Lake Ontario. In those early times – when the steamship was novel and wonderful – it would bring the whole neighbourhood down to the waterside dock when they arrived. The sound of the whistle at the dock was the signal for the arrival of letters, supplies and news of the outside world. This monopoly of steamers lasted for nearly 100 years till the era of railways and, of course, cars took over.

As to the fate of sailing ships, very few full-rigged sailing vessels were built on the Great Lakes after 1880. Some of the old working sailing ships continued under sail into the 20th century, but few of them made any money. There were only a handful left after 1920. They were the last working survivors of nearly 25,000 of their type.

These lakes are some of the most dangerous waters in the world, with powerful storms, especially in late fall. And the lakes freeze in winter. Fast changes in the weather turned many ships to wrecks.

The opening of a large military camp at Niagara in 1871 brought demands for more passenger boat service and thousands of soldiers passed through Niagara. By the 1880s steamships like the “Cibola” and the “Chippewa” were described as “floating palaces.” The numbers of ships grew substantially after 1900. These ships could hold up to 2,500 people per trip and with five steamers a day arriving, that means up to 12,000 tourists per day.

Sadly, the great steamship era was over by the 1950s.

A LANDSCAPE OF NATIONS

By Linda Fritz & Tim Johnson (Mohawk)

The Landscape of Nations Commemorative Memorial at Queenston Heights serves as a reminder of the important role of Indigenous soldiers in the War of 1812.

During the war, the British allied with forces from the Six Nations — Mohawk, Seneca, Oneida, Cayuga, Onondaga and Tuscarora — to fight American invaders who sought to seize control of land that would become Canada.

Speaking different dialects and with different religious beliefs, these First Nations were drawn together for the battle by Maj. John Norton, a resourceful and courageous Mohawk war captain.

Norton (Teyoninhokarawen), a man of Cherokee and Scottish ancestry, was a Mohawk by adoption. Together with John Brant (Ahyouwa'ehs), the youngest son of Joseph Brant, the Six Nations people (Haudenosaunee or Iroquois) fought for their own survival as a people and in support of the British.

Without the Haudenosaunee warriors and other allied Indigenous forces, the British would have lost the Battle of Queenston Heights, and likely the war.

In the mid-19th century, the people of Canada chose to commemorate the services of Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock with a monument on Queenston Heights. Other heroes, including Maj.-Gen. Roger Hale Sheaffe and Laura Secord, were also remembered. Unfortunately, the Indigenous contribution as British allies during the war wasn't recognized until much later.

The suppression of information about the contribution of Indigenous Peoples to the war efforts was partially due to the actions of the Family Compact, a powerful group that governed Upper Canada, and later, Ontario. They wanted the lands of the province for settlement so they chose to negate the efforts of First Nations peoples by expunging the names of all who were involved in the War of 1812.

As a result of the many efforts to erase history, in spite of the published Norton diaries and the monument in Queenston which named him as a hero, it wasn't until the 200th anniversary of the War of

1812, that John Norton's name gained some prominence.

On Oct. 2, 2016, the beautiful Landscape of Nations was officially opened in Queenston Heights. This collaborative effort of governments, local residents and First Nations people created a memorial, a quiet place for contemplation and reflection.

The landmark features Indigenous symbols like the longhouse structure, a path that represents the Two-Row Wampum Belt, statues of John Norton and John Brant, a granite inlay art installation of the turtle (symbol of the earth), and the exhibit's core element, the Memory Circle.

The Memory Circle recognizes the historic ceremony of peace and reconciliation held in Niagara on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, 1815, that restored peace among the Indigenous nations who fought on opposing sides.

John Norton

Norton (1784-1827) was the son of a Cherokee father and a Scottish mother. He was adopted by a Scottish soldier after the American Revolution and they returned to Scotland, where Norton was raised and educated. He later returned to Upper Canada to serve in the military sometime in the 1790s.

Upon his discharge from the British Army, Norton became acquainted with the Mohawk leader Joseph Brant, who eventually adopted him. Norton was able to speak English, French, German and Spanish. He later learned to speak several Indigenous languages and dialects. He translated the gospel of St. Matthew as well as Sir Walter Scott's "Lady of the Lake" into Mohawk.

Norton worked with Brant as an interpreter and helped to advance the Six Nations Indians' cause with the British.

In 1812, Norton led the Indian supporters of the British regular army at the Battle of Queenston Heights. So valuable was Norton's contribution as a strategist and fighter that General Sheaffe, the British leader after Brock's

death in battle, made Norton a captain in the British army.

After the war, Norton continued to live in North America, and made one trip back to England and Scotland on behalf of the Grand River Haudenosaunee, during which he left a manuscript with the Duke of Northumberland. However, it wasn't until 1970 when the Champlain Society published it under the title of "The Journal of John Norton, 1816."

He died sometime in 1827 in the American Southwest.

What Reconciliation Looks Like

Every bit as important as the artwork's physical manifestation, was the process itself. The Landscape of Nations Commemorative Memorial serves as an example of Truth and Reconciliation in action. When John Hawley invited Smithsonian Institution associate director Tim Johnson (Mohawk) to advise the committee on public art and exhibit development, a principle emerged that established equity and inclusion as factors structured within the project's operations. Johnson became paired with local historian Richard Merritt as co-directors of the committee. Haudenosaunee historian Rick Hill (Tuscarora) aligned with Niagara Parks Commission heritage superintendent Jim Hill (unrelated). The two artists commissioned to design the memorial were Raymond Skye (Tuscarora) and landscape architect Tom Ridout. And the fundraising effort was supported by Michele-Elise Burnett (Métis) and Brian Iggulden. This construct established the memorial as a successful and inspirational example of how municipalities, provincial agencies and Indigenous Peoples can work together to accomplish shared goals and objectives. In many respects, through the development of cordial relations and friendships, the project reflected the historic relations that once activated alliances that defended life and land during the War of 1812 and set the stage for Canada's emergence as a nation itself.



Statues of John Brant and John Norton by Six Nations artist Raymond Skye guard the entrance to the Landscape of Nations memorial.

Visit the Landscape of Nations memorial at Queenston Heights to learn more about the roles of Canada's Indigenous allies. Or visit virtually at www.niagaraparks.com.



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GOLF



NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE GOLF CLUB

Billed as North America's oldest golf course, the NOTL Golf Club was founded in 1875 and is located lakeside on land owned by Parks Canada. Its restaurant and patio have the best views of Lake Ontario in town, and the course itself presents a fine challenge for beginner and low-handicap golfers alike. With narrow fairways, small greens and majestic mature trees, the course can play much tougher than the 5,800 yards indicated on the scorecard.

notlgolf.com | 143 Front St., NOTL | 905-468-3424

ST. DAVIDS GOLF CLUB

Tucked away a short drive up a shady lane from York Road, the St. Davids Golf Club, is one of the oldest in the area. Established in 1932, it is located along the scenic Niagara Escarpment and offers some lovely views. At 2,650 yards it is shorter than its sister course in Queenston. No tee times, just show up to play and they'll get you on. And like Queenston, the greens fees are a real throwback. The courses don't have websites, but they do have Facebook pages.

22 Paxton Lane, St. Davids | 905-262-4522

ROYAL NIAGARA GOLF CLUB

This course, one of a half-dozen operating under the Kaneff banner, is nestled amid the Welland Canal, the Bruce Trail and the Niagara Escarpment, Royal Niagara is more than 7,000 yards from the tips and features 27 holes.

It's located close to the QEW, not far from the outlet mall.

kaneffgolf.com | 1 Niagara-on-the-Green Blvd., NOTL
1-866-ROYAL18

QUEENSTON GOLF CLUB

Opened in 1966, the nine-hole Queenston Golf Club measures 2,857 yards from the back tees. It offers some wide-open fairways and some tough holes with water hazards to play havoc with your score. Like its sister course in St. Davids, you can't reserve a tee time. It is a walk-up only operation, so just show up and play. And the affordable greens fees for nine or 18 holes will make you think the clock has been turned back 30 years. Another unique feature: both courses are open year-round.

269 Progressive Ave., Queenston | 905-262-4528

EAGLE VALLEY GOLF COURSE

Technically, Eagle Valley is not in Niagara-on-the-Lake. It's just over the "border" in Niagara Falls, Ont., about two kilometres from St. Davids Golf Club. It's an executive 18-hole course, with a driving range to work on your game. It also has a golf academy.

golfeaglevalley.com | 2334 St. Paul Ave., Niagara Falls
905-374-2110



Swing by a local restaurant for an after-tee snack and refreshments.

Aerial photography by Rene Bertschi



HISTORIC NOTL GOLF COURSE IS OLDEST IN NORTH AMERICA

BY DENISE ASCENZO

It is a beautiful morning, a bit of a breeze but nothing too chilling as you approach the tee for your first swing of the afternoon.

Taking the swing, you hear the perfect “ping” as your driver connects with the ball exactly like you always pray it will. You lift your gaze to watch where your ball goes when you notice a mist coming in over the course from Lake Ontario.

In that moment your breath is caught as you imagine a wounded soldier, in a red coat, lying on the ground, being tended to by a woman.

You are playing on the oldest continuously operating golf course in North America, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club, founded in 1875, located at 143 Front St. in Niagara-on-the-Lake. History abounds on these links.

It is a small course by modern standards, just nine holes with some unique challenges such as huge doglegs that go around century-old trees and small greens that are tucked away.

Interesting though is the history of the land, once referred to as Fort Mississauga Commons.

Prior to the War of 1812, the land, at the point where the Niagara River flows into Lake Ontario, was

home to the first lighthouse on the Great Lakes. Built in 1804, the tower was 45 feet high. The first lighthouse keeper was Dominic Henry, a retired soldier from the British garrison posted at Fort George.

Henry was the only lighthouse keeper. Along with his wife Mary Madden Henry and their children, he lived in a small log cabin beside the lighthouse.

In May of 1813, during the War of 1812, the American forces from Fort Niagara and from ships on Lake Ontario, bombarded what was then called the town of Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake).

Then the American forces landed on the shores of Lake Ontario, just north of the town, near the lighthouse.

During this battle, Mary Madden Henry was seen by many soldiers to be scrambling over the grounds around the lighthouse, tending to any wounded soldier she came upon. Many soldiers later related how she seemed to appear through the smoke like an angel with wings.

After the War of 1812, the lighthouse was torn down and replaced by a military base, Fort Mississauga.

The fort was built in 1814 using bricks from the lighthouse and salvaged bricks from the town after it had been razed by a fire started by the retreating American forces in December 1813. The fort was built on Point Mississauga, across from the Americans’ Fort Niagara, still visible today across the Niagara River. It was to replace Fort George, which had been destroyed.

Fort Mississauga saw limited use and by 1858 the British had abandoned it completely. Later, during the American Civil War (1861-65) and the Finnian Raids (1866-71), the fort was occupied by the Volunteer Canadian Militia.

But once again Fort Mississauga was abandoned until it was put to use during training camps of the First World War (1914-18) and Second World War (1939-45).

Today, only the central tower, the star-shaped earthworks and sally ports of the fort remain. It was recently restored and repaired and is now accessible.

The golf course was constructed when Fort Mississauga was abandoned in 1875. When you play on the course today, the green for the eighth hole is the only hole untouched from the original course.

From Sept. 5 to 7, 1895, what was then called the Niagara Golf Club hosted the first international golf tournament in North America.

After the First World War, the course was, however, and operated under the control of the Queens Royal Hotel.

As tourism waned in the 1920s, the hotel went bankrupt. Not to lose such a wonderful golf course close to the town, the National Golf Course was incorporated in 1926. The Mississauga Commons, in the 1960s, was declared a National Historic Park and the golf course continues to operate to this day.

The land on which the course sits is owned by Parks Canada and the course is operated independently.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club has been ranked among the Top 10 nine-hole courses in the world. The restaurant is the only one in town overlooking Lake Ontario. It is a public course, open for all to enjoy the history of the land as you play.

The lake and Toronto skyline views are breathtaking.

To learn more about the topic of this story you can check out the NOTL Museum website at NOTLmuseum.ca or visit the museum for yourself at 43 Castlereagh St.



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34 Queen St, Niagara-on-the-Lake | 905-468-4500 | www.justchristmas.ca

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT NOTL



Famous gazebo was built for Stephen King film

The gazebo at Queen's Royal Park was originally built for a Stephen King movie, *The Dead Zone* (starring Christopher Walken) in 1983 and was donated to the town after filming. Now, the park and gazebo offer picturesque views and the structure is a coveted location for small wedding ceremonies of up to 12 people.

Capital of Upper Canada

The town of Niagara was once one of the largest towns in Upper Canada and for several years had a bigger population than York (now Toronto).

The “on-the-Lake” bit

In the 1890s the Post Office added “on-the-Lake” to “Niagara” to distinguish it from Niagara Falls and the Township of Niagara. The name caught on and the town was known as Niagara-on-the Lake, although it was not officially named that until 1969.

First museum

The Niagara Historical Society Museum was the first building constructed in Ontario as a museum. While there were a couple of earlier museums in the province, they were established in existing buildings that had been built for other purposes.



Place to gather

At the Indian Council House on the Commons, hundreds of Indigenous people met from time to time with British officials to renew alliances and discuss mutual concerns.

Mennonite arrival

Mennonites started to arrive in 1934 and just before the immigration the population of Virgil was 200.

Read about the ghosts of NOTL on Page 77.

THE SCENTED MARKET

Scent Your Story!



Kristy Miller is a mom of three boys, a wife to a supportive husband, and the founder of The Scented Market lifestyle brand.

What started with six signature soy candles in 2018 has grown into a company with over 800 products including over 50 scented soy candles, wax melts, reed diffusers and an entire line of body care products now available across three locations in Ontario, including right here in our very own Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The Scented Market has always been dedicated to producing cleaner, more sustainable products with a message of self-care and self-love. Its products are manufactured in the Guelph location using recyclable/reusable jars, 100% soy wax, and oil fragrances that are paraben and phthalate free.

This year, The Scented Market has made a deal with two dragons on CBC's Dragons Den. In addition, Kristy has been nominated for a number of other awards, such as the Frank Hasenfratz Award of Excellence by the Guelph Chamber of Commerce. Kristy has won the 2023 Canadian National SME award for Entrepreneur of the year for all of her hard work and dedication to growing The Scented Market.

One of Kristy's business goals is to form a positive and meaningful community supporting one another through self-care.

"I run this business with hard work and pride, and my team hand pours each candle and ties each piece of twine with love," says Kristy. "If one day you ever find yourself strolling down Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake, I would love for you to stop by our store and experience all that is The Scented Market!"

Store Details

9 Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake,
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Stay Connected!



@thescentedmarket

Wine Country

The smell of sweet red grapes
growing on the vine in the
fine Niagara Vineyards



THE MONUMENT

It's been a century since Niagara-on-the-Lake's iconic clock tower cenotaph was erected. Then, in 1926, the Township of Niagara unveiled its own memorial in Queenston. In recognition of those who fought and died in two world wars and beyond, NOTL historian Ron Dale has been researching the stories of the people – all men – whose names are engraved on the two cenotaphs. This is one in a series of stories documenting and remembering the sacrifices of those commemorated on the municipal memorial in Queenston.



Flying Officer Arthur Hugh Grange was D-Day pathfinder

It was June 5, 1944 – D-Day minus 1.

More than 13,000 Allied paratroopers, including 543 men of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion, climbed aboard 1,200 aircraft in England.

They were the first troops to land in Normandy in the early hours of D-Day on June 6, 1944.

At the same time, 156,000 Allied soldiers, including 21,400 Canadians were on board a variety of landing craft, sailing toward the coast of France. The long-awaited invasion of Europe was finally under way, with 7,000 naval vessels supporting the effort.

The invasion was a gamble. The Germans were aware an attack was coming sooner or later so from Scandinavia to Spain they built a series of formidable defences that they called "Atlantikwall."

One of these forts, a coastal artillery battery at Longues-sur-Mer, was sited between the American landing beach codenamed "Omaha" and the British landing beach codenamed "Gold," eight kilometres north of Bayeux.

It was a powerful position consisting of four 15-centimetre naval guns and one 120-millimetre gun in reinforced concrete bunkers and was protected by machine-guns and anti-aircraft guns.

The guns had a range of 23 kilometres and enough destructive force to sink a ship.

On D-Day, several thousand Allied aircraft were involved, attacking the Atlantic Wall defences along the coast. During the day the RAF, RCAF and U.S. air force flew 14,674 sorties against German defences, rail junctions, bridges and vehicle columns.

German fighter aircraft and anti-aircraft artillery shot down 127 planes during the day

The only Niagara man known to have been killed on D-Day, out of the many Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen involved, was Pilot Officer Arthur Grange of Queenston.

Arthur Grange was the son of Arthur Grange and Edna May Cascaden. He was born in Niagara Falls on Dec. 14, 1916. When he was six years old Edna divorced his father and married Joseph Ennis in Niagara Falls, N.Y., in 1922.

Arthur attended elementary school in both Niagara Falls, N.Y. and Niagara Falls, Ont. After graduating from secondary school in Ontario, he became a mechanic.

He was living in Niagara Falls when he married Mary Patricia Sheppard of Queenston at St. Saviour's Church in Queenston on June 28, 1938. The couple set up house in Queenston. They had no children.

MONUMENTS MEN

On Feb. 18, 1942, Arthur joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. He wanted to train as a pilot.

However, the RCAF had other plans for him and sent him to train as an aerial bomber. Between Feb. 8 and April 30, 1943, he trained as a bombardier at Jarvis, Ont., where he completed his training successfully, with the third-highest marks in his class.

He was then sent to Milton for more advanced training, finally receiving his air bomber wings on June 11, 1943.

He was then shipped to England and ultimately assigned to 582 Squadron of the Royal Air Force.

By 1944, now promoted to the rank of flying officer, he was the bombardier on a Lancaster 3 bomber, along with six highly skilled officers of the RAF, all of whom had won medals for bravery previously in the war.

Arthur's squadron was a specialist force known as pathfinders. Their role on a bombing mission was to be the first to fly over the target, often at low levels, to drop

flares over the target to guide the other bombers to their objective.

As a skilled bombardier, Arthur's role was crucial for the success of a mission.

On D-Day, the 582 Squadron's task was to mark the Longues-sur-Mer battery for other squadrons to destroy. Their mission was a partial success.

The bomber stream hit their target and the fire control post was damaged, which limited the battery's effectiveness. However, the German gun positions were still able to fire 100 shells that day.

Naval vessels firing at the bunkers were also unsuccessful. On June 7, the garrison finally surrendered to British infantrymen.

Arthur's plane was unlucky. Anti-aircraft fire (flak) hit the Lancaster. It was, according to the official report, "lost without a trace."

Arthur's final resting spot is unknown. His body was not found nor identified. His sacrifice is remembered on the Runnymede Airforce Memorial in Suffolk and on the Niagara Township cenotaph in Queenston.

The Cenotaph (Clock Tower)

The clock tower in Niagara-on-the-Lake's historic Old Town, with its bells chiming on the hour, has come to be a staple of the town for residents and visitors alike. This year it celebrates its centennial.

The cenotaph was built as a tribute to Canadians who gave their lives defending the country in the First World War. Today it also serves as a reminder of the sacrifices Canadians have made in the line of duty since then.

For locals, it's a place to gather for special occasions. For visitors, it is the confirmation you've reached the heart of the historic Old Town and the shopping district.

On Remembrance Day, Nov. 11, Niagara-on-the-Lake residents gather at the tower for a moment of silence and to lay wreaths of remembrance.

On Dec. 31 at midnight, we gather around to hear the bells chime in the new year.

When you're taking your picture with it, give a salute. #NOTLclocktower

Monuments Men of NOTL series

It has been more than a year since The Lake Report launched its 53-part series, The Monuments Men of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Historian Ron Dale painstakingly researched and documented the very human stories of the men commemorated on the cenotaph monuments in Old Town and in Queenston.

In all, Dale wrote 53 detailed, historical feature-length stories, a triumph of his hard work and research.

The series began with the story of the first NOTL soldier killed in the Great War, Gunner William Currie.

Hurt during the Second Battle of Ypres. On May 4, 1915, he succumbed to injuries caused by a German artillery shell.

And the series ended with the last NOTL soldier killed in World War Two, Lance-Cpl. Donald Parr. He died April 17, 1945, just three weeks before the end of the war.

Read the entire Monuments Men series at niagaranow.com/?s=the+monuments+men.

Coming soon to our print newspaper: "Missing in Action," NOTL soldiers who died but are not listed on the town's monuments.



Stefan Regier

Sales Representative



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THE GHOSTS OF NOTL

It was a dark and stormy night ... the windows rattled ... a door slammed from the other side of the house ... a mournful howl from a dog could be heard ... time for some tales from beyond the grave. Welcome to Niagara-on-the-Lake, a place that may just be one of the most haunted towns in Canada ...

SARAH ANN

At Fort George, the ghost tours are run by Kyle Upton, who started them almost three decades ago.

One story Upton tells is of his own personal experience. He claims to have seen a young girl while he was conducting part of the Fort George tour know as the “tunnel.”

It was a warm summer night, he recalls.

He was leading a small tour group into one of the tunnels. It was a small group, so he could see the tunnel entrance. Every time he looked up the tunnel, he says he could see a small girl in the doorway watching. At first he thought it was someone from the group who was nervous about entering the tunnel, so he asked if everyone was accounted for, and they were.

But the little girl was still there.

When the lightning lit up the sky outside of the tunnel, the little girl was not there, though Upton noticed something peculiar — he could see her shadow.

Upton is positive he was seeing Sarah Ann Tracy, who died in 1840 at the age of seven and was buried at St. Mark’s Anglican Church.

Sarah Ann lived with her parents Hannah and Thomas Tracy. Thomas was the troop sergeant major of the king’s dragoon guards. It was not unusual at that time for the fort children to live and play about the grounds.

No one knows how Sarah Ann died, but we do know that she is alone in St. Mark’s graveyard. Maybe this is why she comes to the Fort, where she once lived, to enjoy the company of all the visitors. Many guests claim to have seen her playing inside the barracks or just outside the officers’ quarters. She has also been seen skipping along side of tour guides in a white gown with curly hair, always cheerful with a big smile.



CAPTAIN SWAYZE

At the Angel Inn, there is the legend of Captain Swayze, who haunts the basement. Servers and patrons alike have their stories, and glasses have been known to slide across the tables without anyone touching them at all. You can read more about Captain Swayze at the Inn.



THE GENTLEMAN

Legend has it on a spring day in 1998, when the Niagara Apothecary was filled with tourists, one couple noticed a pleasant looking gentleman dressed in period costume, possibly from the 1860s. The gentleman was very interested in the display cases and would occasionally look up and smile at other visitors. One group of tourists took pictures of this gentleman thinking he was part of the museum display. Of course, this was at a time when you had to wait for pictures to be developed. When the visitors finally looked through their photos, the couple claimed the gentleman was nowhere to be found. Only one picture gave a possible explanation of what they had seen — a vague misty shape. Who might have been this ghostly visitor to the museum? The Apothecary was the oldest continuously running drug store in Ontario, operating from 1865 until it was purchased by Henry Paffard in 1964. Prior to that, it was the customs house and also the office of a judge. Staff and visitors also say they’ve heard footsteps on the second floor or from the stairs, complained of cold spots in the building, flashing lights from the back of the store and reported an odour of belladonna — a poison sometimes called nightshade. Several psychics have visited the apothecary and have “confirmed a presence,” but one that is “warm and welcoming.” Just maybe this friendly spirit is Henry Paffard himself, or possibly the judge.



Ghost Tours of Fort George

Step inside Fort George after dark and learn about its history and hauntings during this 1.5- to two-hour candlelight ghost walk. The ghost tours gather in the parking lot of Fort George, just off the Niagara Parkway. Just look for black capes and lanterns!

Tickets: \$20

Tickets must be purchased in advance.

www.friendsoffortgeorge.ca/ghost-tours

NOTL Ghost Walks

Niagara-on-the-Lake tours are a traditional Ghost Walk of “Canada’s Most Haunted Town.” Featuring stories at the Olde Angel Inn, iconic Court House and Prince of Wales Hotel. With North America’s oldest legend, a mystery at the Apothecary, the theatre ghost scaring audiences and a mansion that makes cameras go crazy. Many secrets and dark history are at the centre of the only war fought in Canada.

www.ghostwalks.com/niagara-on-the-lake



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About Nancy Bailey

Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS)

Broker, Private Office Advisor Engel & Völkers Oakville, Brokerage

Nancy Bailey brings 30 years of sales and marketing experience to the Engel & Völkers Oakville team. Her career in the luxury hotel sector, passion for the Niagara region and contacts in the luxury hotel, development, winery and arts are desirable qualities for her contacts and clients. She has worked closely with many industry leaders and has a keen awareness of the value of networking and partnerships to get results. Nancy's authenticity is often praised by clients, and her success in luxury sales is recognized year after year for her achievements. She offers the same level of service regardless of price range and is committed to her belief that her role is taking care of people and assisting them through transitions in their lives. She has adopted the philosophy that luxury is an experience not a price point.

In March 2018, Nancy was officially inducted into the firm's ultra-exclusive Private Office network. As a Private Office Advisor, Nancy gains access to marketing tools and opportunities developed specifically to work with high net-worth clients. She is also the preferred contact in her market for international referrals that require the highest level of service and market expertise. Engel & Völkers Americas announced in March 2023 that Nancy Bailey was the recipient of a Top Producing Advisor Award for four consecutive years, which is presented to Engel & Völkers Advisors who achieved the highest net commissions and sides closed within the network.

One of Nancy's core values is social responsibility to her community and has demonstrated this by being past sponsor of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Annual Golf Tournament for two consecutive years and raising over \$50,000 for the new Community Centre. She is a member of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club; on the Board of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Fund Advisory Committee (part of the Niagara Community Foundation); Director of Fundraising for the Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake; and Chair of the Social Committee for The Village Community where she lives. Nancy lives, works and plays in Niagara-on-the-Lake, a place she loves calling home.

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