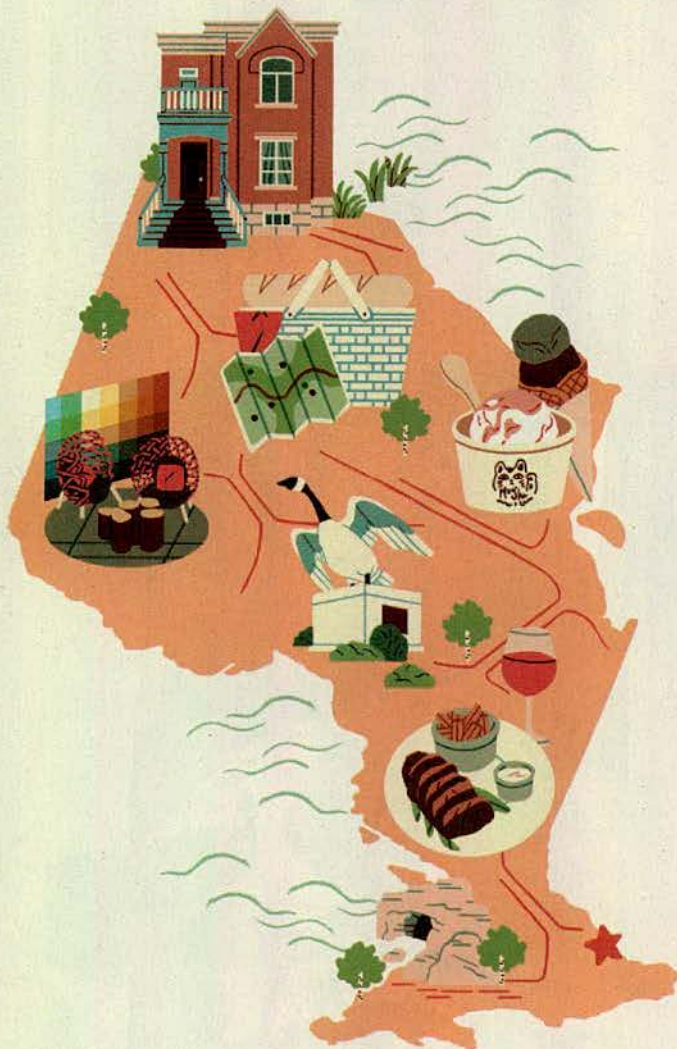


CAPITAL VENTURE

Rediscover Ottawa, which walks the line between charming town and cosmopolitan city, with first-class cultural and historic experiences.

BY ANDREA KARR



Modern Digs

Alt Hotel Ottawa

STAY Rest your head at the Canadian-owned Alt Hotel in downtown Ottawa, where you can grab snacks (or full meals) in the lobby and keep up your yoga practice with the hotel's new Nama-Stay yoga videos. Bonus: The Alt is eco-friendly, with geothermal energy used for heating and cooling, plus energy-efficient lighting.

Historic Haven

The Century House Bed and Breakfast Ottawa With just four rooms, The Century House offers a quaint stay without skimping on modern amenities such as free parking and Wi-Fi. It's known for its gourmet breakfasts (think indulgent waffles or a hearty frittata), served up family-style in the dining room.



Morning Munch

Benny's Bistro

EAT Hidden behind The French Baker in the ByWard Market, this is a tiny gem that serves some of our all-time favourite brekkies. Order the buckwheat crêpe, which is stuffed with ham and Gruyère and topped with an egg.

Dinner Hour

Absinthe Café Stop by this Wellington West hot spot for French-inspired cuisine and a taste of its namesake drink. On Monday nights, there's a special fondue menu; go with friends and order cheese and meat varieties to share, then finish with the Valrhona chocolate fondue for dessert.

Sweet Treat

Moo Shu Ice Cream & Kitchen

Try small-batch ice creams and ice cream truffles made with Ontario dairy and fresh, sometimes surprising, ingredients, like craft beer or lime leaves.



Spring

C'est Bon Gourmet Food Tours

DO a guided walking and tasting tour of one of Ottawa's famed foodie neighbourhoods: the ByWard Market, Wellington Street, Preston Street (Little Italy), the Glebe or Chinatown.

Summer

Yowttawa This outdoor music fest will celebrate the country's 150th anniversary with performances by Canadian artists, plus contributions by other international artists. (For more sesquicentennial offerings, see opposite.)

Fall

The Canada Science and Technology Museum After \$80.5 million in renos, the museum will reopen in November, just in time for its 50th anniversary of celebrating Canadian innovations, such as a prototype of the world's first pacemaker and a cobalt-60 therapy machine from the '50s—at the time, a revolutionary new way to deliver radiation to cancer patients.

Winter

Nordik Spa-Nature Spend a day rotating between the spa's seven outdoor baths and eight saunas. Book a massage for ultimate R&R.

What's Close By?

If you have the time to range farther afield, here are three other spots to see in Ontario.



1 HOUR AWAY

PAKENHAM

Sporty types will love the ski hill, or visit Fulton's Pancake House & Sugar Bush for horse-drawn sleigh or wagon rides, live music and maple treats.



2½ HOURS AWAY

THOUSAND ISLANDS

A pretty archipelago with tons of history (it was once pirate territory!), this region is now an ideal spot to go boating, hiking and exploring historic castles.



3 HOURS AWAY

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

Visit a few of the dozens of artist studios and galleries in the region, where you can even take an art class—in between wine tastings, of course.





OTTAWA THE GREAT

To celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial—the 150th anniversary of Confederation—Ottawa is leading the charge with a full year of awe-inspiring events. Here's a small sampling of what's on in our nation's capital.

BY ANDREA KARR

March 3 and 4

Red Bull Crashed Ice

Watch downhill skaters race to the finish line on a huge track that runs along the locks of the Rideau Canal—which will be the final leg of the 2016–17 ice cross downhill championship.

May 20 to Sept. 4

Inspiration Village

Located in the historic ByWard

Market, Inspiration Village will pay tribute to our provinces and territories, while also showcasing special exhibits and performing-arts events.

All Summer Long

Kontinuum, an "underground multimedia experience"

Though the Confederation Line of Ottawa's Light Rail Transit won't open until

2018, one underground station will be transformed into a futuristic world by a 10-week-long multimedia presentation.

Nov. 26

The 105th Grey Cup This year, Canada's capital will host the CFL's annual championship game.

For more events and info, visit ottawa2017.ca.

ALL YEAR

Ignite 150

In a series of 17 stunts spaced throughout the year—from yoga on a barge accompanied by a live orchestra to gourmet dining at a table suspended nearly 50 metres in the air—Ottawa will delight visitors and residents with once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

Ottawa Welcomes the World

Ottawa's many embassies and high commissions will be given the opportunity to take over Aberdeen Pavilion and the Horticulture Building with multicultural celebrations including food, art and music.

Agri 150

More than 20 unique one-day outdoor events in 2017 will showcase Ottawa's food and drink, such as the Wine and Words Tour, which will take participants to local wineries to sample wine and cheese, with a local author to tell stories at each stop.



WHY DON'T YOU LET YOUR CAR HIBERNATE?