

INDIGENOUS NIAGARA FALLS

The Niagara Region was a place of awe and wonder for the Indigenous peoples who first walked this land. Their ancestors' footsteps arrived approximately 13,000 years ago as the melting glaciers retreated northward, revealing the great lakes of Erie and Ontario and the mighty Niagara River.

Discover the rich Indigenous history and culture of Niagara Falls with these experiences:

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY IN CANADA (June 21, 2022)

NIAGARA FALLS ILLUMINATION FOR NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

On the evening of June 21, 2022, Niagara Falls will be illuminated in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day in Canada. Please see the [illumination calendar](#) for further details.

GUIDED TOURS

INDIGENOUS NIAGARA: LIVING MUSEUM TOURS (Fall 2022)

Presented by [Landscape of Nations 360° \(LON 360°\)](#)

[Indigenous Niagara Living Museum Tours](#), the Niagara Region's first guided Indigenous tour operation, will premiere Spring 2022 in Niagara Falls (public health regulations permitting). Featuring animated encounters and engagements with Indigenous peoples, cultural interpreters, historians, food specialists and artisans. The deep and compelling Indigenous history and culture of the Niagara Region serves as the foundation for authentic tours of important Indigenous destinations known for their historical and cultural significance to Indigenous peoples, including Niagara Falls itself!

These tours will help to build an enlightened and inspired understanding of Indigenous peoples who have lived in the Niagara Region over the course of some 13,000 years. This unique guided tour program will be of interest to North American and international travellers, educational field trips, and group tours for lifelong learners of all ages.

In addition to the beautiful vista that is Niagara Falls itself, with its stories of powerful forces and influences upon Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek identities, the tours will also explore the geology of the Niagara Escarpment with these highlights:

- Indian Council House (The Commons)
- Fort George
- Willowbank School of Restoration and Indigenous Community Love Garden
- Landscape of Nations Commemorative Memorial (Queenston Heights Park)
- Niagara Glen Nature Centre
- Niagara Falls
- Battle of Chippawa Site
- Old Fort Erie
- Niagara Falls History Museum and Battle of Lundy's Lane site



- First Nations Peace Monument (Battle of Beaver Dams site)
- Niagara Escarpment Environment (Laura Secord Legacy Trail)
- Norton's Cabin (The Brown Homestead)
- Curtain Call (FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre)
- Indian Trails of Niagara (drives on St. Paul Street and Mississauga Road)

About Landscape of Nations 360°

Landscape of Nations 360° is a not-for-profit organization that creates, designs, and implements educational and expressive arts programs that convey the meaning, depth, substance, and contributions of Indigenous peoples to Canadian history and society. The organization develops projects that are intended to enlighten and transform the public's understanding of — and engagement with — Indigenous peoples.

EXHIBITS

- **THE GREAT NIAGARA ESCARPMENT INDIGENOUS CULTURAL MAP (Virtual)**

Begin exploring important Indigenous sites in the Niagara Region online at thegreatniagaraescarpment.ca by clicking on the blue pin destinations to reveal information, photos, resources, and videos.

Click [here](#) for information.

- **EMPATHIC TRADITIONS (Virtual)**

(Presented by: LON 360° and Niagara Falls History Museum)

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EVENTS

- **JUNE 2022 NIAGARA PARKS: INDIGENOUS MONTH SPEAKER SERIES (VIRTUAL)**

Celebrating the Gifted Waters: Women's Sharing Circle

This National Indigenous History Month, explore issues impacting Indigenous women from different perspectives, age groups and career paths with our Indigenous Month Speaker Series. Celebrating the Gifted Waters: Women's Sharing Circle is an opportunity to participate in poignant dialogues alongside six Indigenous commentators specializing in Indigenous history, art and contemporary culture.

The Indigenous Month Speaker Series is delivered as a live-streamed, digital event. Tickets grant access using any computer, tablet or mobile device for these live, interactive sessions. Tickets are \$15 per event, or \$35 for the series. All sessions begin at 7:00 PM.

Indigenous Women in Fashion and Entertainment

Semiah Smith and Brittany Clause

June 2, 7:00 P.M. – \$15

Strawberry Moon Matriarch Circle

Grandmother Jackie Labonte and Grandmother Gail Whitlow

June 16, 7:00 P.M. – \$15

Preserving Indigenous Culture in the Community

Alyssa M. General and Nikki Shawana

June 30, 7:00 P.M. – \$15

INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS IN NIAGARA

The land along the Niagara River has been recognized as a spiritual place with rich ties to Indigenous history and culture for many generations, and Indigenous peoples have lived along the shores between Lake Erie to Lake Ontario for more than 13,000 years.

This protected Crownland on which Niagara Parks now sits was established by treaties dating back to the 1700s. The mandate to make Niagara Parks free and accessible to the public, can also find its origins in the original intent of those treaties. Niagara Parks remains committed to making the promise of Truth and Reconciliation real in its community.

Digital assets available [here](#)

- **NIAGARA FALLS MUSEUM OF HISTORY: INDIGENOUS PROGRAMMING**

Visit the Niagara Falls Museum of History for regular Indigenous programming throughout the year.

- **Indigenous History: A Brief Summary** [here](#)
- **Indigenous Beadwork.** More information [here](#)

June 18, 2022: Longhouse Basket Workshop

As part of the Museums ongoing *Reclaiming Cultural Identity* initiatives, the Niagara Falls History Museum has teamed up with Kimberly White-Atkins of Talking Turtle Baskets for a Longhouse Basket Workshop. Kimberly is Akwesasne Mohawk of the Turtle Clan. She has been making black ash and sweetgrass baskets for 11 years. She is passing down her knowledge to her children and hopefully to her grandchildren, so they may carry on the tradition of basket making. Registration is required. To reserve your spot, please click [here](#)



- **NOVEMBER (ANNUAL) - VALOUR AND VICTORY**

The Landscape of Nations memorial is the location of a solemn Remembrance Day ceremony each November for Indigenous veterans and the Six Nations and Native Ally contributions and sacrifices made during the Battle of Queenston Heights and the War of 1812 in support of their British and Canadian compatriots. Click [here](#) to learn more.

PUBLIC ART/MONUMENT

LANDSCAPE OF NATIONS: THE SIX NATIONS AND NATIVE ALLIES COMMEMORATIVE MEMORIAL

(Queenston Heights Park, Niagara Falls)

A nationally significant public artwork that was unveiled on Oct 2, 2016, the Landscape of Nations is a living memorial dedicated to the contributions and sacrifices made by Six Nations and Native Allies on Queenston Heights and throughout the War of 1812.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

THE OSSUARY

The largest First Nations burial ground in the Province of Ontario was found in 1828, when a violent thunderstorm blew down a large tree. Bones and First Nations relics such as pipes, pottery and arrowheads were found to be entangled in the roots. A stone cairn marking the site of the [Ossuary](#) was unveiled by the Lundy's Lane Historical Society on October 5, 1934. Rising to a height of twelve feet, the monument is topped with a carved limestone arrowhead pointing in the direction of the Ossuary, 200 yards north-west of the cairn.

SPOKESPEOPLE, IMAGES, RESOURCES

Please contact Irene Knight, Public Relations Manager at iknight@niagarafallstourism.com.

ABOUT NIAGARA FALLS CANADA

Overlooking the legendary Canadian Horseshoe, American and Bridal Veil waterfalls, Niagara Falls is a four-season destination renowned for its awe-inspiring natural wonders combined with world-class accommodation, thrilling entertainment and a burgeoning culinary scene. Visitors from Ontario, across North America and around the world who come to experience adventure, discover family fun, feel the romance and create unique and memorable experiences have made it Canada's #1 leisure travel destination.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

For more information about unique and memorable experience in Niagara Falls, please visit www.niagarafallstourism.com and these helpful resources:

WHERE TO STAY

Book a room in [nearby hotels](#) within walking distance of the Falls or a Fallsview room to enjoy a [Room with a View](#), the majesty of the Falls from the comfort of your bed, any time of the day. Niagara Falls [campgrounds and cottages](#) afford visitors a special way of getting a little closer to nature.



RESOURCES

- Niagara Falls' commitment to guests and employees: [SafetoPlay.ca](#), [Health and Safety Guidelines](#), [COVID-19 Information](#)
- What's Open in Niagara Falls: [Niagarafallstourism.com/blog/whats-open-niagara-falls/](#)
- Niagara Falls Illumination: [Niagarafallstourism.com/Illumination/](#)
- Niagara Falls Itinerary Ideas: [Niagarafallstourism.com/blog/itinerary/](#)
- Attraction Packages: [Niagarafallstourism.com/attraction-packages/](#)
- Niagara Falls 24/7 Live Cam: [Niagara Falls Live Stream](#)

LET'S STAY CONNECTED

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