

## NIAGARA FALLS STORY IDEAS - WHAT'S NEW

### **NEW IN 2022**

#### **OPG WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS – NEW PART 2 - WINTER WONDERLAND UNTIL FEBRUARY 21, 2022**

The 39<sup>th</sup> [Ontario Power Generation \(OPG\) Winter Festival of Lights](#) in Niagara Falls, Canada's famous free outdoor light festival, has transitioned into a [Winter Wonderland](#) as this inaugural Part 2 of the Festival continues with a focus on winter- and love-themed displays until February 21, 2022. The frozen twinkle of Niagara Falls is always a breathtaking sight. The new Winter Wonderland theme gives visitors another reason to enjoy the breathtaking magic of the frozen winter season in Niagara Falls. Displays are rearranged and in new locations. Visitors are urged to use the Google Map at [WFOL.com](#) to plan ahead for their visit. On weekends start your tour of the Winter Festival of Lights at Maple Leaf Place where they are offering Free Hot Chocolate in takeout cups on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights from 5:00pm to 8:00pm.

#### **Live Children's Entertainment**

##### **Friday and Saturdays, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

Families walking along the Festival route can pop into the [Hilton Fallsview Hotel & Suites](#) to warm up and enjoy live entertainment **every Friday and Saturday night from 6pm to 9pm**. Entertainment includes magicians, musicians, acrobats, story time, oversized games and photo opportunities. You'll also get to meet the [Misty Kids](#) - the Festival's friendly mascots!

##### **Feb 11 & 12 – Aaron Matthews (Magician)**

##### **Feb 18, 19, 20 – Splash & Boots**

Entertainment schedule, walking routes and displays [here](#)

Please note that parking is not available at the Hilton Hotel; however, parking is available all along the Festival route at Clifton Hill, Skylon Tower, Niagara Parks, Fallsview Casino).

#### **NEW - BURNING SPRINGS SPA & THERMAL POOL COMING IN 2022**

Marriott Fallsview Hotel & Spa is home to a luxurious new spa experience, Burning Springs Spa & Thermal Pool. The new spa is situated on the original location of a spectacular natural spring of burning water which enthralled visitors and drew crowds to Niagara Falls. The Spa features 3 Thermal Pools with salt and minerals that soothe, restore and impart therapeutic properties. In addition to the traditional relaxing benefits, these mineral rich pools can aid in boosting circulation, alleviating stress, and accelerating detoxification. Guests of Burning Springs can indulge in luxe experiences which include a Himalayan Salt Sauna. The salt contains 84 elements and trace elements including negative ions that may reduce inflammation, improve respiratory conditions, provide increased energy and improve overall health and mood. Enhancing the tranquil experience at Burning Springs is an outdoor fireside relaxation area, and a Finnish inspired Sauna Cabin.

Niagara Falls offers a number of spas in unique settings, with everything from traditional therapies to the latest treatments from around the world. The newly renovated Christienne Fallsview Spa at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel includes breathtaking views of the Falls and a popular infinity tub.

### **Positive Benefits of Negative Ions in Niagara Falls**

The combination of waterfalls and green spaces in Niagara Falls provide the perfect backdrop for wellness escapes. Take a deep breath and soak up the benefits of negative ions released by waterfalls. The Falls are a natural source of negative ions, which can have positive physiological affects on mood and stress levels, as well as help some people breathe easier. Visitors can also soak up the rejuvenating and restorative power of 56km of parkland and beautifully landscaped gardens.

### **NEW - NIAGARA PARKS POWER STATION TAILRACE TUNNEL**

**JULY 1, 2022**

Following the completion and opening of Phase 1 in 2021, Niagara Parks will launch Phase 2 of this new landmark attraction just south of the Horseshoe Falls in Niagara Falls on July 1, 2022. By day, visitors can explore the preserved interior of the historic power station, transformed with new exhibits and guest amenities, while each night, CURRENTS, an immersive sound & light experience brings the building to life through state-of-the-art projection mapping technology. Phase 2 of the adaptive reuse project will invite visitors to explore the vast underground portions of the Power Station as they travel down nearly 200 feet below the main floor via glass enclosed elevator to reach the tailrace tunnel which connects the plant to the Niagara River. Visitors will make their way through the enormous, century old tunnel, brought to life with projection mapping technology to emerge beside the base of the Horseshoe Falls.

More information [here](#)

### **NEW - NIAGARA FALLS eXCHANGE (NFX) CULTURAL HUB & MARKET**

**JULY 2022**

The new Niagara Falls Cultural Hub & Market will become a vibrant cultural and social centre of activity in Niagara Falls by providing shared spaces where artists, musicians, food vendors and patrons, and local businesses can come together and create. Located in the historic Main and Ferry district, it will include a large culture and market hall, café, artist studios, creative workshop and public washrooms surrounded by two multi-functional civic plazas that interconnect the flanking streets. The Market Hall, which will house the regularly scheduled Farmers' Market, will be a space for other events that include music, theatre, lectures and other weekend markets. Located adjacent to the Niagara Falls History Museum, the site is knit together with a design language that prioritizes an accessible public realm and creates quality indoor and outdoor space that is durable, flexible, and sustainable. The project name - Niagara Falls Exchange (NFX), speaks to the rich exchange of ideas and creativity that is anticipated to occur on site and between the arts and culture, food and farming communities of Niagara Falls. Designed by DTAH, an award-winning architecture, landscape architecture and urban design firm, construction began September 2020. [Video](#)

More information [here](#)

### **NEW - 2022 ONTARIO STAYCATION TAX CREDIT**

Ontario residents can qualify for up to 20% back on accommodation expenses for staycations in Ontario. The temporary Ontario Staycation Tax Credit aims to encourage Ontario families to explore the province, while helping the tourism and hospitality sectors recover from the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This opportunity is perfect for Ontario residents wanting to discover Niagara, visit the Falls, or spend some time off with a local getaway exploring their home province. Without having to travel far, an Ontario Staycation gives families a chance to enjoy sights, attractions and hidden gems right in their own backyard.

For more details, visit the Government of Ontario's [website](#).

## **NIAGARA FALLS CONVENTION CENTRE RENAMED TO CELEBRATE ICONIC DESTINATION**

Kicking off 2022, Niagara Falls Canada's landmark event, meeting and convention venue begins its second decade as the **Niagara Falls Convention Centre** (formerly Scotiabank Convention Centre). The new name honours its iconic destination and Niagara Falls' coveted reputation as one of Canada's top international meeting and convention destinations.

Opened in 2011, the Niagara Falls Convention Centre (NFCC) is the Niagara region's largest meeting and event venue with over 300,000 sq ft of flexible space. The NFCC is located within the Fallsview Entertainment District, only 250 steps away from the majestic Falls themselves and walking distance to more than 4,000 hotel rooms.

An important economic and cultural center for the city, over the last decade the NFCC has hosted thousands of international and national conventions, meetings, concerts and events including the Assembly of First Nations, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, national and provincial political conventions and countless national corporate and association events as well as the Niagara Falls Comic Con. The versatile space has acted as a film and television studio and most recently as a major vaccination location for the community. With all that Niagara Falls offers, the NFCC attracts repeat events where gathering in the city becomes an eagerly anticipated annual tradition for many organizations. Since opening, the NFCC has welcomed millions of guests including the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario and a who's who of high-profile music and entertainment celebrities. [www.fallsconventions.com](http://www.fallsconventions.com) See the press release [here](#)

## **EVENTS**

### **FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Niagara Falls, Ontario holds a place in history as one of the final destinations of the renowned 'Underground Railroad', a secret network of routes that freedom seekers followed from the United States to freedom in Canada arriving in Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and on to Niagara-on-the-Lake. It is estimated that 30,000-40,000 freedom seekers escaped into Canada from the US from 1800-1865. Among those who escaped to Canada was a heroine named [Harriet Tubman](#) who made 13 return trips to liberate others through the Underground Railroad between 1852 and 1857. [Burr Plato](#) also escaped to Canada where he went on to become a prosperous businessman and politician in local government and had property acquisitions on what is now Stanley Avenue in Niagara Falls.

For those who wish to retrace the final steps of the thousands who found freedom in Canada and pay homage to the heroes and heroines who helped them, [here](#) are some ways to explore the region.

Pre-book a unique and memorable bespoke tour with [Niagara Bound Tours](#) led by Lezlie Harper, a fifth-generation Canadian descendant of freedom seekers, to capture the historical perspective and essence of what those forced to flee were faced with.

### **BLACK HISTORY SPEAKER SERIES (VIRTUAL)**

**February 23 and March 30 at 7:00 pm**

Discover different perspectives on Black history and culture in Canada with this online speaker series. This inspiring series will explore the power of the Black community in Niagara. From those who made headlines by escaping the bondage of slavery to settle in Niagara, to those who influenced the political and business scene on both sides of the Niagara River and throughout Ontario.

This year's Black History 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 with leading community historians and commentators specializing in Black history and culture.

Tickets are \$15 per event. All sessions begin at 7:00 PM.

More information [here](#)

## **BIRDS ON THE NIAGARA, INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL AND CELEBRATION**

**February 10 – 12, 2022**

With its proximity to the Niagara River corridor, one of the world's most biodiverse places, Niagara Falls is a four-season destination for bird lovers, adventure travelers and ecotourists alike. Over 170 bird species including 27 species of gulls, many of them rare, have been found here making it the best gull watching location in the world and a top destination for birders from all over the world hoping to add them to their list.

- Every February, bird lovers and conservationists celebrate the vast diversity of northern birds that call the mighty river corridor their home each winter at [Birds on the Niagara International Bird Festival and Celebration](#), the only international bird festival in North America.
- **BIRDING OPEN HOUSE: NATIVE NIAGARA SPECIES**  
**February 12, 2022, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**  
**Niagara Glen Nature Centre**  
Over 100,000 birds can be found along the Niagara River's Globally Significant Bird Area on any given winter day. Up to 19 species of gulls, waterfowl and winter irruptive birds use this area as winter habitat. Learn about Niagara's native bird species, from their unique voices, plumage patterns, colours and antics! Get a rare opportunity to see a red-tailed hawk, a great horned owl and a bald eagle.
- Visit [here](#) for birding resources:
  - Bird species that can be found in Niagara Falls each season and where to find them
  - Birds on the Niagara Festival
  - Birding Etiquette
  - Birding Conservation

## **BIG LIVE MUSIC WEEKEND IN NIAGARA FALLS**

**March 4-5, 2022**

**5 BANDS | 2 NIGHTS | 1 MEMORABLE WEEKEND**

*Niagara Falls Music Live* announces an impressive line-up of Canadian artists for a memorable weekend of live music March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in Canada's iconic entertainment destination. The first weekend in March brings the return of two highly anticipated concert events that were postponed due to provincewide public health restrictions at the end of December 2021. Ticketholders for the previously scheduled Trews concert and Blue Rodeo concert are welcomed back to the Niagara Falls Convention Centre, plus new tickets are now available for both shows.

Find all the details at [musiclive.ca](http://musiclive.ca).

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW:**

- **THE TREWS** featuring special guests **REVIVE THE ROSE**



# NIAGARA FALLS TOURISM

**Friday March 4, 2022**

**Niagara Falls Convention Centre**

**Buy tickets at [fallsconventions.com](https://fallsconventions.com)**

- **BLUE RODEO featuring special guests SERENA RYDER and CROWN LANDS**

**Saturday March 5, 2022**

**Niagara Falls Convention Centre**

**Buy tickets at [fallsconventions.com](https://fallsconventions.com)**

## **FIRESIDE WINE-TASTING EXPERIENCE**

### **TWO SISTERS VINEYARDS**

Enjoy an elevated wine tasting experience fireside, on the cozy outdoor Veranda. Led by Senior Wine Consultants, this intimate 45-minute tasting will leave you with a better understanding of Two Sisters award-winning wines. Due to open flames and seating requirements, this is a 19+ event.

Friday - Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. No reservations needed.

## **SKATING (to mid March)**

### **WAYNE GRETZKY ESTATES**

Niagara's only winery and distillery serves up world-class wines, whiskies, spirits and microbrews. Bring your skates to enjoy a favourite Canadian activity at this Canadian hockey legend's Estate. Relax on the heated Whisky Bar patio to enjoy wine, cocktails and a winter menu (non-alcoholic beverages, too).

Reservations required. More information [here](#)

## **ARTISAN CRAFT MARKET**

**Saturday, March 5, 2022, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm**

### **OLD STONE INN BOUTIQUE HOTEL**

Artistically designed pieces made with love. Artisan Craft Market features a collection of designers from around the region. Items include jewelry, candles, food items, clothing, home décor and much more. Locals supporting locals, make a day of it by gathering a group of friends or family. Parking is directly located on site and complementary for market goers. Restaurant is opened for a pre or post dining to round out your shopping experience.

More information [here](#)

## **RAVINE VINEYARD CONCERT SERIES**

### **Various dates**

This winter, Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery and Noisemaker have teamed up to bring you an indoor concert series featuring some truly incredible Canadian talent. Join us in the Event Centre for an intimate live music experience, tickets are limited so be sure to purchase yours before they're gone!

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 - Ron Sexsmith

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 - Whitehorse

Wednesday April 23, 2022 - Basia Bulat

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 - Joel Plaskett

More information [here](#)

## VALENTINE'S DAY

### VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER AT TABLE ROCK HOUSE RESTAURANT

This Valentine's Day, toast your sweetheart with a romantic dinner they'll love. Enjoy the finest locally sourced food and drink with specially crafted Valentine's Day featured menu as you take in a breathtaking view of the Horseshoe Falls illuminated in pink and red. Table Rock House Restaurant is your falls-side dining experience, with views as close as it gets. Reserve your table now and enjoy an incredible, locally sourced menu just steps from the brink of the mighty Canadian Horseshoe Falls.

Check back to see this year's delicious menu and reserve your table [here](#)

### ROMANTIC INSPIRATION

In a city renowned for romance, there's plenty of romantic inspiration to make special memories with places for the perfect kiss, romantic walks, thrilling flirty and fun competition for the young at heart and experiences to get your heart pounding :

- **ROMANTIC WINTER THINGS TO DO IN NIAGARA FALLS** can be found in this itinerary featuring **48-Hours of Winter Romance in Niagara Falls** [here](#)
- **TOP 6 PROPOSAL SITES IN NIAGARA FALLS** [here](#)

## FAMILY DAY

Niagara Falls is a four-season destination with plenty to do for kids of all ages!

### FINAL WEEKEND OF THE OPG WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS UNTIL FEBRUARY 21, 2022

Enjoy the final weekend of the 39<sup>th</sup> [Ontario Power Generation \(OPG\) Winter Festival of Lights](#). Visitors are urged to use the Google Map at [WFO.com](#) to plan ahead for their visit. On weekends start your tour of the Winter Festival of Lights at Maple Leaf Place where they are offering Free Hot Chocolate in takeout cups on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights from 5:00pm to 8:00pm.

#### Live Children's Entertainment – Splash & Boots

##### Friday and Saturdays, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Don't miss the final weekend of family friendly children's entertainment with the popular Splash & Boots! Families walking along the Festival route can pop into the [Hilton Fallsview Hotel & Suites](#) to warm up and enjoy live entertainment **every Friday and Saturday night from 6pm to 9pm**. You'll also get to meet the [Misty Kids](#) - the Festival's friendly mascots!

Entertainment schedule, walking routes and displays [here](#)

Please note that parking is not available at the Hilton Hotel; however, parking is available all along the Festival route at Clifton Hill, Skylon Tower, Niagara Parks, Fallsview Casino).

Here are some sources of family fun inspiration for upcoming Family Day Stories:

- This [itinerary](#) of 48 hours of Winter Family fun
- This Family Adventures Story Ideas [document](#) in the press kit offers an overview of experiences for families to enjoy all year round.

## MARCH BREAK / SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES

There's a reason Niagara Falls is a popular March Break destination for multi-generational family getaways. When it comes to creating special memories, there are endless options and something to entertain family members and children of all ages.

- Choose from a variety of family focused hotels and waterparks including Americana, Best Western Cairn Croft and Fallsview Waterpark.
- Each Niagara Falls water park has thousands of square feet of water slides, kiddie pools, and unique features like the aquaplay centre with a giant tipping bucket at Americana Resort's [Waves Indoor Water Park](#) or the full-size wave pool with 3-foot white caps at the [Fallsview Indoor Waterpark](#). Winter, spring, summer or fall, water parks offer hours of Niagara Falls entertainment.
- Nature: Get up close to nature at the [Butterfly Conservatory](#) or [Bird Kingdom](#), the largest free flying indoor bird aviary in North America.
- History: Discover the history and science behind hydropower at the [Niagara Parks Power Station](#)
- Fun & Adventure: Explore the Odditorium with over 400 exhibits and interactive displays at [Ripley's Believe it or Not](#), [WildPlay Zipline to the Falls](#) for a thrilling panoramic 70km/hour ride, 67 m above; [Dinosaur Adventure Golf](#) (weather permitting) one of the country's largest mini golf courses with over 50 life sized dinosaurs; Explore over 2,000 square feet of magnificent miniature railways and landscapes at [Locomoland](#), one of the world's most elaborate miniature railway systems!

### NIAGARA FALLS HISTORY MUSEUM

March Break and Spring Break plans are underway will be posted shortly and as part of that programming the popular Mad Science will be returning.

For more information visit [here](#)

### LITTLE INVENTORS MARCH BREAK WORKSHOP

**March 14, 2022 at 9:00 am**

### NIAGARA PARKS POWER STATION

This March Break, keep your little one busy with a fun and educational day experience inside one of the world's first hydropower generating stations!

More information [here](#)

## SPRING BLOOMS

Did you know Niagara Falls is the Daffodil Capital of North America? Beginning in March, as winter turns to spring, parks and gardens in Niagara Falls come alive with some of Canada's most spectacular horticultural sights. Very well-known for its stunning daffodil, tulip and magnolia blossoms, Niagara Falls is also home to a variety of lesser-known (and equally beautiful) spring blooms.

We've put together a list of all the [springtime floral blooms](#) as they appear each spring.



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

### **WINNER OF THE 2017 BEST IRISH PUB CHEF IN NORTH AMERICA (IRISH PUB GLOBAL AWARDS)! MARCH 2022**

Doc Magilligan's brings a little taste of Ireland to Niagara Falls and is the perfect place to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. In the tradition of all true Irish pubs, Doc's is founded in family history and committed to providing a laid-back, fun-loving place to meet family and friends. Enjoy a full Irish breakfast, lunch or dinner 7 days a week, and brunch on weekends in the Victorian inspired surroundings. Doc's also offers a superb spread of entertainment and international sports, also offering an incredible selection of premium, craft or local beers.

The Doc was a true purveyor of Irish spirit and the inspiration behind this pub. As the story goes the Doc was always the life of the party. It's fitting then that this pub was *built completely in Ireland and shipped to Niagara Falls*, enabling us to celebrate the very spirit of the man himself through an inexhaustible outpouring of good cheer, great company and fantastic food and drink.

More information [here](#)

## WORLD RAINBOW DAY – APRIL 3, 2022

On any bright sunny day, you are guaranteed a rainbow when you visit Niagara Falls – where better to celebrate World Rainbow Day! When your back is to the sun, rainbows are seen in the mist created by the falling water. The sun shines through the water droplets, reflecting light into the colors of the spectrum.

## EASTER

### **EASTER BRUNCH**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 17**

### **QUEENSTON HEIGHTS RESTAURANT, LEGENDS ON THE NIAGARA RESTAURANT AND TABLE ROCK HOUSE RESTAURANT**

Celebrate Easter Sunday, April 17 alongside family and friends with Niagara Parks' traditional Easter Brunch at Queenston Heights Restaurant, Legends on the Niagara Restaurant or Table Rock House Restaurant. Indulge in fresh spring flavours and ingredients sourced from right here in the Niagara region as part of your Easter Brunch experience with Niagara Parks Culinary. Reservations for our popular Easter Brunch service are strongly recommended.

More information [here](#)

## HOTEL PACKAGES

### **OLD STONE INN BOUTIQUE HOTEL**

- **Dining Domes & Cabins**  
**Thursday to Sunday**

Enjoy private dining domes and cabins with seasonal a la carte menus. The Stone Square setting is a stunning winter wonderland. Each dome and cabin seats 4 to 6 comfortably.

- **Valentine's Weekend**



## NIAGARA FALLS TOURISM

### **February 12 to 14**

You can Netflix & chill anytime! Grab your gal pals, a hot date or swipe right on your dating app & take the plunge! Join us for a weekend of special dinner & pairing menu's, overnight stays, high tea & cocktails or all of the above. We love to love.

- **Sweet Celebrations**

Enjoy an overnight stay in romantic Niagara Falls. We have carefully curated a sweet celebration for you and your loved one. Included in your package:

- Food & Beverage Credit \$100
- Complimentary Room Upgrade \*subject to availability
- Overnight Parking
- Sweet Welcome Amenity (Bottle of Sparkling and a Celebration Cake upon arrival)
- Late Checkout (subject to availability)

## **COMING IN 2022**

### **NIAGARA FALLS COMIC CON – 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**June 3-5, 2022**

[Comic Con](#) is a popular event that takes place at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre, Niagara Falls Canada, just steps away from the majestic Falls. This popular event features more than 200,000 square feet of exhibitors, comic books, movie cars, cosplay contests, celebrity autographs and photo-ops, a video gaming arena, Falls Horror Fest and so much more!

### **NIAGARA 2022 CANADA SUMMER GAMES**

**August 6-21, 2022**

The 28<sup>th</sup> edition of the [Canada Summer Games](#), Canada's largest multi-sport event, will take place in Niagara from Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Considered a key step in the development of Canada's next generation of national, international and Olympic champions, the Canada Games are widely recognized as the highest level of national competition for thousands of up-and-coming Canadian athletes. More than 5,000 participants and 4,000 volunteers are expected to participate. The Niagara 2022 Canada Summer Games will celebrate the wonder of sport alongside arts and culture. The Games will honour Niagara's Indigenous communities and showcase a remarkable heritage of hard work and innovation in one of the world's most awe-inspiring destinations. With world-renowned hospitality, the people of Niagara will welcome visitors from across the country.

### **NIAGARA INTERNATIONAL MARATHON**

**October 23, 2022**

One of the oldest and most scenic racecourses in North America following the Niagara River and ending at the majestic Canadian Horseshoe Falls. [The Niagara International Marathon](#) is truly international with the start in Buffalo, NY and end in Niagara Falls, ON. The Half, 10k, and 5k distances all start and end in Canada.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF WHAT'S NEW, SPRING 2022:

- Exciting 2022 Season Openings
- A new *Niagara Falls Music Live* Event Announcement!
- Niagara Falls Gardens are Blooming just in time for the Year of the Garden 2022 as proclaimed by the [Canadian Garden Council](#)
- World Bicycle Day is Friday June 3, 2022 – [Cycling in Niagara Falls](#)
- Honouring National Indigenous Peoples Day in Niagara Falls
- Golf Season Begins in Niagara Falls - Explore Ontario's Best Courses