

# **NIAGARA FALLS STORY IDEAS - WHAT'S NEW FALL 2022**

(November 2022)

# **NEW** (experiences, openings and premieres)

### **ANNOUNCING! OLG STAGE**

Just opened - a new world-class theatre complete with 5,000 soft seats, state-of-the-art technology, outstanding acoustics, and spectacular entertainment! Never more than 150 feet away from the action, the new OLG Stage at Fallsview Casino will house countless performances, all surrounded by an exciting destination that you can't experience anywhere else. The new 5,000 seat OLG Stage complements the 1,500 seat Avalon Theatre and a growing lineup of entertainment all year round. Upcoming performers include +LIVE+, The Lumineers and Michael Bolton to name a few. Niagara Falls is a 'music city' and premier entertainment destination with year-round attractions, concerts, theatre and Canada's largest casino.

## MILESTONE 40 YEARS! NIAGARA FALLS WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF WINTER FUN

Canada's largest and longest running free outdoor Festival presented by Niagara Falls Tourism returns November 12, 2022 – February 20, 2023 with 101 nights of twinkling lights and:

- New displays and themed illumination areas, including the Royal Promenade, Frosted Falls, Enchanted Forest, and Great Canadian North
- Special illumination of the Falls every night
- 40 nights of indoor family entertainment on weekends and throughout the December holiday period
- Free photos with Santa in December, sponsored by Ontario Power Generation (dates to be announced in October)
- More to come!

With over 3 million lights and 75+ spectacular displays providing colourful visuals, Niagara Falls will be transformed into a twinkling winter wonderland along the Niagara Parkway, Dufferin Islands and across the tourist districts. Visitors to this popular annual event can bundle up and walk or drive through the Festival route to explore the outdoor, self-guided experience and warm up indoors with 40 nights of free family entertainment options.

**The Winter Tradition Continues for 40 Years!** The Festival firmly established Niagara Falls as an unforgettable winter getaway destination with plenty to see and do for visitors who return to enjoy multiple visits throughout the year. Festival organizers are promising an extra special milestone year with even more to experience along the Festival routes.

See the full press release <u>here</u>

For more information on the Winter Festival of Lights, please visit <a href="www.WFOL.com">www.WFOL.com</a> For Photos and Video Reel visit <a href="https://media.niagarafallstourism.com">https://media.niagarafallstourism.com</a>



### **NEW OFFERING! NIAGARA CITY CRUISES – NEW HOLIDAY SEASON CRUISE**

The start of a new holiday tradition – experience Winter Festival of Lights like never before aboard the boat tour rated one of the best tourism experiences in Canada. A special new Voyage to the Falls tour will operate from November 12 to 27 from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm daily. The tours that depart after dusk — typically around 4:30 p.m. — will include the Winter Festival of Lights experience and illumination of the Falls.

#### **NEW OFFERING! NIAGARA HELICOPTERS WINTER NIGHTS AND LIGHTS EXPERIENCE**

Just in time for Niagara Falls WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, beginning November 12th, 2022 to April 30th, 2023, from sunset to 8:00 pm daily, guests are invited to experience the very first and only night flightseeing tour over Niagara Falls. The Classic Niagara Helicopters Tour will for the first time be offering sunset tours daily – the perfect way to in the Festival's twinkling lights from high above, weather permitting. Reservations are suggested but not required and walk-ins will be accepted until 7:30 pm each night.

### **NEW RESTAURANT! JAMESONS PUB & COCKTAIL BAR**

Well-spirited morning, noon, and night, Jamesons Pub & Cocktail Bar introduces a new dining experience. The elevated breakfast, lunch, and dinner menus are classic yet modern perfectly in tune with the stunning art-deco setting. At night, the chic lounge transforms into a space reminiscent of a vintage speakeasy. Specially created handcrafted cocktails and an atmosphere designed to encourage guests to interact and mingle emphasizes the social experience and our vibe-driven approach.

### PREMIERE! JURASSIC QUEST

December 10 & 11, 2022

#### **Niagara Falls Convention Centre**

Jurassic Quest is roaring into Niagara Falls Convention Centre from December 10-11 for the first time ever! Jurassic Quest is the world's largest, most popular dino event with unique and exciting experiences for the whole family. Explore the all-new "Ancient Oceans" exhibit with ancient ocean dwellers including the largest apex predator that ever existed- a moving, life-size 15-meter-long Megalodon! See a herd of life size animatronic dinosaurs including Apatosaurus, Spinosaurus, and the ferocious T-Rex. Meet our trainers, baby dinos and watch a live interactive Raptor show. Don't miss dinosaur rides, giant fossil dig, inflatables, fossil science exhibit, "Triceratots" soft play area, and MORE!



## **ACCOLADES**

### **AG INSPIRED CUISINE NAMED ON TOP RESTAURANTS IN CANADA LIST**

AG Inspired Cuisine has been recognized as a 2022 Travelers' Choice Best of the Best (TripAdvisor) award winner for restaurants ranking second in the top Fine Dining Restaurants in Canada and the number one restaurant in Ontario thanks to outstanding dining reviews and ratings. See the full press release <a href="here">here</a>



### **AG INSPIRED CUISINE WINS SUSTAINABILITY AWARD!**

## **Award-winning Niagara Falls Restaurant Elevates Sustainable Dining**

Niagara Falls Tourism proudly congratulates AG Inspired Cuisine (at the Sterling Inn and Spa, Niagara Falls), Chef Cory Linkson and the entire AG team for winning the Ontario Tourism Award of Excellence for Sustainability, Food Service presented by the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario.

A recipient of 2022 Travellers' Choice Award (TripAdvisor), international diners rank AG Inspired Cuisine as second in the Best Fine Dining Restaurant in Canada and number one restaurant in Ontario, AG is also a recipient of 4 Diamonds (CAA/AAA), Top 100 Restaurants in Canada (OpenTable), 10 Best Niagara Falls Restaurants (TripAdvisor) and most recently the Sustainability Award (Ontario Tourism Awards of Excellence).

### **MORE ACCOLADES**

Niagara Falls Tourism proudly congratulates the following Niagara Falls finalists for 2022 Ontario Tourism Awards of Excellence presented by the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario:

Innovation: Attractions

Joel Noden - HOCO Entertainment

Innovation: Festivals & Events

Alessia Cara from Niagara Falls (Marketing Campaign, Niagara Falls Tourism)

Collaboration: Festivals & Events

Alessia Cara from Niagara Falls (Marketing Campaign, Niagara Falls Tourism)

Collaboration: Festivals & Events

Niagara Falls Music Live (produced by Niagara Falls Tourism)



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### ANNUAL VALOUR AND VICTORY: CEREMONY TO HONOUR INDIGENOUS VETERANS

### November 5, 2022, 2:00 pm

#### **Landscape of Nations Monument, Queenston**

Valour & Victory honours the contributions and sacrifices made by Six Nations and Native Allies during the Battle of Queenston Heights and the War of 1812 in support of their British and Canadian compatriots. This annual memorial and reconciliation service remembers Indigenous soldiers who, through courage, strength, and peacemaking, helped secure victory at pivotal events throughout the War of 1812 to secure freedom for all Canadians. To learn more about the Landscape of Nations memorial, please visit niagaraparks.com/landscapeofnations

### THE POPPY PROJECT (COMMUNITY ART PROJECT)

### November 11, 2022, Niagara Falls History Museum

On Remembrance Day, Niagara Falls commemorates those who protected our freedoms with <a href="The Poppy Project">The Poppy Project</a>, a collaborative community art project displaying over 11,000 poppy donations coming from every province in Canada, twenty-five different states in the United States, as well as Denmark and New Zealand. Heartfelt letters accompany many poppies, dedicating words of love and thanks to family members who fought and died in the numerous wars that have affected our world. The poppies are displayed each year on both the interior and exterior of the historic 1874 stone building that houses the Niagara Falls History Museum.



#### **AMERICAN THANKSGIVING DINNER**

#### November 24, 2022

#### **Table Rock House Restaurant**

Celebrate American Thanksgiving with an exquisite turkey dinner at Table Rock House Restaurant. Whether you're Canadian or American, come from near or far, we invite you to enjoy a meaningful moment with loved ones while indulging in classic gastronomic delights from our à la carte menu. Niagara Parks promises you (and your stomach!) will leave feeling extra thankful this American Thanksgiving.



#### **HOLIDAY SEASON EVENTS**

#### **UNIQUE GIFTS FROM NIAGARA FALLS**

More than ever, we're valuing opportunities to get out and create special memories. If you're looking to surprise family and friends with an incredible experience, a weekend getaway or a locally produced item, we've rounded up our **top ten unique Niagara Falls gift ideas** for everyone on your list.

#### **CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN NIAGARA FALLS**

## NIAGARA FALLS CHRISTMAS MARKET

November 12 - December 18, 2022

### **Queen St, Niagara Falls**

The Niagara Falls Christmas Market will run every weekend, Friday-Sunday, beginning on Saturday, November 12th until Sunday, December 18th. The hours for each day are: Fridays 5pm - 10pm; Saturdays 1pm - 10pm; Sundays 12pm - 4pm. The Market features shopping from artisanal vendors and local businesses, light displays, live entertainment, photo-ops, glow swings, glow seesaws, and more! New Christmas-themed Street food and Canadian holiday treats and drinks to be enjoyed near the fire pits.

#### THE HANDMADE MARKET

November 25, 26, 27, 2022

#### **Niagara Falls Convention Centre**

Tickets are on sale November 1<sup>st</sup> for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual event featuring 175 makers, wine, food, live music and art.

### FALLSVIEW CRAFTY CHRISTMAS MARKET

For Cultivating Hope Foundation Sunday December 4, 2022 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

#### **LIVE SHOWS**

### • **CHRISTMAS ON ICE**

November 24 - December 9, 2022

### Fallsview Casino, Niagara Falls

A thrilling high-paced spectacle of world-class ice skating and holiday cheer, Fallsview Casino's Christmas on Ice features a winter wonderland of national championship skaters, dancers, and singers that will fill you with the magic of the season.

### • DEAN Z'S ROCKIN CHRISTMAS

December 14, 2022

**Greg Frewin Theatre, Niagara Falls** 



Award-winning internationally acclaimed entertainer Dean Z sings your favorite rockin' holiday hits! Featuring his high energy 12-piece band and the beautiful Deltatones! The best Rock'n'Roll, Rockabilly and Swing Christmas classics, guaranteed to rock you into the holiday spirit!

#### SHAW FESTIVAL – A CHRISTMAS CAROL and WHITE CHRISTMAS

November to December 23, 2022

Niagara on the Lake

The Shaw's 2022 season comes to a merry close with **Charles Dickens**'s **A Christmas Carol** and **Irving Berlin**'s **White Christmas** – two classic holiday tales guaranteed to thaw the frostiest of hearts and make spirits bright in young and old alike.

### **NIAGARA SAFARI – SAFARI LIGHTS**

### November 19 - January 8, 2023

A three km drive through event including immersive light tunnels, luminous motion lights, whimsical animal light displays. Tickets start at \$24.95+ HST per vehicle.

### TWO SISTERS ESTATE WINERY - TASTING EXPERIENCES

### **Beginning November 1, 2022**

## **FIRE & FROST**

Wine-by-the-glass and light fare around cozy fire pits on the Terrace and heated Veranda will keep you toasty as you take in the spectacular vineyard views. Friday – Sunday, 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm. No reservations needed. For more information about the Stone Eagle Tasting Experiences, Barrel cellar Tasting, Fall into Winter Winery Tour, Thursday Date Night and other tasting, gifting and dining options at this stunning winery, please visit here.



### **ANNUAL POINSETTIA SHOW**

November 19, 2022 – January 8, 2023 Floral Showhouse, Niagara Parks

A family holiday tradition for over 65 years, Celebrate the holiday season with Niagara's Annual Poinsettia Show inside the Niagara Parks Floral Showhouse. This iconic show features traditional holiday landscapes with modern touches of brilliant colours and lights that make the warmth and magic of the holiday season come to life.



### MCFARLAND HOUSE CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

#### December 3 & 4, 2022, 10:00am-4:00pm

#### **McFarland House**

Experience an authentic Victorian Christmas and get a glimpse into 200-year-old holiday traditions with Niagara Parks McFarland House Christmas Open House. From homemade cider and hot chocolate to homemade Christmas cookies and traditional decorations, every detail will take you back in time inside one of Niagara's oldest and most significant heritage sites.

## **MCFARLAND HOUSE HERITAGE CHRISTMAS**

### December 10 & 11, 2022, 10:00am-4:00pm

#### **McFarland House**

Experience a traditional nineteenth-century Christmas as McFarland House is decorated by the Garden Club of Niagara using period authentic materials! Victorian era crafts, carols and refreshments will take you back in time inside one of Niagara's oldest and most significant heritage sites.

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE (DETAILS TBA)**

Traditionally a major annual celebration in Niagara Falls and one of Canada's biggest New Year's Eve celebration destinations, further details about 2022 event programming coming soon!

#### **365 DAYS OF CULINARY OFFERINGS**

Indulge in delicious offerings and spectacular settings in any of Niagara Falls' exclusive <u>restaurants</u> where many restaurants open 365 days a year welcoming diners on December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. Visit <u>The Niagara Distillery</u> featuring six signature spirits that result in perfect pours either on their own or when mixed as a cocktail. A short walk from the Falls, <u>The Niagara Brewing Company</u> proudly represents Canada's brewing heritage and today's innovative craft beer scene. Or head to nearby <u>Niagara Wine Country</u>. Enjoy responsibly by booking a private guide or group tour. Half-day and full-day <u>tours available</u> with hotel pick-ups.

#### **OUTDOOR SKATING**

#### Early December - mid-March

Cocktails, wine and beer and a fire pit at <u>Wayne Gretzky Estates</u> make for a fun skate alongside the vineyards of this hat trick winery, brewery and distillery. *Popular weekend events include Friday Date & Skate and Saturday DJ Night*.

### **FALLS ILLUMINATION**

See the Canadian Horseshoe, American and Bridal Veil Falls brilliantly illuminated in a multi-coloured masterpiece. This stunning light display can be viewed 365 days a year from Queen Victoria Park, Fallsview hotels and restaurants, beginning at dusk. **Inspired by Nature:** watch nature come to life with a nightly <u>illumination display</u> featuring colour palettes and movements inspired by nature, including the sunrise, aurora borealis, rainbow and sunset.

For more, visit the full WINTER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES Story Ideas here



### **COMING UP WINTER 2023**

### **NIAGARA ICEWINE FESTIVAL**

January 13-29, 2023

Only during winter can you experience events such as Niagara Icewine Festival 2023.

#### February - Birds on the Niagara Festival

#### **BIRDING IN NIAGARA FALLS**

Every February in Niagara Falls, bird lovers and conservationists celebrate the vast diversity of northern birds that call the mighty Niagara River corridor their home each winter at <u>Birds on the Niagara International Bird</u> <u>Festival and Celebration</u>, the only international bird festival in North America. With its proximity to the Niagara River corridor, one of the world's most biodiverse places, Niagara Falls is an <u>Important Bird and Biodiversity Area</u> (IBA) and four-season destination for bird lovers, adventure travellers and ecotourists alike. Over 280 bird species and 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 around the globe hoping to add them to their list. Click <u>here</u> for more information about Bird species that can be found in Niagara Falls each season and where to find them.

## **February is Black History Month**

### HONOURING BLACK CANADIAN HISTORY IN NIAGARA FALLS

Niagara Falls, Ontario holds a place in history as one of the final destinations of the renowned 'Underground Railroad', a secret network of routes from Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and on to Niagara-on-the-Lake that enslaved people from the United States followed to find freedom in Canada. It is estimated that 30,000-40,000 enslaved people escaped into Canada from the US from 1800-1865. 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.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD 2023**

#### **NIAGARA FALLS COMIC CON**

## June 9 – 11, 2023

<u>Comic Con</u> is a popular event that takes place at the Scotiabank 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!

## **HOVERLINK ONTARIO**

#### **Getting to Niagara Falls Keeps Getting Easier**

Introducing the first modern hovercraft transit service of its kind in North America. Hoverlink is a high-speed, weather-proof hovercraft service, that transports up to 180 passengers across Lake Ontario in only 30 minutes. Tourists, families, students and commuters will be able to enjoy a scenic, smooth ride in a comfortable, enclosed cabin, year-round.



GO Transit – Beginning October 15th 2022, trains now operate **two round trips each day** on Saturday, Sunday, and holiday Mondays all year round (\$10 weekend fares round-trip, approx. \$20 each way weekdays)

Megabus – Toronto's Union Station to Niagara Falls \$20 each way approximately

Flixbus – Toronto Harbourfront to Niagara Falls \$16-18 each way approximately

Niagara Air Bus – private shuttle approximately \$250-\$300 from Toronto or Pearson International Airport

FlyGTA – Billy Bishop (Toronto) to Niagara on the Lake at approx. Approximately \$100 each way. 15-minute flights, 4 per week, 3 per day. Plus taxi to Niagara Falls at \$50.

### **Transportation within Niagara Falls**

WEGO Tip: look for Attractions passes that include WEGO access like the Adventure Pass

# Media inquiries:

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## **Niagara Falls Resources**

Hotel Packages: <a href="https://book.niagarafallstourism.com/">https://book.niagarafallstourism.com/</a>

Attraction Packages: Niagarafallstourism.com/attraction-packages/

Niagara Falls Itinerary Ideas: Niagarafallstourism.com/blog/itinerary/

Getting here: Toronto to Niagara Falls GO Train Service

Niagara Falls' commitment to guests and employees: SafetoPlay.ca

Website: <a href="https://www.niagarafallstourism.com">www.niagarafallstourism.com</a>
Instagram: <a href="mailto:@NiagaraFallsTourismCanada">@NiagaraFallsTourismCanada</a>
@NiagaraFallsTourismCanada

Twitter: @NFallsTourism #ExploreNiagara #NiagaraFalls

### **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 nature and adventure, discover family fun, feel the romance and



explore unique and memorable experiences have made it Canada's premier entertainment destination and a world-renowned bucket list destination. Located within a 1-day drive of half the population of North America, more than 152 M people, Niagara Falls is the perfect getaway.

### **About Niagara Falls Tourism**

Niagara Falls Tourism (NFT) is the official Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) for the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, representing almost 400 member establishments in Niagara Falls, including members throughout the Niagara Region. Welcoming almost 14 million visitors into the destination each year, NFT promotes the tourism and hospitality sector to visitors around the world. Dynamic marketing campaigns and signature events inspire visitors to explore Niagara Falls and support the success of local business. NFT fosters the international reputation of Niagara Falls as a four-season bucket-list destination and Canada's entertainment capital.