

D Rea	elux dy for Advent	eHiking
Region:	Ontario	
Duration:	5 Days	5
2023 Dates	Single	Double
May 8	\$2,595	\$1,995
September 4		

Niagara Hiking

"If you want to get lost in beauty, chase Niagara Falls."

Visitors come from all over the world to the Niagara Region in Southern Ontario to experience the continuous rush of water falling over the cliffs at Niagara's Horseshoe Falls. With this tour based in Niagara Falls, guests can build on that miraculous feeling with hikes along the southern section of Ontario's Bruce Trail. Discover a wealth of Canadian history as you wander around quaint Niagara-on-the-Lake and feel the splash of the falls on a Voyage to the Falls boat ride. An active tour for the fit person who loves the outdoors, this tour has something for everyone!

Why This Tour Is Great

Just One Hotel

Given the Niagara region's compactness, we will spend all 4 nights in one historic hotel in Niagara Falls. Better yet, the Olde Stone Inn is centrally located, so guests walk along Clifton Hill, to the Falls and Niagara Parkway, the Casinos, as well as a wide variety of restaurants and cafes.

Gentle Hiking

Unlike many DeLuxe Hiking tours that tackle mountain trails, our Niagara tour encompasses hiking through the forest amongst tender fruit farms & wineries. Distances are relatively short and experiencing the forest canopy is breathtaking and soothing. Guests are dropped off at the trailhead, are taken through the trails with a local guide, and are picked up at the end of the hike—no doubling back! The Niagara hiking tour is a great introduction to what DeLuxe Hiking has to offer.

Variety of Excursions to Supplement the Hiking

Revision Date: January 11, 2023

Whether it is to admire the gardens, observe butterflies up close, visit local historical sites or take the tour at the Niagara Power Station and Tunnel, this tour offers a multitude of experiences to provide a well-rounded trip—all being coordinated by the DeLuxe Tour Director. For you, all these arrangements are seamless and hassle-free, allowing you more time to absorb the surroundings and enjoy your time.



1-888-716-5523 www.deluxehiking.com info@deluxehiking.com

Fitness Scale: <u>H</u> Difficulty: <u>H2</u>

Tour Starting Point: <u>Niagara Falls, ON</u>

Highlights

- Hike the Bruce Trail
- Visits to 3 wineries (with 2 tastings)
- Free time in Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Floral Showhouse Gardens
- Fort George
- Niagara Falls boat tour (Hornblower)
- Butterfly Observatory and Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens
- Laura Second Homestead
- Niagara Parks Power Station and Tunnel tour

Price Includes

- Transportation on days 2-4
- 4 nights of accommodation at The Olde Stone Inn with parking (1 car per room)
- Meals: 4-B, 2-L, 2-D.
- Local professional guides and all entry fees and passes
- Services of DeLuxe Hiking Tour Director

Prices are in Canadian dollars, they are per person, and include all applicable taxes.





Niagara Hiking

Day 1

Welcome to Niagara Falls and the Olde Stone Inn. Prior to the tour officially starting, guests will have the opportunity to meet the Tour Director, drop off their luggage, and enjoy lunch on their own. At 1pm, reconvene with the tour director and enjoy a walk along the boardwalk to the Canadian Horseshoe Falls en route to the Floral Showhouse. This walk along the Niagara River allows us to enjoy the multiple vantage points of this natural wonder. At the Floral Showhouse, explore the garden oasis with its three display houses, and admire the incredible collections of orchids, succulents, and other tropical plant species which are on display year-round. After viewing the Horseshoe Falls from the top, we will then take the Hornblower cruise boat to experience the Falls from the bottom! We will stroll back to the Inn for check-in and preparation for a welcome dinner.

Stay: Olde Stone Inn, Niagara Falls (4 nights)

Revision Date: January 11, 2023

Meals: D

Day 2

After breakfast, we hop on the coach and drive along the scenic route to Beamsville for a morning hike along the Bruce Trail escarpment. After our hike, travel to a local winery for lunch and wine tasting. In the afternoon, a second, shorter hike will take guests to the terminus of the Bruce Trail in Queenston Heights, overlooking the Niagara River and nearby New York state. We will also see the towering Brock Monument. This evening is yours to discover and experience the sights and sounds of Clifton Hill and the surrounding area. Meals: B, L

Day 3

We begin our day with a visit to the Butterfly Observatory and Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens then we head to quaint Niagara-on-the-Lake for lunch and time to wander around the many boutique stores. Our afternoon will be an immersion in Canadian history with a visit to Fort George and Laura Secord Homestead. Another free evening offers an opportunity to take in Niagara Falls and its attractions. Guests may wish to return to Niagara-on-the-Lake and attend the Shaw theatre (September only) as an optional excursion. Meals: B

Day 4

The day will begin with a vineyard tour of Tawse Winery, followed by a hike along the Bruce Trail, stopping in Ball's Falls for a picnic lunch. After our hike ends in the late afternoon, guests can explore Jordan Village and enjoy a Cave Spring wine tasting. We'll finish our day with a farewell dinner back in Niagara Falls. *Meals:* B, L, D

Day 5

After breakfast and check out, we will embark on our final stroll along the Niagara Parkway to the Niagara Parks Power Station, the first major power plant on the Canadian side of the Niagara River. See restored artifacts and interactive displays on a guided tour of the building and its tunnel. After this attraction and with one last view of the Falls, we say farewell to our fellow travellers. Meals: **B**



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LIST OF HIKES Niagara Hiking



HIKES & WALKS

<u>Day 1</u>

1. Niagara Parkway Walkway, Niagara Falls

(H1/Easy – 5km/30m)

This promenade takes guests to multiple vantage points of Horseshoe Falls and American Falls. This walk begins at the Olde Stone Inn to the Floral Showhouse and return, at a leisurely pace.

<u>Day 2</u>

2. Bruce Trail, Cave Springs Conservation Area to Locust Lane, Beamsville

(H2/Moderate - 7.3km/200m)

This is a lovely stretch of Bruce Trail through bucolic farmland with great views from the Escarpment to Lake Ontario and ending amongst three wineries. There are sections that are rocky and have tree roots, so care is taken when on this hike. Hiking shoes are required and poles are recommended.

https://npca.ca/parks/cave-springs

3. Bruce Trail, Bevan Heights to Queenston Heights, Queenston

(H1/Easy – 4.1km/50m)

This hike brings guests to the Southern Terminus Cairn of Ontario's Bruce Trail, right at the Canada/US border. A good photo opportunity at the Cairn. The Bruce Trail links Queenston and Tobermory with 885 km of wonderful hiking, mostly along the Niagara Escarpment. The first section of this hike involves climbing up and down a few hills before it flattens out on a wide path.

https://www.alltrails.com/explore/trail/canada/ontario/queenston-via-bruce-trail https://www.niagaraparks.com/visit/nature-garden/queenston-heights/

<u>Day 3</u>

4. Walking tour through Niagara-on-the-lake and around Fort George

(H1/Easy – 5.5km/20m)

This walk will introduce guests to the bucolic community of Niagara-on-the-lake and includes a visit to historic Fort George. Mostly flat and on pavement and crushed gravel, this is an easy exploration.

https://www.niagarafallstourism.com/niagara-region/niagara-on-the-lake/ http://www.friendsoffortgeorge.ca/fort-george/

<u>Day 4</u>

5. Bruce Trail, Cherry Ave to 17th Street, Jordan

(H2/Moderate - 6 km/250m)

This is one of the most scenic parts of the Bruce Trail on the Niagara Peninsula, passing through forests and amongst wineries, and through the historic village of Balls Falls where we will enjoy a picnic lunch. A few small hills give this hike some interesting viewpoints and then it flattens out prior to entering Balls Falls.

https://www.twentyvalley.ca/site/twenty-valley-experiences



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Niagara Hiking

Highlights

Two Full Days of Hiking

Guests will enjoy moderately difficult hikes (due to tree roots, rocky patches, and a few hills) through history, nature, and amongst vineyards and tender fruit orchards. Enjoy the forest canopy and views of Lake Ontario from high up on the escarpment.

Walking Through History

Niagara has been ground zero twice in Canadian history. First, during the War of 1812, Laura Secord starred as Canada's Paul Revere, saving the British from defeat by the United States. Half a century later, Fenian Raids from the United States in 1866 served as a catalyst for Canadian Confederation a year later. On our tour, guests will visit Fort George, <u>Oueenston Heights</u>. Laura Secord's home and many other historic sites.

Wineries & Orchards

No trip to the Niagara peninsula would be complete without sampling the best of nature's bounty. This tour is scheduled for early May to witness the beginning of the growing season and again in late September to take advantage of the tender fruit harvest and flurry of activity in the region's numerous wineries. A visit to three wineries, complete with tastings, provides, a good cross-section of a variety of wines - cheers!

Niagara-on-the-Lake

Our group will spend some wandering the historic Niagara-on-the-Lake. Guests will enjoy visiting the boutique shops and eateries along the main street and viewing historic plaques. A visit is not complete without checking out the local Christmas ornament store and fudge stores. Maple syrup is also available for sale.

Niagara Falls

This is unquestionably the most famous place in Canada. Unlike most tours that see the sights from a bus, guests will have an opportunity to walk along the Niagara River to see all the amazing things nature has created in this special place.

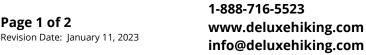
Voyage to the Falls Boat Tour

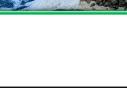
Feel the rush of the falls on this must-do attraction. Get an up-close view of the Niagara Gorge, American, and Bridal Veil Falls, and come face-to-face with the famous Canadian Horseshoe Falls. An experience not to be missed. And worth doing again and again.

Niagara Parks Power Station

Page 1 of 2

The Niagara Parks Power Station is the first major power plant on the Canadian side of the Niagara River. See restored artifacts and interactive displays on a guided tour of the building and its tunnel.













Travel Industry Council of Ontario **Registration Numbers:** 500009376 and 500009377



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Niagara Hiking



Accommodations

The Olde Stone Inn (4 nights)

Set in a former flour mill dating from 1904, the Old Stone Inn elegantly blends classic historic character and charm with well-thought-out modern conveniences. It is centrally located within walking distance of most attractions and the Canadian Horseshoe Falls.

Important Info for This Tour

This DeLuxe Hiking tour offers a cross-section of what's available in this popular region and is geared for the active adult who wants to experience outdoor activity while also seeing worthwhile activities. The coach is available three of the five days to transport to trail heads and wineries, as well as touring historical, significant sites. Otherwise, walking will be the preferred mode of transportation, to allow full observation of the local experience.

Two days are spent hiking the iconic Bruce Trail which although not difficult or long, attention is needed for tree roots and rocky sections, particularly when covered with moss. There are some up and down hills, and on one hike, we descend a steep wooden staircase.

The hikes and walks on this tour are all easy or moderate, providing a great option to those who wonder if they'd like to try a hiking tour, but don't want to overdo it. Hiking boots or hiking shoes are required and hiking poles are optional. Hikers should bring appropriate clothing for hiking, including layers of clothing to adjust to variety of temperatures.

Of all our tours, this one may best capture our "Real Hiking. Real Culture. Real Comfort." Spirit that DeLuxe Hiking tours endeavour to capture.

Optional Additions

This tour starts and ends in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. Guests can join this tour from anywhere in the world! Please contact us to discuss your airfare and pre-and post-tour accommodation <u>options</u>.

The opportunity to attend the Shaw Festival may be available during or after the tour. The option to spend an evening at Niagara on the Lake for dinner and scroll down the iconic main street is possible. Details for these excursions can be discussed when booking the tour.

Adding a few extra days to this tour to explore the area is highly encouraged. Visit one of several local wineries with restaurants & tours. Rent a bicycle and ride along the trails beside the Niagara Parkway. Take the White Water Walk which goes beside the rapids. Visit the outlet mall at White Oaks – located conveniently beside the QEW. And discover more local trails to explore for hiking.



Page 2 of 2 Revision Date: January 11, 2023 1-888-716-5523 www.deluxehiking.com info@deluxehiking.com



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