

Discover



BRANTFORD



ATTRACTIONS • RESTAURANTS
ENTERTAINMENT & CULTURE • SHOPPING
ACCOMMODATIONS • PUBLIC ART

discoverbrantford.ca
1-800-265-6299
groups@brantford.ca



Welcome

We are excited to invite you to Brantford – the Telephone City! Ideally situated in the heart of Southwestern Ontario along Highway 403, Brantford has a charming, small town feel, with big city amenities. With many year-round attractions, one-of-a-kind experiences, and hundreds of annual events, there is something for everyone.

It was here on July 26, 1874, at the Bell Homestead National Historic Site, where Alexander Graham Bell discovered the principle of his most famous invention – the telephone. Be sure to visit the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts, a historic restored vaudeville house that has been delighting audiences for over 100 years. Quench your thirst at our local brewery or distillery, enjoy a delicious lunch downtown, or shop at the Brantford Farmers' Market. You can dine picnic-style on the grounds of Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant or at one of our horticultural parks, many of which are located along the Grand River, a designated Canadian Heritage River.

Book our complimentary Bus Welcome Program to receive a personalized welcome inside the Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition and a gift bag that includes souvenirs and brochures for everyone on your bus, including the tour escort and driver.

We look forward to welcoming you to discover all that is available in Brantford!

Sincerely,

Amber Kane

Tourism Development Coordinator

City of Brantford

519-759-4150 ext. 5045

akane@brantford.ca





Attractions

Bell Homestead National Historic Site
 Brant Museum and Archives
 Brantford & Area Sports Hall of Recognition
 Brantford's Grand Exhibit
 Brantford Twin Valley Zoo
 Canadian Military Heritage Museum
 Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant
 Grand Wellness Centre
 His Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks
 Lorne Park
 Manns Distillery
 Nu-U Float Studio & Health Bar
 Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts
 Sassy Britches Brewing Co. - **New!**
 Woodland Cultural Centre



Restaurants

Fume Restobar
 Hudson Public Kitchen & Bar
 Mercasa Little Italy Eatery & Catering
 Myra's Bar & Grill
 Nine North
 Sociable Kitchen + Tavern
 The Olde School Restaurant
 The Sherwood Restaurant



Arts, Culture and Entertainment

Brantford International Villages Festival
 Brantford Lights at Glenhyrst
 CallHome Music Festival
 Culture Days on the Trails
 Elements Casino Brantford
 Trail Mix
 Trail Mix Live!



Shopping

Brantford Farmers' Market
 Brantford Finders Keepers
 Le Chocolat du Savoie
 Lynden Park Mall
 Old World Marketplace
 Olive Oil Company
 Our Kitchen Brantford
 Momoko Snacks Land
 Steve's Tea Company and Tea Room
 SWEET Bakery



Accommodations

Best Western Brantford Hotel & Conference Centre
 Comfort Inn Brantford
 Days Inn by Wyndham Brantford
 Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Brantford Conference Centre
 Holiday Inn Express & Suites Brantford
 Home2 Suites by Hilton Brantford
 Marriott TownePlace Suites Brantford and Conference Centre



Public Art

"The Great One"
 Bell Memorial
 Boer War Memorial
 Book Trout
 Brant War Memorial
 Brantford's Grand Exhibit
 Joseph Brant Monument
 Le Landscape de Kanata
 Prominence Point
 Take Your Shot - **New!**
 Victoria Park Drinking Fountain



Explore BRANTFORD



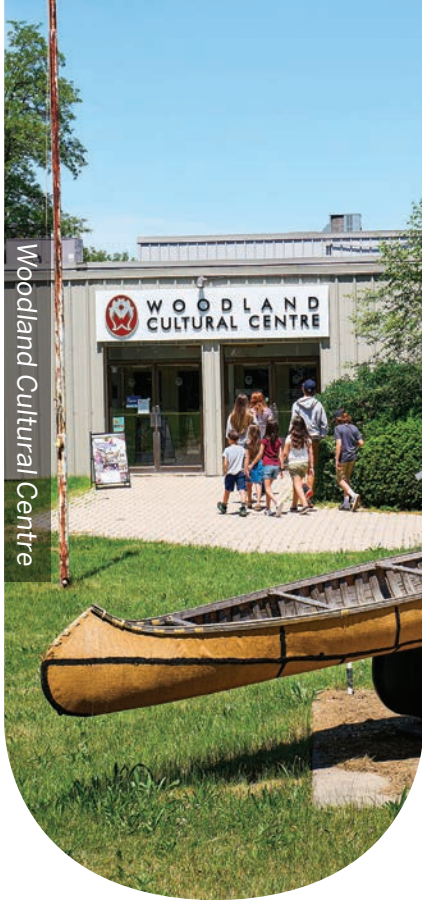
Our friendly staff can help you plan an unforgettable visit to Brantford. Our team can suggest itinerary ideas based on your interests and connect you with local businesses, attractions, and experiences that are perfect for groups.

We are happy to assist with itinerary planning, driving or walking tour ideas, narrative information for tour escorts, step-on guide tours, familiarization tours, and more.



Visit [DISCOVERBRANTFORD.CA](https://www.discoverbrantford.ca)

To browse our Visitor Guide to help plan your next trip to Brantford, scan the QR code.



Woodland Cultural Centre



Sanderson Centre



"The Great One"

Discover **STORIES**

Embark on a tour of the Bell Homestead National Historic Site, the Bell family's first Canadian home and the place where Alexander Graham Bell discovered the fundamental concept of the telephone. Their new exhibition "Life on the Line: The Evolution of the Bell Telephone" explores the evolution of the home telephone. Nearby, at His Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, marvel at the handcrafted stained glass windows that depict historical events of Six Nations inside the oldest surviving church in Ontario. Visit Woodland Cultural Centre and book a guided or self-guided tour of the museum and attend an authentic workshop or cultural performance.

Stop and smell the flowers at Glenhyrst Gardens, a beautiful 16-acre park, and visit the Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant to take in their contemporary fine art exhibitions. Be on the lookout for Brantford's

Grand Exhibit, 12 to-scale reproductions of artwork from Glenhyrst's permanent collection, of which many can be found in downtown Brantford.

Sing along at a Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts matinee or attend an evening performance. Explore the new enhanced exhibits at Canadian Military Heritage Museum and chat with their friendly volunteers for a top-notch experience.

Snap a photo in front of the Wayne Gretzky statue, "The Great One," before you head inside the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre. Here, you will find the Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition which honours Brantford's hometown sport heroes. Roll the dice at Elements Casino Brantford, which features a diverse mix of slot machines, table games and a restaurant.

Celebrate BRANTFORD

Brantford hosts numerous annual events, so it's easy to find a reason to celebrate in every season. Plan a visit during one of these exciting events.



Brantford Lights at Glenhyrst



International Villages Festival



Culture Days on the Trails

- **Brantford International Villages Festival** – Explore heritage and culture through music, dancing, and food at this annual multi-day festival.
- **Brantford Lights at Glenhyrst** – Get in the holiday spirit when you walk or drive through the 16-acre park decorated with thousands of colourful light displays.
- **CallHome Music Festival** – Rock out at Brantford's biggest outdoor musical festival, featuring local, regional, and international performers, a VIP area, food trucks, and more.
- **Culture Days on the Trails** – This annual event celebrates arts and culture and includes live music and performances along a section of Brantford's trails.
- **Trail Mix Live! at the Brantford Farmer's Market** – Enjoy live performances from Trail Mix featured artists at the Brantford Farmer's Market on select dates.



Visit **DISCOVERBRANTFORD.CA**

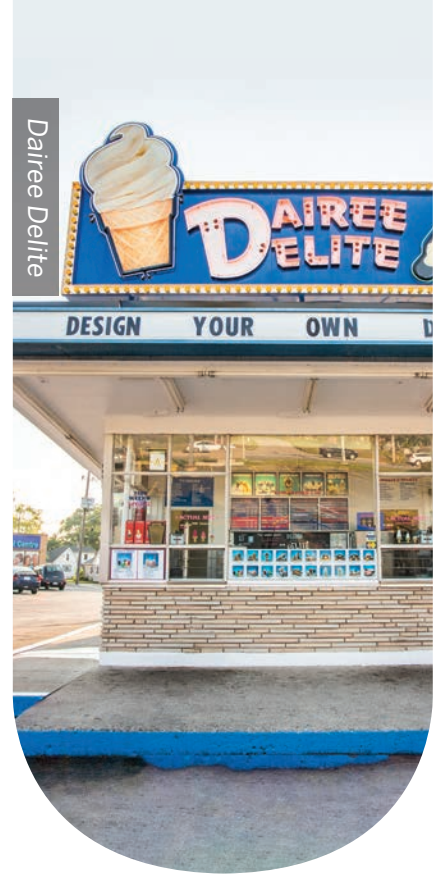
To browse upcoming events to plan your itinerary, scan the QR code.



Manns Distillery



Sociable Kitchen + Tavern



Dairee Delite

Savour BRANTFORD



Sip

Visit the Cordage Heritage District, a former industrial centre that was once home to the largest cordage and twine manufacturer in Canada, to enjoy refreshing craft beer and a variety of events and live entertainment at **Sassy Britches Brewing Company**. Head to **Manns Distillery** to sample botanically-infused spirits at their tasting bar, sip a crafted beverage in their cocktail lounge, and order a tasty bite from their delicious menu.



Taste

Delight in a fine dining experience at **Fume Restobar, Al Dente** or **The Olde School Restaurant**. Marvel at the murals inside **The Sherwood Restaurant**. Their adjoining motel was featured in an episode of the hit television show, *Schitt's Creek*. Keep it casual at **Hudson Public Kitchen & Bar** or **Sociable Kitchen + Tavern**. Enjoy unique flavors and friendly service at **Mercasa Little Italy Eatery & Catering, Nine North, Taal Indian Cuisine**, or **Joy Sushi Bar**.



Comfort

Savour Belgian-style chocolates from **Le Chocolat du Savoie** and decadent baked goods from **SWEET Bakery**. Enjoy afternoon tea at **The Golden Teapot** inside Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant or try the famous Apple Dapple Cake at **The Exchange Café** at the Bell Homestead National Historic Site. On a hot, summer day, stop at **Dairee Delite** or **OMG Ice Cream** to pick up a frozen treat.



Brantford's Best Tours FOR GROUPS

Discover some of our best group itineraries or allow us to create a custom itinerary based on the interests, activity levels and accessibility needs of your group.


Tour operator *tip*

Book Discover Brantford's complimentary Bus Welcome to receive a personalized welcome inside the Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition and a gift bag that includes a souvenir and brochures for everyone on your bus, including the tour escort and driver.

Did you *know* 

Many of our group-friendly experiences and restaurants offer special group rates and also have bus parking available on site to accommodate your tours. **Contact groups@brantford.ca for more information.**



Day Tours

Lions, Tigers and...Brews! Oh My!

Availability: May to October | Activity level: Moderate

- Start your day inside the **Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition**. Browse the merchandise available and snap a photo outside in front of the Wayne Gretzky bronze statue “**The Great One**”.
- Depart for the **Twin Valley Zoo** and discover 70+ species of animals including lions, tigers, kangaroos, zebras, bears, flamingos, and more.
- Book a group lunch at **The Sherwood Restaurant** where you will be welcomed into a private room to enjoy their home-style menu.
- Travel to **Manns Distillery** where you can sample some locally-crafted spirits. Ask about a behind-the-scenes tour for your guests.
- Head onward to **Sassy Britches Brewing Company**, located in the Cordage Heritage District, to sample local craft beer.
- Enjoy dinner at **Mercasa Little Italy Eatery & Catering** or **Sociable Kitchen + Tavern**, both offer group-friendly package options when booked in advance.



Twin Valley Zoo



Sociable Kitchen + Tavern

Hometown Heroes: Artists and Inventors

Availability: Year-Round | Activity Level: Light walking/Relaxing

- Book a guided tour of the **Bell Homestead National Historic Site** and learn about Brantford’s namesake as “The Telephone City”. View their new exhibit, “Life on the Line: The Evolution of the Bell Telephone”, which features an interactive switchboard.
- Visit the **Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre** to pick up a brochure and shop exclusive Brantford merchandise and souvenirs.
- Browse the memorabilia displays inside the **Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition**.
- Several Brantford restaurants offer group-friendly menus including: **Hudson Public Kitchen & Bar, Myra’s Bar & Grill, Sociable Kitchen + Tavern, The Olde School Restaurant, and The Sherwood Restaurant**.
- Visit **His Majesty’s Royal Chapel of the Mohawks** for a guided tour of the first Protestant church in Upper Canada and the oldest surviving church in Ontario.
- Take a guided or self-guided tour at **Woodland Cultural Centre** and pair it with a craft or workshop to learn more about Indigenous culture.
- Travel to Brantford’s downtown for dinner and enjoy a stroll to view multiple pieces from **Brantford’s Public Art Collection**.
- Enjoy a baked good with coffee at **Friday Cafe** before an evening performance at the **Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts**.



Woodland Cultural Centre



Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant



Day Tours



Mercasa
Little Italy



Brantford
Bulldogs



Mohawk Park

Brantford's Grand Outdoors

Availability: May to October | Activity level: Moderate

- Book a guided kayak, canoe, or rafting experience with **Grand Experiences** or **Grand River Rafting**, to explore the beautiful Grand River.
- Head to **Mercasa Little Italy Eatery & Catering** and enjoy gourmet roman pizza and have a picnic at nearby **Mohawk Park**. Group menus are also available for dine-in.
- Visit the **Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre** to see “The Great One”, a life-size bronze statue depicting Wayne Gretzky hoisting the Stanley Cup overhead.
- Stop by **The Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition** to celebrate local athletes who have achieved the highest standards of excellence in their sport.
- Brantford boasts unique local eateries for dinner including **Sociable Kitchen + Tavern** and **Zanders Fire Grill & Brew Lounge**.
- Shop for unique home décor, gift items and more at **Brantford Finders Keepers**.
- Enjoy dessert at **Dairee Delite**, a 50s style ice cream shop offering a variety of frozen treats.



Overnight Tours

Explore the Core: Hidden Gems in Downtown Brantford

Availability: Year-Round | Activity level: Moderate

- Stroll through Downtown Brantford to see nine of twelve outdoor art pieces from **Brantford's Grand Exhibit**, a collection of to-scale artist reproductions from the **Glenhyrst Art Gallery** permanent collection.
- Stop at **Harmony Square** to take a selfie or group photo in the beautiful courtyard. In summer months, enjoy seeing the fountains and in the winter, a public skating rink.
- Grab lunch at **Friday Cafe** overlooking Harmony Square, or check out **From Scratch Bistro** nearby.
- Visit nearby shops like **Momoko Snacks Land** or **Old World Marketplace** for unique items.
- Enjoy a group dinner at **Hudson Public Kitchen & Bar**, located in Harmony Square.
- Stay overnight at one of Brantford's seven accommodations providers.
- See an evening performance at the **Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts**. This historic restored Vaudeville House has been delighting audiences for over 100 years.
- Experience Brantford's night life at **Elements Casino Brantford**.
- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and tour the **Canadian Military Heritage Museum**.
- Learn about Indigenous history with a guided or self-guided tour of **Woodland Cultural Centre** and book an authentic-style catered lunch on-site before heading home.



Overnight Tours

A Taste of Brantford

Availability: Year-Round | Activity level: Moderate

- Shop at **Le Chocolat du Savoie** for handmade Belgian chocolates or **SWEET Bakery** for handmade cupcakes, sugar cookies, shortbread and more.
- Take a short drive to the **Brantwood Farmers' Market** where you can browse local produce, farm fresh items, homemade bread, cookies, pies, and pastries, and a variety of artisan products.
- Enjoy dinner at **The Olde School Restaurant**, which features a menu and atmosphere fit for a Queen.
- Stay the night in a hotel and see a show at the **Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts**.
- Visit **Elements Casino Brantford** for some extra fun and games.
- The next day, spend time outdoors enjoying pristine views of the Grand River with a stroll along a section of Brantford's 70km of natural trails or contact Discover Brantford for a guided downtown walking art tour or complimentary Bus Welcome.

Rest, Relax and Recharge

Availability: Year-Round | **Activity level:** Light walking/Relaxing

- Begin your day at the **Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre** and see “The Great One” statue.
- View the memorabilia displays inside the **Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition**.
- Revitalize your mind and body at **Grand Wellness Centre**, where you can take a yoga class or spend time in their salt cave. Try an authentic European beer bath in the Beer Spa while overlooking the trails and sipping a beverage.
- **Nu-u Float Studio** offers flotation therapy sessions or choose from other services like a full body massage or relaxing 30-minute infrared sauna experience.
- Enjoy lunch at **Fume Restobar** which specializes in Greek and Mediterranean inspired cuisine with a touch of smoked and Asian flare.
- Head to **Steve's Tea Company and Tea Room** to savour a fresh pastry and sip on some loose-leaf tea. Shop from over 200 loose leaf teas, accessories, and gifts.
- Order ahead and pick up a healthy dinner from **The Healthy Rabbit**.
- Put your feet up and discover comfort at one of our award-winning hotels.
- After a restful night's sleep, you can explore the Brantford downtown core and enjoy public art, landmarks, local shops and eateries before you head home.



Fume Restobar



Grand Wellness

Where Cultures Meet

Availability: May to October | **Activity level:** Moderate

- Begin with a guided tour of **Bell Homestead National Historic Site** where in 1874 Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. Visit their new exhibit which includes an interactive switchboard.
- Head to **Woodland Cultural Centre**, a leader of Indigenous arts, culture and education. Book a tour and visit the museum or browse the galleries. Add a crafting experience to your group tour and take home a souvenir.
- Order pizza from **Maria's Original Pizza**, a family-owned local business. Book a picnic shelter at **Mohawk Park** which has ample shade, along with a playground, disc golf and Sprinklemania splash pad nearby.
- Have an adventurous afternoon with one of Brantford's outfitters, **Grand Experiences** or **Grand River Rafting**. A variety of outdoor educational offerings are available to best fit with your curriculum.
- Stay overnight in one of our seven award-winning hotels, grab a morning coffee and pastry at Altitude Café and explore over 70km of trails with pristine views of the Grand River.



Bell Homestead



Grand River Rafting



Educational Tours

Nature's Classroom Tour

Availability: May to October | Activity level: Moderate

- Visit **Chiefswood National Historic Site** for a catered lunch and an afternoon on the water. Take a three-hour guided paddle with cultural teachings along the Grand River, learn about the Haldimand Tract and the ecology of the Grand River.
- **Woodland Cultural Centre** has educational programs for Grades K-12 that follow the Ontario Curriculum guidelines and also offers resources for classrooms:



Grade K+:

- Guided museum tour
- Interactive presentation of Hodinohsho:ni games including bone and toggle, scattering sticks, bone dice, lacrosse, snowshoeing and more

Grades 6+:

- Sustenance workshop presentation on The Three Sisters, traditional farming practices, nutrition, and traditional recipes
- Virtual tour and debrief of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School with a Cultural Interpreter
- Six Nations Land Claims Workshop

Grades 9+:

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission Workshop
- Stereotypes and Racism Workshop



Visit **DISCOVERBRANTFORD.CA**

To browse itinerary ideas for your next trip to Brantford, scan the QR code.



Educational Tours on the Grand River

Availability: Seasonal | Activity Level: Moderate

Brantford's local outfitters, **Grand Experiences** and **Grand River Rafting** offer a variety of educational, safe experiences on and off the Grand River. Paddling trips include a guided trip, the chance to try some fresh spring water, body surfing, and a stop at a picnic area for lunch. The river is slow moving, averages 1 metre in depth with water temperatures around 20°C. Available for home-school, elementary and high school groups. Options for 1-4 hours trips available.

- Two routes with 8 or 12-person group rafts or individual turbo tubes (OPHEA approved)
- Edible and medicinal hiking classrooms
- Learn to fish
- Cooking outdoors
- Local fauna and flora of the Carolinian landscapes
- OPHEA guidelines: Grade 6 and above



Tasty Road Trips

Availability: Year-Round | Activity Level: Moderate

Indulge like a local with **Tasty Road Trips**. Enjoy seasonal all-inclusive and year-round self-guided day trips that are planned for you. This is an excellent option for small to medium-sized groups, friends and family, corporate teams and international travelers looking to connect through authentic taste adventures. Book the **To Market We Go** tour, available on Saturdays, and visit several unique local markets in Brantford and surrounding area, ideal for market lovers who enjoy locally inspired great tastes!

PLAN YOUR VISIT Today

Bus Welcome Program

Contact Discover Brantford when you are creating your itineraries to coordinate a personalized welcome inside the Brantford and Area Sports Hall of Recognition and receive:

- Complimentary refreshments and warm welcome from Discover Brantford staff
- An introduction to the history, arts and culture of Brantford
- Individual welcome bags that include a souvenir and local area information for everyone on your bus
- An information package for the tour operator and bus driver with a souvenir to commemorate your trip to Brantford
- Complimentary bus parking
- Accessible building and washroom facilities

Contact Discover Brantford for:

Itinerary
planning
assistance

Driving +
walking tour
ideas

Local
step-on
guide service

Narrative
information
for tour escorts

Individual + group
familiarization
tours



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