

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO TORONTO'S HOTTEST SUMMER ATTRACTIONS

Toronto isn't considered a world-class city for no reason. It's Canada's biggest metropolis and one of the world's most diverse and multicultural cities.

And when the hot summer months roll around, this vibrant melting pot of great cuisine, arts, music, culture, festivals, activities, shopping and sighting-seeing truly comes to life. Summertime in Toronto offers something for everyone and every interest.

Take a look at our list of the city's top hot summer attractions.

SUNSHINE, SHOPPING AND CULTURE: TORONTO'S A CITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS



The Danforth

Revered as Toronto's Greektown,
The Danforth neighborhood boasts an
international mix of restaurants, cafes, bars
and boutiques. It's especially well-known
for its Greek tavernas and pastry shops.
Greektown is also home to The Danforth
Music Hall where you can catch outstanding
live music in an intimate venue. For full
schedules, check online.

Kensington Market

You could search far and wide and probably never find another neighborhood quite like Kensington Market. This beautiful, unique and extremely walkable bohemian neighborhood is home to artists, indie shops, vintage boutiques and art spaces, specialty grocers, bakeries and cheese shops, many of which reside in Victorian houses. It's also packed full of trendy bars, cafes and international restaurants ranging from ultra-casual to fine dining.

Queen West

When it comes to trendy areas, Queen West (and West Queen West) are at the lop of the list in Toronto. Queen Street West is in the heart of the downtown hustle and bustle and offers world-class shopping mixed with a selection of bars, restaurants and pubs.



Midtown

Spanning roughly from Bloor Street to the south, Lawrence Avenue to the North, Bayview Avenue to the east and Ossington Avenue to the west, Toronto's Midtown is a neighborhood which has been steadily on the rise in recent years. It's also the neighborhood that The Roehampton Hotel calls home! Midtown Toronto offers a number of outstanding attractions, restaurants and activities suitable for visitors of all interests.

For a comprehensive list of things to do in Midtown, take a look at our full guide here.

Harbourfront

Toronto's beautiful and tranquil Harbourfront boasts everything from waterfront parks and trails to galleries, theaters and outstanding restaurants, cafes and shops. In the summer, you can expect to find markets, music and outstanding patios.

COME ON AN EMPTY STOMACH: THE SUMMER'S BEST FOOD FESTIVALS



Toronto's culinary scene is so booming that it truly feels like there's a unique and standalone food festival every single day in the summer - and there's something to satisfy every palette.

From Taste of the Danforth in Greektown, a full-on block party that shuts down the area's streets from August 10th to 12th, to Taste of Little Italy which takes place from June 15th to 17th, these neighborhoodwide food festivals offer great eats and a fun experience.

But it doesn't stop there. From <u>Taste of Toronto to Summerlicious</u>, <u>Big Feastival</u>, <u>Union Summer</u>, <u>Rib Fest</u> and many, many more, you can literally find a dedicated festival for almost any flavor and food type during the summer in Toronto.

DISTINCTLY TORONTONIAN: CULTURE, MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

There is always something happening in Toronto. And with its massively multicultural mix and international inspiration, the city offers some of the world's finest culture, music and entertainment.



Veld Music Festival

This annual electronic dance music and hip-hop festival takes places at Toronto's Downsview Park every August 4th and 5th and boasts internationally renowned headliners. For this year's Veld Music Festival lineup, check out the festival website.



Electric Island

Every year, Toronto Island's Hanlan's Point transforms into a massive cultural music festival. This two-day event and picnic welcomes the best and brightest in electronic music for a festival unlike any other. To see who will be performing this year, check online.

THE ROEHAMPTON ——HOTEL——

The Beaches Jazz Fest and TD Toronto Jazz Fest

If you're a jazz lover, Toronto in the summertime is the place for you, boasting two massive and world-renowned jazz festivals. The Beaches International Jazz Fest is a month-long festival that takes place every July and has become one of Canada's largest, welcoming nearly 1,000,000 attendees annually. If you're in town earlier in the year, fear not - the TD Toronto Jazz Festival takes place in late June. Unlike its counterpart in The Beaches, the TD Toronto Jazz Fest takes place primarily indoors, in venues throughout the city's core.



Caribana Festival

Celebrating the massive influencer of Caribbean culture on our city, The Peeks Toronto Caribbean Carnival, affectionately known as Caribana, is a festival of culture and traditions held in Toronto each summer. Welcoming international guests and boasting parades, dancing, music, food and amazing and elaborate costumes, Caribana is not to be missed.



The Second City Comedy Club

If you love a good laugh, you've probably heard of The Second City Comedy Club. As the only Canadian location, The Second City Toronto has become a local go-to for improv and sketch comedy. This theater and bar offers nightly shows - many of which have launched future famous comedians.



TIFF

The Toronto International Film Festival, better known as TIFF, is one of the largest publicly attended film festivals in the world. Taking place from September 5th through 15th, TIFF welcomes nearly half a million guests annually as well as some of the world's biggest stars for a celebration of film that is renowned worldwide.



Buskerfest

Taking place from August 30th until September 2nd in Woodbine Park, there is quite literally something for everyone at the Toronto International BuskerFest. A charitable event in support of epilepsy research, this eccentric and exciting festival includes everything from magic shows to dancing, singing, Celtic Reggae, art and so, so much more.

THE ROEHAMPTON HOTEL



Graffiti Alley

Hidden in the back streets of Toronto's Queen West neighborhood is what might be considered Toronto's most unexpected tourist attractions: Graffiti Alley. This iconic area embodies the polarizing conversation on what differentiates art and vandalism, boasting a series of mesmerizing murals.



Pride Festival

Taking place annually on June 23rd, Pride Toronto is a celebration of the diversity of the LGBTQ community in the Greater Toronto Area. Coming into its 39th year, Pride Festival brings together Torontonians from all walks of life to celebrate love and inclusivity. The festival boasts a massive parade as well as charitable walks and runs, music, food and more.



The Bentway

A new and exciting addition to Toronto's Fort York neighborhood, The Bentway is a is a newly-developed community area located beneath the Gardiner Expressway which represents the first step in a project designed to transform the space beneath the freeway into beautiful community space. Providing year-round events and activities, The Bentway is a must-see. For a list of what's on, take a look at the website here.



St. Lawrence Market

Located in the city's Old Toronto neighborhood, the St. Lawrence Market is a major public market which is home to more than 120 vendors, merchants and artisans. Having been around for more than 200 years, the St. Lawrence Market has been a living symbol of the Old Toronto neighborhood and offers the authenticity of truly great food and truly passionate shopkeepers.

THE ROEHAMPTON HOTEL

CUISINE, COCKTAILS AND CLUBS: THE BEST OF TORONTO'S CULINARY AND NIGHTLIFE SCENES



The Porch

Toronto is a city full of rooftop patios, but you've probably never seen one quite like The Porch. Spanning a full building rooftop, The Porch offers good food, great drinks and a panoramic view of the city for an experience unlike any other.



KŌST

Located atop Toronto's Bisha Hotel, KÖST is a breathtaking 44th floor rooftop restaurant and bar that offers unparalleled views, outstanding food and cocktails and a pool for guests to cool off. KÖST offers Baja-inspired dishes in an ultra-luxurious yet approachable environment.



Cabana

In the city's Docklands lives Cabana Pool Bar, a massive and beautiful outdoor bar and lounge centred on a large pool with private cabanas, DJs and upscale eats provided by the famed Oliver & Bonacini group.



Sweet Jesus

Ice cream lovers rejoice! Sweet Jesus takes this delicious frozen treat to a whole new level. Offering elaborate soft serve creations as well as delicious milkshakes, it's common to find a lineup down the block at Sweet Jesus. But if you're happy to spend a little bit of time waiting, it's well worth your while.



El Catrin

Situated in Toronto's historic Distillery District, El Catrin Destileria is a trendy, stylish restaurant offering elevated Mexican plates and outstanding tequila cocktails in an authentic and beautiful environment. El Catrin also offers one of the city's biggest and best patios, allowing guests to soak up the sun.



Belsize Public House

This Mt. Pleasant Road eatery was ranked one of the best restaurants in all of Midtown Toronto. Serving elevated bar classics like house-made burgers and sausages, Belsize Public House offers ample bar space, table patio seating and TVs to catch sports games.

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Prohibition Gastrohouse Eglinton

The motto of Prohibition Gastrohouse is simple - Meet, Eat, Drink, Party. This casual and comfortable pub-style Midtown eater offers a wide array of carefully-curated craft beer and wines alongside a robust menu of upscale comfort food.



Bar Centrale

An offshoot of Terroni, a classic Toronto staple for Italian food, Bar Centrale offers outstanding casual dining and wine tastings. Boasting rustic fare in a relaxed, modern setting with a beautiful patio, Bar Centrale is a must-see in Toronto's Midtown neighborhood.

Hemmingway's

This unique and vibrant New Zealand-style pub isn't exactly what you'd expect to find in Toronto's Yorkville neighborhood. Surrounded by upscale and high-end restaurants and shopping, Hemingway's offers a refreshingly relaxed alternative. With a multi-level, year-round rooftop patio, this iconic Toronto staple offers 3 bars, 4 patios, 24 beers on tap and a menu of delicious pub grub.

HIKES, BIKES AND BEYOND: TORONTO'S GREATEST OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

For a city of its size, span and population, Toronto is chalk full of outstanding outdoor activities, from beautiful beaches to cycling trails and hikes and amusement parks

Bike Share Toronto

There are few better ways to explore the city than by bicycle. Toronto is full of waterfront cycling paths that span all the way from west to east. And to help make them accessible, Bike Share Toronto offers affordable and conveniently located bike rentals. With dozens of pick-up and drop-off locations around the city, Bike Share Toronto makes it easy to grab a bike, get to where you want to go and then drop it off hassle-free at any location.

Evergreen Brickworks

A truly unique and beautiful experience, Evergreen Brickworks is a place where the world can experience sustainable practices that enable flourishing cities of the future. What started as an abandoned brick factory has transformed into a stage for future cities and boasts exciting seasonal activities - from the Saturday Farmers Market to a hike to a lookout, an ice skating rink, art displays, a Children's Garden and more.

The Beaches

Toronto's The Beaches neighborhood will make you forget you're in the heart of Canada's biggest and most booming metropolis. Located to the east of the city, The Beaches neighborhood gets its name from its four distinct beach areas. With biking and walking trails, an abundance of volleyball courts and a vast array of relax restaurants and pubs within walking distance, The Beaches are a perfect place to spend a hot summer day.

THE Roehampton ——Hotel——



Toronto Island and Centre Island

Just a stone's throw from the downtown core are Toronto Island and Centre Island. From beaches to amusement parks, bike paths, walking trails and restaurants, the Toronto Islands feel like a world away from the hustle and bustle of the city. For transportation, head to the Harbourfront and take one of the many water-taxis making frequent trips from the mainland.



Splash Works Water Park at Canada's Wonderland

Located at Canada's Wonderland, this 20-acre waterpark is home to Whitewater Bay, the largest wave pool in the entire country. From thrilling water slides to restaurants and lounges, Splash Works is a great way to cool down on a beautiful Toronto summer day.



The CNE

The Canadian National Exhibition, affectionately known as The Ex, is an iconic Toronto event that takes place at Toronto's Exhibition Place every summer from August 18th through September 4th. Jammed with midway rides, live music, dog and pony shows and over-the-top culinary concoctions, The Ex has something on offer for everyone.

THE ROEHAMPTON HOTEL IS HAPPY TO HELP

As a proud Toronto establishment, The Roehampton Hotel is pleased to provide its guests with valuable and helpful insight to ensure they get the most out of their stay and are eager to provide the best experience possible. If you have any questions about where to go in Toronto, don't hesitate to ask – our staff will be more than happy to help!

To learn what else the city has to offer, visit <u>theroehamptonhotel.com/guides</u> for even more of The Roehampton Hotel's comprehensive Guides to Toronto.