

# **Hidden Gems of Ontario**

MAPLE LEAF COLLECT

Pelee Island

17 Davs

May 26 - June 11, 2026

Wine Tasting

**Guided Tour** 

Historic Site

Park

Community Waterfront Heritage Centre

Pelee Island Tour and

Elmira Wagon Rides

Mennonite Community

Doon Heritage Village

Sault Ste Marie Canal

National Historic Site

Canadian Bushplane Heritage Center

**Canadian Mint Tour** 

Fort Williams Historical

Schneider Haus National

Ken Seiling Village

St Jacobs Farmers Market Mennonite Story Museum



ACTIVITY LEVEL



\*\*\*

TRAVELLER

DATING

Discover the charm and diversity of Southern Ontario on this engaging journey through vibrant cities, historic towns, and scenic landscapes. Highlights include a guided tour of Sudbury's underground mine experience, the beauty of Georgian Bay with a ferry crossing from Tobermory, and a visit to the historic Mennonite communities of St. Jacobs and Elmira. Enjoy unique attractions like Pelee Island's wine tasting, the Bruce Power Nuclear Plant tour, and the fascinating stories preserved at heritage sites and museums throughout the region. This tour offers a perfect blend of culture, history, and local flavour—an unforgettable way to experience Ontario.

# Highlights

- Assiniboine Park Zoo
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- Sudbury's Big Nickel
- Dynamic Earth Underground
  Tour
- Sudbury City Tour
- Tower Hill Heritage Garden & Museum
- Sante-Marie among the Hurons
- Huronia Museum & Huron/Quendat Village
- Martyrs' Shrine
- Penetanguishene Centennial Museum
- Bruce Power Nuclear Plant Guided Tour
- Buxton Museum

# Not Included in price:

- Flights Airport/Hotel
  Transfers
- Gratuities for Tour
  Director and Driver
- Meals and activities not specified in the itinerary
- Any personal expenses
- Travel Insurance
- Pre or post tour accommodations

#### Deposit

A deposit of \$350 per person is due at the time of booking to secure your space. This is fully refundable up to 61 days prior to tour start date.

#### **Final Payment**

The final payment Is due 60 days prior to tour start date. Cancellation penalties will apply. For full details and to read our Terms & Conditions visit <u>westworldtours.com/terms</u>









WestWorld Tours & Women Xplorers have partnered with Trees4Travel. Two trees will be planted for each passenger to help reduce the carbon emissions produced by this tour.



Itinerary Kakabeka Falls

# DAY 1: Saskatchewan to Winnipeg, MB

Off we go! The coach begins in Saskatoon, travelling south through Regina onto Winnipeg for the first night. Pick ups can be arranged at points along the routing.

#### **DAY 2: Winnipeg**

Start of the day with a guided Behind the Scenes tour of the Assiniboin Park Zoo. You get to see parts of the zoo that are typically off limits to the public. The guide will give insight into the animals' health, diets, training routines and enrichment activites and learn how the zoo ensures the well-being of it's divers animal population, ranging from polar bears to bison. Next is a guided tour of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. The guide will explain the museum's stunning architecture, which symbolizes the importance of human rights across the globe. Your guide will explain the symbolism behind the design of the building and its various sections. After the guided tour, there is free time to explore the powerful exhibits focusing on both historical and contemporary human rights issues, from Indigenous rights and the Canadian experience to global human rights struggles. Gain insight into how the museum tells stories of oppression, resilience, and the ongoing fight for human rights. This evening, get to know your fellow travellers with a Welcome Dinner.

#### Day 3 – Winnipeg to Thunder Bay, ON

A travelling day with a picture stop at "Max the Moose" in Dryden, ON and then another picture stop at Kakabeka Falls. The falls are sometimes referred to as the "Niagara of the North" due to their stunning appearance and power. With a height of approximately 40m (131 feet), they are the second largest waterfall in Ontario.

# Day 4 – Thunder Bay to Sault Ste Marie, ON

Still heading east, brief pictures stops at the grain terminals on Lake Superior

and then at the Terry Fox Memorial Statue. The monument is a life-sized bronze statue that depicts Terry Fox running with his signature determination and a prosthetic leg. The site has become a place of reflection for many people, as it represents Terry's courage and the lasting impact of his cause.

#### Day 5 – Sault Ste Marie to Sudbury

A must to see in Sudbury is the Big Nickel monument! It is the largest coin in the world, about 64,607,747 times the size of a real Canadian nickel. Take an guided underground mine tour at Dynamic Earth. Descending 7 stories underground, the guide walks you through the demonstration mine to discover the evolution of mining from the turn-of-thecentury to modern day. Then a 2 hour locally guided city tour of Sudbury takes you throughout the city, providing insights into both historical and present-day mining practices, geology and the remarkable process or regreening.

# Day 6 – Sudbury to Midland

At the Tower Hill Heritage Garden & Museum, stroll along the flagstone pathway connecting the rock gardens, goldfish pone and the raised pedestal sundial, all enhanced by flowering shrubs and perennials. The Sainte-Marie among the Hurons is a historic site that was originally a French Jesuit mission established in 1639 to serve the Wendat (Huron) people. The site features reconstructed buildings and offers a fascinating glimpse into the early days of European settlement and interaction with Indigenous peoples. A local guide will provide an overview of the Jesuit mission's purpose. Sainte-Marie was the first permanent European settlement in Ontario and played a significant role in missionary work with the Wendat people. The Huronia Museum & Huron/Quendat Village represents life between AD 1500-1600, just prior to the arrival of Europeans. It has a shamans' lodge, wigwam masks, fish racks, longhouse, sweat lodge, corn field, bone pit, fur drying rack and burial rack. The museum also features an exhibit gallery featuring tens of thousands of historic artifacts ranging from photographs, native archaeology, marine heritage of Georgian Bay and art by members of the Group of Seven, and others.

#### Day 7 – Midland to Owen Sound

Discover the rich history of the Martyrs' Shrine at your own pace, from the origins of European contact with Indigenous people in Canada,

#### What's Included

- 📇 16 Nights Accommodation
- Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- Multi-night Stays in Winnipeg,
  Leamington & St. Jacobs,

Baggage handling – 1 per person (max 50lbs)

🌵 16 Meals Included

to the establishment of Catholic missions in the Wendat (Huron) Nation and Ontario's oldest European community, to the heroic deaths of the Jesuit saints which made this holy site one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Canada. The Penetanguishene Centennial Museum & Archives is dedicated to preserving and showcasing the rich history of one of Ontario's oldest communities. In Parry Sound, ON, the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre is housed in the former Canadian National Railway Station. The Marine Rail Heritage Centre was first established in 1978 by a volunteer group of history enthusiasts who wanted to preserve and expand upon Owen Sound's history as a thriving port. It preserves the area's marine, rail and industrial history.

#### Day 8 – Owen Sound to Leamington

A guide from the Bruce Power Nuclear Plant will explain nuclear energy, how nuclear reactors work and the safety measures in place to protect both the environment and the public. After the tour, takes some time to wander the Visitors Centre for more information on nuclear energy. Then it's off to the Buxom National Historic Site and Museum offers a unique look at the history of the Elgin (Buxton) Settlement which was founded in 1849.

#### Day 9 – Leamington (Pelee Island)

Hopping on the ferry today to Pelee Island which is the southernmost inhabited island in Canada, located in Lake Erie. The island is known for its natural beauty, rich history, and unique biodiversity as well home to several wineries. A fun and entertaining tour of the Island and Stone House 1891 highlighting the history of the island as well as interesting as to how the building was refurbished in an ecologically sensitive matter.



#### Day 10 – Leamington to St Jacobs

First stop upon arrival in St Jacobs is the St Jacobs Farmers' Market. Known for its vibrant atmosphere, the market offers a wide variety of fresh, locally grown produce, meats, baked goods, artisan foods, and handmade crafts that reflect the area's Mennonite heritage. Stop in at the Mennonite Story Museum that highlights the heritage of the Mennonite people, focusing on their religious practises, migration history and their role in shaping Canadian society. Then hop on a country wagon pulled by an antique John Deere tractor through beautiful farming landscape of Woolwich Township.

#### Day 11 – St Jacobs

A local step on guide will give first-hand knowledge of the storied history, culture and faith of the Mennonite and Amish Communities during a tour of the beautiful countryside. After lunch, it's off to the Doon Heritage Village and Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum. The village features carefully restored and recreated buildings, such as homes, schools, churches, and businesses, reflecting the architectural styles of the time. In contrast, the Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum is an indoor museum that focuses on the broader history of the Waterloo Region, including the development of industry, agriculture, and technology. The last stop of the day is the Schneider Haus National Historic Site which commemorates the history and culture of the Pennsylvania Germa (aka Pennsylvania Dutch) settlers who arrive in Ontario in the early 1800s. The house, built in 1816, is one of the oldest surviving buildings in the area and showcases the typical architecture of the early German-speaking settlers.

#### Day 12 – St Jacobs to Little Current

On the way to the ferry terminal, maybe catch a glimpse of Wiarton Willie or his statue anyway! Then board the ferry at Tobermory, ON for a scenic ferry ride to South Baymouth on Lake Huron.

### Day 13 – Little Current to Sault Ste Marie

The Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site guided tour offers a unique opportunity to explore one of Canada's oldest and most significant canals, which was completed in 1895 to connect Lake Superior with the lower Great Lakes. Learning about the fascinating canal's historical, cultural, and engineering significance. Observe the lock system in action, as ships navigate the canal, and see how it has evolved over time to accommodate larger vessels. A guided tour of The Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre immerses visitors in Canada's rich history of aviation, particularly bushplane operations. The centre is dedicated to preserving the legacy of bush pilots and the aircraft used to service the northern wilderness and remote communities across Canada.

# Day 14 – Sault Ste Marie to Thunder Bay

A travel day to sit back and enjoy the beautiful passing scenery.

#### Day 15 – Thunder Bay to Dryden

Take another step back in time at the Fort William Historical Park that brings Canada's fur trade history to life! During the guided tour, explore the historic fort and its various buildings, including the Hudson's Bay Company warehouse, blacksmith shop, and the homes of the fort's inhabitants. The knowledgeable guide, dressed in periodappropriate attire, will share fascinating stories about the fur trade, the role of Fort William in shaping Canada's history, and the interactions between Indigenous peoples and European settlers. There is also demonstrations of traditional trades and skills, such as woodworking, cooking, and leatherworking, which were essential to the fur trade industry.

#### Day 16 – Dryden to Winnipeg, MB

Back in Winnipeg, take a guided tour of the Canadian Mint, explaining the process of coin production and learn about the history of Canadian currency, the hi-tech processes used to mint coins and the security measures involved in handling valuable metals like gold and silver. Tonight, join your fellow travellers along with your tour director and bus driver for WestWorld Tours Farewell Dinner.

#### Day 17 – Winnipeg to Saskatchewan

As the final day of the tour arrives, there's a sense of bittersweet nostalgia in the air. You and your fellow travelers gather together, reflecting on the incredible experiences you've shared over the past couple of weeks. There are stories exchanged, laughter, and moments of quiet contemplation as everyone recalls the highlights — whether it was a historical fact that left you in awe, a stunning view you'll never forget, or an unexpected friendship formed along the way.

