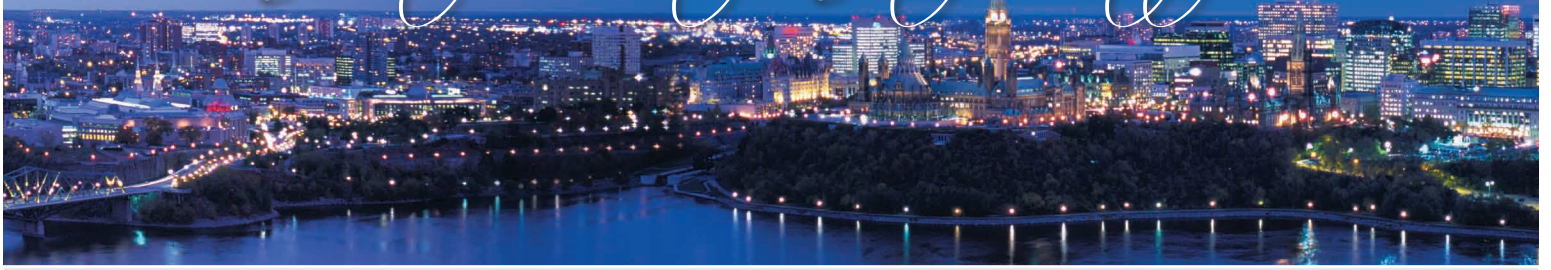


An introduction to Ottawa...



SPRING/SUMMER 2008

WELCOME TO A CITY FOR ALL SEASONS

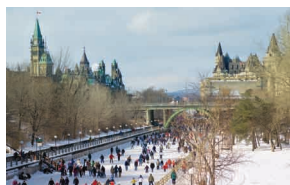
Landmark capital sites and celebrations, a wealth of cultural attractions and treasures, a beautiful natural setting, all wrapped up in a relaxed urban vibe... Ottawa is unique among Canadian cities and G8 capitals, a place of surprising contrasts and extraordinary experiences that make it a favourite for getaways and get-togethers all year round.

MUST-SEE LANDMARK CAPITAL SITES



Famous national landmarks and historic sights greet visitors around every corner in Canada's capital, and foremost among them is **Parliament Hill**. The seat of Canada's federal government and the setting for national celebrations including Canada Day each July 1, Parliament welcomes visitors for free daily tours and rides to the top of its soaring Peace Tower for a spectacular 360° view of the city.

The **Rideau Canal**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, winds through the heart of Ottawa, becoming the world's largest skating rink in winter, and a waterway filled with sightseeing cruises, pleasure boats, canoes and kayaks in summer.



The **National War Memorial**, the **Peacekeeping Monument**, the **Supreme Court of Canada**, the headquarters and training facility of the **Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride**, international **embassies**, **Rideau Hall**—home of Canada's Governor General—are sights that you simply won't see anywhere else.



EXTRAORDINARY CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS



The incomparable **Canadian Museum of Civilization** celebrates Canadian and world cultures, including a blockbuster exhibition, *The Greeks*, all summer long.

The **Canadian War Museum** and others devoted to **nature, science and technology, aviation, agriculture** and more offer endless opportunities for discovery and fascination.



Rich in cultural treasures and attractions, Ottawa invites visitors to experience the best of Canada all in one place. Interested in the visual arts? Head straight to the stunning **National Gallery of Canada**, which houses the country's national art collection and hosts outstanding special exhibitions—including a spectacular exhibition featuring the leading artists of the 1930s during the summer of 2008.



Interested in the performing arts? Take in music, dance and theatre at the **National Arts Centre** and other local theatres and venues.

Ottawa
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SEASONAL FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS



Ottawa is alive with celebration throughout the year. It all kicks off with **Winterlude**, our great winter festival held during the first three weekends of February.

May's **Canadian Tulip Festival** celebrates the return of warm weather as millions of tulips bloom in beds across the Capital.



The summer months reverberate with **Jazz, Blues, Chamber Music** and **Folk** festivals. July 1 is **Canada Day**—and Ottawa hosts the country's biggest annual birthday bash on Parliament Hill and throughout downtown.

New this August is the **Rideau Canal Festival**, a celebration of this newly named UNESCO World Heritage Site. Other festivals celebrate our multicultural communities, maple syrup, writers, dragon boats, beach volleyball, Pride week, hot air balloons, photography, animation, fall colours and a variety of delectable culinary experiences!



SPORTS, RECREATION & ADVENTURE



Ottawa is a natural for sports and outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Fall through spring, the "Sens Army" cheers on the beloved National Hockey League **Ottawa Senators**. In June 2008, Ottawa hosts the **National Hockey League Entry Draft**.

During spring, summer and fall, Ottawa's 175 km (108 miles) of paved **recreational paths** welcome cyclists, inline skaters and joggers. May's **Ottawa Race Weekend** attracts thousands of top national and international runners.



The Capital's many waterways are ideal for kayaking, canoeing and boating, and the upper Ottawa River offers some of the best whitewater rafting anywhere.



This November, the **2008 Skate Canada International** brings top international figure skaters to the city and as winter progresses, **skaters** by the tens of thousands take to the Rideau Canal, **cross-country skiers** head for the trails of Gatineau Park and **downhill skiers** hit the slopes just minutes from downtown. And in late December of this year, Ottawa plays host to the **World Junior Hockey Championships!**

RELAXED URBAN EXPERIENCES



Surprisingly intimate with a very walkable downtown, Ottawa is an urban setting that's relaxed, friendly and welcoming. The historic **ByWard Market** just east of Parliament Hill is a visitor favourite: a farmers' market and shopping district by day, with chic dining, outdoor cafés and lively clubs and pubs by night.

Dining in Ottawa ranges from Five Diamond fare at **Signatures at Le Cordon Bleu** and **Le Baccara** to more relaxed, casual fare—with a new **Savour Ottawa** program that's all about locally produced and prepared foods and menus. Sightseeing comes in many flavours, from walking tours to boats, buses and rickshaws.



For a change of pace, the **Casino du Lac-Leamy** offers exciting gaming and entertainment.



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