

Tourism & Culture

There is much to see and do in the Municipality of Port Hope. This historic town has grown rapidly since the arrival and settlement of four families in 1793. In 1834 Port Hope had 1,500 residents and was incorporated as a town. As a result of this early growth, Port Hope can boast to having over 270 Heritage Designated Properties, more per capita than anywhere else in Canada. Self-guided walking and driving tour maps are available to enjoy the heritage and architecture of the town. The Canadian Firefighters' Museum has a fine exhibit of firefighting equipment and memorabilia on display and is open during the summer months, as is Dorothy's House Museum in the Village of Garden Hill.

Shopping is second to none in Port Hope, rumoured to be the antique capital of rural Ontario, with numerous antique and specialty shops. Dine in one of many fine restaurants, cafes, pubs or teashops. There are so many beautiful bed and breakfast establishments, that a B&B association has been formed.

Stay in grand Victorian mansions or cozy homes and enjoy the hospitality of the hosts as they serve you an unforgettable gourmet breakfast.

Upon completion of a \$2 million expansion, the Cameco Capitol Arts Centre boasts an efficient box office, luxurious reception area and a second venue for theatre, concerts, weddings and other private functions. The centre also hosts the Municipality of Port Hope's Tourism Office and the Visitors' Information Centre.

The Municipality of Port Hope offers some of the most diverse year-round fishing in Ontario. Anglers can fly fish in the clean cold waters of the majestic Ganaraska River that runs through the heart of town and empties into Lake

Ontario. This river is excellent for trout and salmon fishing. Charter boats will take anglers out on Lake Ontario during the summer months.

If you are interested in outdoor activities, there are excellent hiking trails along Lake Ontario, the Ganaraska River and Ganaraska Forest Centre. Numerous recreational activities can be enjoyed at this year-round facility including ATVing, off-road motorcycling, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

The countryside back roads are perfect for cyclists to take a scenic tour around the Municipalities pretty villages and hamlets.

Port Hope is host to a plethora of festivals and events. Float Your Fanny Down the Ganny is a ten kilometre river race that takes place in April. This festival commemorates a devastating flood in downtown Port Hope in 1980. Canoes, kayaks and crazy crafts maneuver their way down the Ganaraska River to the delight of the thousands of spectators. Canada Day celebrations include a parade, fireworks and a fun-filled family festival. The All-Canadian Jazz Festival turns downtown into a lively weekend event in September that draws thousands of fans. The oldest and longest running historic house tour is a sell out every year the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The Port Hope Agricultural Fall Fair is another one of Canada's oldest, also held in September. Garden Tours, Antique Cars and Farms Machinery Shows, a Vintage Film Festival are some others you won't want to miss. Port Hope just never slows down, and the fun continues into Christmas with a magical festival of trees at the Capitol Theatre, a Candlelight Walk and Santa Claus Parade. Memorial Park is transformed into a Victorian Village with twinkling facades of the town's well known buildings. The park is decorated with dozens of trees and lights for your viewing pleasure until January 2nd.

Port Hope is also home to a multitude of talented artists and artisans. The Northumberland Art Gallery and the Northumberland Hills Studio Tour, are great opportunities to view their exhibits.

Whatever your interests may be, we invite you to come for the day, and stay the night. We are only one hour east of Toronto.

To find out more about Port Hope Tourism, **call 1-888-767-8467, e-mail tourism@porthope.ca or check out our web site at www.visitporthope.ca**

