Learn more page

Want to get off the beaten path, away from the touristy stuff, do what Ottawans like to do, and meet some locals? Want to meet people from Ottawa, and do stuff with them…. Just following all of the other tourists around – want to do something real and different.

Value the time that you will be spending in Ottawa, but don’t have time to do all the research. Only here for a short time, and want to make maximum use of available time.

Have been to Ottawa before, seen some stuff, but are looking for something new and different.

Want to match what is going on around town when we are visiting, with what I (we) like to do at home.

Want to get out of town (a bit) and do something interesting and exciting. Want some adventure, and have a bit more time to make that happen.

Family

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| Why would you want an itinerary? | What are the OHTItinerary options |
| Tired of touristy things and just want to have a fun family activity – go for a swim, bowl, movie, and go to a favorite restaurant of Ottawa families. | Standard - Single Day  Standard - Two Day |
| Family is at a particular stage, and is easily bored, will get tired after staying out all day, and is choosy about what it does and eats. | Customized Family |
| We are here for a week, and would like to go out of town for a couple of days for an adventure. | Adventure Itinerary |

Business

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| --- | --- |
| Problem | OHTI solution |
| Typically sit in the hotel room, order room service, and watch TV… | Standard – Single Day  Standard – Two Day |
| I am staying for the weekend, and want to plan an adventure. Want to get out of town (a bit) and do something interesting and exciting. | Adventure Itinerary |
| Only here for a short time, and want to make maximum use of available time to fit in some activities. | Customized Business |

Adventure

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| --- | --- |
| Problem | OHTI solution |
| I like to canoe, bike, kayak, hike, climb at home but I’m not aware of the best options in the Ottawa region. | Customized Adventure Itinerary |
| Have a rental car, and want to go on a day trip, and see some interesting sites in the region, or I am staying for the weekend, and want to plan an adventure. | Customized Adventure Itinerary |
| I have three days to take a canoe trip but need some help planning and getting supplies. | Customized Adventure Itinerary |

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Daytrips:

Chris Earley, Tracy C. Read, 100 Nature Hotspots in Ontario

* Amherst Island
* Barron Canyon
* Bon Echo
* Bonnechere Cave
* Britannia Conservation Area
* Elbow Lake Env Ed Centre (Perth)
* Foley Mtn Cons Area (Westport)
* Frontenac Prov Park (N. of Kningston)
* Gillie’s Grove Arnprior
* Lake Dore – Eganville
* Mer Bleue

One and two day itinerary ideas

* Walk around parliament
* Drive the Ottawa river circuit
* Drive the Rideau Canal circuit
* Bike the bridges
* Bike the Gatineau
* Drive the Gatineau Park
* Drive the Ottawa Valley
* Kayak for a day
* Canoe trip

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| **Workflow**  Homepage:  Contents:   * Mission Statement * Concept:   + Travellers problem – too much planning, or too much wandering.   + Solution – connect with someone that know.   + Product – a customized itinerary. * Process:   1. Survey   2. Choose a product   3. Pay   4. OHTI reviews survey and creates an itinerary.   5. Itinerary is delivered.   6. Feedback survey is sent.   7. Feedback survey is received. * Get Started: link to survey |  |
| Survey:   * Who are you – general profile – age, family, other? * Travel preferences/Lifestyle preferences: Food, Activities, Entertainment * Selection from a list of options * Other – special requests |  |
| Choose a product:   * No. of days * Level of detail   Register as a customer – provide return email address.  Pay |  |
| Develop Itinerary – no webpage requirement. This is done independently. |  |
| Delivery of itinerary: 2 options,   1. Itinerary is uploaded to the customer account. 2. Itinerary is emailed from OHTI email. |  |
| Feedback is connected to the specific itinerary. |  |
|  |  |

***Ottawa Hometown Travel (OHT) Itineraries***

***‘Featured’ and ‘Customized’ daily itineraries to enhance and guide your stay***

*‘We will make our hometown feel like your hometown when you come to Ottawa.’*

***Hosted by Anthony Hadwen (ahadwen@sympatico.ca)***

***Vacation Travellers:*** On previous trips have you come home feeling that you did not discover the true nature of the place that you just spent a lot of money to see. Now you can use OHT Itineraries’ recommendations to find out where to have fun, eat well, beat the crowds, find adventure, and discover hidden locations that will guarantee that you will connect with Ottawa and its people.

***Business Travellers:*** On your last trip, you sat in your hotel room watching TV, wishing you had something else planned. Let us show you where to eat well, get exercise, have an excursion, read in a quiet public ‘oasis’, and blow off some steam before or after your conference or meeting.

***New Arrivals:*** If you have just moved here or immigrated here, you are aware that Ottawa is a great place, but you are not sure where to start your discovery of it. We can help you discover your next favourite family restaurant, snack location, ski trail, bike route, or picnic spot. Let us recommend day trips, family excursions, entertainment options or other activities that will get you settled in to living your life in this great town.

***Rediscovering Ottawa:*** You know that Ottawa has a lot to offer, but you have been busy, and now you feel that you have lost touch with what is new in town and with what makes Ottawa such a special place. We can get you reconnected to where to eat, hang out and/or see what is new in town.

**Check Out Ottawa Hometown Travel Itineraries!**

We will get you away from the crowds and going to the favourite spots that Ottawans enjoy on a regular basis. OHT Itineraries are delivered with the latest tips and techniques, and enough detailed information to help you move easily around between recommended spots. An itinerary is currently available for each customer type described above. Each itinerary includes recommended,

* Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner restaurants – two options are provided for each (typically based on price).
* Shop spot – a store that offers unique, quality, local merchandise.
* Snack spot – a local spot that will convince you that Ottawa is a world class snacking destination.
* Urban Oasis – a quiet, out of the way spot in the area to regroup, read a book, or just relax between activities.
* Excursion – skate, bike, hike, walk, ski, jog… Two options are provided. Each option includes tips on location, timing, rentals (as required), to make this easier to fit into your busy schedule.
* Entertainment options – Multiple options for clubs and pubs, sports events, theatre, music, etc., are provided based on dates and seasonality.

***Discount coupons*** are occasionally provided whenever these are made available by recommended vendors. Recommendations are not influenced by the availability of coupons. The recommendation always comes first.

**Featured (one day) itineraries** are pre-defined and available at a set price. There will always be one featured itinerary per customer type described above, but these are offered and available to everyone. They are renewed on a regular basis with new recommendations and the latest updates.

Cost $25. Coupons are also provided when available.

**Customized itineraries** are available for an additional charge. Each customized itinerary is designed to match location, cost, time and activity preferences. A questionnaire is provided to capture this information and guide the design of the itinerary. Multiple day visits and extended excursions can be planned with Customized Itineraries.

Cost $50 per day. Coupons are also provided when available.

**Hosted by Anthony Hadwen** – born and (mostly) raised in Ottawa – recently retired IT consultant and former IBM manager. I lived abroad as a kid, backpacked and hitchhiked in my teens, and most recently travelled with kids (of the bored teenager variety). I am looking forward to lots of travelling with my wife in the future. I will always plan our trips with the perspective of connecting with the unique culture of the town and people that I am visiting. It is with that spirit that OHT Itineraries are designed. Ottawa is a great city, with classic tourist sites, but also with a unique character dating back to its roots as a rough and tumble lumber town. Above all, everything about Ottawa is influenced by the spectacular natural environment that surrounds it. Come and discover. I love Ottawa and I want to help you appreciate what Ottawa and its people all about.

***Ottawa Hometown Travel Itineraries (OHTI)***

*We want to make our hometown feel like your hometown when you come to visit.*

**Have you,**

* Spent hours and hours navigating websites to plan your next trip, realizing in the end you will just be doing what everyone else in the crowd is doing.
* Come home from your expensive vacation feeling unsatisfied and that you did not discovered the true nature of the place that you went to see.
* Sat in your business trip hotel room watching TV wishing you had something else planned.

**OHTI offers a solution** to tired and boring travel plans – **customized travel itineraries**. We are commited to learning about you and then creating a travel plan for your next trip to Ottawa, that will connect you to the real Ottawa and will be customized to your personal requirements.

**Process:**

1. Start by filling out the questionnaire and a calendar with your current schedule and travel plans.
2. We will set up a transaction with our commitment to you (average cost per day is $30).
3. Int a few days you will receive a detailed and customized travel itinerary. We will keep in touch to answer follow up questions.
4. When you return home we would love to hear back from you with your feedback.

**Itineraries include:**

* Interesting day trips and excursions.
* Recommendations for which tourist sites are better than other ones.
* Inside information on what is going on in entertainment and sports viewing.
* Recommendations for local daytime activities, restaurants, and nightlife.
* Locations, contact information, pricing, previews, and timing tips for each itinerary item.

**OHTI is for the traveller that wants to:**

* Maximize the time they have in Ottawa
* Connect with Ottawa and Ottawans
* Maximize the time spent seeing the tourist attractions
* Get off the beaten path – away from the tourist crowd and find out what Ottawa is really about
* Do stuff in their free time that they would do in their own hometown

**Hosted by Anthony Hadwen** – born and raised in Ottawa – recently retired IT consultant and IBM manager. I lived abroad as a kid, backpacked and hitchhiked in my teens, and most recently travelled with kids (of the bored teenager variety). Ottawa is a great city, with classic tourist sites, but with a unique character dating back to its roots as a lumber town, and with a close connection to the spectacular surrounding natural environment. I love Ottawa and I want to help you discover what Ottawa is all about on your trip.