

TORONTO

25 SECRETS



SKIP THE TOURIST TRAPS!

Explore like a local

TORONTO



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Explore like a local



25 Cool Things to do in Toronto

TIME FOR A MEAL

1. Delight Yourself with Delicious Burgers

Address: Dac Biet Burger- 213 Church St, Toronto, ON M5B 1Y7, Canadá,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Forget adding ketchup to this burger! The name of this Asian-American burger joint, Dac Biet, is a Vietnamese word and means unusual, special, awesome. Try the Pho Burger cooked with beansprouts, basil lime, sriracha, and hosin sauce and you will understand what Dac Biet really means. Richard Fong and Peter Duong, the owners of this restaurant, located at the south part of the Ryerson campus, have found a new fusion formula: a burger-based spin through Asia. They give their burgers incredible Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese treatments. Delight yourself with the Asian-inspired flavors such as kimchi, char siu (barbecue pork), house-pickled daikon and more. It is always great to experience new tastes!

2. Asian Food in a Great Style

Address: R&Dspadina- 241 Spadina Ave, Toronto, ON M5T 2E2, Canadá ,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Do you want to have a MasterChef food experience? In this stylish restaurant in Chinatown you can taste some dishes that Eric Chong, the winner of the first season of MasterChef Canada created for the challenge such as the yummy chicken-and-black truffle pot stickers. Eric and Alvin Leung, the owners of this restaurant, are innovators in the field of Canadian-Asian cuisine. Here Eastern dishes meet Western style, and traditional ingredients are given a vanguard treatment. For appetizers go for the venison chili spring rolls with cheese curds, charred scallion and jalapeño sour cream. You can indulge yourself with the Chinese five-spice chicken served with a puffy Hong Kong egg waffle, kung pao sauce and Sichuan maple syrup for a real treat. Do not forget to order some cocktails with an Asian twist, such as Piña Colada Bubble Tea with tapioca pearls or the Red Star Punch made with oolong-infused gin. Finally, enjoy the artistic atmosphere of the restaurant. A

mural featuring Chairman Mao complete with Paul Stanley, and walls splashed with graffiti are just some of the highlights!

3. Tea, Fresh Cookies and Frozen Yogurt

Address: The Red Bench- 611 Yonge St, Toronto, ON M4Y 1Z5, Canadá ,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

How cool would it be to eat fresh cookies with exactly the flavor that you want? In the Red Bench you can create your own cookies by selecting which dough, and choosing two mix-in options such as raisins, walnuts, mini M&M's, vanilla chips, chocolate chips, peanuts and sprinkles. After that, your creation is baked in the oven for just a few minutes and you then have incredibly tasty Red Bench Cookies! They are crisp, sweet, chewy, soft in the middle and crunchy on the outside. Why not enjoy your super fresh cookies with a loose-leaf tea also. If you are not in the mood for cookies, you can treat yourself to frozen yogurt. There are six types of organic frozen yogurt from a larger roster of flavors that are all made in house. Grab your snack, sit on the red bench in front of the store and enjoy your day!

4. Have an absolutely divine hot dog

Address: Let's be Frank - 460 Spadina Ave, Toronto, ON M5T 2G8, Canadá ,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

At Let's Be Frank, located at College and Spadina, you can explore the endless possibilities of hot dogs. And let's be frank, the hot dogs are delicious. The [menu](#) has a wide variety of different types of dogs with all sorts of toppings allowing you to create unexpected combinations. A highly recommended choice has to be the Po' Boy Hot Dog with pulled pork, coleslaw, homemade barbeque sauce, and hickory sticks. If you want to be adventurous and try something more unusual, there are interesting combinations such as the Dessert Dog, a deep-fried banana with peanut butter, jam and Nutella. Or maybe you're happy with what you know best, then for a more conventional option you can order a yummy Naked Dog. You can also choose the size of your meal according to the size of your appetite. All hot dogs are offered in three sizes - a 3'5" slider, 6" regular and an 8" big dog. Another advantage of this place is that they open late on the weekends, which makes it the perfect place to go for some quality, satisfying food after

a night out.

5. Eat Fresh: From Farm to Table

Address: FarmHouse Tavern - 1627 Dupont St, Toronto, ON M6P 3S8, Canadá , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Experience the countryside without leaving the city. This place brings the quiet atmosphere of the countryside to the Junction Triangle. The interior has an old-school country decor theme. The walls are covered with rusted-out license plates, cow skulls, vintage news clippings, LP covers and antique photos. Feast your way through a delicious brunch there and discover some interesting menu choices, all of which are far superior alternatives to the traditional bacon and eggs brunch. The Farmhouse Brunch burger is a must-eat, topped with homemade bacon, goats cheese, a fried duck egg, lettuce and special sauce it's simply delicious. Other options are Eggs in a Nest and Eggs Benny with Gravlox. All of them are very tasty and very fresh!

GRAB A DRINK

6. Have a Beer with Fish and Chips

Address: Cloak and Dagger Irish Pub - [394 College Street \(east of Bathurst\) Toronto](#) , [MAP](#) / [FB](#)

If you are looking for a place to have just a few beers or hang out with your friends, the Cloak and Dagger is a great choice. This bar is compact and cozy with an Irish vibe. There are tall tables, plush booths, a small dance floor, and a tiny stage area for live bands to perform. The 'L' shaped bar has six bar stools and all the draught towers are above the bar. It may be small but there is a large variety on tap. There are twenty-four beers on tap including names such as Great Lakes Winter Ale, Creemore Premium Lager, Stratford Pils, Moosehead, Strongbow, Nickelbrook Winter Bock, Creemore Urbock, Guinness, and much more. As a beer appetizer, you can order fish and chips, tacos or deep-fried pickles.

7. Drink as a Canadian

Address: The Madison Avenue Pub - 14 Madison Ave, Toronto, ON M5R 2S1, Canada , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Established in 1983, The Madison Avenue Pub, also known as Maddy, is a historical landmark and a unique pub. Although it is very common place for the University students, Maddy is the perfect hangout spot for anybody. Once a basement pub, the Maddy has expanded to fill three Victorian Houses to create a dynamic English Pub. Old-century trees, flowerpots and hanging baskets compose the rustic terrace and create a cozy deck. The patio alone consists of five levels, each with its own bar, and each room has its own special attributes that appeal to different people. The food menu includes pizza, salad, mozzarella sticks, chicken, roaster wings, spring rolls, voodoo chicken fingers, crispy calamari, pulled pork carnitas, quesadilla nachos, fries

and onion rings. You should arrive early as tables fill quickly. It is guaranteed that you will have a great pub experience!

8. Appreciate Splendid Wine in a Charming Place

Address: [Archive](#) - 909 Dundas St W, Toronto, ON M6J 1V9, Canada ,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

For all wine lovers, this charming bar decorated with wine maps and charts is a cozy after-work destination. Archive offers an excellent selection of Ontario's wines with choices from [Beamsville](#), [Jordan](#), and [Prince Edward County](#). The best wines may well be Norman Hardie's unfiltered chardonnay and Philippe Viret Renaissance, a red wine produced by a method called cosmoculture. The wines are available in three and five-ounce pours, as well as by the bottle. The food menu is focused on small plates called cicchetti. There are about ten varieties including baccalà mantecato, chestnut and speck, and white bean and anchovy. They also serve Portuguese salted cod and potato fritters called *pasteis de bacalhau*. Spoil yourself with great wine and a tasty appetizer!

NIGHTTIME FUN

9. Dance All Night Long with the Best DJs

Address: Nest- 423 College St, Toronto, ON M5T 1T1, Canadá [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

If you are looking to check out well-known DJs, this is the place to go. Nest hosts a mix of international and local DJs, has an impressive sound system and is equipped with LED lights that create a cool light show. The house is enormous- 13,000 square feet- but the techno sounds of the local DJs are loud and clear wherever you are. The DJ booth is located at one end of the space, with bottle service stations scattered throughout the club. The space is decorated in a curious style. Giant nests are all over the place, and huge paper airplanes appear to be taking flight from their nesting place on the wall. Things heat up quickly inside Nest, so have a vodka soda or a shot of Alize, and enjoy the night!

10. Party All Night

Address: The Everleigh-580 King Street West_Toronto, ON [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Although it is a nightclub, the Everleigh offers more than just a party. The place located at King West combines art, music, design and service to provide an entertaining social experience. A night at Everleigh is unforgettable! The interior of the club is stunningly decorated according to the theme of the club, reinterpreted Canadiana and is divided into two rooms. The southern room represents southern Ontario and there are booths for bottle service, as well as a second bar. The northern room represents cottage country and has vintage-looking sofas and loveseats with old-time typewriters. This area also has billiards and the walls are covered by original [Alec Monopoly](#) art. Don't miss the colorful and delicious cocktails created by the award-winning mixologist Nishan Nepulaonga. The vibe from this club is totally unique!

THAT'S A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT!

11. Watch Toronto Skyline from Toronto Island Ferry

Address: Toronto Island Ferry - 9 Queens Quay W , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

The perfect place to get the most stunning view of Toronto is by heading out into the water. A ferry ride across Lake Ontario provides a breathtaking perspective of the downtown core. To cross the lake by ferry, go to Jack Layton Ferry Terminal where you can purchase tickets there or alternatively, online. Views from Ward's Island in the east to Hanlan's Point in the west are equally fantastic, but Centre Island remains the favorite choice for most people. Whether you are cycling, jogging or just walking around, a trip to the Toronto Island gives you the chance to see a dazzling skyline from Toronto.

12. A Stunning Spot for a Romantic Sunset

Address: Riverdale Park - 550 Broadview Ave , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Riverdale Park offers a delightful view and atmosphere for watching Toronto's beautiful sunset. Buy a drink in the supermarket or grab a hot beverage from Rooster Coffee House, sit on the grass with your friends or family, and enjoy the sunset at Riverdale Park. Watching the sunset from the park is nice, but watching it from the comfort of a picnic blanket can be amazing. At the hilltop located on the east side next to Broadview Avenue, you will have an unobstructed view of the downtown area and surrounding skyline. It is the perfect spot for photographing the sundown! Nevertheless, don't go to the park just for the sunset, go for running or walking around too. Riverdale Park is definitely worth a visit!

A LITTLE BIT OF NATURE

13. Hike along Splendid Lakeshores and Vibrant Woodlands

Address: Bruce Peninsula National Park - Cyprus Lake Rd, Tobermory,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Escape from the stress of city life and become immersed in nature at Bruce Peninsula National Park. The Park is located directly on the Georgian Bay coastline, where the cliffs and caves of the Niagara Escarpment create a picturesque landscape. In the park you will find Canada's oldest and longest footpath, called Bruce Trail, that provides the only continuous public access to the magnificent Niagara Escarpment, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. Prepare yourself for hiking with breathtaking views! You could walk the Cyprus Lake Trail, which is five kilometers long and lasts around two and a half hours (approximately), or the **Marr Lake Trail**, three kilometers long, that offers a path to the park's scenic cliffs and shore. If you are fan of short trails you can do The Horse Lake trail that ends at a boulder beach on Georgian Bay. What are you waiting for? Go hiking!

14. Go Camping near Toronto

Address: Bronte Creek - 1219 Burloak Dr, Oakville, ON L6M 4J7, Canadá,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

If you want to take a little break from the bustling city, Bronte Creek Provincial Park is just a forty five minutes ride from Toronto, where you can go camping with family or friends. In the park, you will find a campsite with toilets, laundry, car parking, and a recreation complex. The main attraction of this park is the swimming pool; at 1.8 acres this makes it one of Canada's largest outdoor pools. You can find it located at the Recreation Complex in the Day-Use area. Or you could spend your time at Bronte Creek riding bicycles or fishing. Many different species of birds and owls can also be found here. Enjoy some nature!

PARKS

15. Escape from the City inside the City

Address: High Park - 1873 Bloor St W, Toronto, ON M6R 2Z3, Canadá,
[MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

If you want to get in touch with nature without leaving the city, High Park is centrally located on 399 acres of land in the heart of the Toronto and provides visitors with an incredible sense of wilderness. High Park is home to countless species of wildlife and has something for everyone; you can go for a walk in the beautiful gardens, go for a run, cycle, play baseball, look at yourself in the mirror, or educate yourself about Newton's laws by pulling objects. You can also catch a criminal with DNA fingerprinting, pilot a rocket chair, journey to the center of a human heart, explore a planetarium, climb a rock wall and bust moves on a dance floor that turns energy into light power. The museum also has a giant domed Omnimax cinema. Check out the website for special events. One day will likely be not enough for Ontario Science Centre!

18. Explore Contemporary Art in the Distillery District

Address: Corkin Gallery- Corkin Gallery 7 Tank House Lane, Distillery District Toronto, [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

If you are looking for contemporary art, you should head to the Corkin Gallery. This gallery was founded in 1978 and is now right in the middle of the Distillery Historic District. It is a ten thousand-foot facility recognized worldwide for its contribution to contemporary art. It has five separate exhibition spaces and warehouses with over one thousand works-of-art and with as many as fifty on display at any one time. The space allows several exhibitions to interact with one another and it facilitates discussion among artists, writers, curators, museums and private collections. Corkin Gallery represents an impressive roster of artists whose works explore issues concerning the environment, identity, consumerism, photography, concrete abstract painting, digital media and sculpture. Artists such as [Barbara Astman](#), [Andrés Marroquín](#), [Françoise Sullivan](#), [Miles Gertler](#), [Sondra Meszaros](#), [Brendon McNaughton](#), [Frank Mädler](#) can be seen in Corkin Gallery. The Gallery attend art fairs at The Armory in New York, Art Basel,

Art Hong Kong, and Art Toronto. If you are fond of contemporary gallery, you do not want to miss this place!

DON'T BE LAZY

19. Kayak down the Humber River

Address: Humber River- Toronto Adventures - 105 Riverwood Pkwy, Toronto, ON M8Y 4E4, Canadá , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Challenge yourself with kayaking! Kayaking is the most adventurous and eco-friendly way to explore the raw beauty of Humber River. The river is one of Toronto's hidden gems and is home to a huge variety of wildlife, including Beaver, Blue Heron, Deer, Coyotes, Egret, Mink and much more. Paddle, get fitted in your gear and enjoy scenic kayak trips down the river. You can rent a kayak at Toronto Adventures store, located at the shore of the river, just five minutes from the Old Mill subway station. They also offer courses for beginners and kayaks for one and two people. Kayak down the Humber River for some spectacular views!

20. Cycle in Toronto Island Park

Address: Toronto Island Park - Jack Layton Ferry Terminal at 9 Queens Quay W [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Go for a bike ride in Toronto Island Park! There is no better way to explore an area than by bicycle! A short ferry ride transports you to an oasis away from the stressful city. Toronto Island provides an excellent, refreshing escape from downtown with a dazzling view of Lake Ontario on one side, and the city skyline on the other. The island is actually a group of islands connected by pathways and bridges, and there you can ride a bicycle along a nature trail. You can ride through the charming homes on Ward's Island, or through the gardens of Centre Island, or even along the beach on Hanlan's Point. When you are riding in Toronto Island Park, you will find miles of beaches, green grass, lively flowers and astonishing panoramic views of the Toronto skyline. There is nothing quite like a bike ride on the Island! You can rent a bicycle for an hour, or for the full day, it is up to you!

SHOPPING TIME

21. Find All Sorts of Things in One Single Place

Address: Kensington Market- The market is bordered by Spadina Avenue, Dundas Street, Bathurst Street and College Street , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Soak in Kensington's picturesque atmosphere at Kensington Market. Kensington Market is a distinctive multicultural neighborhood that has managed to retain its charm and wonderful diversity. A visit to Kensington Market can be considered as a trip around the world. The shops are packed with goods from Europe, the Caribbean, the Middle East, South America and Asia. The market has also a counterculture vibe. You can visit vintage shops, independent grocers, eclectic restaurants and cafés. The lively market has cacophony of sounds, piles of produce, exotic spices and sweet treats. During the summer, the area goes car-free on the last Sunday of the month as the streets are taken over by shoppers, street performers and the quirky inhabitants of the neighborhood. A cosmopolitan atmosphere truly takes over the market!

22. Get Lost in the Best Food Market in Canada

Address: St Lawrence Market, 92 - 95 front st east - Toronto, Canada, [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

St Lawrence Market has existed for over two centuries, and in 2002 was honored as the world's best food market by the National Geographic. This massive attraction features numerous antiques vendors, cheese vendors, fishmongers, butchers, bakers, pasta makers and independently owned shops. You will find a little bit of everything at this lively, multi-cultural market. Shop for fresh produce, gourmet food items and artisan apparel. There are incredible places that you will not want to miss in the market. One must-eat place is St. Urbain Bagel, where bagels have been boiled and baked in a hot wood-burning oven for over 20 years. Also, don't forget to eat Fish & Chips at Buster's Sea Cove, which serves up three generous portions of battered golden fish on a bed of curly fries and a side of homemade coleslaw. If you are looking for something more natural you can find a fresh-squeezed orange juice, vegetable drinks or smoothies from the juice chain called Freshly Squeezed. Delight your taste buds with the best food experience at the best

Canadian market!

DAY TRIP

23. Discover Ontario's Countryside

Address: St. Jacobs - St. Jacobs, ON, Canada , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Don't forget about a visit to the countryside. In the city of St Jacobs, located in southwest Ontario, you can browse through stylish shops, craft studios and galleries. You can also go to the [Mennonite Story](#) Museum and learn about the fascinating culture of the Mennonite and Amish communities that occupy this part of Ontario. Although the main attraction of St Jacobs is the Market District, The Farmers' Market & Flea Market are said to be Canada's largest farmers market with over five hundred vendors. The markets show the strong agricultural activity of the area and provide an exclusive place to shop. You will find fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, cheese, baking of every description, crafts galore, plus local delicacies like sausage, apple fritters and pure maple syrup, and homegrown produce brought from local farms. Very fresh and tasty products are all around here!

ENTERTAINMENT

24. Go to a Baseball Game

Address: Rogers Centre - Blue Jays Way, Toronto, ON M5V 1J1, Canadá, [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Perhaps you're a huge baseball fan, or maybe you don't even know the rules of baseball, you still can't fail to get excited by the atmosphere of a game in Rogers Centre. The Stadium, also known as Sky Dome, was opened in 1989 and hosts concerts, trade shows and conventions and is also home to the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team and the Toronto Argonauts football team. One of the best ways to know the stadium is by going to a baseball game. Watching a Blue Jays match is a remarkable experience, feel the vibe of the game by drinking a great beer, celebrate the home run with high fives and wear the giant number one foam finger. Let's go Blue Jays!

25. Unwind with some Coloring and a Relaxing Drink

Address: Gladstone Hotel - [1214 Queen Street West Toronto, ON](#) , [MAP](#) / [FB](#) / [LINK](#)

Let your inner child loose and color! Adult coloring has recently gained popularity for its stress-relieving abilities and intellectual benefits. Bearing this in mind, the Gladstone hotel began to promote Adult Coloring events every Friday at their bar. Built in 1889, Gladstone is the city's oldest hotel still in business, and it hosts phenomenal events in the city of Toronto, such as its coloring workshop. The workshop has all the supplies you'll need, color pencils, drawings and great music! You can decompress by drinking and drawing your way to the weekend. Grab a drink special and try to stay in the lines!

WHERE TO STAY

Below is a selectin of the best places to stay in Toronto recommended by locals!

[Book Now on the links bellow to get the Exclusive Genius Discount Deal!](#)

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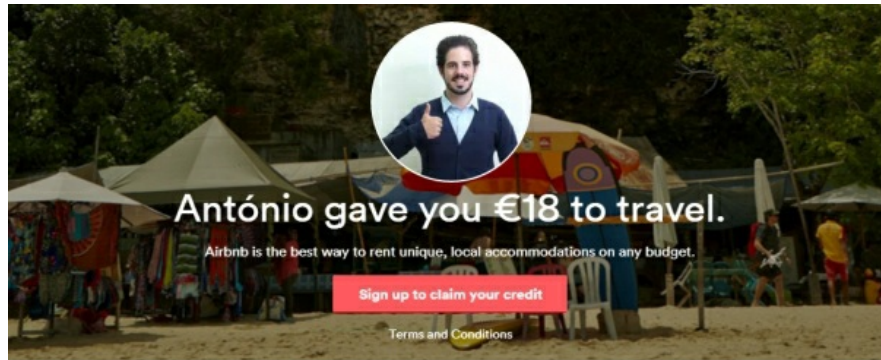
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