

Manchester House Bed and Breakfast

653 Main Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14301
www.manchesterhouse.com

SELF - GUIDED TOUR CANADA ALONG THE NIAGARA RIVER

Cross the Rainbow Bridge, (start measuring distance when exiting the bridge), double back to the river's edge after leaving the bridge and proceed along the Niagara River (away from the Falls) through the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario, heading North. You can't get lost, because the entire trip is parallel to the Niagara River.

Golf Club and Cart rental is available at the Whirlpool Public Golf Course (905) 356-1140. You may wish to return later; this would be a good time to drop in and find out about Fees and availability of tee-off times.

The Whirlpool Aero Car - The Spanish Engineer Leonardo Torres Quevedo designed and built it in 1916 - crosses far above the river's whirlpool, offering a spectacular view (C\$11.00 adult, C\$6.50 child ages 6 through 12).

The Niagara Glen Nature area offers 2 1/2 miles of hiking trails down into the Gorge to the River's edge. From Mid-May through Mid-September a Park Naturalist conducts guided nature walks (Fee charged); consult posted schedules. You could devote half a day to exploring this area.

The one hundred acre Niagara Parks Botanical Garden (4.6 miles - parking fee) is Canada's only residential horticultural school. Students are responsible for maintaining the campus and numerous display gardens. Since 1936, the dedicated work has resulted in the extensive floral displays. This is the site of the "World's Largest Butterfly Conservatory" open from 9AM to 5PM year-around. Admission C\$ 11.00 adult; C \$6.50 child. Plan to spend a half day exploring here.

The Sir Adam Beck Plant Number 1, built in 1917, was for many years the largest power plant in North and South America. The newer Plant Number 2 is open for half-hour long guided tours (Fee is charged). The Floral Clock (6.0 miles) is replanted each year. About 15,000 plants form the 40 foot diameter clock face. The clock is just north of the Power Plant, and is worth a brief stop. The adjacent Centennial Lilac Gardens contain over 1,000 lilac shrubs which bloom in late May.

We think Queenston Heights Park (6.5 miles) just north of the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge is one of those undiscovered gems often missed by tourists. The restaurant, open April to January 1, (905) 262-4274 has an outstanding view of the Lower Niagara River as well as good food and drink. The monument to General Brock is closed until further notice. Band concerts are given in the Park from 3:00 - 5:00 on Sunday afternoon in July and August.

McFarland House (12.5 miles C\$2.50 admission charge) was built in the early 1800's and was used as a hospital in the war of 1812. This restored house is open to visitors during the summer months; closed on Monday. There is a Tea Garden on the Patio.

Fort George (14 miles) is open from late May through early September. Admission cost is about \$C10.00 adult, \$C6.00 child. Fort George and Fort Niagara across the river portray an era when the river separated two countries at war with each other.

The Shaw Festival across the road from Fort George offers more than just George Bernard Shaw plays. Tickets may be ordered in advance from the Festival Office (1-800-724-2934) and a waiting list is maintained if a performance is sold out. Consider phoning well in advance of your visit to the area to book. It is worth a visit.

Niagara-On-The-Lake (14.5 miles) is a pleasant village with many small shops and lots of tourists. Be prepared to hunt for a parking place, and then plan to walk around town. The Prince of Wales and the Royal Park Hotels usually offer English Afternoon Tea. Both are located on Picton Street in the Town Centre. Queen Street (through about 200 Queen St.) has a number of restaurants.

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