

# NIAGARA FALLS STORY IDEAS - WHAT'S NEW FALL 2021

(as of October 2021)

# NEW

• NEW - THE OPG WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS EXTENDED - 101 NIGHTS OF TWINKLING LIGHTS! November 13, 2021 – February 21, 2022

The 39<sup>th</sup> annual <u>Ontario Power Generation (OPG) Winter Festival of Lights</u>, Canada's largest FREE outdoor light festival, is extending its duration to illuminate Niagara Falls for 101 nights from November 13, 2021 until February 21, 2022. With over 3 million lights and 75+ spectacular displays (8 new displays for 2021) providing colourful visuals, Niagara Falls will be transformed into a twinkling winter wonderland along the Niagara Parkway, Dufferin Islands and across the tourism districts. Visitors to this popular annual festival can bundle up and walk or drive through the Festival route to explore the outdoor, socially distanced, self-guided experience.

#### Presented in two parts:

#### HOLIDAY November 13, 2021 – January 9, 2022

Holiday - Part 1 of the Festival runs from November 13, 2021 to January 9, 2022 with all your favourite 3D animal and holiday themed displays, including the popular <u>Dufferin Islands</u> loop within Niagara Parks. **NEW WINTER WONDERLAND January 10 - February 21, 2022** 

with a focus on winter wonderland and love-themed displays. The Festival route will change slightly and new displays will replace the holiday themed displays. You might even see some of the 3D animals magically appear in new parts of the city.

Learn more here

For more information on the OPG Winter Festival of Lights, please visit <u>www.WFOL.com</u>. For Photos and Video Reel visit <u>https://media.niagarafallstourism.com</u>

# **NEW – LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ON WEEKENDS**

New for the 2021 OPG Winter Festival of Lights is a partnership with the Hilton Hotel & Suites to provide family-friendly entertainment on weekends, following Public Health guidelines. This exciting indoor activation will allow guests to warm up along the Festival route and enjoy live music, magicians, story time and more.

The OPG Winter Festival of Lights route is a total of 8 km (5 mi) so some driving and parking may be recommended for those with young children and older adults. Paid parking is available in the Falls Parking Lot across from the Table Rock Centre, at <u>Skylon Tower</u>, Fallsview Casino and on Clifton Hill.

For more information on the OPG Winter Festival of Lights, please visit <u>www.WFOL.com</u>. To learn more about the current COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, <u>click here</u>.





# NEW – NIAGARA FALLS MUSIC LIVE December 27, 2021 – January 1, 2022

Niagara Falls is celebrating the return of live music in a big way with more than 75 performances at 20 venues over 6 nights including over 13+ New Year's Eve events **including New Year's Eve with Blue Rodeo, Serena Ryder and Crown Lands.** From concerts in theatres and convention centres to intimate performances at restaurants and bars, the city will be showcasing talented local, Ontario and Canadian artists in Ontario's most iconic location. To learn more about all the live music events, visit musiclive.ca.

Joining the all Canada talent being featured in Canada's premiere entertainment destination to date are: Chantal Kreviazuk, David Wilcox, Jim Cuddy, Great Lake Swimmers, Spoons, Tyler Shaw with new performers announced weekly.

Music lovers planning a winter getaway can experience multiple live shows during their visit to Niagara Falls this holiday season and stay in a hotel within walking distance of music venues or a Fallsview room to enjoy a room overlooking the majestic Falls. All event details at musiclive.ca

# Media Resources

- Visit **MusicLive.ca** for more information about artists, tickets, accommodation packages and more.
- Link to photo assets here





# • NEW – NEW YEAR'S EVE IN NIAGARA FALLS

**Canada's Entertainment Destination Rings in 2022 with 10+ Live Music Celebrations Across the City** Canada's premiere entertainment destination is thrilled to ring in 2022 with an exciting lineup of indoor live music celebrations across the city as the first Niagara Falls Music Live comes to a dynamic close on December 31, 2021. Niagara Falls is the place to be on New Year's Eve with **over 10+ live indoor music performances across the city** with an unforgettable countdown to 2022 including:

Blue Rodeo, Serena Ryder, Crown Lands (Scotiabank Convention Centre)

An indoor concert for New Year's Eve will feature iconic Canadian artists Blue Rodeo and Serena Ryder and the Juno Awards' 2021 Breakthrough Group of the Year, Crown Lands. Blue Rodeo's first new album in five years – Many A Mile – is being released on December 3rd and the New Year's Eve concert in Niagara Falls kicks off their 2022 National Tour.

# **Media Resources**

- Visit MusicLive.ca for more information about artists, tickets, accommodation packages and more.
- Link to photo assets here

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# ANNUAL VALOUR AND VICTORY: CEREMONY TO HONOUR INDIGENOUS VETERANS November 6, 2021, 1:00 pm

Landscape of Nations Monument

The Landscape of Nations memorial is the location of a solemn Remembrance Day ceremony each November for Indigenous veterans and the Six Nations and Native Ally contributions and sacrifices made during the Battle of Queenston Heights and the War of 1812 in support of their British and Canadian compatriots.

Click <u>here</u> to learn more. For digital assets, please see Dropbox link <u>here</u>. To learn more about the Landscape of Nations memorial, please visit niagaraparks.com/landscapeofnations.

# • THE POPPY PROJECT (COMMUNITY ART PROJECT)

# November 11, 2021, Niagara Falls History Museum

On Remembrance Day, Niagara Falls commemorates those who protected our freedoms with a bit of help from our volunteer community and local artists, Joanne Ring, and Emily Andrews. <u>The Poppy</u> <u>Project</u> was a collaborative community art project by the Niagara Falls History Museum and Stick'N Needles, a Niagara Falls stitching guild. In 2020 we reached out to the public and asked them to knit and crochet poppies to be included in a large-scale art installation. The response was overwhelming, with over 11,000 poppy donations coming from every province in Canada, twenty-five different states in the United States, as well as Denmark and New Zealand. Heartfelt letters accompanied many poppies, dedicating words of love and thanks to family members who fought and died in the numerous wars that have affected our world. The poppies will be displayed each year on both the interior and exterior of the historic 1874 stone building that houses the Niagara Falls History Museum.





# ANNUAL POINTSETTIA SHOW November 13, 2021 – January 9, 2022 Floral Showhouse, Niagara Parks

A family holiday tradition for over 65 years, the <u>Floral Showhouse Annual Poinsettia Show</u> features cyclamen, azaleas, Christmas cactus and paperwhite narcissus in addition to a spectacular display of festive poinsettias.

# CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND December 1 - 18, 2021 Avalon Theatre, Fallsview Casino

From December 1 to 18, visitors can experience a festive spectacle of world-class singers and dancers when the Avalon is transformed into a <u>winter wonderland</u>. The New York-style production includes glittering costumes, themed sets and holiday classics including "White Christmas," "Jingle Bells," and "All I Want for Christmas is You."

Tickets start at \$25

# HOLIDAY / WINTER EVENTS AT THE OLD STONE INN BOUTIQUE HOTEL

The Holidays are a magical time at the Old Stone Inn, Niagara Falls' most historic inn made festival by the décor, the ambiance, cosy warm stone fireplace, and the program of entertainment and events. Throughout the years, the Old Stone Inn has entertained and accommodated distinguished patrons including Prime Minister Trudeau (his podium remains on property at the present time), Princess Diana, Chrissie Teigen and John Legend and many others. Flour Mill Scratch Kitchen Restaurant offers dining featuring hand selected culinary offerings from local farmers and artisanal producers include fresh organic, local produce, rare specialty items, house cured meats and the best of Niagara cheeses in season. The Flour Mill is famous for its scones and maple peppered bacon.

# Holiday / Winter Season line-up:

**Winterfest Program** with Prix-fixe dining options in Dining Cabins & Igloos in the Private Winter Square **New Alpine Club** with Prix-fixe dinner options – the pop up patio will be transformed with outdoor fire pits, DJ Music, roasted chestnuts, fondues, s'mores, mulled wine, spiked coco and so much more. **The Mill "BLunch" Club;** NEW – Prix fixe "BLunching" Bundle includes Mimosa, Main Dish & Sweet Dessert - make it bottomless for additional \$\$

# Holiday Ornamental Paint Event - Dinner & Paint Event

**Annual Local Artisan Holiday Market by Mom Market Collection Niagara** - November 26, 2021 from 5pm. Enjoy a collection of local artisans from the region of Niagara and beyond. Featuring products produced with love ready for holiday sharing and giving.





# OUTDOORS

# Skating (early December – mid-March)

Cocktails, wine and beer and a fire pit at <u>Wayne Gretzky Estates</u> make for a fun skate alongside the vineyards of this hat trick winery, brewery and distillery. *Popular weekend events include Friday Date & Skate and Saturday DJ Night.* 

# **COMING UP WINTER 2022**

# February - Birds on the Niagara Festival BIRDING IN NIAGARA FALLS

Every February in Niagara Falls, bird lovers and conservationists celebrate the vast diversity of northern birds that call the mighty Niagara River corridor their home each winter at <u>Birds on the Niagara International Bird</u> <u>Festival and Celebration</u>, the only international bird festival in North America. With its proximity to the Niagara River corridor, one of the world's most biodiverse places, Niagara Falls is an <u>Important Bird and Biodiversity Area</u> (IBA) and four-season destination for bird lovers, adventure travellers and ecotourists alike. Over 280 bird species and 27 species of gulls, many of them rare, have been found here making it the best gull watching location in the world and a top destination for birders from around the globe hoping to add them to their list. Click <u>here</u> for more information about Bird species that can be found in Niagara Falls each season and where to find them.

# February is Black History Month

# HONOURING BLACK CANADIAN HISTORY IN NIAGARA FALLS

Niagara Falls, Ontario holds a place in history as one of the final destinations of the renowned 'Underground Railroad', a secret network of routes from Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and on to Niagara-on-the-Lake that enslaved people from the United States followed to find freedom in Canada. It is estimated that 30,000-40,000 enslaved people escaped into Canada from the US from 1800-1865. For those who wish to retrace the final steps of the thousands who found freedom in Canada and pay hommage to the heroes and heroines who helped them, here are some ways to explore the region.



# LOOKING AHEAD

# 2022

#### NIAGARA FALLS COMIC CON – 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY June 3-5, 2022

<u>Comic Con</u> is a popular event that takes place at the Scotiabank Convention Centre, Niagara Falls Canada, just steps away from the majestic Falls. This popular event features more than 200,000 square feet of exhibitors, comic books, movie cars, cosplay contests, celebrity autographs and photo-ops, a video gaming arena, Falls Horror Fest and so much more!

# NEW – NIAGARA PARKS POWER STATION (PHASE 2) – Opening July 1, 2022

Following the completion and opening of Phase 1 in 2021, Niagara Parks will launch Phase 2 of this new landmark attraction just south of the Horseshoe Falls in Niagara Falls on July 1, 2022. By day, visitors can explore the preserved interior of the historic power station, transformed with new exhibits and guest amenities, while each night, an immersive sound & light experience brings the building to life through state-of-the-art projection mapping technology. Phase 2 of the adaptive reuse project will invite visitors to explore the vast underground portions of CNP as they travel down nearly 200 feet below the main floor via glass enclosed elevator to reach the tailrace tunnel which connects the plant to the Niagara River. Visitors will make their way through the enormous, century old tunnel, brought to life with projection mapping technology to emerge beside the base of the Horseshoe Falls.

The first major power plant on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls, the Canadian Niagara Power Station was completed in 1905 to produce hydroelectricity by leveraging the power of the Niagara River. Beyond its stunning architectural features and landscape design, the power station was one of the first in the world to undertake a major tunnel project, with water entering through the forebay and dropping 180 feet before being expelled into a 2,000 foot tunnel that emptied into the lower Niagara River, right at the base of the Horseshoe Falls. A marvel of engineering and architecture, the station's generators were the largest of their kind, followed shortly after by those at the Toronto Power Generating Station located a short distance south. In its operation, power generated from the Canadian Niagara Power Station was used to service Fort Erie, Ontario and Buffalo, New York, and the plant remained in operation until 2006 when it was decommissioned. The Niagara Parks Commission acquired ownership in 2009.

# **Media inquiries:**

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# **Niagara Falls Resources**

- Hotel Packages: <u>https://book.niagarafallstourism.com/</u>
- Attraction Packages: <u>Niagarafallstourism.com/attraction-packages/</u>
- Niagara Falls Itinerary Ideas: Niagarafallstourism.com/blog/itinerary/
- Getting here: Toronto to Niagara Falls GO Train Service



• Niagara Falls' commitment to guests and employees: SafetoPlay.ca

Website:www.niagarafallstourism.comInstagram:@NiagaraFallsTourismCanadaFacebook:@NiagaraFallsTourismCanadaTwitter:@NFallsTourism#ExploreNiagara

#### **About Niagara Falls Canada**

Overlooking the legendary Canadian Horseshoe, American and Bridal Veil waterfalls, Niagara Falls is a fourseason destination renowned for its awe-inspiring natural wonders combined with world-class accommodation, thrilling entertainment and a burgeoning culinary scene. Visitors from Ontario, across North America and around the world who come to experience nature and adventure, discover family fun, feel the romance and explore unique and memorable experiences have made it Canada's premier entertainment destination and a world-renowned bucket list destination. Located within a 1-day drive of half the population of North America, more than 152 M people, Niagara Falls is the perfect getaway.

#### **About Niagara Falls Tourism**

Niagara Falls Tourism (NFT) is the official Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) for the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, representing almost 400 member establishments in Niagara Falls, including members throughout the Niagara Region. Welcoming almost 14 million visitors into the destination each year, NFT promotes the tourism and hospitality sector to visitors around the world. Dynamic marketing campaigns and signature events inspire visitors to explore Niagara Falls and support the success of local business. NFT fosters the international reputation of Niagara Falls as a four-season bucket-list destination and Canada's entertainment capital.