



ONTARIO & QUEBEC
**GUIDE TO
HI HOSTELS
2009-10**

Niagara Falls




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NIAGARA FALLS



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43°N 79°W

Population :

82 000 inhabitants

392 people per km²

The world's most famous waterfalls – or almost! Come and explore this natural wonder from a boat, or why not... a helicopter!

Niagara has a lot more to offer than just waterfalls. A haunted house, casino, wax museum, and Ferris wheel are but a few of the many activities you'll find here. Entertainment guaranteed, day or night!

The surrounding area, in the vicinity of Niagara-On-The-Lake, has many attractions to boast- for sports enthusiasts and wine lovers alike. A large park, accessible by bike or by foot, is located a few kilometres away from the Falls. And Niagara-On-The-Lake itself is often referred to as the prettiest town in Canada.

HI-NIAGARA FALLS

4549, Cataract Avenue | 905-357-7673 / 1 888-749-0058

www.hihostels.ca/niagarafalls | niagarafalls@hihostels.ca

Open all year-round

The hostel offers practical accommodations for those who travel by public transportation: it's a five-minute walk from both the bus and train stations. The hostel is located in Niagara's historical downtown area, and the few kilometres that separate it from the Falls are easily travelled by bus. It's fully equipped, with a great kitchen for guests who'd like to cook a good meal. The basement's large living room houses a pool table and a TV where you can watch movies. In the summer, there's a pretty terrace to enjoy as well.

TRANSPORTATION

For those without a car, the People Mover bus provides transportation between the hostel and the Falls and Niagara Glen (April to October.) The ticket (\$9) gives you unlimited access to the bus for the whole day. Tickets are for sale at White Water Walk, located right next to the hostel.

Getting there by public transportation

By bus or by train: Niagara Falls is accessible by train from Toronto and by bus from many larger Canadian cities. The hostel is a short walk from both the train and bus stations. Go down Bridge Street and turn right on Cataract. The Buffalo airport is approximately 40 minutes away, and Toronto's is 90 minutes away (shuttle: \$60-\$90.)

Rates:

Shared rooms: From \$25 per night.

Private rooms: From \$49 per night.

Number of beds: 75

On-site services: Fully equipped kitchen, free pool and foosball tables, bike rentals, campfire pits, terrace, basketball hoop.



© Isabelle Boyer

ACTIVITÉS

NIAGARA FALLS

188 feet (57 metres) high, the Falls could easily fill a million bathtubs every minute. Once you've travelled all this way to see it, you might as well admire it from every angle possible!

CLIFTON HILL

Here you'll find a wax museum, a haunted house, and a Ferris wheel from which to view the Falls from even higher up.

YEAR-ROUND

MAID OF THE MIST

Dock located on Clifton Hill | 905-358-0311

Open mid-May to the end of October.

Departures every 15 min. Adults: \$16.

If you choose only one activity that you have to pay for, choose this one. The view from the water is divine and the experience of being tickled by the huge steam cloud's water droplets is definitely unique.

JOURNEY BEHIND THE FALLS

6650 Queen's Victoria Niagara Park Promenade

905-354-1551 | *Open daily. Admission \$8.*

The elevator leads you to damp corridors filled with the noise of rushing waters.

Nearby, a flock of yellow ponchos splash about. Get ready for a refreshing shower!

Around the Falls

NIAGARA GLEN

www.niagaraparks.com | *Open daily.*

Free admission. Accessible via the People Mover buses.

A pleasant park, set on the shores of the Niagara River. Ideal for hikes and bike rides. The hostel is located midway between the Falls and this park.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Approximately 30 km from Niagara Falls. Two buses daily.

A very pretty town, filled with charming streets and picturesque homes. Travellers with cars should visit the nearby vineyards. The Josephs, Pillitari, and Inniskillin vineyards are highly recommended.

NIAGARA RIVER TRAILS

www.niagaraparks.com

(see: *Niagara River Recreation Trail*)

53 kilometres of trails run along the Niagara River in a majestic setting that will delight hikers and bikers alike.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

SHERATON ON THE FALLS

5875 Falls Avenue | 905-374-4445

We know it's rather unusual to see the Sheraton listed in a youth hostel guide. But given the fact that its burgers and other lunch options are decently priced (\$8-\$11) and that its dining room, located on the top floor, has amazing views of the Falls, we thought it was an option well worth mentioning.

MAMA MIAS

5719 Victoria Avenue | 905-354-7471

Good-quality Italian cooking. In 2008, the restaurant celebrated its 50th anniversary.

KELSEY'S

4960, Clifton Hill | 905-353-0051

A friendly bar with a lively terrace. Often features live bands.

WILD MUSHROOM

5633, Victoria Avenue | 905-357-2788

An unpretentious bar with a few pool tables.

DRAGON FLY

Fallsview Casino Resort | 6380 Fallsview Blvd | 905-356-4691

The club's clientele is of all ages, but young people who live in Niagara year-round are regulars. It's at its wildest on the weekend.