



TORONTO

THERE'S
MORE THAN ONE
WAY TO DISCOVER
A DESTINATION.
BY JENNIFER BUEGE



Toronto is just about as international as they come, with a motto to match: Diversity our strength. About half of the people who call the city home are foreign-born—and that stat is certainly reflected in its neighborhoods, from Chinatown and Little Portugal in Westside to Greektown and Little India in Eastside. Walking the streets is like traveling the globe: French patisseries, Asian bookstores, international museums, local boutiques and ethnic and fusion restaurants galore all add to the multicultural tapestry. Throw yourself into the global vibe and you'll soon see just how apropos the city's motto is.

TORONTO

GLOBAL TRAVELER

WHERE TO STAY

Shangri-La Hotel, Toronto
Spacious guest rooms, marble bathrooms and modern Asian accents make this downtown hotel stand out. Take afternoon tea in the Lobby Lounge, where the waitstaff will help you choose from 74 different teas. shangri-la.com



MORNING

Kensington Market

Take your pick of shopping and food options in this eclectic neighborhood. Duck into Egg Bae for a gourmet breakfast sandwich or sip on a hot beverage—like a strawberry mocha—at Eatve Film Café, also offering gold leaf-covered ice cream cones. kensington-market.ca



AFTERNOON Aga Khan Museum

In addition to housing more than 1,000 artifacts, this architectural wonder devoted to Muslim civilizations around the world—the first of its kind in North America—offers musical performances, lectures and even a summer camp for kids. agakhanmuseum.org

DINNER

Kiin

This refined Thai spot hits all the right visual and culinary notes. For a presentation wow, order the Khao Yum, a golden bowl filled with a rainbow of ingredients—multicolored rice, pomelo, cucumber, turmeric, sprouts—that's tossed tableside. kiintoronto.com



LATE NIGHT

Mahjong Bar

Pass through the pink-lit bodega fronting the street and you enter an Asian-influenced world of cocktails and cheeky menu write-ups. Take the tequila-based Tame Impala Redux, which “tastes like we only go backwards, baby.” mahjongbar.com

FOODIE



WHERE TO STAY

The Ritz-Carlton, Toronto

One of the tastiest perks of this gorgeous, harbor-view hotel is its Off the Eaten Track program. Sign up to tour Chinatown, hit the urban whiskey trail or shop a market with a chef and make a meal afterward in a Ritz-Carlton kitchen. ritzcarlton.com



MORNING

Nadège Patisserie

Cream puffs share display space with artisan chocolates, macarons, tiny tarts and more at this French pastry shop. Be sure to grab a raspberry pistachio croissant—if they haven't all been claimed. nadege-patisserie.com



LUNCH

Assembly Chef's Hall

Seventeen stands—plus an 18th that hosts pop-ups—ensure that everyone in your crew will find something to suit them at this upscale food hall, which brings together some of the city's top chefs, bartenders and baristas. assemblychefshall.com

DINNER

Le Swan

Toronto powerhouse restaurateur Jen Agg has taken over the former Swan eatery location and made it her own, giving it a French diner feel, with hearty dishes such as steak frites, rotisserie chicken and meatloaf. leswan.ca



LATE NIGHT

BarChef

Sip on science at this award-winning, molecular mixology bar that takes the art of the cocktail to new frontiers. For pure spectacle, order the Spring Thaw, an edible herb and flower garden shrouded in fog, with a gin- and-sparkling wine-based drink at its center. barchef.com

ART ENTHUSIAST

WHERE TO STAY

The Drake Hotel

As culturally hip as its Queen Street West neighborhood, this 19-room hotel boasts a permanent art collection, rotating exhibits and a basement club for live music—as well as its own Drake Art House Blonde Ale in artist-created cans. thedrake.ca



LATE MORNING

Textile Museum of Canada

Trace the history of 200 cultures via a collection of textiles—fabric, clothing, carpets, quilts and more—that spans 2,000 years. textilemuseum.ca



LUNCH

AGO Bistro

After perusing the collection at the Art Gallery of Ontario, grab lunch at this Frank Gehry-designed space on the museum's main floor. Opt for the prix fixe menu or choose from a variety of bistro faves. ago.ca



AFTERNOON

Tour Guys Toronto Graffiti Tour

The streets of Toronto are filled with art—you just need to know where to look. On this pay-what-you-wish walk, expert graffiti guides will share stories and history as you visit some of the city's coolest murals. tourguy.ca

DINNER

Cactus Club Cafe

Dine alongside Basquiat, Andy Warhol and other artists—their original works line the walls—at this upscale Canadian chain while enjoying the butternut squash ravioli with prawns or the raved-about Tuna Stack appetizer. cactusclubcafe.com



SPORTS FAN



WHERE TO STAY

Le Germain Hotel Maple Leaf Square

Located steps from where the Maple Leafs and the Raptors play, this stylish hotel highlights local pro hockey, soccer and basketball players in black-and-white photos above the beds. Fuel up for the day with the included continental breakfast. legermainhotels.com

MORNING

Hockey Hall of Fame

Immerse yourself in all things hockey as you make your way through a replica locker room and other exhibits, then try your hand at blocking shots from virtual players. Afterward, cement your status as a superfan by taking a selfie with the Stanley Cup. hhof.com



AFTERNOON

Left Field Brewery

Baseball is the theme at this dog-friendly tasting room, from the beer names—Bang-Bang, Eephus, Sunlight Park—to the bat tap handles to Wrigley, the brewery's basset hound and “head of security and customer relations.” leftfieldbrewery.ca

DINNER

The Dock Ellis

Named after the famed Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher who threw a no-hitter in 1970 (while supposedly on LSD), this sports bar offers up a creative menu—wonton nachos and fried cauliflower—local drafts and pool, shuffleboard and foosball. thedockellis.com



EVENING

Go Pro

Toronto is lucky to have professional teams in seven sports: hockey, basketball, baseball, soccer, lacrosse, football and—since 2017—rugby. Pick up some tickets and root, root, root for the home team.

CANADA LOVER

WHERE TO STAY

The Broadview Hotel

Opened in 2017, this chic yet comfy hotel in the east end used Toronto and its history as muses for the décor, food and drinks. Don't miss a gin and tonic with a view at The Rooftop Bar, which overlooks the Don Valley. thebroadviewhotel.ca



MORNING

Museum of Contemporary Art

The museum moved into a sprawling heritage building this fall, but Toronto's MOCA continues to focus on showcasing Canadian and international artists and supporting diverse voices. museumofcontemporaryart.ca

SHOP

Coal Miner's Daughter

Most of the clothing and jewelry here is produced by Canadian designers and brands—including Birds of North America, Sara Duke and Annie 50—so chances are good that you'll walk out with a local gem. coalminersdaughter.ca



AFTERNOON

Bad Axe Throwing Toronto

Let off a little steam the Canadian way: by throwing axes at wooden targets while onlookers cheer your efforts. Instructors give you the lowdown and share technique tips before letting you loose. badaxethrowing.com

DINNER

Canoe

High up in the sky, on the 54th floor of TD Bank Tower, Canoe blends modern décor with a Canadian culinary sensibility—think mushrooms from Saskatoon, Québec foie gras, west coast oysters and other delicacies. canoerestaurant.com

