48 Hours in Durham Region ... Page 22 Arts & Culture That Inspire ... Page 40 World-Class Fishing Right in Your Backyard ... Page 58

Plus... Where to eat, sleep and shop in Durham Region!

Durham Region Discovery Guide





Ajax | Brock | Clarington | Oshawa | Pickering | Scugog | Uxbridge | Whitby



Welcome to Durham Region

The charm of an urban and rural landscape awaits you here. In Durham Region, we welcome you to explore our amazing outdoors, cultural marvels and historical roots.

Located immediately east of the City of Toronto, Durham Region is characterized by a series of major lakeshore urban communities; contrasting a variety of small towns, villages, hamlets and farms.

Whether you are an individual or group–looking to relax and escape from the big city lights and reconnect with nature; a budding artist or theatre goer in search of a local gallery or performing arts facility; a sports enthusiast, history buff or serious shopper–Durham Region provides something for everyone looking to create memorable moments. Durham Region is a four-season destination. From maple syrup festivals in the spring and live music festivals in the summer, to fall fairs and winter carnivals, there's sure to be an authentic adventure awaiting you.

For more information on what to see and do in Durham Region, visit **DurhamTourism.ca** or call **1-800-413-0017**.

Have questions? Info Centres See page 4 for a contact list of our of Tourist Information Centres.



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Ajax—Ajax Town Hall 65 Harwood Avenue South, Ajax 905-683-4550

Brock—Municipal Administration Building 1 Cameron Street East, Cannington 705-432-2355

Clarington—Clarington Tourism Visitor's Centre 181 Liberty Street South, Bowmanville 905-623-3379

Clarington—Darlington Information Centre 1855 Energy Drive, Courtice 905-623-7122

Oshawa—Oshawa Visitor Information Centre 2 Bloor Street East, Oshawa 905-725-4523

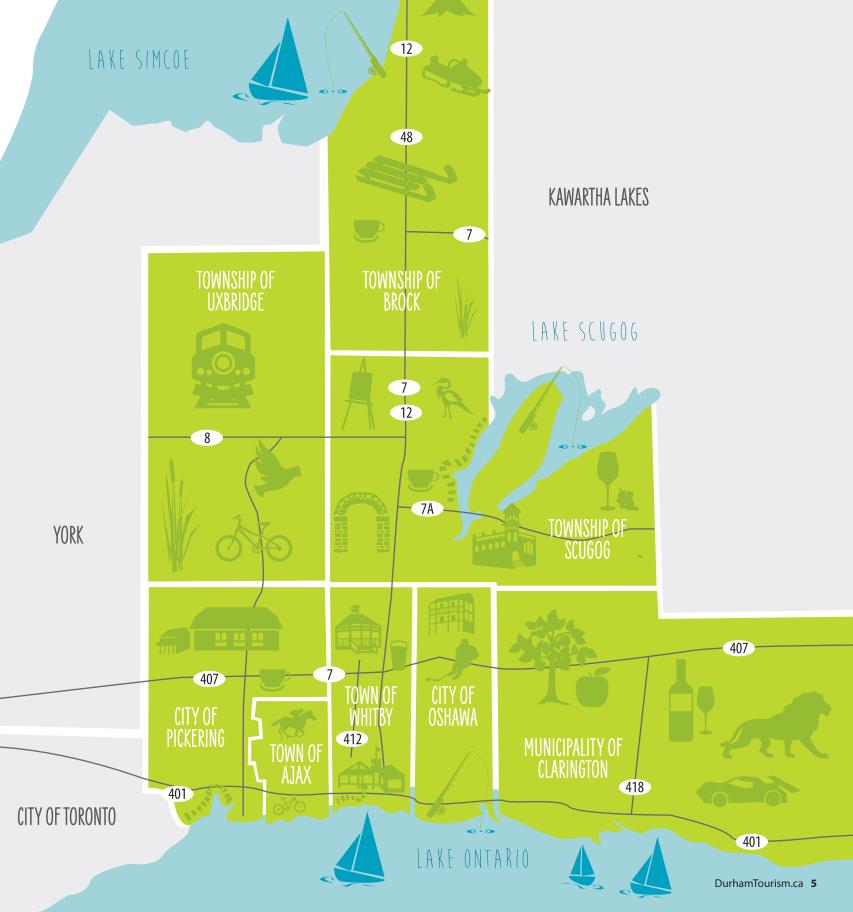
Pickering—Pickering Central Library One The Esplanade, Pickering 905-831-6265

Pickering—Pickering Nuclear Information Centre 1675 Montgomery Park Road, Pickering 905-837-7272

Scugog—Scugog Visitor and Business Centre 84 Water Street, Port Perry 905-985-4971

Uxbridge—Uxbridge Historical Centre 7239 Concession 6, Uxbridge 905-852-0400 (Victoria Day long weekend to Thanksgiving)

Whitby—Whitby Town Hall 575 Rossland Road East, Whitby 905-430-4300





There is always something happening in Ajax, a community nestled on the shores of Lake Ontario.

Take a stroll or bike ride along the sevenkilometre **Waterfront Trail**, and explore the various beaches, parks and gardens along the way. If peace and quiet is what you're looking for, the **Greenwood Conservation Area** has a network of forested trails within a short drive of Ajax's urban core.

Try your luck at **Casino Ajax.** Home to over 800 slot machines and interactive games, this entertainment facility guarantees

heart-pounding excitement for gaming enthusiasts. Don't forget to catch the action at **Ajax Downs** with live Quarter Horse Racing, located onsite.

Play a round of golf at one of Ajax's five superb golf courses, or spend an afternoon shopping at the **RioCan Durham Centre** at Harwood Avenue and Kingston Road, which features one million square feet of shopping space. The number of brandname stores provides endless opportunities for serious shoppers in search of that perfect piece, or for those who simply love spending the day browsing. Visitors can also explore the specialty shops, fine cuisine and unique architecture of **Pickering Village**, a historic Quaker settlement.

Experience the sense of community unique to the Town of Ajax. Check out community events taking place in the brand new urban gathering place known as **Pat Bayly Square.** Or, take in a show at the **St. Francis Centre** for a dose of community art and culture.

Fine food and drinks are no stranger to the Town of Ajax. Experience the unique tastes of **Falcon Brewing Company**, Ajax's premier craft breweries. It ain't easy being cheesy... but at **Country Cheese** they make it look pretty easy. Drop by for a tasting, or place an order for your next event. If quality pub grub is more your flavour, look no further than the **Portly Piper,** a local favourite. For a unique Caribbean food experience, check out **Rum Diaries** located in the heart of Ajax.

Sightseers and business travellers will find a place to rest their heads at several established hotels in Ajax. Facilities are also available for business conferences and meetings. The Ajax Convention Centre and Deer Creek Golf Club and Banquet Facility offer the finest amenities for both corporate and private functions.







Discover Brock

Leave the city behind, and escape to the Township of Brock.

The urban areas of Sunderland, Cannington and Beaverton offer beautiful and quaint countryside delights with century-old architecture for visitors to enjoy each season. Numerous hamlets and distinct villages provide a full range of tourist events and attractions.

Located on the scenic shoreline of Lake Simcoe and the Trent-Severn Waterway, this family friendly community is rich with recreational opportunities. Kick off spring-

time with the annual Sunderland Maple Syrup Festival.

Fishing on Lake Simcoe

As the weather continues to warm, why not check out the Township of Brock's extensive **trail network?** If the water is more your style, Brock has you covered there as well.

You can soak up the sun on one of **Brock's public beaches, fish** on Lake Simcoe, or visit the **Beaverton Harbour** and take advantage of its **accessible kayak dock.** As the temperature drops, ice hut operators in Beaverton, such as **Floyd Hales Fish Huts**, provide packages and accommodations to ensure year-round fishing pursuits along the shores of Lake Simcoe.

Take a step back into history at the **Beaver River Museum.** The museum features a mid-to-late 1800s brick house and an old stone jail, complete with three restored jail cells.

Looking for some country style homedécor? Check out **The Welder's Wife**, an authentic, family owned business specializing in unique metal designs and nifty pieces of home-décor. While you're here, head over to **The Dark Horse**, and browse their selection of original country art, antiques and hand-crafted furniture.

Make sure you don't leave on an empty stomach. Surrounded by prime agricultural lands, Brock Township is home to many unique farms and markets. Looking for a "gouda" time? Check out Durham Region's only cheese-maker, **Carpe Diem Farm & Café.** Passionate about sustainable and local farming? **The Stubborn Farmer** has a range of meats and produce to choose from at their countryside storefront.

After a day of adventures in Brock, put your feet up at one of the township's local bed and breakfasts, and discover the community's hospitality. Beaverton Harbou





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Discover a unique blend of rural and urban living that can only be found in Clarington.

Hike or bike the scenic Waterfront Trail or explore the exciting opportunities awaiting you in one of Clarington's unique communities.

A Country Path is your handcrafted way to explore some of Clarington's most unique countryside gems. Included on the path, Archibald's Orchard & Estate Winery is located just north of Bowmanville in the heart of Clarington's countryside. Once you've arrived, taste the award-winning fruit wines, pick your own apples, or try some of their delicious baked goods. From there, go up the road to **Tyrone Mills**, one of Canada's oldest water-powered grist mills. Visitors can purchase fresh-baked apple cider donuts or freshly ground organic flour.

Travel off the beaten path and discover some of Clarington's other rural

destinations for yourself, such as Dare2Dream Farm, located in Northeast Clarington, which is dedicated to natural sweeteners such as honey and maple syrup. Knox Pumpkin Farm is a fun and friendly pumpkin patch and Christmas tree farm just north of Bowmanville. Enjoy farm fresh produce and a corn maze at Pingles Farm Market. Finish your day off the right way with some Kawartha Dairy Ice Cream from the Enniskillen General Store.

If it's excitement you're looking for, make your way to **Canadian Tire Motorsport Park** to watch some of the best car and motorcycle racing in Canada. If the snow is flying, hit the slopes at **Brimacombe** for





some local skiing and snowboarding. Bring the family and experience life at the zoo at Jungle Cat World!

Want to connect with nature without the long drive? No need to go any further than the edge of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Experience some of Ontario's best fishing spots in Clarington, such as Soper Creek, Wilmot Creek and the Port of Newcastle. Looking for a weekend of camping? Start your trip at the brand new Owasco RV dealership, where you can rent trailers or RVs to make sure you're camping in style. You won't have to look far for a campsite in Clarington. Between Darlington Provincial Park, Cedar Valley Resort, and Cedar Park waterpark and campground, there are plenty of options to choose from.

Art enthusiasts should put the **Clarington Visual Arts Centre** at the top of their list. Once home to an operating mill, the centre hosts a variety of both amateur and professional exhibits. Looking for a great find at a great price? Check out the **Courtice Flea Market**, open year-round. Getting thirsty? Try one of Clarington's four breweries including **Manantler**, just outside of **Bowmanville's Historic Downtown**.

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Oshawa offers an abundance of year-round adventures, celebrations and recreational activities for the entire family.

Visit the state-of-the-art **Tribute Communities Centre,** and catch the action of the Oshawa Generals Ontario Hockey League team or see top musical artists and events. The Tribute Communities Centre has played host to some of the biggest names in entertainment, including the Harlem Globetrotters, Cirque du Soleil, Jason Aldean, the Arkells, Bob Dylan and countless others. Downtown Oshawa has quickly become one of Ontario's premier food destinations, featuring more than 50 restaurants with flavours from around the world. For detailed descriptions of dining options in Downtown Oshawa, check out the **Downtown Oshawa "Let's Eat" Guide.**

Whether you're looking to browse mom-and-pop stores and boutiques or the biggest brand names, it's all in Oshawa. Check out the unique shops in Downtown Oshawa or the 260,000-square-foot expansion of the **Oshawa Centre** mall.

Enjoy compositions from the repertoires of the Durham Youth Orchestra or the Ontario Philharmonic at the Regent Theatre in Downtown Oshawa. Watch a play at the Oshawa Little Theatre or enjoy the award-winning Canada Day celebration at Lakeview Park. Uncover the story of Canadian art at The Robert McLaughlin Gallery. With its beginnings rooted in the aspirations of local artists, the gallery houses a variety of works and collections celebrating the vitality of Canadian art. Public art sculptures and murals are located throughout Oshawa-access the public art map and guide to create your own walking tour! Whether it's taking an art class at the Arts Resource Centre, discovering the Donevan Art Park, or viewing local artist exhibitions, check out Culture Counts to learn about what Oshawa has to offer!

Visit Parkwood National Historic Site and learn about the founder of General Motors of Canada, auto baron R. Samuel McLaughlin and his family. Parkwood is one of Canada's oldest and last remaining grand estates—this heritage destination boasts intact architectural, landscape and interior designs of the 1920s and 1930s.

Discover more about Canada's significant automotive history at the **Canadian Automotive Museum.**



History enthusiasts will also enjoy the Ontario Regiment Museum and Oshawa Museum.

Appreciate Oshawa's natural beauty as you explore our extensive lakeside trails, or enjoy the picturesque surroundings at stunning Lakeview or Alexandra Park. Visit the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens (home of the annual Peony Festival) featuring over 300 different peony cultivars, as well as a collection of lilacs, lilies, hostas and a water-feature garden.







Discover Pickering

Located on the picturesque shores of Lake Ontario, Pickering is a rich and diverse community with natural beauty, vibrant downtowns and quaint hamlets.

There's so much to do at **Frenchman's Bay.** Enjoy boating, fishing and water sports in a natural harbour setting. Strong winds make Frenchman's Bay the ideal place for windsurfing or kite sailing. Prepare to be entertained at **Herongate Barn Dinner Theatre.**This century-old barn theatre provides a truly unique dinner theatre experience with an unconventional backdrop.



Stroll through the exclusive shops of the **Nautical Village**, and indulge in the wonderful flavours while you soak in the sights and sounds of summer on the lake. While in the village, make sure to check out the **Open Studio Art Café**, grab a specialty coffee, and try your hand at life drawing and painting.

Explore over 200 brand name and unique specialty stores at the **Pickering Town Centre.**

Take a step back in time and enjoy what history has to offer at **Pickering Museum Village (PMV).** As the largest living history museum in Durham Region, the PMV preserves and pays homage to Pickering's rich and storied heritage.

With more than 500 acres of groomed parkland, hiking trails and conservation areas, Pickering offers recreation and leisure opportunities for both residents and visitors. Take time to explore the hidden treasures on the **Waterfront Trail** and walk along the **Petticoat Creek Pedestrian Bridge.**

Test your bartering skills or taste some quality international cuisine at the **Pickering Flea Market,** Ontario's largest indoor flea market.

Just 40 kilometres from downtown Toronto, Pickering is the ideal location for a quick escape from the big city.





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Situated on the shores of Lake Scugog, the Township of Scugog is characterized by its scenic countryside, small hamlets and a thriving heritage downtown in Port Perry.

Visit the historic town of Port Perry on the picturesque shores of Lake Scugog and explore some of the unique boutiques, antique stores, quaint specialty shops, and culinary delights. If you are looking for a trim while enjoying some local craft brew, **Babes and Beards** has you covered. Locally owned and operated since 1881, be sure to stop by **Brock's Department Store** if you are in search of brand name shoes and clothing. **Hank's Pastries** (a local favourite) is the place to go for a well-deserved coffee break. Experience their famous cinnamon buns alongside a cup of hot java.

After exploring downtown Port Perry, taste fine wine and sparkling beverages at **Ocala Winery Groups Inc.** or enjoy some local craft brews at the award-winning **Old Flame Brewing Co.** Enjoy dining at Haugen's Chicken and Ribs and experience for yourself this Port Perry restaurant featured on "You Gotta Eat Here." Then try your luck at one of the slot machines or exciting game tables at Great Blue Heron Casino, just east of the scenic town of Port Perry.

Stop by one of the many farm fresh markets located throughout Scugog. Whether you like to hand-pick your produce or just have it waiting for you on the shelf, enjoy local farming at its best at **Willowtree Farm** (recently named one of Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers). Discover the multifaceted beauty of Lavender at **Lavender-Blu** by walking the lavender garden, visiting the artisan studio or taking part in a range of workshops and community-based activities.

The rich arts community in Scugog is overflowing with creativity thanks to individuals and organizations, such as the **Scugog Council for the Arts.** With a wide variety of artistic mediums to enjoy, the local galleries fulfil the needs of all types of art enthusiasts. Enjoy local live entertainment at **Town Hall 1873** or discover amazing young talent at a **Theatre on the Ridge** performance.

Step back in time at **Scugog Shores Museum** and visit a village depicting the heritage of Scugog Township from 1830 to 1940. Discover the **Ojibway Heritage Interpretive Lands** where you can explore the link between nature and the early Ojibway. Whether you're looking for a place to rest your head after a busy day in the countryside, a weekend escape from the city, or a charming location to tie the knot, the **Nestleton Waters Inn** is one of Scugog's pristine bed and breakfasts that is sure to deliver, no matter what the occasion.









Come visit our "countryside playground," less than one hour away from the heart of Toronto.

Uxbridge has been deemed as the **Trail Capital of Canada.** Throughout the seasons, walk, jog, hike, cycle, cross-country ski, snowshoe or even ride along the trails on horseback. The perfect stop after hitting the trails is **The Second Wedge Brewing Company** for a taste of some award-winning brews.

A rural treasure nestled among the rolling hills of the Oak Ridges Moraine in North

Durham, the Township of Uxbridge has some of the finest farmland in Southern Ontario. Visit **Pefferlaw Creek Farms** for a taste of the sweetest local maple syrup or get lost in the 10-acre corn maze at **Cooper's CSA Farm and Maze.**

A wide variety of recreational opportunities await you, including world-class golf courses and mountain biking or hiking on over 300 kilometres of countryside trails.

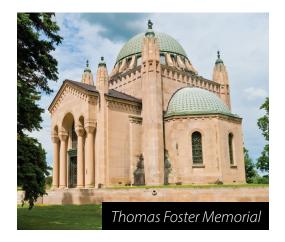


Enjoy public outdoor skating on Elgin Pond or visit our popular Skate Park at the Fields of Uxbridge. Try snowboarding, tubing, downhill or cross-country skiing at Lakeridge, Skyloft and Dagmar Ski resorts.

Take a ride aboard the **York-Durham Heritage Railway**—a heritage train operating on the railway line from Stouffville to Uxbridge. Many special events are staged on the train, including Halloween-themed trips, a Fall Colours Run and a special train ride with Santa every holiday season.

Visit the Leaskdale Manse, the beloved homestead of Lucy Maud Montgomery from 1911 to 1926, just across the road from the century-old former Presbyterian Church now owned by the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario. The site has been preserved as an interpretive centre for the life of Lucy Maud Montgomery, the famous Canadian author of "Anne of Green Gables" fame, who wrote 11 of her 22 books and raised two children while living in this historic Manse. Just 10 minutes south of Leaskdale, explore the **Thomas Foster Memorial**, a temple inspired by the Taj Mahal, built in 1936 by the former mayor of Toronto. This structure is a beautiful example of Byzantine architecture. Enter and enjoy the peace and tranquility of this special, unique structure.

Explore Historic Downtown Uxbridge and discover stores like Blue Heron Books, a quaint bookstore known as a community hub for calm-chaos. If you're a music lover, check out the Springtide Music Festival, downtown Uxbridge's annual spring music festival that winds its way through various bars, restaurants and shops.



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Whether you are drawn to the natural beauty of Whitby's waterfront, the culinary and shopping experiences of the town's two downtowns, the elegance of **Station Gallery's** art exhibitions or the historic relevance of **Lynde House Museum**, Whitby has something of interest for everyone.

Downtown Whitby and Brooklin offer

a variety of unique culinary, cultural and shopping experiences. From specialty stores to a seasonal farmers market to boutiques and home décor shops and more—the downtown destinations are not to be missed. After spending the day in Whitby, you're sure to work up an appetite. Whitby is home to a wide range of restaurants and flavours. Experience authentic French cuisine at **Nice Bistro**, home-cooking at **Butchie's** or Durham College's student-run farm to table restaurant at **Bistro '67**. Whatever the appetite, mood or occasion, there is no shortage of options.

Calling all beer-lovers, hipsters, beer connoisseurs, whatever you want to call it. Whitby is home to five craft breweries, including **Brock Street Brewing Company,** which is set to open their new brewhouse in downtown Whitby.

Explore the wonders that await you along Whitby's waterfront. The town's stretch of **Waterfront Trail** is one of the longest uninterrupted parts of the trail, adjacent to Lake Ontario. From here, take a stroll through Lynde Shores Conservation Area, and enjoy nature at its finest. Let your worries float away at Port Whitby Marina–go sailing, power boating or relax in the clubhouse. And even more activities are just around the corner. Take the kids to nearby Iroquois Park Sports Centre for a swim, skate or skateboard.

For the arts enthusiast, enjoy a live performance at **Whitby's Courthouse Theatre** located in the historic Centennial Building, or spend time with the family at one of the many community events offered throughout the year including **Movies in the Park** and **Open Streets Whitby.**

Experience the thrill of adventure at Sky Zone, iFLY and Laser Quest, or enjoy an evening out for dinner and a movie at the Whitby Entertainment Centrum. With so many exciting things to see and do, we encourage you to explore and experience more of Whitby.

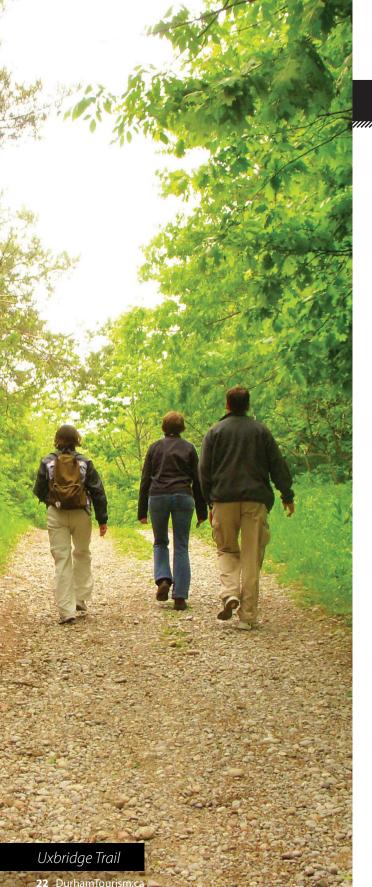






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48 hours in

Durham Region

Durham Region is a fairly big place, and it's growing rapidly. Spread over eight municipalities, with a population of just under 685,500, Durham Region is projected to hit one million people by 2031.

Just east of Toronto, and with ties to the Greenbelt, Durham Region has plenty of access to water with Lake Ontario to the south, Lake Scugog to the east and Lake Simcoe to the north. In-between, there are stretches of farmland; the Trail Capital of Canada (Uxbridge); an abundance of places to eat, drink and shop; and loads of fun activities.

Here is how you can spend 48 hours in Durham Region.

Saturday

8:00 a.m. Breakfast at Angelique's

You look hungry, and it's early! Thankfully, **Angelique's Family Restaurant** serves up quality dishes, and doesn't skimp on the portions. Serving breakfast, brunch and lunch in Ajax for the past 15 years, Angelique's is worth the wait (because there may be a line).



11:00 a.m. Enjoy some outdoor fun at Lakeridge Resort

If the weather permits, head north, and hit the slopes at **Lakeridge Resort**, in the heart of the Oak Ridges Moraine. Enjoy the great outdoors with some skiing, snowboarding or tubing.

Lakeridge has great trails too, so if the weather is warm, you can go for a brisk nature walk, or mountain bike ride.

Transit

You have some options when it comes to getting around. The GO Transit train will get you from Union Station in Toronto to Pickering in less than 40 minutes. You can also ride the rails all the way to Oshawa. Plus, GO Transit buses are a good option if you're without a car. Kids under 12 now ride free.

Plus, there is the trusty Durham Region Transit system, and you can use your Presto card. That said, if you have your own vehicle, that will save you time, and Uber is widely available too.

Accommodation

Of course, you'll need a place to stay, and there are many options depending on what you're into. For something unique beyond Airbnb and the chain hotels, check into The Hive Bed and Breakfast.

The Hive is actually two charming buildings, the "bee and bee" and The Hive Centre, which is a beautiful historic church. Both properties are located on 18 acres of serene forest complete with a whimsical winding stream. 

• 4:00 p.m. Pop into Hy-Hope Farm for some homemade pies and tarts

If you prefer tobogganing over tubing, **Hy-Hope Farm** has a variety of hills to hurl yourself down, however it is BYOT+H (bring your own toboggan and helmet). At the very least, grab yourself a fresh-baked apple or red currant pie, or a dozen flaky butter tarts made from scratch.

• 6:00 p.m. Dinner, drinks and dancing at hotspots old and new

You'll probably want to head back to the bed and breakfast to freshen up after an afternoon of tubing, but after that it's time for a night in the city (of Pickering)!

For something new, head to **Chúuk.** It's a beautiful space, serving Mexican-inspired dishes. Try the fish or hummus tacos, and wash it down with cocktails made with

fresh-pressed juices or enjoy sipping on a smoky mezcal (they have quite the selection). Plus, Chúuk hosts Latin Fridays if you feel like dancing.

For something old, head up the street to **Liverpool John's**. Formerly Liverpool Arms Inn, this historic mansion, built in 1878, has had several different owners over the years. However, originally it was a popular stop along the highway for those travelling between Toronto and Kingston.

Now, it's a fun, multi-level venue that has managed to maintain its old-timey charm. There is plenty of beer on tap, drink specials, pub grub, TVs for watching sports, and pool tables.

Check their calendar because Liverpool John's hosts comedy nights, live bands, and there are weekly DJ nights and a dance floor that, I myself, have torn up on occasion.

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Coffee at Jolie Café

After a night of cocktails and cutting a rug, you will probably need to start your day with a strong cup of coffee. **Jolie Café** is run by two local women with a passion for community building and baking. The coffee here is from local father/ son-run Trebilcock Coffee Roasters.

• 11:00 a.m. Shop at the largest multicultural market in Canada

Assuming that you're visiting Durham Region on the weekend, you have got to spend some time at the **Pickering Markets.** With over 500 vendors, this flea market sells everything you could possibly want, and there are great bargains to boot.

From art, to clothing, to jewellery, to electronics, the markets also have an amazing selection of collectibles, like retro Nintendo games, action figures and sports memorabilia.

There is a massive antique market, and liquidation warehouse. Plus, make sure you stop by the food court for a slice of **Star's Pizza** or a fruit smoothie from **Loi Le**.

I:00 p.m. Beer and a board game at Brew Wizards

Brew Wizards Board Game Cafe in downtown Oshawa isn't just a great place to play Code Names or Harry Potter Trivial Pursuit, they have 16 rotating taps, fair trade coffee, and small bites too.

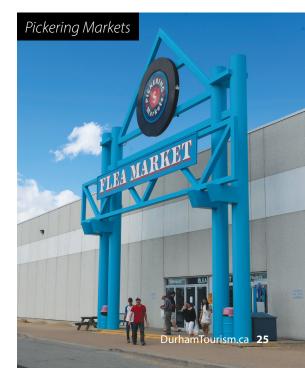
C 2:30 p.m. Go back in time at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa

This is Durham Region's largest gallery, and if you want to give your wallet a rest, admission is free. At any given time, you can catch some really cool Canadian modern and contemporary exhibits. Plus, part of their permanent collection is the Thomas Bouckley Collection, comprised of over 3,000 historical photographs of Oshawa and Durham Region, spanning over 100 years.

• 6:00 p.m. Support local, and enjoy a fancy dinner in Whitby

Think of this as a choose-your-ownadventure, Durham Region Edition. Since things are spread out, where you decide to eat may depend on what you have planned for the night.

For dinner, Chef Kevin Brown is the man behind **KB Food** in Whitby, which boasts a market-driven menu featuring local and sustainable ingredients. Go for the oysters, stay for the butternut squash mac n' cheese.





You could also try Whitby's **Bistro '67**. This new restaurant features field-to-fork dining, with meals prepared by skilled chefs and students from Durham College's award-winning W. Galen Weston Centre for Food.

They also have unique cocktails, and creative non-alcoholic options.

7:30 p.m. Game night

If the home team is in town, you could catch an Oshawa Generals game at the **Tribute Communities Centre.** They may not have Bobby Orr, Eric Lindros or John Tavares anymore, but they are still very exciting to watch.

Or, hit up Consumers Drive in Whitby for a different kind of game night. This area has tons of activities–whether you're a thrill-seeker, or just looking for a little friendly competition.

There's glow-in-the-dark mini putt, laser tag, indoor skydiving, or if you are ready to just sit back and relax, take in a flick at Landmark Cinemas.

• 11:00 p.m. Nightcap at "The Tap"

Tap and Tankard is a great place to meet people, or catch up with friends. It's also a fun spot to end your night. The Tap often hosts live bands, and has great beer on tap.

Monday

10:00 a.m. Before you go...

Pop by **Samosa Hut** in Ajax, grab a dozen of their signature samosas, stuffed with chilli chicken or spinach and sweet cream cheese. You'll thank me.

Did you know?

Station Gallery is a creative hub in the community! The gallery shows art exhibitions of emerging, mid-career and established artists. They bring art and culture to kids, youth, adults and families of all ages and abilities through programs, classes and workshops, performances and special events. The Station Gallery is a resource to artists and champion of all things empowering and creative.





About the Author Dani Stover

Dani Stover was born and raised in Pickering, but now resides in Toronto. Dani is the host of the daily blogTO podcast, Only in Toronto. She is also the co-founder of East Toronto Drag Queen Storytime, and volunteers with The Period Purse. Dani is a graduate of the Second City Training Centre Sketch and Longform Conservatory, and performs improv comedy around the city as part of Grieve Buscemi and Breakfast Epiphanies.

Experience both Durham and Canadian heritage. See everything from historic architecture to war museums, the industrial revolution and wartime artifacts, all within Durham Region.



Inside dish

Discover the diverse and exciting dining scene in Durham Region.

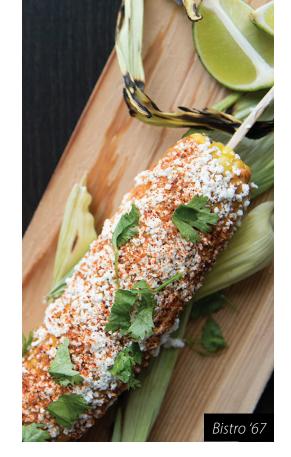
Less than an hour from Toronto, you'll find a plethora of farm-to-table-focused food experiences.

Eating in Durham Region is always a surprising experience. There's a close connection to farmland in most every town you visit thanks to the richness of the surrounding countryside. The area is home to a whopping seven large farmers markets and countless farms that grow everything from sweet summer corn to autumn apples.

Over the last decade, many big city chefs have migrated to the region in search of a fresh perspective and a closer connection to where their food comes from. Nowhere is that connection more evident than at **Bistro '67**⁺ (Whitby, **Bistro67.ca**) at Durham College. The restaurant is the intersection point between its agriculture and hospitality students. They grow much of what Chef Raul Sojo and his students serve in the gardens steps from the front door-think tomatillos, heirloom hot peppers, Chinese long eggplants and fresh, plump raspberries. The college is also home to a teaching orchard, a cheese-making lab and apiaries that supply the restaurant with honey.

At **KB Food**, there's farm animal-themed graffiti on the walls and a long bar laden with craft spirits and locally brewed beers on the tap rail. Chef Kevin Brown, the restaurant's namesake, is driven to cook with the seasons so-much so that he changes the menu almost daily. In fact, he recently bought a farm to supply the restaurant with heritage turkeys, hard-tofind heirloom vegetables and fresh greens. If you eat one meal here, let it be brunch.

Meanwhile, in Uxbridge, the team at **The Urban Pantry**^{*} (Uxbridge, **UrbanPantry. ca**) are foraging puff balls and fermenting vegetables to serve alongside their seasonally changing menu.







These businesses are Feast On Certified. That means you can be sure they're serving Ontario grown food and drink! Find out more about Feast On at **OntarioCulinary.com/Restaurants**



They also deliver their delicious concoctions to **The Second Wedge Brewing Co.** down the road where you can sip craft beers, devour a bison burger, and play a game of backgammon or two. In the summer months, the brewery's patio plays host to countless foodies, so arrive early.

In Pickering, you'll want to spend some time on the waterfront patio at **PORT** (Pickering, **PortRestaurant.ca**). Recently renovated, **PORT*** is the sister restaurant to celebrated Toronto restaurant Maple Leaf Tavern. With chef Jesse Vallins at the helm, they serve refined patio fair and sling a mean cocktail. Fun fact: Vallins has a unique flair for sausage-making and has been named Toronto's Sausage League Champion three times! Other places worth a road trip are **Butchie's** (Whitby, **Butchies.ca**), Food Network Chef Andrea Nicholson's new spot and home of the region's best fried chicken; **Buster Rhino's Southern BBQ** (Whitby, **BusterRhinos.com**), for, you guessed it, piles of authentic Southern BBQ; and **Patois Jamaican Restaurant** for quality, unpretentious jerk.

In the warmer months, festivals and events like the Harvest Dinners at Nature's Bounty Farm, the Pickering Food Truck Festival and Brock's Big Bite bring the community together for good food and good times. At any one of these festivals, it's easy to see why so many great restaurants have chosen to call Durham Region home.



About the Author Agatha Podgorski

Agatha Podgorski loves good food and is more-than-willing to travel for it. For the last 12 years, she's made a name for herself cooking, eating and writing about just that. Today, she is the Director of Community Engagement at the Culinary Tourism Alliance.

Did you know?

In 1860. Tin Mill Restaurant was the original site of a flour and grist mill. In the 1900s a stone foundation was added, and the mill was powered by a water wheel. Following a devastating fire in 1920, another mill was built on the original site. In 1921, tin cladding was added to the exterior wood siding. In 1946, new owners transformed the mill into a factory for making leather goods, and it eventually became the town tannery. The building suffered another fire in the 1960s and when the owners retired it was the end of an era of tanneries in Ontario.

In 2006, the mill was restored to its present condition. A large terrace was added in 2007 so that guests could have the option to dine al fresco during the summer months. Tin Mill offers dishes that are made with the freshest ingredients and are served in the most beautiful rustic ambience.



Please enjoy responsibly.





Rural routes & dirty boots

From the historic town of Uxbridge to the lakeside parks of Port Perry and the shores of Whitby, one can discover a veritable beerdom in the heart of Durham Region.

The rural routes that roll through Oak Ridges Moraine's natural beauty are magnets for cyclists and hikers with the refreshing kick of a flourishing craft brewery scene. It started as a hobby. Four friends and one home brew system. Now, 13 different size fermenters enable the wide variety of brews at **5 Paddles Brewing Co.** that have beer lovers driving up from Toronto for a case. Experimenting with ingredients like habanero peppers, raspberry puree, hibiscus leaves and curry,



a flight here launches the taste buds into orbit. Home Sweet Home is infused with honey malt and in-house made vanilla extract. It's a little tart, hoppy and available at the Liquor Control Board of Ontario. Home Away From Home is creamy coconut wheat ale reminiscent of a day at the beach. Distinguished by artful designs and Belgian saisons, Little Beasts' La Petit Duchesse has a touch of spice and refreshing light fruit. Really Good Friends is their

Did you know?

Fresh produce, baked goods, honey and organic meat are just some of the offerings currently available at farmer's markets across the region. Visit a pick-your-own farm for berries and apples or visit one of our local wineries. For more information visit DurhamFarmFresh.ca. fundraising beer for Pflag. It's a celebration of inclusivity. Easy going, very smooth and fruity on the nose, it has a complex hop flavour.

Nearby **Town Brewery's** motto is "better beer, stronger community." They source local ingredients and host social events. In concert with local apiary, Buzz Kill, Town's Land of Milk and Honey is a barrel-aged imperial honey-and-milk stout with a soft and silky mouthfeel.

Creating the juiciest fried chicken sandwich imaginable at **KB Food,** Chef Kevin Brown recommends Town's Square Wheels IPA. Complex and citrus-forward with undertones of stone fruit, it's the perfect pairing. This is a kitchen where the bread and the pasta are made from scratch, and ingredients are sourced from its own farm. **Bistro '67** boasts local ingredients with panache. Each innovative dish is an edible garden of fresh bold flavours.

The best alternative to beer is cider. The apple is Ontario's quintessential fruit.

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Archibald's Orchard & Winery Estate

offers an unparalleled range of ciders from blends of Ontario apple growers association, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada McIntosh and Ida Red with aromatics that evoke baked apples in autumn.

Hard Ginger Cider is crisp with a ginger kiss. Bottles of Spiced Winter Apple Wine and Canadian Maple Wine are a mellifluous balance of sweet and tart that will have you at "Hello." Not-to-be-missed are the pies, crumbles and an ambrosial apple caramel dumpling of scored-apple wrapped in pastry, steeped in caramel sauce and dusted with cinnamon. What could be sweeter? Honey. Time to head to **The Hive Bee and Bee**.

"The Hive" is a double entendre. It's a repurposed heritage church conducive to spiritual quiet and, literally, a co-habitat for bees. That low frequency hum from the bedroom wall is from bees on the other side of it, and it is actually quite calming. Morning meditation is followed by a forest walk to a nearby stream. It's a place to feel centred, at peace, and reinvigorated. We've found our perfect refuge from city stress.

Crossing the train tracks off the Trans-Canada Trail, we reach the **Uxbridge Farmers Market** brimming with local produce, charcoal oven pizza and non-alcoholic

mojitos. Inside the adjacent **The Second Wedge Brewing Co.** local art is on display, and flights of beer are paired with cheese and charcuterie. In the beer garden we



sample a light and refreshing High Grass Saison of fresh lemongrass, ginger and bitter orange peel with a low hop. 3 Rocks IPA is bright, and a versatile pairing with a balance of floral and citric hops and a depth of malt flavour. The local Passionate Cook's Essentials bakes a Passionate Porter Pie of beef, garlic, spices and a Second Wedge Porter for wholesome savoury goodness. At local favourite farm-to-table restaurant, Urban Pantry, the crunch of tempura cauliflower pairs with spicy maple and charred leeks; local Thunder Ridge Bison Co. carpaccio mingles with hazelnut crumble and a verde hollandaise; and a rich chocolate brownie is made with Second Wedge Stout.

A pillar of the beer community is Old Flame Brewing Co. known for clean and refreshing lagers from Dirty Blonde, to Red, to Brunette. A local farmer feeds his lamb and sheep the spent grain from the brewery. Herrington's Quality Butcher then pairs that meat with Old Flame lager for a lamb and lager pie. Hank's Pastries also uses the spent grain





for his bread. A flight of beer comes with gooey sticky-sweet beer butter tarts. On the sidewalk patio of **Marwan's Global Bistro** we ladle a sharp and velvety Old Flame Blonde Helles Style Lager and cheddar soup. Marwan's menu reflects his full passport of travels, but all trails seem to lead back here, to Durham Region, where so many inspiring pockets of people and activities show the ingenuity and pride of all their local flavours, spirit and ales. Cheers!



About the Author
Adam Waxman

Adam Waxman is Associate Publisher and Executive Editor of DINE and Destinations magazine, as well as an actor in film, television and formerly, The Stratford Festival. As an award-winning food and travel writer, he writes about destinations across Ontario and around the world.





Beyond the coffee shop Durham's awesome cafés

Here in Durham Region, we have some of the most dedicated operators of independent cafés, boutiques and bakeries whose passion is to offer you the best taste experience possible.

Customer service is not simply a tagline for our awesome cafés—when you're here, you're family. Let us show you how quality, care and heart combine to set our wonderful Durham Region cafés miles above your generic, on-the-go coffee shop.

Felicio's Cake Boutique

In Oshawa, Felicio's Cake Boutique is Durham's premier Brazilian café and bakery. Products are lovingly crafted with whole ingredients and infused with Brazilian culture. The café was founded in 2012, and its warm, friendly atmosphere, where visitors are treated like family, is located in the heart of the city's downtown core. Discover Felicio's Brazilian flare at **65 Albert Street**, or online at **FeliciosCakeBoutique.com**.



Nestled into the guaint Township of Uxbridge is the Nexus Coffee Company, an independent establishment where the beverage is first and foremost. "Our reason to exist, what we're chasing, and what we strive to be is the best coffee in Durham Region," says owner Arthur Field. To ensure the best possible coffee experience for its customers, Nexus works with one of the most celebrated coffee roasters in the nation to not only source its beans but also to train its staff. Direct trade ensures there is a relationship with the farmers of Africa and Central America so that every bean comes with its own story. Visit Arthur and his team at 19 Brock Street West. or online at NexusCoffee.net.

Tin Cup Caffé

Also in Uxbridge, Tin Cup Caffé is about more than just the coffee, teas and specialty drinks. Here, you'll find that the beverages, with ingredients lovingly selected and brewed, are offered with the warmest of welcomes. "People love to come here because it feels like home," says manager Jennifer Crowe. "A lot of our regulars, they're like family now." Tin Cup Caffé is known for its soups, salads and paninis, and offers an assortment of drinks hot and cold. If your sweet tooth needs satisfying, you will also find decadent desserts like carrot cake, oversized cookies and turnovers. Tin Cup Caffé is located at 58 Brock Street West. For more information, visit them online at TinMill.ca/tin-cup-caffe/.





About the Author **Katherine Ryalen**

Katherine Ryalen is a local travel and lifestyle writer. She is also the best-selling author of The Ghosts of Tullybrae House, written under the pen name Veronica Bale. Katherine has appeared in publications such as East of the City Magazine, the Scugog Holiday guide, and the York Durham Headwaters blog. Join her on her local adventures at: **KatherineRyalen.com.**



Film Durham: From script to screen

Durham boasts a robust pool of skilled, creative and talented film and television professionals. It is also home to 600+ businesses providing industry-required services and products.

Momentum is building for film production in Durham. While it has long been a choice location for many popular films and television series; it is now known as a hub for major productions, such as The Strain, Schitts Creek, 12 Monkeys, American Gods, Anne with an "E", The Kennedys, The Expanse, Falling Water, Taken, Indian Detective,



Vefance

Mary Kills People, Condor, Defiance and The Handmaid's Tale (an Emmy and Golden Globe winner for Best Drama Series).

There is a growing interest in the region's unique locations, products and services all of which have demonstrated support to the film industry. Plus, due to the growing need for diverse locations, Durham's unique characteristics provide producers with ideal sites for filming. Our region's existing natural and cultural heritage assets offer the potential for a wide range of film shoots in a variety of



Here's just a sample of our cameos:

- Greenwood Conservation Area: Hannibal, Nikita, Heroes Reborn, Special Correspondents, Gone, The Strain, 12 Monkeys.
- Town of Whitevale: Heroes Reborn, Rookie Blue, Gangland Undercover, IT, American Gods, Titans.
- Lakeview Park: Holtered, Four Weddings Canada.
- Parkwood National Historic Site: Hemlock Grove, 12 Monkeys, Reign, Murdoch Mysteries, Marilyn, Killjoys, The Handmaid's Tale, Mary Kills People, Incorporated, Miss Sloan, Race for the Whitehouse, The Expanse, Working Moms, Anne with an "E", Titans, IT2, The Boys, Jett.

• Pickering Museum Village:

Dangerous Persuasions, Lost Girl, Suits, Barren, The Film Student, Anne with an "E". • Glen Major Angler Club: Murdoch Mysteries, The Detail, The Handmaid's Tale, Covert Affairs, Rookie Blue, Nikita, Beauty and the Beast, American Gothic, Taken, Locke and Key, Polar.

Did you know?

The weekly television series Schitt's Creek is filmed in Uxbridge.

Durham-born actress A.J. Cook is famous for her roles in Criminal Minds and Final Destination 2.

From 2012 to 2017, there were 341 film projects in Durham, which generated an estimated \$136 million in production activity.

Nikita was shot at Glen Major Angler Club, Trafalgar Castle and Greenwood Conservation Area.



Arts & culture

Durham Region is not just a destination, it is also very much the journey.

Located between Lake Ontario, Lake Scugog and Lake Simcoe, the region offers not a centralized cultural district but a wide variety of individual artist studios, independent galleries, music venues, museums, breweries and restaurants strung along an equally wide variety of trails, roads, rails and waterways. With its unique heritage in transportation, everything from car manufacturing to artist **Bill (Father Goose) Lishman's** ultralight aircraft, from horse racing to the **York-Durham Heritage Railway,** getting around is at the heart of the region's culture.

Whether one chooses to travel on bike or in car, on horseback, wing or foot, there are many hidden gems to enjoy as one moves through the beautiful landscape of rolling hills, Oak Ridges Moraine forests and lake shorelines. Durham Region is home to **Blue Heron Books,** in Uxbridge, the Trail Capital of Canada. The independent store is world famous and is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019. The store won the 2012 and 2014 Libris Award and has hosted many internationally known authors.

The store is located just east of **The Second Wedge Brewing Co.**, one of several craft breweries located throughout the region, and a cycling tour of the breweries offers a wide assortment of beers to sample. These breweries double as music venues and galleries for Durham Region based artists; and are a vital component of the region's lively cultural scene, acting as incubators for the larger galleries in Bowmanville, Whitby and most famously Oshawa's **Robert McLaughlin Gallery**, home of the world's most extensive collection of **Painters 11** as well as works from **Group of Seven.**

The McLaughlin's family home, **Parkwood National Historic Site**, is a work of art and has been used as a location in many movies. The historic home completed in 1917, was designed by Darling & Pearson, who are also responsible for the Royal Ontario Museum and the Centre Block of Parliament and was home to Colonel Sam, founding president of GM Canada.

It's not just automotive moguls like Colonel Sam McLaughlin who live in works of art, but many of the artists who work and live in the region also have created wonderful







edifices for themselves; Viktor and Judith Tinkl's schoolhouse, Francis Muscat's treehouse and Edward Falkenberg's customized home are must-sees on the Spring

and Fall studio tours with the late Bill Lishman's underground home in the Moraine the real jewel in the home studio crown. Most of the artist's studios are in north Durham with



professional galleries in the south. The exception is the Outer City Arts (OCA) in the hamlet of Cannington, east of Lake Simcoe. Durham offers rewards such as the OCA as one moves through the region and not just in the arts. There is music in every town pretty well every night. While the Tribute Communities **Centre** offers big names including Elton John, Bryan Adams and KISS, it is in the many town halls across

the area-the Greenbank Centennial Hall, the Hayden Community Hall, Old Massey Hall in Newcastle, the Uxbridge Town Hall and the St. Francis Centre in Ajax-where one hears the musicians of Durham Region. They are well worth the journey, as one could stumble across the next Shawn Mendes or Daniel Caesar. Both international stars are from Durham.

Durham Region is a place where the joys of the journey are equal to the promise of the destination, where arts and culture are not just where you are going, but are very much part of how you are going to get there.



About the Author Will McGuirk

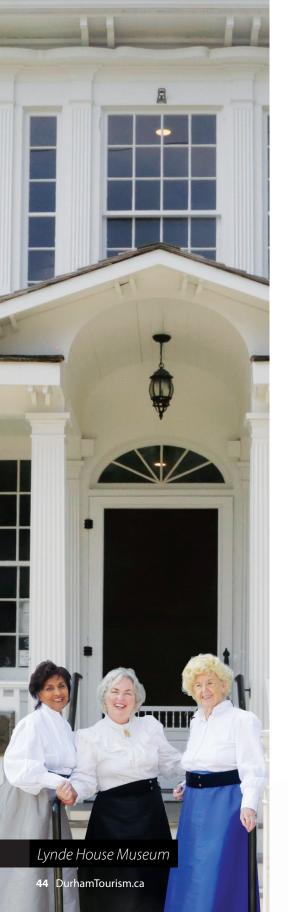
Will McGuirk is the founder of SlowCity.ca and host of the Bell Fibe TV show, Renaissance Man. He is the recipient of the Queen Flizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for Community Engagement and the Oshawa Canada 150 for Community Building. He lives in Oshawa with his wife and three sons.

Did you know?

Ontario Philharmonic (OP) is a notable player in the classical music landscape: one of the leading performing arts organizations of Durham Region and beyond. OP is comprised of players who are among the finest professional musicians in the GTA and is led by one of Canada's most distinguished conductors on the international scene, Marco Parisotto, OP was founded in the City of Oshawa in 1957 and during its 62-year history has evolved into one of the most exciting and respected orchestras in Ontario and Canada.



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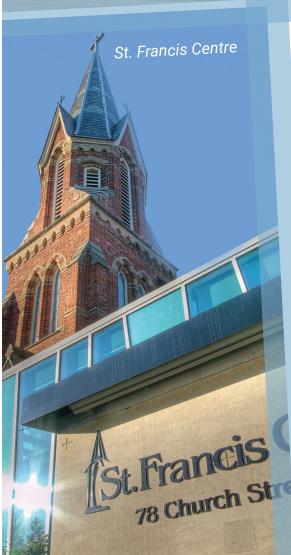
Did you know?

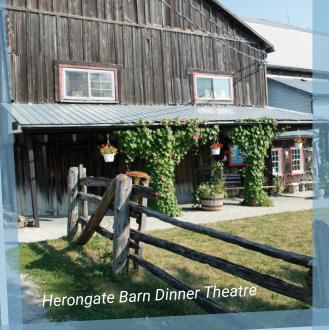
Established in 1993 by Oshawa violinist John Beaton, the **Durham** Youth Orchestra provides young musicians with the enriching experience of performing music by many great composers, including Bach, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky. The goal of the DYO is to nurture the artistic and personal growth of young musicians through the experience of playing orchestral masterpieces. The DYO provides the wonderful opportunity for young people with a passion for classical music to develop their musical skills and hone their talent in an orchestra setting!

The Durham Youth Orchestra performs in a minimum of three concerts each season. The orchestra's involvement in the community includes educational concerts presented to Durham area students. Through these efforts, orchestra members gain valuable performing experience and help contribute to the musical culture of Durham Region.









Explore the arts.

Our region is home to arts, culture, history and heritage.

Visit one of our galleries for a rich source of contemporary, traditional and public art. Step back in time and discover life in another era or catch a live theatre performance and ignite your emotions. There's something for everyone in Durham Region.

Good Natured, Good Times

More at DurhamTourism.ca



Nine outdoor activities you need to put on your spring bucket list

Goodbye parka, hello paradise.

Ah, springtime. Although winter is a season of (a whole lot of!) fun, there's something absolutely magical about the spring. Maybe it's the longer days, the hotter sun, or just the vibe of rebirth; either way, springtime is without a doubt a very special time of year.

And if you're as excited for spring as the rest of Canada, then there's some good news in store for you! Durham Region, an area of Ontario consisting of beautiful municipalities like Uxbridge, Scugog, Pickering and Oshawa, to name a few, is just a short distance from Toronto. And with its breathtaking waterfront sceneries; tons of hiking/biking trails; delicious farm to food restaurants; and overall wonderful vibe, this Ontario spot is one of the most awesome places to spend your spring!

Touching three of Ontario's gorgeous lakes (Lake Ontario, Lake Scugog and Lake Simcoe), the Region of Durham is a super popular place for fishing trips and watersports - but it's not all water. Uxbridge, Ontario, for example, is called the Trail Capital of Canada; so if you love hiking, biking or exploring, this is the place for you! But honestly, Durham is so uniquely diverse that there's something for everyone, from the biggest water-lover to the most finicky food-lover, making it the perfect spot to catch some serious spring vibes!

Take a walk on the wild side through the Trail Capital of Canada

Less than an hour from the GTA, Uxbridge is the **Trail Capital of Canada.** Yep, you read that right; it's the trail capital of the entire country! Both the super famous **Trans-Canada Trail** and the **Oak Ridges Trail** pass through Uxbridge, among others. This countryside playground boasts over 300 kilometres of trails for all experience levels. Whether you walk, hike or jog, prepare to be wowed by one of the area's most scenic sites (no filter needed).

Jam out to local artists at the Springtide Music Festival

But Uxbridge is home to more than just great trails. The town also hosts its annual **Springtide Music Festival** from Friday, April 26 to Saturday, April 27. With over 60 musical acts, this community-centric, two-day event is a great way to inject some fun into your spring to-do list (no cleaning required).





Go mountain biking and ignite your inner adrenaline junkie

Whether you're new to the sport or a seasoned pro, mountain biking through Durham is a must for all adventure-goers. In fact, Durham Forest offers 50 kilometres of single-track mountain biking trails, while Ganaraska Forest includes an International Mountain Bike of Canada (IMBA) Epic Ride loop (only one of three throughout all of Canada!). And if you're down for some serious traction, consider joining the Durham Mountain Biking Association (that's DMBA for short, by the way) for thrill-inducing adventures with fellow adventure seekers!



Or keep it low-key and bike along the Greenbelt Route

Okay, we hear you: not everyone loves the rough and tumble of mountain biking, which is why the Greenbelt Route is ideal for the cyclist who likes to keep things a little more low-key (but still awesome). What's the Greenbelt Route, you ask? Well, the Greenbelt Route is a 475-kilometre cycling trail spanning Ontario's countryside! That's right, you can *actually* see Ontario by bike. From Northumberland to Niagara, the trail takes over six days to ride from end to end; or you can keep it comfy and take a nice, short scenic route.

Cruise in a kayak then check out Beaverton

Adventure-seekers, rejoice. Beaverton Harbour, a very short distance from Toronto, is home to an accessible kayaking dock, perfect for those of us wanting to get our adrenaline pumping after a long, kayak-less winter! Then again, if water adventures aren't your cup of tea, Beaverton is full of other fun activities as well! For example, walk through the Beaver River Museum and learn about the community's history, dating back all the way to the 1800s (stone jail with three cell lockups included!).



Go from turf to surf with the paddle boarding session of your dreams

Is it even spring if you don't paddle board? We think not, which is why Port Perry is the perfect place to get your paddle on. Located in downtown Port Perry, the shallow waters of Lake Scugog make it the ideal place for beginners (not to mention an Instagram-worthy moment or two). Afterwards, wind down at local restaurants in downtown Port Perry. Helpful hint: Pickles & Olives serves AMAZING pizzas, and it's even got a waterfront view!

Wander with your favorite tail-wagger while you explore **Ontario's waterfront**

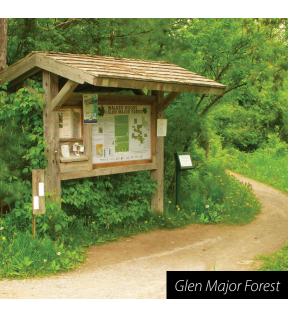
Ready to dip your toes in the sand? That's what we thought. Enjoy 30 kilometres of the Lake Ontario waterfront in Clarington. In fact, Bond Head Beach in the Port of Newcastle contains a boat launch to help get you ready for a sweet season of cruisin'. Discover and take in the sights of Bond Head Park while you're at it, or enjoy the town's expansive network of trails

and leash-free dog parks and get ready to snap those selfies with your favorite pooch!



Enjoy the season's freshest, farm-to-table dining experience

We know what you're thinking: you've indulged your senses, now it's time to indulge your tastebuds. Thankfully Durham has some of the freshest selection of farm-to-table restaurants. Fun fact: there are over 60 varieties of fruits and veggies grown in the region, and that local flavour really shines through at TONS of spots in Durham Region. One in particular? Bistro '67, situated in Whitby, Ontario, which serves food made fresh from ingredients grown at Durham College's award-winning W. Galen Weston Centre for Food!



Celebrate the melting snow by checking out one of the region's beautiful parks!

Durham Region spans all the way from Pickering to Clarington, which means it encompasses some seriously breathtaking parks and conservation areas. Darlington Provincial Park, for example, is situated in Clarington and offers an unbelievably blue-watered, sandy beach; camping spots; picnic spaces and much more! Other spots in the North are just as existing as the South! For example, The Township of Brock houses the Beaver River Wetland **Conservation** area, perfect for those who love to fish, bird watch, or even cross-country ski during the winters - while Uxbridge's Glen Major Forest offers unparalleled views for hiking/jogging/exploring the trails, to name a few.

From kayaking to soaking in local history, to camping, to eating the freshest foods, Ontario's Durham Region has totally got you covered! Springtime might be one of the prettiest seasons of the year, but trust us, you're missing some major magic if you don't pay this region a visit!

Super close to Toronto, Durham Region offers an easy escape from the confines of city life. In fact, we're willing to bet you'll want to experience this bucket list on repeat. All. Season. Long!



We are the media division of the leading millennial online brand in Canada reaching over 12 million Canadian & American readers every month, representing popular sites **NARCITY.COM & MTLBLOG.COM.** We are a group of passionate creative individuals who are devoted to creating the best content for our readers and clients.

Weave Your Way Through Durham Region

Durham Region is home to more than 350 kilometres of recreational trails. From the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail to the rolling hills of the Oak Ridges Moraine, Durham's trails offer beautiful landscapes and fabulous four-season recreational opportunities.

Good Times

Explore our interactive trails map and download the Durham Trails Guide at **DurhamTourism.ca**



Durham Region: A little something for everyone

If you're active or love sports, Durham Region is a dream come true-but only if you know where to look.



From downhill skiing to ziplining in the treetops, Durham truly has it all. The sheer diversity of activities and sports available means that, no matter who you are or what you're interested in, there's always fun to be had.

For the thrill seekers

The iconic Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, located just north of Bowmanville, broke ground in 1960, and, to this day, remains an important beacon of Canadian motorsports. The open seating allows you to take in the majesty of the 10-turn course on your own terms, but it's much more than just a course. Ron Fellows, the individual who holds the record for most wins by a foreign driver in NASCAR's top three series, also designed the Ron Fellows Driving Experience. This is the perfect experience for the adventurous corporate group whose ideal reward is to be behind the wheel of a racetrack-ready Corvette, Camaro or Cadillac.

Nothing says excitement like a zipline ecological adventure park, and that's where Oshawa's **Treetop Eco-Adventure Park** comes into play. They've got several exhilarating courses on-site which include zip lines, Tarzan ropes and everything in-between. Each course takes roughly two and a half hours, and it's the perfect bonding experience for friends, families or corporate groups looking for something different.

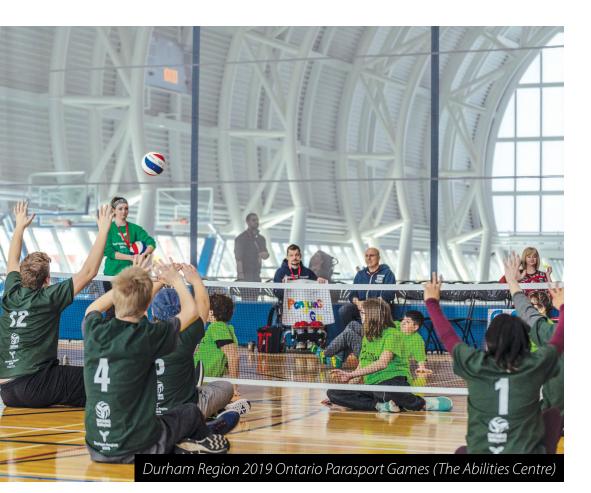
When it comes to thrill and entertainment, you'd be hard-pressed to find a place that embodies that more in Durham than **Ajax Downs**. At Ajax Downs, you've got live horse races from May to October, but also an off-track wagering running year-round on over 70 screens. Not to mention, there are over 800 Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation slot machines in **Casino Ajax** and the Getaway Restaurant is open 24-7. Now those are numbers that are in your favour!

For the sport lovers

For those who appreciate the game of hockey, the list of **Oshawa Generals** alumni is a special list, including names such as John Tavares, Dave Andreychuk, Bobby Orr, Eric Lindros and more. The question is, who is currently playing for the Generals that might be the next big NHL player? That's the beauty of attending a Generals game, seeing top-class players today fighting for their dreams of tomorrow. Not to mention, tickets can even be less expensive than a cab might cost to get to Scotiabank Arena in Toronto.

Skiing is synonymous with family fun, so it's a good thing that in Durham there are four quality options to choose from. Between Lakeridge Resort, Dagmar Ski Resort, Skyloft Resort and Brimacombe,





there's something for everyone. There's no reason you can't try them all on for size in a single season.

Lacrosse is the national summer sport of Canada and has deep roots in this nation. All that can be appreciated at **Ontario's Lacrosse Festival**, which takes place at the **Iroquois Park Sports Centre** in Whitby. In early August, this 10-day event hosts over 500 teams, and nearly 10,000 athletes for the provincial and national lacrosse championships, and also a lot of fun. Mark it in your calendar, because this event is something to behold!

For the love of empowerment and equality

Though technically located in Whitby, the Abilities Centre is a national beacon of what sport can and should be. The Abilities Centre is a charitable organization that offers sports, research, fitness and more for people of all ages and abilities. The 125,000-square-foot facility is downright incredible, touting a universally accessible cardiovascular exercise area, basketball courts, walking and running tracks and so much more. This facility embodies a meaningful ethos and is a shining light to say the least. In Durham, when it comes to sport, there's something for everyone, which means you'll be leaving Durham with a smile, while already planning your next trip back.

Did you know?

Jungle Cat World is one of Canada's most unique zoological parks, featuring rare and endangered wildlife from around the world. Immerse yourself in the zoo world by staying overnight in the Safari Lodge, which offers decadent lodging and highly personalized service.





About the Author Christopher Mitchell

Christopher Mitchell is a Canadian travel writer, photographer, and podcaster based in Toronto. Along with freelance writing, he also operates the popular travel website **TravelingMitch.com**, and **@travelingmitch** on Instagram and Twitter. He has visited some 80 countries, lived on four continents, but is proud to call Ontario home.





Royal Ashburn Golf Club

Durham golf

You don't need to drive far to find the rolling greens in Durham Region!

Our wide-open spaces create the perfect environment for more than 50 unique golf courses and exceptional golfing experiences. Ranging from nine hole to championship courses, we've got your golfing needs covered in Durham Region. Hit the fairway at one of our premier courses "fore" a competitive game, or play a laid-back casual round with friends at an executive course.

Whether you're a beginner or an avid golfer, look no further than Durham Region to find that perfect golf experience for you. Many local courses offer training, whether you are looking for



some one-on-one coaching, or would like to participate in a series of lessons with a friend. You're sure to be ready for a full summer and autumn golf season.

It's going to be a great year for golf in Durham Region. Wooden Sticks Golf Course in the Township of Uxbridge has been a community fixture for 20 years. What better excuse to enjoy a day on one of Durham's most pristine golf courses? Did you know that 12 of the 18 holes at Wooden Sticks were inspired by famous PGA Tour holes?

Last but not least, don't forget that some of Durham Region's finest restaurants are housed on golf courses. Even if you're not a golfer, most club restaurants are open to the general public and offer up unique menus, refreshing drinks and pleasant views of the landscaped courses. And if you are a golfer, what a great way to relax and unwind after hitting the links. See you on the green!

Did you know?

Deer Creek Golf & **Banquet Facility** is celebrating their 30th anniversary this year. Did you know that Deer Creek is the only facility of its kind in the Durham Region with the ability to host shotgun golf tournaments for up to 400 people? With 45 holes of pristine golf and a banguet facility unparalleled to any other, they are proud to offer our community and beyond a facility to host for unforgettable events.





World class fishing... right in your backyard

With about 20 varieties of Ontario's favourite fish available, Durham Region is a four-season fishing destination with world-class bodies of water, such as Lake Simcoe, Lake Ontario and Lake Scugog. You can count on making a catch to be proud of, any day of the year!



Summer salmon (trolling)

Chinook, Coho, and Atlantic salmon up to forty lbs. can be caught in abundance throughout the summer along the entire Lake Ontario shoreline in Durham Region. Trolling with downriggers and dipsy divers are the most effective in depths of 10 to 200 feet (3.04 to 60.9 meteres) of water, depending on water temperatures and the location of baitfish.

Suggested bait and technique:

11 inch (27.9 cm) Luhr-Jensen Coyote flasher and Twinkie Flyrig–add your preferred piece of bait or Luhr-Jensen's scented cut bait strip. Paired with a Luhr Jensen Dipsy Diver or run 15 to 50 feet (4.5 to 15.2 meteres) behind your downrigger ball. Locate water temperatures between 45 and 55 degrees celsius and troll at 2.2 to 2.7 mph (3.5 to 4.3 kph) and get ready!



Tributaries (casting)–fall salmon runs

From late August to November you can fish for mature salmon that migrate up the creeks and rivers annually to spawn. This presents shore anglers with worldclass fishing just steps from their parked car. The strongest runs of fish happen from mid-September to mid-October. Hang on tight because these fish are extremely powerful.

Suggested bait and technique:

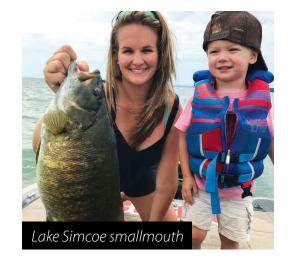
Cast a Luhr-Jensen Crocodile spoon; and retrieve varying the cadence until you find what they want. The Luhr-Jensen Kwikfish also works very well in larger streams by starting at the head of a pool and working the bait back towards the tail-out enticing an aggression strike.

Tributaries–fall to spring rainbow trout run

Mid-September is when you can expect the first runs of steelhead to enter the creeks and rivers that flow into Lake Ontario. These continue for months until late spring when the majority of the fish lay their eggs and return back to the lake. With access to such an amazing steelhead fishery it's no wonder they are the region's biggest angling attraction almost year-round.

Suggested baits and technique:

Luhr-Jensen soft plastics; such as the Luhr-Jensen UV natural or chartreuse single egg work best if drifted under a float on the lightest leader (four to eight lb.) and smallest octopus hook (size 10 to 14) possible. Other notables this time of year include the Luhr-Jensen Mini Probe Worm, Spade Tail Worm, Paddle Tail Worm and UV Skein Chunks.





Smallmouth

Lake Simcoe is hands down the capital of giant smallmouth bass. Lake Simcoe boasts record tournament weights and can't be beat for catching the biggest smallmouth of your life with the average fish in the four to five lb. range. It's not uncommon for people to catch smallmouth up to eight lbs. The season starts at the end of June and runs until late fall, when the biggest fish of the year are caught.

Suggested bait and technique:

Rapala RipStop (jerkbait)–Cast out and retrieve back while snapping or twitching your rod tip with pauses in between to create reaction bites from huge smallmouth bass!

Winter yellow perch

Every winter, tens of thousands of anglers hit the ice every day for jumbo perch. At times, it seems like everywhere you drill a hole you catch these fish, up to 15 inches (38.1 cm) in length. Known for their massive size and taste, Simcoe perch out of Beaverton are no doubt the biggest ice fishing attraction in Ontario.

Suggested bait and technique:

Rapala Jigging Rap (vertical jig bait)– hit bottom a few times to attract curious fish, then quickly jig your rod to get the proven figure eight Jigging Rap-action that fish love.



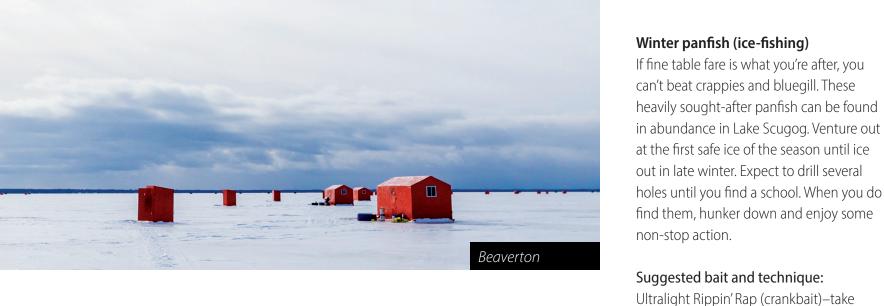
Winter lake tout and whitefish

For those looking for an exciting adventure when safe ice permits, explore the depths of Lake Simcoe from 60 to120 feet (18.2 to 36.5 meteres) of water for giant lake trout and tasty whitefish. Often ATVs and snowmobiles are required to reach the vast offshore spots, but you can always hire a local guide or hut operator to take you out for a comfortable day of fishing.

Suggested baits and techniques:

VMC Minnow Jig (vertical jig bait)-stir up the bottom to imitate feeding baitfish, quiver near bottom and get ready to set the hook on a whitefish. Rapala Rippin' Rap (vertical jig bait)-entice lake trout from miles away with long jig strokes that will create an erratic vibration action they cannot resist!











advantage of big crappy's curiosity by jigging this loud rattle bait in short sweeps, then raise your rod six to 12 inches (15.2 to 30.4 cm) and pause in

wait of aggressive hits-then repeat.

About the Author Dan Miguel

Dan Miguel was first introduced to fishing by his parents at the tender age of two. Growing up fishing the waters of Durham Region, Dan got his start in the industry in his early teens when he became one of the most dedicated and influential steelhead (rainbow trout) and salmon anglers in Ontario. Dan has become one of Ontario's top Competitive Bass Tournament anglers, and after working for Rapala for three years, has started his own fishing technology company headquarted in Whitby, National ProStaff, which is now the industry's biggest social commerce network.

Rapala

Rapala chose to nestle their internationally recognized brand in the heart of Durham Region for one simple reason: it offers an abundance of fishing possibilities. The outdoor lifestyle is embraced by many in Durham as it holds the opportunity to have a professional career while granting access to some of the greatest fisheries in Canada (within a 60-minute drive radius). The Rapala team is just like the outdoorsmen here, hence the perfect home for the Canadian headquarters of a fishing powerhouse.

Lake Scugog

Summer largemouth bass

Nicknamed by locals as the bog, Lake Scugog is the shallowest and weediest lake in the region and offers the best largemouth habitat. From late June to early fall, Lake Scugog is your best bet to catch your biggest largemouth bass.

Suggested bait and technique:

Rapala Skitter V (topwater)–cast the bait out near shallow water cover and impart a walk-the-dog action to work the bait through cover while imparting long pauses to experience huge blow ups.

Summer muskie

Lake Scugog, in the heart of the region, offers prime habitat and forage for muskie. Known for its large population of muskie, Scugog offers one of your best shots at catching your first muskie. It's not uncommon to catch several muskie in a day, contrary to the old saying that "muskie are a fish of 10,000 casts."

Suggested bait and technique:

Super Shadow Rap (jerkbait)–nothing catches a predator's attention more than forage that looks injured, so toss this bait out and jerk it back to the boat aggressively and erratically for scale-tipping catches.



Cultivating passion for agri-tourism in Durham

Here in Durham, we're proud of our agricultural heritage. Today, farming is as important an aspect of our regional personality as are our up-and-coming social and entertainment scenes. We're not just a region of quiet land labourers, toiling at food production in silence. For us, agriculture is a tourism offering in its own right, where local products, education and artisanal skills are something for everyone to experience. Come and see what exciting adventures await you on our Durham Region farms.

Dare2Dream Farm

In the quaint hamlet of Kendal is Dare2Dream Farm, a local enterprise owned by Steve and Patty Lawrence, where sustainable farming and fork-totable education is a passion. Guests at the farm can sample and purchase raw honey, pure maple syrup, quality vinegars and even beeswax lip balm—all produced and packaged on site. Dare2Dream also offers weekly tours, private events and public workshops, like extracting your own honey and painting bee boxes. There are more in-depth beekeeping and maple syrup tours as well, where visitors learn all about the process of extracting and refining these delicious products. 8169 Langstaff Road, Kendal. Dare2DreamFarm.com.

Carpe Diem Farm and Café

Carpe Diem in Brock is a 170-acre local farm and café with a passion as big as its ambition. The farm store and café is open to the public from May to October, Friday through Sunday. The store sells local products on behalf of small businesses in the area, as well as artisan cheese made on-site by owner Julie Belli herself. The farm has begun offering workshops like breadmaking, cheesemaking and doughnut making. Southwest corner of **Highway 12 and Concession Road 10, north of Sunderland. CarpeDiemFarm.ca.**



Did you know?

Pingle's Farm Market offers a giant eight-acre corn maze that is fun for the whole family! Each year they have a new theme and create challenging questions to be completed throughout your "a-maze-ing" experience! The maze takes between 45 to 60 minutes to complete. Pingle's is a one-stop-shop for baked goods, farm goods, plants, apples, pumpkins and much more!





Thunder Ridge Bison Co.

In 2015, the Arnold family founded the Thunder Ridge Bison Co. in Uxbridge with their herd of Plains Bison. Their hopes are to share their passion with the world. Located in the Oak Ridges Moraine, Thunder Ridge Bison Co. is perfectly suited to breeding and raising bison naturally. Visitors to the on-site farm store can find high-quality and familiar cuts of bison meat and are, by appointment, welcome for personal visits to see what is involved in bison farming and conservation. **664 Davis Drive, Uxbridge. ThunderRidgeBison.ca.**

Did you know?

Nature's Bounty is a picturesque orchard with more than 20 varieties of high-quality apples, located on the rolling hills of the Oak Ridges Moraine near Port Perry. The farm also grows pumpkins, squash and ornamental corn, and is home to a flock of sheep and one friendly llama. Every fall, families return to Nature's Bounty for its gorgeous scenery, crisp and delicious apples, and taste of country life. Enjoy the tradition of picking your own apples, sipping cider, and wandering the orchard this fall.

Need more information? For an in-depth look at these "agri-wonders," read more at **YorkDurhamHeadwaters.ca/discover-durham.**



About the Author **Katherine Ryalen**

Katherine Ryalen is a local travel and lifestyle writer. She is also the best-selling author of The Ghosts of Tullybrae House, written under the pen name Veronica Bale. Katherine has appeared in publications such as East of the City Magazine, the Scugog Holiday guide, and the York Durham Headwaters blog. Join her on her local adventures at: **KatherineRyalen.com.**





Just outside of Port Perry, lies Willowtree Farm. This family owned and operated farm is run by the McKay family, whose mission is to share their passion for sustainable farming and fresh food. Founded in 1969 by the late Rod McKay, the farm is now run by sons Jordan and Alex, alongside their wives Kelty and Alyson. The family were recently named Ontario's Outstanding Young Farmers and Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers. The farm produces more than 30 types of produce, as well as a range of naturally raised, antibiotic free and no growth hormone meats, available through the on-site farm store and butcher shop.





Tap your card in Durham Region

We've got your shopping needs covered! Whether you are downtown or just "out and about" in the countryside, there is something to fit everyone's style.

Durham Region is home to a wide range of unique arts and craft stores, specialty boutiques and shopping malls. Consider cruising one of our picturesque downtown shopping areas in Bowmanville, Port Perry or Uxbridge, or visit our large-scale shopping malls, the **Pickering Town** **Centre** or the **Oshawa Centre**. Head out to the country and spend the day exploring our antique shops, local artisans and farm or flea markets.

Downtown Whitby is a designer's paradise with incredible specialty stores

like **Penney & Co.** Founded in 2012, and self proclaimed "the little local decorating store that could." You can expect to find everything for your home from large-scale upholstery, dining tables and bedroom suites to accessories, gorgeous cushions, gifts and more! Penney & Co. is a full-service lifestyle shopping experience where you'll find inspirational ideas and unique goodies to fill your home with beauty.

If you are looking for something craftier, you'll need something "Made in Uxbridge." From farmers to coffee roasters, carpenters to soap makers, Uxbridge is filled with people who take pride in their work and respect the process of thoughtful and well-made goods.

The Passionate Cook's Essentials is a must-see and spend stop! Boasting an in-house fromager, you won't be disappointed with its large cheese and charcuterie counter, filled with artisan cheese from around the world and small batch charcuterie, such as wild boar sausage, duck foie gras parfait and tasty salumi. Visitors can also take advantage of in-store cooking and cheese classes!

Combine shopping with a touch of history and a love for the environment in downtown Port Perry. Feel good about shopping and make a difference at **Eco Port**, the environmental store. With hundreds of wonderful products designed to help people live more sensitively with the earth, every purchase you make will









show respect for, and protect the diversity of, life. While in Port Perry, don't forget to stop by the Old Mill to capture a historic insta-worthy photo of Canada's oldest grain elevator. Soak in the history of Canada and shop in Port Perry.

Head north to The Dark Horse in Sunderland, which is located in the olde firehall. The Dark Horse is an intriguing mix of original art, antiques and home décor. Always changing, always evolving, always re-creating.

Or check out **Blackwater Bric-a-Brac** Shoppe in Sunderland for a vast collection

of reclaimed architectural and barn decor suiting your unique artistic decor projects and creations.

All that shopping will certainly help you work up an appetite. Stop by one of our many bistros, bakeries or bars and enjoy a tasty meal.





One-of-a-kind celebrations and festivals are taking place year-round in Durham Region.

If you're looking for an adventure, from food festivals to cultural celebrations, Durham's vibrant and diverse communities invite you to join in the fun!

There's always something to celebrate in Durham Region! Discover our community spirit at one of Durham Region's unique and diverse events.





Salmon Derby

Bowmanville Apple F

Durham Region 2019 Ontario Parasport Games



le Syrup Festiv

Ajax Winterfest

For ideas on what to do in Durham Region, visit DurhamTourism.ca/events

70 DurhamTourism.ca



Get away to Durham's charming bed & breakfasts

You don't have to be a weary traveller to book a stay at a bed and breakfast or boutique inn. Everyone needs to get away from the bustle of daily life once in a while.

We have some wonderful accommodations in our region that offer far more than just a bed for the night, and each one is as unique as the owners themselves. **Come and see what unforgettable experience awaits you.**



Nestleton Waters Inn

The Nestleton Waters Inn was built and designed by owners Deborah and Erik Kiezebrink, and opened its doors in the fall of 2008. The inn is a family business, located on a 96-acre farm in Scugog. "We have a wonderful executive chef who does fine cuisine," says Deborah. "He incorporates food that is available from local farms into our popular dinner dates." The inn's partnerships with local businesses, in nearby Port Perry, means that guests are encouraged to explore the town, and discover what a slower pace of life can do for rekindling joy.

3440 Beacock Road, Nestleton. NestletonWatersInn.com.

The Hive Centre and Bee & Bee

In Leskard, The Hive Centre and Bee & Bee is a zen-like retreat in a retro executive home surrounded by a nature reserve. A historic church sits on the property, which has been lovingly restored. "It's a multifaceted experience," co-owner Elsii Faria says. "We do workshops and events in the church, or people will just come and stay with us for a few nights." What's unique about this experience is that the church is a co-habitat for a colony of honey bees, who seek sanctuary within its walls.

3392 Concession Road 8, Leskard TheHiveCentre.ca.

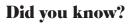




The Piano Inn 1884

Located in three heritage buildings in downtown Port Perry, the Piano Inn offers five suites above a charming café. The buildings have been in Christy Stone-Curry's family for more than 50 years. "Our suites have all been meticulously restored to showcase the historical features," she says. "They all have high baseboards, some rooms have 18-foot ceilings, and each one has unique and fun features." Guests enjoy the personal touch offered by The Piano Inn, and repeat bookings are a frequent occurrence at this unique location.

217 Queen Street, Port Perry. Pianolnn.ca.



Model A Acres Bed & Breakfast, located in Bowmanville, is the perfect location to experience old-world charm and modern comfort in a quiet country setting. As a guest, you will have the opportunity to stroll the property to see the model cars and planes on display and learn about the historical significance behind them all.





About the Author Katherine Ryalen

Katherine Ryalen is a local travel and lifestyle writer. She is also the best-selling author of The Ghosts of Tullybrae House, written under the pen name Veronica Bale. Katherine has appeared in publications such as East of the City Magazine, the Scugog Holiday guide, and the York Durham Headwaters blog. Join her on her local adventures at: **KatherineRyalen.com.**



yorkdurhamheadwaters.ca/discover-durham

Rest & Relax

Busy day exploring **Durham Region?**

Feel like getting away without going too far from home? Durham Region's accommodation establishments provide the perfect outlet to relax and reconnect with nature.

Rest your head at one of our many amazing hotels, motels, or bed and breakfasts (B&Bs). Whether you are here for a day, a weekend or even a week, you will find our accommodations both comfortable and welcoming.

Enjoy the relaxing atmosphere that Durham Region accommodations can offer. After a long day of hiking, cycling or golfing, retire to a quiet B&B to rest and recharge in your own private room. The next morning, enjoy a homemade breakfast and take in the beautiful scenery of Durham Region—what a perfect weekend getaway.

Durham Region's collection of accommodations offer guests a welcoming environment to relax in, whether it's for business or pleasure.





Anderson House B&B





Durham Good Natured, Good Times.

DurhamTourism.ca

Acknowledgements: This Discovery Guide was produced by The Regional Municipality of Durham, with graphic design by Kristie Arbour. Photographs provided by various tourism partners and The Regional Municipality of Durham. All information contained in this publication is believed to be accurate and complete at the time of printing. Since much of this information is subject to change, The Regional Municipality of Durham assumes no liability for any damages or losses arising from any errors, omissions, or misinformation contained within any of the advertisements or listings enclosed within this publication. As accessibility enhancements are determined by the business and not by The Regional Municipality of Durham, please contact the business directly for further clarification regarding any accessibility needs. Please note: The businesses featured in this publication are only a small representation of the many unique businesses currently thriving in Durham Region. Please enjoy our breweries and wineries responsibly.

