

## WELCOME TO OTTAWA, BIENVENUE À OTTAWA!

Warmest greetings from Canada's Capital Region! While this is by no means an exhaustive collection for the many activities that Ottawa has to offer, it is meant to provide starting points for things to do in the city. The official Ottawa Visitor's Guide and map will be provided in your registration package.



### Canada's Capital Region Welcomes You!

The city of Ottawa sits on the border between the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. In 1857, it was made capital of the British colonial Province of Canada. Since 1969, the city has been part of the National Capital Region, which also comprises the city of Gatineau. Although formally and administratively separate cities in two separate provinces, the area is considered a single metropolitan area. The region stretches on both sides of the Ottawa River, including Ontario on the South and Quebec on the north. The region is one of Canada's most bilingual communities, with roughly 500,000 people speaking both official languages of Canada, French and English. The region encompasses just over 4700 square kilometers of river valleys, hills, and wetlands, with a population of approximately 1,148,800 people. It is Canada's fourth-largest urban centre.

The city is neo-gothic in much of its architectural style, particularly in its downtown centre. Your conference hotel, the Château Laurier, is centrally located for most of the must-see sites in the city as well as for restaurants, night clubs, shops and services.

The following guide is designed to enable you to get the most out of your trip to Ottawa:

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### Getting There

**U.S. citizens traveling to Ottawa for the meeting will need a passport or a passport card to return to the United States.** For more details, see the [US Department of State's travel website](#).

The Ottawa International Airport has direct flights to LaGuardia, Newark, Boston, Chicago, Las Vegas, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit, Washington DC (Dulles and Regan), Atlanta, Orlando, Tampa, Frankfurt, and Heathrow, as well as easy connecting flights for other American

cities and for Europe. Airlines flying into Ottawa include Air Canada, Westjet, American, Continental, Delta, Northwest, United, and US Airways.

The Ottawa International Airport is a 25 minute taxi or shuttle ride from downtown. Taxis from the airport to the Chateau Laurier cost about \$35 one-way. Air shuttle (the YOW Airporter) to the hotel costs \$14 one-way (or less if there is more than one passenger.) The shuttle leaves every 5 and 25 minutes after the hour.

### **Alternative Accommodations**

A variety of **bed & breakfast** inns are available, with rates ranging from a low of \$70 to prices higher than our rate at the Chateau Laurier. Look for locations that are close to Parliament Hill and the ByWard Market. For details on bed and breakfast accommodations, see [www.bedsandbreakfasts.ca/ottawa.htm](http://www.bedsandbreakfasts.ca/ottawa.htm).

**Hotels that are less expensive** than the Chateau include:

Les Suites [www.les-suites.com](http://www.les-suites.com) from \$136 (5 minutes walk to Chateau)  
Novotel [www.novotelottawa.com](http://www.novotelottawa.com) – (613) 230-3033 from \$139 (5 minutes walk to Chateau)

Ottawa Marriott [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com) – (613) 238-1122 from \$149 (10–15 minutes walk to Chateau)

**Others include:**

The Westin [www.starwoodhotels.com](http://www.starwoodhotels.com) – (613) 560-7000

Lord Elgin Hotel [www.lordelginhotel.ca](http://www.lordelginhotel.ca) – (613) 235-3333

Marriott Residence Inn [www.marriottresidenceinnottawa.com](http://www.marriottresidenceinnottawa.com)

Cartier Place Suite Hotel [www.suitedreams.com](http://www.suitedreams.com) – (800) 236-8399

Capitol Hill Hotel and Suites [www.capitalhill.com](http://www.capitalhill.com) – (613) 235-1413

Sheraton Ottawa Hotel [www.starwoodhotels.com](http://www.starwoodhotels.com) – (613) 238-1500

Albert at Bay Suite Hotel [www.albertatbay.com](http://www.albertatbay.com) – (613) 238-885

You may be able to book these and other hotels **at cheaper rates** by using an internet discount booking site. Try Ottawa Hotels - [www.hotels.ca](http://www.hotels.ca).

### **Ottawa: A Brief History**

The Ottawa region was long home to First Nations people, with estimates linking their arrival back some 6500 years ago. The Ottawa River was used by these peoples as a corridor of transportation between the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, much the same as it has been used ever since. By the time Europeans arrived, the primary Aboriginal occupants of the region were Algonquins (also known as the Algonkians). The name “Ottawa” itself is Aboriginal in origin, although its precise meaning is debated. It is generally believed to be an Anglicized version of the name of an Aboriginal people who lived west of Ottawa. Another theory is that the word “Ottawa” is a derivative local word meaning “to trade.”

The Algonquin peoples were heavily involved in the fur trade, but by the 1800s the beaver was all but extinct in the Ottawa valley area. Changes in the Algonquin lifestyle, influenced by the English and French, forced many Algonquin into poverty, disease and a steady loss of territory. To this date, the Algonquin peoples claim that a great deal of land now currently used by the National Capital Commission was never relinquished; and they remain locked in processes of negotiation with provincial and federal officials over contested land claims. The first European settlement in the region started on the Quebec side of the River in 1800. Led by Philemon Wright, Wright’s Town developed based largely on the transportation of timber by river from the Ottawa Valley to Montreal. The timber trade fed a huge market in Napoleonic-era Britain. Lumberers would spend their winters in the woods, cutting down pine and then hauling it to the river’s edge. When the ice melted in the spring, they built large rafts that were floated down the river. By 1830, the Ottawa Valley was the major timber-producing area in Upper

and Lower Canada. The Ottawa River was used intensively as a water route to settlements further west. Since no roads or railways existed, the only way to travel was on Canada's natural highways of rivers and lakes.

The north side of the Ottawa River was busy with activity as a result of the timber trade, but the south side remained wilderness with only isolated homesteads. The decision to build a navigable waterway between Kingston and Montreal led to development of the south side of the Ottawa River. The Rideau Canal, a massive military and public works project, was undertaken by Lieutenant Colonel John By. The Canal, now recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was designed after the War of 1812 to secure water transportation, should the Great Lakes frontier again be attacked by Canada's American neighbours. The Canal later became the backbone of economic development in Canada until displaced by the national railway system.

Construction of the canal was a massive undertaking and required many workers, which led to increased immigration from Quebec, Scotland and Ireland. It began at the northern end, with military barracks on what would eventually become Parliament Hill. The townsite that developed during construction became known as Bytown. When the Canal was completed in 1832, the region grew in popularity. In 1855, the growth of Bytown prompted a change of name and the city became known as Ottawa.

The decision for Ottawa, an unruly logging town far from the colony's main cities of Quebec City, Montreal, Kingston and Toronto (York), to become the capital of Canada was somewhat arbitrary. The city was, however, strategically useful as a capital: it was the only settlement of considerable size located on the border between the Upper (Ontario) and Lower (Quebec) Canadas; it was surrounded by a dense forest and far from the U.S. border, thus safer from American attack; it was almost exactly mid-way between Quebec City and Toronto; and, it was easily reached by water.

Barracks Hill, where Colonel By's military barracks had been located, was identified as the ideal site for government buildings. Construction of the parliament buildings began in 1860, an enormous and costly undertaking that brought scores of architects, engineers and craftsmen to the city. Completed in 1866, its neo-Gothic architecture echoed the style of the Houses of Parliament at Westminster, demonstrating Upper and Lower Canada's ties with England. Confederation to form the one Canada came in 1867, with the British North America Act enacted by the imperial parliament, creating the original constitutional framework. Ottawa was affirmed as the capital, partly because it already had governmental buildings. When their Centre Block was destroyed by fire in 1916, its replacement included the Peace Tower, which is now an emblem of the city.

### Walking Tours



***The Château Laurier is a most central location, with a rich assortment of restaurants, landmarks, historic sites and museums located within***

**walking distance. Below are two suggested walking tours that would enable you to visit several of Ottawa’s most significant sites. More detailed information about the specific sites is available under Major Sites and Other Sites.**

Confederation Boulevard is the Capital’s ceremonial and discovery route. This 7.5 kilometre route serves the most important sites and institutions of the nation. These suggested walking tours cover the central portion of Confederation Boulevard, the part within walking distance of the Château Laurier.

#### **WALKING TOUR ONE**

*Rideau Street, the ByWard Market, south Sussex Drive, the National Gallery, the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography*

Leaving the Château Laurier, turn left and head east along Rideau Street. On your right is the Rideau Centre, downtown Ottawa’s major shopping mall. Turning left onto Sussex Drive and then right onto George Street will bring you into the historic ByWard Market. One of Ottawa’s oldest commercial areas, the original market was constructed in 1848 and the current one was built in 1926. While the vendors’ stalls do not operate during the colder months, the market area has an array of shops and restaurants. Head west back towards Sussex Drive and begin walking north. You will note the U. S. Embassy on your left. Continue north to St. Patrick Street, where you will see the National Gallery of Canada on the left.



*The Rideau Canal in winter, the world’s longest skating rink*

After visiting the Gallery, walk through Major Hill’s Park across the street, to enjoy the view of Parliament Hill. At the south end of the park, you can keep to the right and look over the Rideau Canal locks. Climbing the stairs, you will find yourself back at the Château Laurier. Before heading back to your room, take a quick visit to the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography located next to the hotel.

#### **WALKING TOUR TWO**

*Parliament, the Supreme Court of Canada, Sparks Street, the National Arts Centre, the National War Memorial, the Rideau Canal*

Leaving the Château Laurier, turn right and head west along Wellington Street. You will see the National War Memorial on your left and the Rideau Canal on your right. Keep going until you reach the Parliament Buildings on your right. Walk up onto the Parliament grounds towards the Eternal Flame which burns in the fountain in the middle of the Hill. A walk around the grounds is a must in order to view the statues and monuments to famous Canadians. Be sure not to miss the “Women are Persons!” monument, a tribute to Canada’s Famous Five: Nellie McClung, Irene Parlby, Emily Murphy, Louise McKinney and Henrietta Muir Edwards. Together, these women won the historic “Persons” Case,

a 1929 ruling of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (U. K.), which legally declared women as “persons” under the British North America Act (1867). This ruling made women eligible for appointment to the Canadian Senate and is a landmark case in early Canadian feminism.

Continue along Wellington Street past Parliament Hill and you will see the Confederation Building on your right. This historic building is currently home to offices for Canada’s federal government. To the left of Wellington is centretown, where most of Canada’s federal bureaucracy is located.

Continuing west on Wellington will bring you to the Supreme Court of Canada. This imposing building is set back from the street with a view over the Ottawa River. Tours of the Court, Canada’s highest, are available. Continuing west on Wellington will bring you to the Library and Archives Canada on the right. From there, you can continue to walk about another seven minutes down Wellington to the Canadian War Museum. Should you want to return to the conference hotel, take historic Sparks Street on your way back. It runs parallel to Wellington Street, one block south. This pedestrian-only street provides several restaurants, pubs and shops for a browse before you reach Elgin Street. You will see the National Arts Centre immediately ahead of you once you reach Elgin and Sparks, and you will see the Château Laurier diagonally to the left.

### **Ottawa Must-Sees**

#### *The Rideau Canal*

The Rideau Canal, which starts in Kingston, Ontario, winds its way through the city. The final flight of locks on the canal are between Parliament Hill and the Château Laurier. During the winter season, the Canal forms the world’s longest skating rink. There is a large network of paved multi-use pathways that wind their way through much of the city, including along the Ottawa River, Rideau River, and Rideau Canal (a

UNESCO World Heritage Site). These pathways are used for transportation, tourism, and recreation. Because most streets either have wide curb lanes or bicycle lanes, cycling is a popular mode of transportation in the region throughout the year.

#### *Parliament Hill*

Ottawa is home to the federal seat of Canada’s government. Canada is a federation of ten provinces and three territories, with each province and territory having its own capital and legislature with varying rights and responsibilities enumerated in the Canadian Constitution.

The Parliament Buildings are a most distinct national landmark instantly recognizable to Canadians. Tours are available free of charge, although reservations are required for groups of more than 10 people. Tours can vary in length from 20 to 60 minutes depending on parliamentary activity and schedules are subject to change without notice. Tour times vary depending on whether Parliament is in session but are available daily when Parliament is not in session, from 9.00 am to 3.20 pm. Visitors enter through the Visitor Welcome Centre located under the Peace Tower, to the right of the main doors of Centre Block, to get tickets. The most unique and beautiful part of the building is the octagonal Parliamentary Library, which is the only original area to have survived the 1916 fire.

Location: Wellington Street

Web: [www.parl.gc.ca](http://www.parl.gc.ca)

#### *The Supreme Court of Canada*

Created by statute in 1875, but subordinate to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in Downing Street until 1950, the Supreme Court of Canada now exercises comprehensive, general jurisdiction, as the court of last resort for litigants from all provincial and federal juridical decisions. It embraces both the civil law of the province of Quebec and the common law of all other provinces and territories, consistent with Canada’s unique bi-juralism. Construction of the building, designed by

Ernest Cormier, began in 1939. Occupied by the federal government during World War II to meet wartime needs, the Court eventually took possession and heard its first case there in January 1946.

The building is open to the public from 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday, with guided tours available by pre-arrangement. Tours last approximately 30 minutes, guided by law students, and when the Court is in session you are welcome to sit in on the hearing of any appeal.

Location: 301 Wellington Street

Phone: 613-995-5361

Web: [www.scc-csc.gc.ca](http://www.scc-csc.gc.ca)



*The Supreme Court of Canada*

#### *Library and Archives Canada*

The National Library of Canada has a comprehensive collection of books, magazines, sound recordings, government documents and electronic publications. Founded in 1953, the Library amalgamated with the National Archives of Canada in 2003, uniting their extensive collections

of public and private documents. Library and Archives Canada provides information about the individuals, issues and events that have shaped Canada's history through exhibits, genealogy resources, reference services, musical performances and lectures. For Canadian heritage, a visit to Library and Archives Canada must not be missed.

Location: 395 Wellington Street (at Bay Street)

Phone: 613-996-5115 (General information and group tour reservations)

Hours: Exhibition Rooms open from 9 am to 10 pm daily; all other rooms and staff assistance from 10 am to 4 pm Monday to Friday.

Web: [www.collectionscanada.ca](http://www.collectionscanada.ca)

#### *The National Gallery of Canada*

The National Gallery of Canada is a visual arts museum of international stature that holds its collections of art in trust for all Canadians. With a legislated mandate to develop, maintain and make known a national collection of works of art with special but not exclusive reference to Canada, and to further knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of art in general among Canadians, the gallery is at the forefront of Ottawa's cultural offerings. Founded in 1880, the Gallery boasts the most comprehensive and important collection in Canada. It has changed locations several times throughout its tumultuous history but its now official location opened in 1988. The Gallery's collection includes Canadian and Aboriginal Art, European and American Art, Contemporary Art, Modern Art, Prints and Drawings, and Photographs. Hours of operation: Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 5, Thursdays until 8pm

Location: 380 Sussex Drive (Corner of Sussex and St. Patrick)

Phone: 613-990-4888

Web: [www.national.gallery.ca](http://www.national.gallery.ca)

#### *Canadian Museum of Civilization*

Perfect for visitors of all ages, this museum site offers the most impressive view of Parliament, from across the Ottawa River. Designed

by award-winning Canadian architect Douglas Cardinal, the Museum of Civilization provides a unique setting. Cardinal, who also designed the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D. C., has been credited with having created an indigenous Canadian style of curvilinear, organic buildings. Located on the Gatineau side of the Ottawa River, this museum provides a wide range of programming and exhibits, especially related to Canada's Aboriginal peoples. Currently, the museum is hosting an exhibit on the folk art of Quebec. The museum boasts an IMAX theatre, a gift shop, and a restaurant with lovely views of Parliament and the Ottawa River.

Location: 100 Laurier Street, Gatineau

Hours of Operation and Ticket Cost: Tuesday to Sunday 9 am to 5 pm, Thursday to 9pm, \$10 per adult

Phone: 613-239-5100

Web: [www.civilization.ca](http://www.civilization.ca)

#### *Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography*

Affiliated with the National Gallery, this museum is located next to the Château Laurier and is worth a visit. The museum is a creative adaptation of an abandoned railway tunnel and provides dynamic exhibitions by Canada's best art and documentary photographers.

Location: 1 Rideau Canal

Phone: 613-990-8257

Web: [www.cmcp.gallery.ca](http://www.cmcp.gallery.ca)

#### *The Canadian War Museum*

The newest national museum in Ottawa is definitely a must-see attraction. Exhibits explore Canada's military past and how it has shaped the country. Through displays showcasing touching personal stories, the museum features the experiences of people on the battlefields and at home during times of war. The Museum's dramatic architecture showcases its vast collection, which includes photographs, military vehicles, artillery, interactive presentations and art.

Location: 1 Vimy Place on LeBreton Flats at the corner of Booth Street and the Ottawa River Parkway (west of Parliament Hill)

Hours of operation: Tuesday to Sunday 9 am to 5 pm, Thursdays until 9

Admission: \$10 per person

#### *National Arts Centre*

Canada's best theatre, dance and music performances are offered year round at the NAC. The restaurant Le Café offers excellent dining and a wonderful view of the Rideau Canal for lunch and dinner, across from the Château Laurier.

Location: 53 Elgin Street

Phone: 613- 947-7000

Web: [www.nac-cna.ca](http://www.nac-cna.ca)

INTERESTED IN VISITING MOST OF OTTAWA'S MUSEUMS?

CONSIDER A MUSEUM PASSPORT!

If you are planning to spend some extra time in Ottawa and would like to visit its wide array of museums, consider purchasing the museum passport. At a cost of \$30 for an adult, the passport allows you entrance into 10 museums over 7 days in Ottawa. It also entitles you to 20% off of performances at the National Arts Centre. A passport can be purchased at the Capital Infocentre at 90 Wellington Street.

All of Ottawa's museums offer free admission on Thursday evenings, so be sure to take advantage of this great chance to visit Ottawa's cultural offerings!

#### **Other Sites**

#### *Laurier House*

Laurier House commemorates two of Canada's most notable prime ministers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King. For over fifty years, from 1897 to 1948, the house occupied a

central position in the political life of Canada, as the place of residence of Laurier and, after his death, of Mackenzie King. For a virtual tour, see [laurierhouse.collectionscanada.ca/100\\_e.html](http://laurierhouse.collectionscanada.ca/100_e.html). Address: 335 Laurier Ave. East. 613-992-8142. [www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/on/laurier/index\\_e.as](http://www.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/on/laurier/index_e.as).

#### *Rideau Hall*

The official residence of the Governor General of Canada is located several minutes from downtown. Set amidst 79 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds, this historic residence is staffed by guides who provide educational tours.

Hours of operation: 9 am to 4 pm daily, by reservation only. Address: 1 Sussex Drive  
Phone: 613-991-4422

#### *Gatineau Park*

This scenic park is approximately 15 minutes by car from Ottawa on the Quebec side of the river. If you crave some time in the great outdoors, its convenient location and plethora of walking trails should satisfy your want for nature. It is an expanse of land that measures 360 square kilometers and its facilities and trails can be enjoyed in every season. Home to several breathtaking scenic lookouts as well as the historic Mackenzie King Estate, Gatineau Park is worth a visit. Overnight stays and getaways are possible.

Location: Visitor Centre located at 33 Scott Road, Chelsea Quebec

Hours of operation: Visitor Centre open from 9 to 5 daily

Phone: For information about accommodation packages, phone 1-888-278-7777. For general information about the park, phone 1-800-465-1867

#### *Monuments*

Ottawa is home to many monuments and public artworks reflecting diverse experiences of Canadians. Several of these monuments are in walking distance of the Château Laurier, including the Valiant's Memorial (northeast corner of Confederation Square at the corner of

Elgin Street and Wellington Street), the National Aboriginal Veterans Monument (Confederation Park), the National War Memorial (Confederation Square), the Terry Fox Statute (90 Wellington in front of Capital Infocentre) and the Peacekeeping Monument (Corner of Sussex Drive and St. Patrick Street). The grounds of Parliament Hill are also home to many statues commemorating Canada's rich history.



*The National War Memorial*

### **Dining in Ottawa**

The city of Ottawa can satisfy any and all hunger cravings. The Château Laurier is located within walking distance of many restaurants. Your Local Arrangements Committee will supply a separate list of restaurants, with more editorial comments, but here are some preliminary suggestions:

#### *BYWARD MARKET*

The ByWard Market is home to many restaurants: simply walk down the street and breathe the varied aromas of dishes cooking. Restaurants in the market can be busy on Friday and Saturday evenings, so please make reservations. From pub food to fine dining, the market restaurants will be open from 11.00 am to midnight, although some kitchens close at 11.00 pm.

#### *ByWard Market Square*

The central square is home to several cafes and food merchants, offering everything from pastry to specialty coffee to curry to sushi, open every day from 9.30 am-6.00 pm and Thursdays to 8.00 pm.

#### *Beavertails Canada – 69 George Street*

This stall on the south east corner of the market square offers a Canadian specialty pastry.

#### *Blue Cactus Bar and Grill – 2 ByWard Market – 613-241-7061*

Always full on a Friday evening, the Blue Cactus provides a menu of standards such as fish, chicken, salads, pizzas and steaks.

#### *OTHER LOCATIONS*

#### *Fat Tuesdays – 62 York Street – 613-241-6810*

This local favourite provides a Cajun-inspired menu. On Friday evenings, “Mardi Gras” is home to the “dueling pianos,” which bring in large crowds.

#### *The Fish Market – 54 York Street – 613-241-3474*

Located right next to Fat Tuesdays, this restaurant serves an assortment of fresh seafood.

#### *Azteca – 41 William Street – 613-241-6050*

Mexican restaurant with a colonial style atmosphere.

#### *The Black Thorn – 15 Clarence Street – 613-241-0712*

Housed in a building that dates from the 1860s, this restaurant occupies what was once the home and workshop of an Ottawa carriage builder. Standard menu includes pasta, meats, pizza and appetizers.

#### *The Black Tomato – 11 George Street – 613-789-8123*

This restaurant is situated in a stone heritage building – and the food is pretty great too.

#### *Courtyard Restaurant – 21 George Street – 613-241-1516*

Housed in an adjacent heritage stone building to the Black Tomato.

#### *Domus Café – 85 Murray Street – 613-241-6007*

One favourite Ottawa restaurant, the menu is designed around local and organic flavours. The chef has won numerous awards and this restaurant never disappoints.

#### *E19hteen – 18 York Street – 613-244-1188*

One of Ottawa’s premier restaurants.

#### *Empire Grill – 47 Clarence Street – 613-241-1343*

Great service and a lively atmosphere.

#### *Foundation – 18B York Street – 613-562-9331*

A new restaurant that works for dinner or drinks.

#### *Heart and Crown – 67 Clarence Street – 613-562-0674*

In the Irish village, the Market’s authentic Irish pub and restaurant.

#### *Kinki Restaurant – 41 York Street – 613-789-7559*

Excellent Asian cuisine.

#### *Memories Restaurant – 7 Clarence Street – 613-241-1882*

Known especially for desserts.

*Stella Osteria* – 81B Clarence Street – 613-241-2200  
Modern Italian food.

*Vittoria Trattoria* – 35 William Street – 613-789-8959  
Fine food and ambiance – white linens and candlelit tables, traditional Italian food and wines.

*Wasabi Japanese Restaurant* – 41 Clarence – 613-241-3636  
Japanese cuisine in a unique atmosphere.

*Milestone's Grill and Bar* – 201-700 Sussex Drive – 613- 789-9113  
Just around the corner for drinks, lunch and dinner.

### **Practical Information**

#### *Getting around*

The city is served by rail, several airlines and inter-city bus companies. Several networks of freeways operate within the city, the main ones being provincial Highway 417, commonly called the Queensway, and Highway 416, connecting Ottawa to the 400-series highway network operating in Ontario. Ottawa's transit service is known as OC Transpo. The system is reliable and convenient, with buses operating on a network of high-frequency reserved bus transit lanes, with full stations and stops. The transit-way operates from the far east of the city to the far west, and a light rail system connects the north to the south. Bus fare is \$3 for a one-way ticket that permits transfer to another bus. Full day, multi-ride tickets are available for purchase from bus-drivers at a cost of \$8 per day. Many OC Transpo buses are equipped for passengers with disabilities. Passengers enter at the front of the bus and drop their coinage into the machine next to the driver. Transfer stubs will be provided to all passengers as proof of purchase, which is required as a receipt when taking any public transit.

#### *Tipping*

No service charges are included in your bills at restaurants. Tipping is customary, allowing for 15% of the bill before taxes.

#### *Shopping*

Stores in downtown Ottawa are mainly located in the ByWard Market, Sparks Street and the Rideau Centre, all within walking distance of the hotel. Larger shopping malls are located in greater suburbs of the city and can be reached by public transit or taxi. Most of the larger shopping malls contain the same stores as the Rideau Centre. If you are looking for more unique gifts, the ByWard Market, Sparks Street and Sussex Drive are the best bet.

#### **For more information –**

The National Capital Commission Infocentre is located at 90 Wellington Street, directly across from Parliament Hill. It is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 5 pm. For more detailed information about history, local events, landmarks, museums, organized tours and shopping, visit the office or phone: 613-239-5100.