



Places for Play

Hamilton Halton Brant is home to signature landscapes including the Niagara Escarpment, the Grand River, the Bruce Trail, Lake Ontario shorelines and a collection of more than 100 waterfalls. These unique natural settings create a beautiful backdrop for some of Ontario's best trails, recreational routes and outdoor activities.

Grand River

There are all kinds of ways to experience the Grand River. Visitors can adventure on this designated Canadian Heritage River by canoe, kayak, raft, Stand Up Paddleboard and more. The area's many outfitting companies will help plan Grand River adventures with expert advice, equipment and trip guidance.

Bordered by virtually untouched Carolinian forest, paddlers will encounter amazing wildlife during a day spent on the Grand River. Watch carefully and discover a host of acquaintances, including beavers, otters and muskrat in the river, and deer, fox, coyote and wild turkeys in the forest. Look up and catch a glimpse of some of the rare birds known to breed in the area, including bald eagles, black terns, great egrets, king rails and red-shouldered hawks. The Paris to Brantford section of the Grand River is home to 80 species of fish, including bass, rainbow trout, brown trout, pike and perch.

Niagara Escarpment

The Niagara Escarpment is a Canadian landmark 450 million years in the making that stretches all the way from Niagara to Tobermory. This 750-kilometre ridge of fossil-filled rock is home to more than 300 bird species, 53 mammals, 36 reptiles and amphibians, 90 fish and almost 40 per cent of Ontario's rare flora, including 37 types of wild orchids.

The section of this UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve that runs through Hamilton and Halton is home to dozens of breathtaking waterfalls, acres of Carolinian forest and stunning scenic lookouts. A one-of-a-kind setting for outdoor adventure seekers of all abilities, the Niagara Escarpment offers year-round options for great Canadian escapes.

find your way to the heart of ontario

Bruce Trail

The Bruce Trail, with its conservation corridor and natural recreation facilities, is both a major Canadian attraction and a national treasure right in our own backyard. As Canada's oldest and longest footpath, it winds its way 890 kilometres along the Niagara Escarpment from its southern tip in Niagara all the way to Tobermory.

Visitors are encouraged to explore the four-season trail through hiking, walking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Bring the entire family, but please respect this natural resource by having dogs leashed and refrain from using bicycles, motorized vehicles, or horses on the Bruce Trail.

Many Hamilton and Halton Conservation Area trails offer access to the Bruce Trail. The Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club, which oversees the section of the trail between Grimsby and Milton, organizes hikes of varied lengths and difficulties. Whether it's a short walk with the family, a longer hike or a multi-day journey, Canada's Bruce Trail is the natural place to start.

Shorelines

Home to Lake Ontario, Cootes Paradise, Christie Lake, Valens Lake, Kelso Lake, Crawford Lake, Pinehurst Lake and the Grand River, Hamilton Halton Brant offers water lovers and anglers a diverse range of options for shoreline exploration and outdoor water sports.

Conservation Areas

With spectacular trails, dynamic educational programming and special seasonal events, Hamilton Halton Brant's conservation areas make it easy for new explorers and avid adventurers alike to access the region's stunning natural landscapes.

Make Hamilton Halton Brant's conservation areas a family routine with their annual membership promotions and enjoy special savings on year-round access to hundreds of kilometres of trails for hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing as well other great perks!

Waterfalls

Often referred to as the waterfall capital of the world, Hamilton is home to more than 100 different waterfalls along the Niagara Escarpment and the Bruce Trail. From the Devil's Punchbowl, a spectacular ribbon waterfall that cascades 37 metres in the air, to Albion Falls, a roaring complex classic cascade waterfall that tumbles 19 metres down the Escarpment, each waterfall offers hikers the special opportunity to pause and take in the unique sites and sounds made by water on its never-ending journey.

For great savings on outdoor adventures in Hamilton Halton Brant, please visit our Special Offers page at www.ourtruenature.ca/offers. For a step-by-step approach to planning the perfect outdoor escape for families, new explorers and avid adventurers, download our Nature Unexpected magazine at www.ourtruenature.ca/magazine.

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