## the great

# **JUNE 2005**



#### What's inside!

Fort Henry
National Historic Site of Canada Experience British garrison life at this 19th century British military fortress. forthenry.com 613 542 7388

#### Upper Canada Village

Heritage Park
Escape to another time and place in a re-created 1860s village. uppercanadavillage.com 800 437 2233

#### **Upper Canada Golf Course** Play one of Eastern Ontario's finest 18-hole golf courses. uppercanadagolf.com To book a tee time call 613 543 2003

#### Campgrounds & Beaches Discover an outdoor getaway along the St. Lawrence River. stlawrenceparks.com 800 437 2233 or 613 543 4328



Crysler Park Marina Chart your course for a unique boating destination. cryslerparkmarina.com 613 543 3254 or VHF channel 68



For more information visit our Web sites uppercanadavillage.com forthenry.com stlawrenceparks.com uppercanadagolf.com cryslerparkmarina.com

#### Or call 1 800 437 2233

Regional information is available online at visit1000islands.com 1 800 847 5263



#### Looking for a great getaway from the city this summer? Consider touring along the St. Lawrence River in Eastern Ontario.

This extensive shoreline of sandy beaches, parks, scenic roads and riverside communities is not only a vacationer's outdoor playground, it is also rich in history, having played an integral role in the early settlement and development of Canada.

Best of all, it is central to and easily accessible from urban centres such as Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, making this stretch of the river both an ideal day trip or weekend getaway destination.

Many of the historical and outdoor recreational attractions along the corridor are managed by The St. Lawrence Parks Commission, an agency of the Government of Ontario.

award-winning These attractions and facilities include Fort Henry in Kingston, Upper Canada Village in Morrisburg, an 18-hole championship golf course, a marina, and several campgrounds and parks, all offering a quality experience for the 1.5 million people who visit each season.

A vacation along the river wouldn't be complete without a visit to Upper Canada Village, a living history museum that lets you travel back in time to see what life was like in the area over 130 years

Recognized by Attractions Canada as a number one national/ international attraction, the Village offers an opportunity to visit in "real time" past times.

You'll meet loads of friendly folks from the past as you visit some 40 heritage buildings including mills, trades shops, farms, churches, homes, factories and even a one-room schoolhouse. Enjoy horse-drawn wagon and boat rides, shopping, food and just a good old fun time. Hint Be sure to inquire about doing Upper Canada Village 'in style'. uppercanadavillage.com.

And you will certainly want to visit the fort that history built.

Henry, Fort itself award-winner, international attracts hundreds of thousands of folks each year who tour the fort and attend a multitude of scheduled activities and special events.

Situated atop Point Henry, Fort Henry was built from 1832 to 1837 to replace an existing fortification from the War of 1812 era. Sentries guard the entrance to this 19th century British military fortress, only to let you in if you are ready to enter British garrison life during the year of Canada's confederation ...

"After my visit to Fort Henry, I left feeling proud to be Canadian

... proud of our heritage." is just one quote of a visitor.

You can find out more about Fort Henry and all there is to see and do online at forthenry.com. Oh, and another hint ... make sure the kids get to visit with David IX.

If you are looking for something of a different 'nature', consider visiting the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary. The sanctuary is definitely a family outing that is both unusual and educational.

With more than 8 km of selfguided nature trails winding through these habitats, seasoned birders and amateur naturalists, or just plain folks, can view some 200 waterfowl, raptor, passerine and other bird species.

You can also catch glimpses of wildlife, flora and fauna or participate in one of the many special learning and environmental programs offered year round. uppercanadabirdsanctuary.com.

If you enjoy camping – or you have secretly harboured the idea - the Parks of the St. Lawrence operates seven campgrounds along the St. Lawrence River.

You can enjoy great riverside outdoor camping for a week, weekend or just the day, that can be an adventure and a memorable experience for the entire family.

Campsites feature premium waterfront and regular sites, electrical hook-ups and recreation vehicle sites (with water & electricity). All sites are very well

maintained and provide several 'comforting' amenities such as showers and laundromats.

Activities at all or some of the campsites include swimming, self-guided boating, trails. recreationandinterpretiveprograms and children's programming.

A comprehensive description of all campsites, events, maps and tips is available at stlawrenceparks. com.

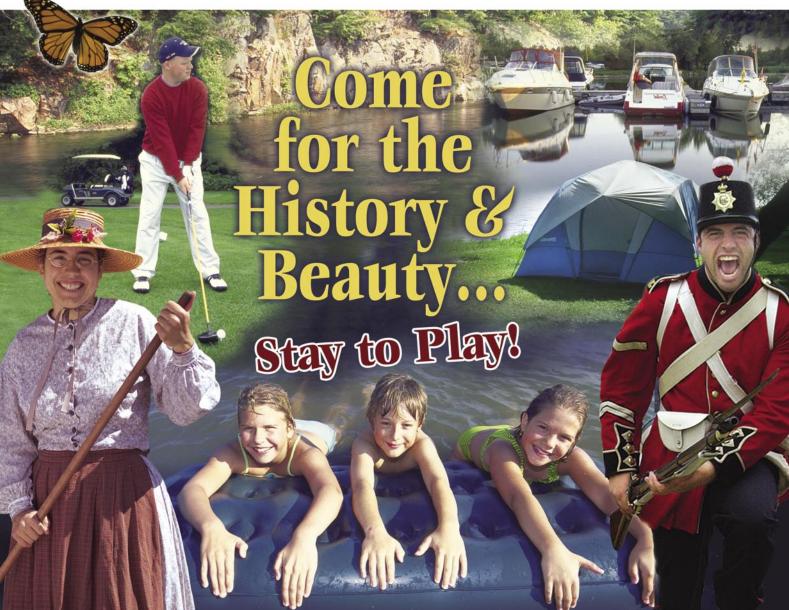
And attention Annika and Tiger. Bring your golf clubs. Perhaps you did not know you can play a round or two at the Upper Canada Golf Course, which was designed by noted golf course architect Robbie Robinson in the early 1960s.

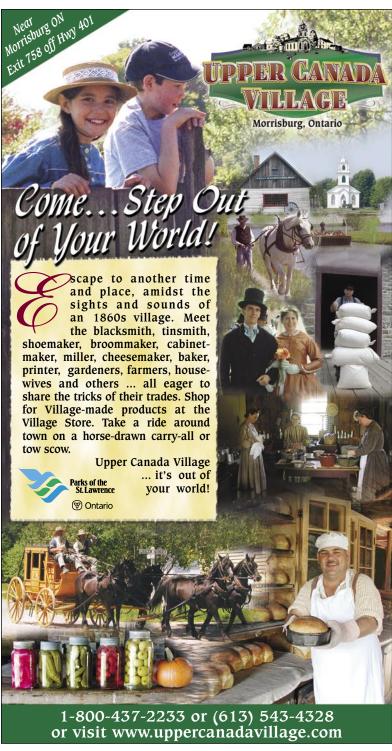
The Upper Canada Golf Course, which has been repeatedly voted the number one Public Golf Course in Eastern and Central Ontario, is noted for its beautifully natural setting.

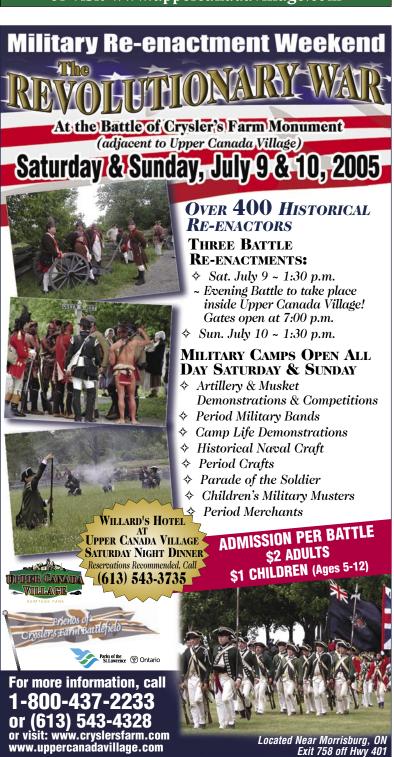
The course winds through evergreen and deciduous trees, sometimes alongside waterways, and offers glimpses of natural beauty and wildlife like no other course. uppercanadagolf.com.

The Parks of the St. Lawrence, and all there is to see and do, is located just a short drive from either Toronto, Ottawa or Montreal.

So, be it either a day excursion or a weekend getaway - and there is accommodation of every type and description in the area – what are you doing this weekend? How about something a little different!?









# Step out of your world

The escape that this award-winning living-history museum offers from today's fast-paced world, combined with its rich and meticulous portrayal of Upper Canadian history, makes a visit to Upper Canada Village a must-do for today's folks and history buffs alike.

Upper Canada Village, a recreated 19th century village located on the banks of the St. Lawrence River, is a fun place to visit that at the end of your experience, will leave memories to last a lifetime. In fact, as the saying goes, don't leave home without it — your camera, that is

The story begins with a river, a half century ago.

Some 20,000 acres of farmland were destined to be flooded for a hydro dam project. Five hundred buildings were saved. Many of these structures, along with countless artifacts, were relocated to the banks of the St. Lawrence River, on a site known today as Upper Canada Village.

As you cross the bridge into the village, you are transported back into an age without automobiles, radio, TV, or Internet.

The friendly folks in the village go about conducting their daily activities looking and acting like real people from the 19th century. You are immersed into their time.

So impressive is the authenticity of what you are seeing, you are left with the feeling that it is you that is perhaps 'out of place'. The people you meet are picture-book in period costume as they go about their daily chores.

The aromas wafting from the village bakery, the smell of wood smoke from the fireplaces of several homes and the scents of the flower gardens all complement your sense of the period.

of the period.

In-depth research and meticulous attention to detail is evident. Knowledgeable staff in historical costumes portray the rural ways of life from the period. Engaging story-telling and music add laughter and life to the village, as do the sights, sounds and smells

that keep visitors enthralled.

Upper Canada Village is said to be one of the truest and rarest dedications to our heritage and our past. In fact, the village is so authentic that several movies, such as The Liberators, Tom Sawyer and Captive Heart, were filmed here.

This 62-acre site, made up of some forty buildings from the 1800s, has earned the reputation of being one of the top ten historical attractions in North America.

Upper Canada Village has gained world-wide recognition since it opened four decades ago and is truly an 'out-ofthis-world' experience!

Upper Canada Village boasts numerous trades shops where you will see everyday utensils, clothing and tools being made at the hands of the blacksmith, tinsmith, broommaker, cabinetmaker, cooper, shoemaker and dressmaker — all using 19th century techniques and equipment. There's even a printing office that publishes a newspaper on site. In addition to the alwayspopular bakery, you'll also find a cheese factory where delicious cheddar cheese is made.

Your visit to the Village wouldn't be complete without exploring Mill Street, where you'll find villagers busy in three working mills.

You'll meet the steam engine operator and the miller at Bellamy's Steam Flour Mills, you can watch as huge logs are sawed into lumber using water power at Beach's Sawmill, and see raw wool being transformed into yarn and blankets at Asselstine's Woollen Factory,

which is the only operational woollen mill of its kind in North America.

You may first want to familiarize yourself with the Village by taking a ride along the streets in a horse powered carry-all wagon, and, just for extra fun, you can journey along the village canal on a horse drawn tow scow.

It is recommended that you plan three to four hours to visit Upper Canada Village.

Perhaps the best time to begin your visit is when the Village opens, as the villagers begin the day, when it is still a little damp from overnight dew that enhances the smells of the village, and it is still quiet, even tranquil. You can hear the birds chirping and even the roosters crowing and horses neighing ...

And following your visit in the village, you will want to spend some time in the Village Store where you will find many unusual products unavailable elsewhere.

Upper Canada Village features several activities, special events and youth programs during the season, which are well described in the Village's Web site.

Upper Canada Village is open daily until October 9 from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Admission is \$16.95 for Adults, \$15.95 for Seniors 65+, Students \$10.50 and \$7.50 for Children ages 5-12. Children 4 and under are admitted free. A family discount and "Passport to the Past" season passports are also available.

The Village is located about 11 kilometers east of Morrisburg. There is ample free parking. For any other information you can call 800 437 2233 or 613 543 4328, or see *uppercanadavillage.com*.

Upper Canada Village is

Upper Canada Village is assuredly worth the time.

#### Now you can go one step further into the past...

If you have ever wondered what it would really feel like to be living in the past, you might want to consider booking yourself a "Journey of Discovery" at Upper Canada Village. One of the village's newest – and most popular – programs will take you even one step further into the past.

As a Journey of Discovery participant, you will visit the village costume department where you will be instructed in the "do's and don'ts" of 1860s fashion, and then be outfitted in a complete and authentic 19th century outfit sized just for you.

While in costume, you will have the privilege of enjoying a private tour around town in the village's four-horse stagecoach, and be dropped off for a three-course, period meal at Willard's Hotel, the village's oldest building on site.

You will also receive an old-fashioned keepsake photo of you in costume. This exclusive 3-hour experience is available 7 days a week. Only two to four Journey of Discovery participants can be accommodated per day, and you must book one week in advance by calling 1 800 437 2233. The price is only \$75 per person, which is all-inclusive and includes regular admission and discounts at the Village Store.

# Charge our hill this summer!

In the beginning, there was no reason to believe that Fort Henry would become one of Canada's most colourful links with the past. Now it is the region's, and one of Canada's, most popular national historic attractions. A visit to the area would be incomplete without visiting the fort. In fact, visiting Fort Henry is a good reason to come.

At the time of Fort Henry's construction during the 1830s, a cold war existed between the United States and the British North American colonies that were soon to become Canada. The world's friendliest international border was generations away and a string of fortresses were built to ward off a repeat of the American invasion that was attempted in 1812.

A shot was never fired in anger from any of these forts. Unfortunately though, the mighty citadel that was Fort Henry fell into a ruinous state of disrepair. Oddly, it was saved by the Great Depression during a time when governments were looking for major projects to put people back to work. From 1936 to 1939, a work force of more than 1,000 men rebuilt the fort to the state of its historical past and glory.

Fort Henry remains a reminder to Canadians and Americans that the friendship which exists between our countries is the result of a period of conflict that, long since resolved, led to our current state of mutual trust and benefit.

To this day, Fort Henry maintains its role as a heritage museum and commemorative historic site, visited annually by thousands from Ontario, the United States and points around the globe. Once inside the wooden gates, visitors experience the realm of 19th century military and civilian life, costumed guided tours, scenic views, heart-pounding musical performances and precision military demonstrations by the Fort Henry Guard.

The Fort also plays host to numerous special ceremonies and events that take place all season long, such as the Dominion Day Celebrations on July 1. Fort Henry marks Dominion Day with a reading of the Proclamation marking Canada as a nation. There will be a 21 Gun Salute midday.

Every evening and after the Sunsets, take a spine-tingling ghost tour of the Fort after dark, escorted by Haunted Walks of Kingston. You'll hear many stories of odd happenings at the Fort as you stroll silently through tall shadows. Some say that some of those spirits still exist.

For an inspiring and patriotic evening, plan to attend the USMC weekend on August 20 and 21 when the Battle Color Detachment of the United States Marine Corps, The Commandant's Own Drum and Bugle Corps, and the Silent Drill Platoon perform two evening ceremonials with the Fort Henry Guard. This event is the highlight of the summer.

Tours of the fort are offered every day until September 25, conducted by members of the Fort Henry Guard, wearing the same red tunics as the last British troops to garrison the fort. Since the fort re-opened in 1938, millions of visitors have toured Fort Henry.

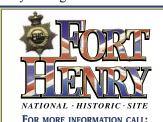
Substantial resources have also been expended on what is termed student experiential learning programs.

The Bonnycastle Tour is a one hour guided tour with an interpretive escort. Groups can then explore the fort at leisure. The Victorian Education Program, which lasts 1½ hours, includes a tour and the opportunity to participate in a military muster parade and a Victorian schoolroom lesson. There is a half-day program called Garrison Life, during which students are 'recruited' into the British army and given 'postings' in the fort, and there is also a barracks inspection and military drill. If you spend a day at the fort, you can arrange for the A Day in the Regiment Program. The day includes a tour of the fort, a barracks inspection, class time, drill sessions and a history bunt

And then, for those more ambitious, there is the Soldiers Overnight Program. No learning experience will equal the excitement and fun of this program, which is the premier learning experience that the fort has to offer. Students are outfitted with fatigues, attend classes in the fort's 1860s classrooms, drill on the parade square, have their barracks inspected and experience an evening ghost hunt. The group then retires to the barracks for a well earned rest and overnight, to awake early the next morning to bugle calls! These programs are offered in the spring and fall. Some programs require a minimum number of participants and there are nominal fees. You can inquire about any of the programs by calling 613 542 7388.

However you spend time at Fort Henry, you are assured of a fascinating look into the past, depicted by meticulously detailed exhibits and interpreters so real that you may hear the defending cannon from 150 years ago.

A daily schedule of activities, detailed descriptions of special events and programs and visitor information is available online at *forthenry.com* or by calling 613 542 7388.



613) 542-7388

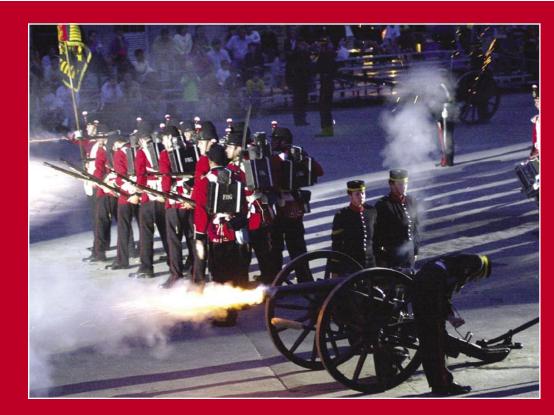
or visit: www.forthenry.com

#### **GET INTO THE ACTION!**

- SUNSET CEREMONIES
  Wednesday Evenings in July and August
- NEW! SUNDAY SUNSETS
  July 17 & August 7
- UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS WEEKEND August 20 & 21



"THERE MUST BE A GOOD FORT ON POINT HENRY." Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, was famous for that quote in 1819 and in fact, those words have become history. There is a good Fort on Point Henry, and many good reasons to visit Fort Henry this summer.



#### Not your typical Wednesday night!

It may be a typical, mundane, mid-week Wednesday night to you, but it's Kingston's biggest, most spectacular evening in July and August. And it's an event not to be missed. Imagine 75 uniformed interpreters in the depths of a 19th century citadel, formed up and poised with drums, bugles, fifes, rifles, bayonets, flags, Armstrong Guns, gun powder... ready to ignite an explosive hour and a half evening performance. Oh yes... and a goat! All of this preparation and activity is for the award-winning Fort Henry National Historic Site World Famous Sunset Ceremonies.

The Thin Red Line. As solid as the foundation they march on. Fort Henry Crimson called to order by the bugle, fife and drum. Eyes and bayonets fixed. The enemy dead ahead. Snider Enfields afire and cannons ablaze. All senses tell you it's 1867.

There is no performance like it in Canada, and it has been named as one of Ontario's Top 50 events. It is an historic interpretation of the music, drill and artillery practices of the 1860s British army, performed entirely by college and university students. For many of these students, it's the first time on a parade square. Training is intense and rigorous in preparation for the Sunsets, which commence the first Wednesday night in July. The world-famous Sunset Ceremony Series is presented each Wednesday evening throughout July and August and this year, there will be two new Sunday Sunsets on July 17 and August 7. Sunsets are, during the season, one of the more popular and well-attended events at the fort.

The evening performance begins with the heart-pounding music of the Fort Henry Drums, playing traditional military tunes of the era. Then the Drill Squad emerges from the arch, demonstrating a variety of marching and rifle tactics. And then the battle begins.

The Guard charges to one end of the Parade Square and begins firing the Snider Enfields. They are joined by the Artillery Squad and the Armstrong Guns on wheeled carriages. Then the Artillery detachment climbs the narrow stairs to the East Battery ready to unleash the mighty cannons.

After the last gun is fired, after the Last Post is Played, after the entire Fort Henry Guard leave the Parade Square, the sounds of *Rule Britannia* play and the sky over Fort Henry is ignited by a spectacular fireworks finale.

You will definitely want to plan your visit so that your senses can savour the Sunset. Admission prices are Adults \$16.95; Seniors \$15.95; Students (13-18) \$13.95; Children (5-12) \$10.25 and (2-4) \$2.

### Parks offers visitors serious summer fun

Come home to the cradle of Upper Canada, nestled on the banks of the majestic St. Lawrence River. The Parks of the St. Lawrence offers 200 kilometres of choice recreational activities, from Kingston to the Ontario-Quebec border. In fact, there are countless holiday combinations...the only limit is your imagination.

Whether you're looking for a woodland setting to retreat to and spend the day at the beach, pitching a tent for the night or planning a longer stay at an RV site, the Parks of the St. Lawrence are sure to meet your needs.

Choose from over 1300 well-maintained campsites scattered across the sparkling shoreline of seven riverside campgrounds. For those looking for the creature comforts of home, there are several rustic, yet comfortable cabins, complete with a private dock so you can fully enjoy the riverside setting.

Each campground and park offers a unique experience of its own, with one overall guarantee – being safe, clean, and comfortable.

All of the sites are in spacious but sheltered locations that ensure a quiet, outdoor environment ideal for relaxation and outdoor fun.

Nature lovers may choose to camp at one of the designated nature or walk-in sites; others may prefer the comforts of one of the serviced sites with water and electrical hook-ups. Campsites provide the services and amenities day trippers and campers of all ranges have come to expect – everything from sandy beaches, fishing, diving, and boat launching to nature and recreation trails.

All campgrounds provide recreational programming geared to family fun.

Weekly activities delivered by recreation programmers offer an added dimension to campers' appreciation of the great outdoors.

An outdoor Concert in the Park series throughout June, July and August provides great entertainment through a mixture of musical genres.

Kayak, canoe and paddleboat rentals are available at several of the parks.

For more details, or to make your reservations, you can call 800 437 2233 or visit *stlawrenceparks.com* 

Bird lovers will enjoy the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary which offers self guided paths extending over 8 kilometres. To find out more about the species you may encounter, you can visit uppercanadabirdsanctuary.com

Golf enthusiasts can play 18 holes on a remarkable 6,900-yard course at Upper Canada Golf Course, sure to please the beginner and experienced golfer alike.

The challenging layout winds along waterways and offers glimpses of wildlife and natural beauty like no other course. In fact, Upper Canada Golf Course is rated a 4-star facility by Golf Digest.

Two driving ranges and a putting green are available for practice or clinics. The course's clubhouse features a restaurant, bar, locker rooms, showers and a pro shop.



THE PARKS OF THE ST. LAWRENCE offers visitors of all ages numerous recreational and educational opportunities for a great summer getaway.

You can take a virtual tour of the course and even book your tee times online at *uppercanadagolf. com* or call 613 543 2003.

And wouldn't it be fun to traverse the St. Lawrence by boat?

You can plan to stop over and arrange docking at Crysler Park Marina. The Crysler Park Marina

features 180 slips, electric, water and pumping facilities and can accommodate boats up to 195'.

There is a swimming pool, laundry facilities and a marine supply store.

You can also choose to see the river from a different perspective by renting a kayak to explore the

shallows.

And best of all, Crysler Park Marina offers a shuttle service to the Upper Canada Golf Course and Upper Canada Village.

You can review information about Crysler Park Marina online at *cryslerparkmarina.com* or by calling 613 543 3254.

