

On this hilltop overlooking the Ottawa River, parliamentarians gather to make the laws of the land. The Parliament Buildings — which include the Centre Block, East Block and West Block — house the Senate and the House of Commons chambers, the Library of Parliament, and offices for parliamentarians and staff. Construction began on these buildings in 1859, and today they are among the finest examples of Gothic Revival architecture in North America.

### Your First Stop

**May 17 to September 4, 2006:** the Info-Tent, a large white tent between Centre Block and West Block  
**September 5, 2006 to May 15, 2007:** the Visitor Welcome Centre (entrance located under the Peace Tower in Centre Block)  
*NOTE: The schedule, duration and content of all tours and activities are subject to change without notice.*

### Security

All visitors to the Parliament Buildings will be required to go through security scanning stations. Lineups are to be expected and we recommend that you allow extra time.

### Vehicles on the Hill

Only authorized vehicles are permitted on Parliament Hill. Municipal and public parking lots are located nearby.



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### Centre Block Guided Tour

Schedules and tours of Centre Block vary — sometimes without notice — according to the time and the day on which you choose to visit, especially when Parliament is in session. Tours are shorter and do not go to the Senate and House of Commons chambers when they are in use. Tours are not offered in the times surrounding Question Period. Instead, visitors may watch the debates or listen to audio guides in the Public Galleries of both the Senate and the House of Commons, subject to space availability. To make the most of your visit, check the Parliament of Canada website ([www.parl.gc.ca/vis](http://www.parl.gc.ca/vis)) for details.

**May 15 to September 4, 2006** (public tour departures)  
**WEEKDAYS:** 9 am to 7:20 pm (not offered around Question Period)  
**WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS:** 9 am to 4:20 pm  
**September 5, 2006 to May 13, 2007** (public tour departures)  
**DAILY:** 9 am to 3:20 pm (not offered around Question Period)  
**TUESDAYS UNTIL OCTOBER 3:** 9 am to 7:20 pm (not offered around Question Period)  
**CHRISTMAS EVE AND NEW YEAR'S EVE:** 9 am to 11:20 am  
**BOXING DAY:** noon to 3:20 pm  
*Closed on Canada Day (July 1), Christmas Day and New Year's Day.*

To make reservations for groups of 10 or more, call **(613) 996-0896**.

### Peace Tower

Enjoy a unique view of the city! The Peace Tower usually closes 30 minutes before the last tour of Centre Block. You can also visit the Memorial Chamber, which houses a special collection of books commemorating Canadians who died in military service.

### East Block Guided Tour

**July 2 to September 4, 2006**  
**DAILY:** public tour departures, 10 am to 5:15 pm  
 For the first hundred years after Confederation, the East Block housed the offices of the governor general, the prime minister and senior cabinet members. Take a guided tour of the East Block and peek into the past — four offices have been restored to look as they did at the time of Confederation. For reservations for groups of 10 or more, please call **(613) 996-0896**.



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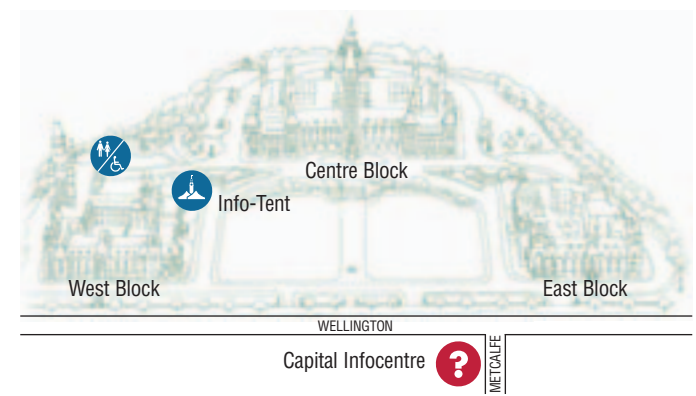
### Sound and Light Show on Parliament Hill

**July 5 to August 2, 2006,** 9:30 pm and 10:30 pm  
**August 3 to September 10, 2006,** 9 pm and 10 pm  
 Schedule subject to change without notice.  
**INFORMATION:** (613) 239-5000 or **1 800 465-1867**

This new bilingual show will give you every reason to celebrate the land and the people of Canada. The spirit of the nation is revealed through captivating music, shimmering lights and stunning giant projections on the Parliament Buildings.

### Discover the Hill Self-Guided Tour

**Year-round**  
 Discover what makes Parliament Hill a unique place to visit. As you stroll along the Hill from mid-May to September 4, you may come across site interpreters who will be pleased to assist you in your discovery of historical figures and events on Parliament Hill. We also encourage you to pick up the *Discover the Hill Outdoor Self-Guiding Booklet* and explore the site at your own pace (available free of charge at the Info-Tent in the summer, and year-round at the Capital Infocentre, across from the Hill).



### In the Footsteps of Great Canadians Guided Tour

**June 24 to September 4, 2006**  
 Set foot on the grounds where prime ministers, royalty and the Fathers of Confederation once stood. Learn about the individuals, landscape and architecture that make Parliament Hill Canada's most prestigious and symbolic heritage site. To make reservations for groups of 10 or more, please call **(613) 239-5100** or **1 800 461-8020**. Same-day tickets are available at the Info-Tent.



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### Royal Canadian Mounted Police

**July and August**  
 Meet a Mountie — a scarlet-clad RCMP officer — on Parliament Hill! This famous police force is part of Canadian history and a source of national pride.

### Changing the Guard Ceremony

**June 24 to August 27, 2006,** daily (weather permitting): 10 am to 10:30 am  
 The Ceremonial Guard of the Canadian Forces brings stirring military drill and music to Parliament Hill. Come at 9:45 am and learn more about the ceremony.  
**August 27, 2006,** 10 am  
 The Ceremonial Guard will troop the Regimental Colour. This last parade of the summer will include approximately 300 Guardsmen and musicians.

### Carillon Concerts

**July and August:** one-hour concert, weekdays at 2 pm  
**September to June:** 15-minute concert at noon (most weekdays) except during the week preceding Easter  
 Take in a truly unique musical experience — the 53-bell carillon of the Peace Tower!



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### Canada Day

**July 1, 2006**  
 People from across Canada join together to celebrate their country. A day of entertainment on Parliament Hill culminates in an evening show featuring Canadian stars from coast to coast.



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### Beating Retreat Ceremony

**August 18 and 19, 2006,** 7:30 pm  
 The Band of the Ceremonial Guard will be joined by over 150 musicians, gunners and soldiers to bring you this most thrilling of military spectacles. Come early and hear the pipers play.

### Christmas Lights Across Canada

**December 7, 2006 to January 7, 2007**  
 Parliament Hill and Confederation Boulevard sparkle with 300,000 lights.

### Holiday Season Open House

**December 26–30, 2006,** evening open-house viewings: 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm

In addition to our daily guided tours, you are invited to see Parliament in the evening, and stroll at your own pace through the halls of the Centre Block, decorated in their festive splendour. From the Peace Tower observation deck, you can catch a glimpse of the city ablaze with lights.

### Winterlude Open House

**February 3 and 4, 10 and 11, 17 and 18, 2007,** 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm  
 Enjoy a stroll through selected areas of Centre Block at your own pace.

