

Prince Albert Museums Receive Canada Wide Exposure

The Prince Albert Historical Society and its museums were mentioned as a place to visit in Saskatchewan in the Star Phoenix on Saturday, September 5th, 2020. This feature article was published in multiple papers across the country on that day. Maybe we will see additional visitors!

The article, "Canada's B-Sides", explores lesser-known attractions from west to east, listing a couple of attractions for each province or area. The Saskatchewan section is provided below, while much of the article is shown on the next page.

SASKATCHEWAN

Let Regina and Saskatoon fight it out for wheat-king bragging rights and set a course for Prince Albert, the Gateway to the North, where aspen parkland and boreal forest converge. Home to about 36,000 people, the city is located near the geographical centre of Saskatchewan and just 90 km south of Prince Albert National Park and its 1,500 lakes.

P.A. and its surrounds draw wildlife adventurers, but the Prince Albert Historical Society runs several museums that will interest cultural mavens, including Diefenbaker House, a national historic site where Canada's 13th prime minister lived from 1947 to 1957, and a showcase containing a translated Louis Riel diary. At the Rotary Museum of Police & Corrections, peek behind the prison gates of 19th century law enforcement.

tourismsaskatchewan.com

princealberttourism.com



Alberta's picturesque Waterton Lakes National Park — "where the mountains meet the prairie" — is home to a wide array of wildlife, including bison. PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

CANADA'S B-SIDES

ANDRE RAMSHAW

With more Canadians expected to explore their own backyards, we dusted off our atlas to reveal some overshadowed destinations worth a look. From lesser-known national parks to largely untouched wilderness tracts to third-string provincial cities, here are some of Canada's B-sides, from west to east.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver has beguiled outsiders ever since "Gassy Jack" began slinging beers and stories in his east-side tavern in the 1860s. Across the Strait of Georgia, though, Victoria has been thriving since 1843, carving out a niche as Canada's most British city. Americans are especially fond of taking the ferry from Seattle to wallow in its old-world charms. It's Blighty without the bothersome jet lag.

With a metro population of about 400,000, Victoria has big-town amenities in a compact package, with armchair historians and monarchists finding plenty to love amid its colonial-era architecture and Brit pubs. High tea at the Fairmont Empress never fails to get the royalist blood flowing, but cycling, fishing, sailing, castle-storming at Craigdarroch and green days at Butchart Gardens are also on tap. Whale-watching is high on the list, too. But note that you can often glimpse a killer whale, for free, on the BC Ferries service from Vancouver, which threads through the spectacular Active Pass on its way to Victoria's northern suburbs. An added bonus: It rains less here than either Seattle or Vancouver. tourismvictoria.com

southwest corner, with an array of wildlife, thundering waterfalls, sparkling streams and a cosy waterfront town to rival its flagship cousin to the north.

With 200 kilometres of hiking trails, Waterton's backcountry is the most developed of Canada's mountain parks — and much less crowded, drawing 500,000 annual visitors compared to more than three million each year at Banff. Campgrounds offer a mix of serviced and rustic sites. It celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/ab/waterton/

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MANITOBA

Thanks to Portage & Main, Canadians are familiar with the



Many visitors to Hamilton are surprised to learn that the southern Ontario city west of Toronto is home to more than 100 waterfalls.



Visitors to British Columbia can often get a glimpse killer whales, for free, while aboard the BC Ferries service from Vancouver to Victoria.

network of parks and pathways that spans 17 km through the city.

Brandon has special significance for military veterans as home to the Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum, dedicated to those who trained and fought for the allies during the Second World War and the only showcase of its kind in Canada. Designed for all ages, with air-

contribution to the betterment of agriculture and rural living in Manitoba." More than 165 Manitobans have been honoured since it was set up in 1976. brandontourism.com

ONTARIO

Love it or hate it, Toronto is impossible to ignore. You can try, though, by driving 60 km west to Hamilton, a city making hub-

of Victorian and Edwardian architecture, flanked by the hiking trails and spectacular cliffs of Niagara Escarpment that have earned it a reputation as the of more than 100 waterfalls. tourismhamilton.com

our stakes in La Belle Province. But south of the St. Lawrence the picture-perfect villages and verdant mountains and lakes the Eastern Townships make an ideal motoring vacation. Places to stay? Along with resorts and family-run B&Bs, there are oddball offerings including Hobbit-inspired "troglods" and "trugloos" as well as glass-walled "nature" cabins and a loft-like "zoobox" in the woods.

Suggested road trip: the 430-km Township Trail, which reveals the region's unique British and American Loyalist history through its homes, churches and covered bridges. Keep an eye out for the round barns, so designed to keep the devil from hiding in the corner. Or so legend has it. easterntownships.org

EAST COAST

Island life looms large in Nova Scotia, yet there's more to see than Cape Breton. At the opposite end of the province, Cape Sable Island, site of the east lighthouse in the Maritimes and a magnet for bird watchers. At low tide a drowned forest thought to be more than 1,500 years old becomes visible. The island is connected to the Municipality of Barrington, the lobster capital of Canada, by a causeway and is noted for its white sand beaches. At the UFO Interpretive Centre in Shag Harbour, learn about the mysterious 1967 crash of an unidentified flying object (barringtonmunicipality.com)

Meanwhile, at nearly 300,000 square kilometres, Labrador makes up almost three-quarters of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, yet its harsh climate and unforgiving terrain result in few visitors. Known as The Big Land, the province's mainland is one of the world's