

Family Fun!



Is it rainy? Too cold? Too hot? Might be a good time for an indoor activity. But first, ask yourself if the kids need to spend some energy, in which case museums should be given a lower priority than indoor playgrounds.

When a child shows an interest in something specific, it is a good time to plan an outing accordingly. After my two-year-old son had requested we read and sing "The Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round" for the hundredth time, I decided it was time to take him on his first bus ride, which led to a GO Train experience. (Please see our "Ride the Rocket", page 12.)

When my daughter turned three, she became fascinated with cows. It prompted us to spend a night at a dairy farm offering bed and breakfast. Mind you, she was scared to death when she came face to face with the real thing, so maybe this is not such a good example, but you get the idea!

Before heading out, call to make sure hours or rates haven't changed (websites quickly outdate). Plus, you might find out about special festivals or activities, which may impact your travel plans. Sundays are generally busier than Saturdays, and weekdays slowest, so take that into consideration if you have flexibility with your time.

Finally, check out our quick reference guide to help steer you in the right direction. Times are approximate from Toronto.

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DAY TRIPPING FROM TORONTO!

HISTORY/CULTURE:	Located In:
York / Durham Heritage Railway ythr.on.ca	Uxbridge (1 hr)
Discovery Harbour discoveryharbour.on.ca	Penatanguishine (2 hrs)
Sainte Marie Among the Hurons saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca	Midland (2 hrs)
Waterloo Children's Museum wrcm.ca	Kitchener (1 hr 15 min)
Children's Museum London londonchildrensmuseum.ca	London (2 hrs 15 min)

ANIMALS:	Located In:
Northwood Exotic Animal Ranch northwoodranch.com	Seagrave (1 hr 15 min)
Cambridge Wings of Paradise wingsofparadise.com	Cambridge (1 hr 15 min)
Whittamore's Farm whittamoresfarm.com	Markham (40 min)
African Lion Safari lionsafari.com	Cambridge (1 hr 15 min)
Bowmanville Zoo bowmanvillezoo.com	Bowmanville (1 hr)
Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre	Midland (2 hrs)

OUTDOORS:	Located In:
Rotary Park Ajax townofajax.com	Ajax (40 min)
Storybook Gardens London discoveryharbour.on.ca	London (2 hrs 15 min)
Elora Gorge & Village elora.info/	Elora (1 hr 30 min)
Rattlesnake Point conservationhalton.on.ca/rattle.html	Milton (45 min)
Caledon Bruce Trail caledonbruce-trail.org	Caledon (1 hr)

SPORTS / ACTIVE:	Located In:
Putting Edge putting-edge.com	Richmond Hill (30 min)
Burd's Trout Fishing 905-640-2928	Stouffville (45 min)
Kidsports kidsports.sites.toronto.com	Mississauga (30 min)