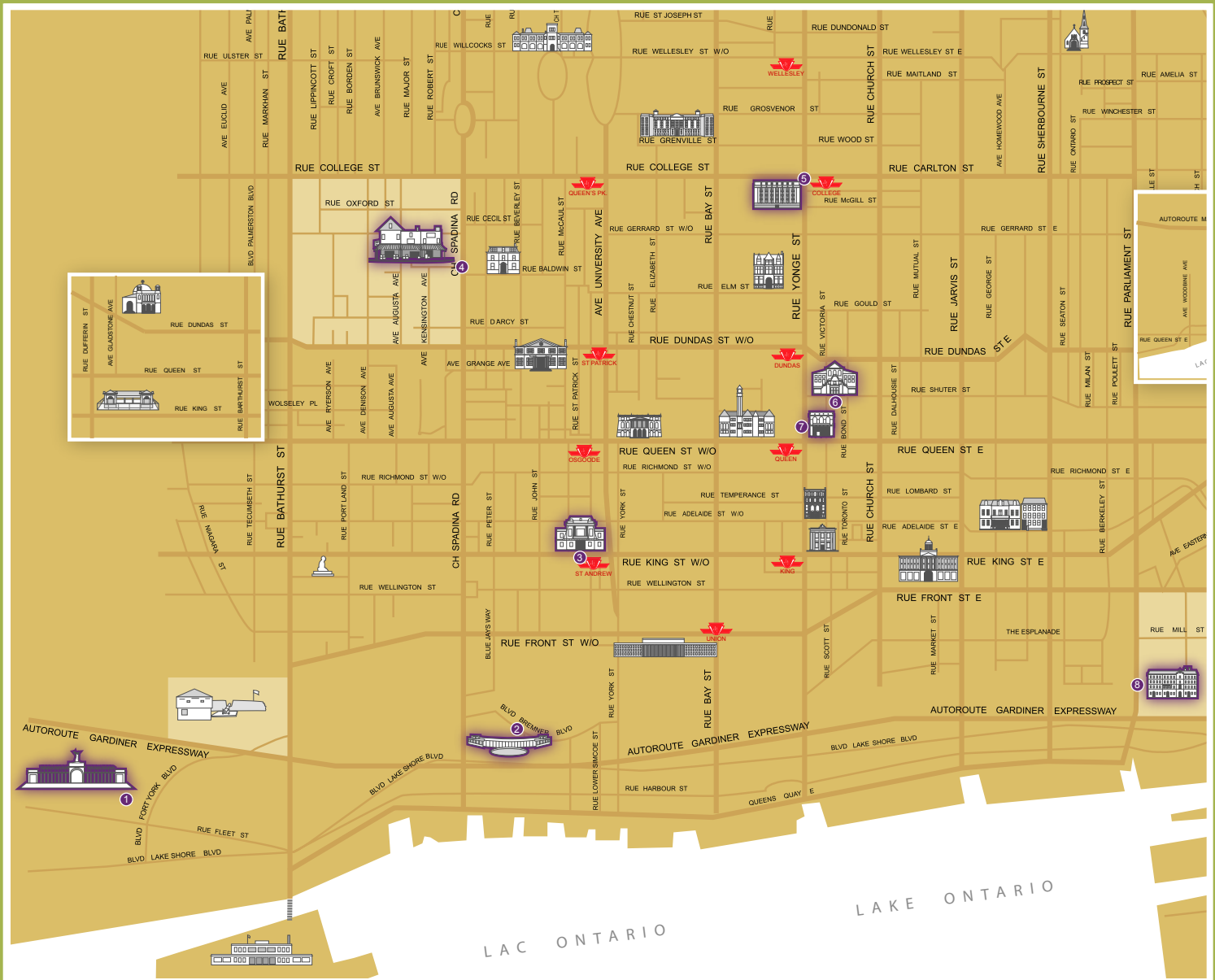


# Still Hip: National Historic Sites

National Historic Sites Urban Walks: Toronto



- ① Gouinlock Buildings / Early Exhibition Buildings
- ② John Street Roundhouse (Canadian Pacific)
- ③ Royal Alexandra Theatre
- ④ Kensington Market
- ⑤ Eaton's 7th Floor Auditorium and Round Room
- ⑥ Massey Hall
- ⑦ Elgin and Winter Garden Theatres
- ⑧ Gooderham and Worts Distillery

Think that historic sites are boring? Think again.

Toronto is filled with National Historic Sites that are still hip and happening! Many of the sites, have been carefully restored while integrating creative architectural design and adaptive re-uses. Finding new uses for heritage sites is not only trendy, it's also part of an eco-friendly approach to re-using existing materials and buildings.

Plan your weekend around Toronto's hip and happening National Historic Sites! Visit these hip historic sites and find out which one is now an upscale dance club, which Art Deco Auditorium now hosts exclusive VIP events, which theatre's ceiling is covered with beech tree branches, and which historic site now produces beer!

# Still Hip: National Historic Sites

National Historic Sites Urban Walks: Toronto

## 1. Gouinlock Buildings / Early Exhibition Buildings National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: B. Morin, Parks Canada

### The Designation:

The Gouinlock Buildings are the largest remaining group of early 20th-century exhibition buildings in Canada. In 1988, they were designated as a National Historic Site.

### Opening hours:

The Exhibition Place grounds are open to the public. Opening hours for specific buildings may vary, please call ahead. The archives are open by appointment only – to book call 416-263-3658.

### Address:

Exhibition Place (Lakeshore Blvd. between Strachan Avenue and Dufferin Street)

### Telephone:

416-263-3600

### Main Website:

[www.explace.ca](http://www.explace.ca)

### Archives Website:

<http://www.explace.on.ca/ArchivesWeb/index.htm>

## 2. John Street Roundhouse (Canadian Pacific) National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: A. Guindon, Parks Canada

### The Designation:

The John Street roundhouse was built in 1929 by the Canadian Pacific Railway to service steam locomotives using Union Station. In 1990, it was designated as a National Historic Site.

### Address:

255 Bremner Boulevard

### Related Websites:

[www.steamwhistle.ca/ourbeer/ourhome.php](http://www.steamwhistle.ca/ourbeer/ourhome.php)

<http://www.trha.ca/>

## 3. Royal Alexandra Theatre National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: [www.torontohistory.org](http://www.torontohistory.org)

### The Designation:

The Royal Alexandra Theatre, built in 1906-07, is a lavish example of a Beaux-Arts playhouse. In 1985, it was designated as a National Historic Site.

### Opening hours:

To visit the interior of the theatre, you must purchase a ticket to a performance.

### Address:

260 King Street West

### Telephone:

416-593-0351

### Website:

[www.mirvish.com/OurTheatres/Royal.html](http://www.mirvish.com/OurTheatres/Royal.html)

## 4. Kensington Market National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: [TorontoImages.ca](http://TorontoImages.ca)

### The Designation:

Kensington Market is a microcosm of Canada's ethnic mosaic. In 2006, it was designated as a National Historic Site.

### Address:

Area delineated by Spadina Avenue to the east, College Street to the north, Dundas Street West to the south, and Bathurst Street to the west.

### Related websites:

<http://kensingtonmarket.org/>

<http://www.ststephenshouse.com/kensingtonalive/>

<http://murmurtoronto.ca/kensington/>

# Still Hip: National Historic Sites

National Historic Sites Urban Walks: Toronto

## 5. Eaton's 7th Floor Auditorium and Round Room National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: Toronto Archives

### The Designation:

The Eaton's 7th Floor Auditorium and Round Room, built 1928-31, are outstanding examples of Art Deco interior design. In 1983, they were designated as a National Historic Site.

### Opening hours:

The original Eaton's Department Store complex is open to the public. The 7th floor Auditorium and Round Room, however, is open to the public for special events only. Visitors can get a glimpse of the 7th Floor by attending an event. Alternatively, the 7th floor participates in the annual Doors Open Toronto.

**Address:** 444 Yonge Street, 7th Floor  
**Telephone:** 416-597-1931  
**Email:** [events@thecarlu.com](mailto:events@thecarlu.com)  
**Website:** [www.thecarlu.com](http://www.thecarlu.com)

## 6. Massey Hall National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: J. Butterill, Parks Canada

### The Designation:

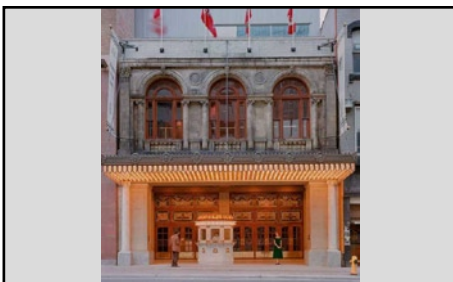
In addition to being one of few remaining examples of period concert halls (it was built in 1894), Massey Hall is also renowned for its outstanding acoustics. Over the years, the concert hall has been a key venue for cultural life in Canada. In 1991, Massey Hall was designated as a National Historic Site.

### Opening hours:

Massey Hall is not open to the public during off hours, though management will give tours to groups who book in advance. Those who want to see the building can simply buy a ticket and thus experience the building as it was meant to be experienced!

**Address:** 178 Victoria Street  
**Telephone:** 416-872-4255 (Box Office)  
416-593-4822, ext. 322 (To book a tour)  
**Email:** [reachus@rth-mh.com](mailto:reachus@rth-mh.com)  
**Website:** <http://www.roythomson.com/home.cfm>

## 7. Elgin and Winter Garden Theatres National Historic Site of Canada



Credit: Photographer: Hill Peppard, City of Toronto Archives, Series 881, File 53 Item 0001

### The Designation:

The Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre, built in 1911, is a unique double-decker complex designed for both vaudeville and silent films. In 1982, it was designated as a National Historic Site.

### Opening hours:

The best way to experience the theatre is by attending a performance. However, guided tours of the theatre are also available. For information about what's playing and **guided tours**, please consult the website.

**Address:** 189 Yonge Street  
**Telephone:** 416-314-2874  
**Email:** [ewg@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:ewg@heritagetrust.on.ca)  
**Website:** [http://www.heritagefdn.on.ca/userfiles/HTML/nts\\_1\\_2374\\_1.html](http://www.heritagefdn.on.ca/userfiles/HTML/nts_1_2374_1.html)

# Still Hip: National Historic Sites

National Historic Sites Urban Walks: Toronto

## 8. Gooderham and Worts Distillery National Historic Site of Canada



*Credit: WordImage Inc.*

### **The Designation:**

The Gooderham and Worts distillery is one of the earliest and best examples of Victorian industrial design in Canada. It is also a testament to the importance of a leading export product, Canadian whisky, at the turn of 19th-century Canada. In 1988, the Distillery District was designated as a National Historic Site.

### **Opening hours:**

Opening hours vary – please consult the website for more information.

### **Address:**

55 Mill Street

### **Telephone:**

416-364-1177

### **Websites:**

<http://www.thedistillerydistrict.com/>

<http://www.distilleryheritage.com/>