EXPLORE SCARBOROUGH
Art, History and Nature
Self-Guided Tours

CULTURAL LOOPS GUIDE
The Cultural Loops Guide is produced by City of Toronto Arts & Culture Services, Economic Development and Culture Division. For more information visit toronto.ca/culture.

Cover art and interior maps: LeeAndra Cianci. Cover illustration is an artistic rendering inspired by community, culture and creativity in Scarborough.
EXPLORE SCARBOROUGH’S CULTURAL LOOPS
The Cultural Hotspot’s fifth year celebrated central and northern Scarborough. From May through October 2018, this initiative shined a spotlight on arts, culture and community, by celebrating, connecting and investing in diverse neighbourhoods outside Toronto’s core. The Cultural Hotspot:

- **Celebrates** local culture, heritage, creativity, business and community with special events, festivals and art happenings, building community pride
- **Connects** the Hotspot community, promotes new partnerships and shares this exciting area with all of Toronto through community gatherings, events, outreach and media campaigns
- **Grows** creative capacity in the area with workshops, courses, youth employment and mentorship, and legacy projects like the Cultural Loops Guide

Visit [toronto.ca/culturalhotspot](http://toronto.ca/culturalhotspot) for details.

### ABOUT THIS CULTURAL LOOPS GUIDE

The Cultural Hotspot was located in south Scarborough in 2014, and the first Scarborough Cultural Loops Guide was produced in that year. The initiative has come a long way with more partnership, projects and participants every year. This guide combines the knowledge from the 2014 Cultural Loops Guide with the 2018 Cultural Hotspot initiative highlighting the historical, artistic, cultural and natural hot spots throughout Scarborough.

**LOOP 1**

This Loop looks at Scarborough through a historical and cultural lens. Indigenous peoples have lived in this region for thousands of years, and these tours take you to locations such as the Wendat Village at the Alexandra Site, which date back to some of the earliest archeological evidence of First Nations settlements along West Highland Creek. The tours also explore the early development and recent history of many of the communities in the area, which began as a collection of small farming hamlets that in the past half-century have grown into residential suburbs, subdivisions and shopping centres. Architectural gems also reveal the way in which the people of Scarborough have looked to the future development of their communities, seen in the space age Parkway Mall, modernism of Midland Park, futurist Scarborough Civic Centre and innovative Scarborough Civic Centre Library. Today, many of the neighbourhoods in central and north Scarborough continue to grow rapidly, and their communities have developed into well-established and welcoming cultural hubs.

**LOOP 2**

Loop Two takes you to some of Scarborough’s most well-known areas, from the commercial Wexford Heights area across to the Scarborough Museum and the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus. The tours highlight the historical roots of Scarborough, from early Indigenous settlements to the earliest European communities where historical houses, churches, gravesites, libraries and gathering places have been preserved. You can also discover the public art that celebrates the history, communities, people and nature significant to these areas.

**LOOP 3**

Loop Three explores artistic and natural hotspots of Scarborough, many of which are deeply tied to the history of the area. Discover south Scarborough’s streets that have been transformed into an outdoor art gallery with over three decades of mural projects that commemorate and celebrate the area’s past and its natural features. Explore the network of parks along the iconic Scarborough Bluffs, a natural feature that has shaped the Scarborough landscape – even influencing its name. And enjoy Guild Park and Gardens by getting in touch with nature and learning more about the Depression-era artists’ colony, the Guild of All Arts, and its impact on the neighbourhood around it and artistic legacy that is still felt today.

**HOT EATS**

Scarborough is known for its diverse culinary treasures. Grab a bite and fuel up while on your travels. Discover the delicious food that Scarborough has to offer.
TIPS FOR EXPLORING THE HOTSPOT

• TTC directions are given throughout the Loops Guide, however, it’s best to check the TTC Trip Planner prior to your visit in case of unexpected service changes and to find a route that is good for you. Visit ttc.ca/Trip_planner.

• Scarborough has many cycling routes, go to toronto.ca/cycling for cycling maps and more.

• Places highlighted in this guide include private homes and buildings. Stay on the sidewalk to observe.

• Maps are not drawn to scale, use as a reference only.

• Cross streets safely at traffic lights and crosswalks.

• Use caution on all routes, as recreational trails may be slippery or obstructed.

• Cyclists must use streets with caution; consider your level of experience and your comfort level in traffic and weather conditions.

• Take care to stay on paths and well-trodden trails in parks and woodland areas as the sap of the Wild Parsnip and Giant Hogweed can cause severe burns. Both plants resemble the common Queen Anne’s Lace.

• Respect our environment and keep Toronto beautiful.

MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLOR THOMPSON

From May through October 2018, the Cultural Hotspot, a City of Toronto and partner-produced initiative, spotlighted the vibrant and diverse neighbourhoods of north and central Scarborough.

The annual Hotspot program launched in south Scarborough in 2014 and returned this year – as we needed more than one Hotspot to feature all of the wonderful people and places that Scarborough has to offer.

“Cultural Loops,” with their self-guided tours that invite residents and visitors to explore the area, are a legacy of the Hotspot project. The tours shine the spotlight on Scarborough’s thriving social and geographic diversity and connect visitors to a sampling of the area’s rich culture. Choose a tour, and visit historic and architecturally significant sites, parks and nature, public art, cultural institutions and other places of community interest and importance.

I encourage you to put on your walking shoes, jump on transit, or take a leisurely drive to discover the unique spirit of Scarborough.

Michael Thompson
Chair, Economic Development Committee
Councillor, Ward 21 Scarborough Centre
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We begin this guide by acknowledging that the 2018 Cultural Hotspot area is on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the New Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, and is now the home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.
LOOP 1
TOUR 1: LOOKING TO THE PAST, LIVING THE PRESENT

Getting to the tour start

From Victoria Park Subway Station, take the 24 Victoria Park bus northbound to the Gordon Baker Road stop. Walk east on Gordon Baker Road and continue straight on to Glendinning Avenue. The first destination is located just east of Pharmacy Avenue.

From Highway 404, exit eastbound on Steeles Avenue East. Drive east and turn right onto Pharmacy Avenue. Drive one block south and turn left onto Glendinning Avenue. Your first destination is on the right. A parking lot is located in the back of the St. Mark’s Coptic Museum.

Walking tour starts

1 ST. MARK’S COPTIC MUSEUM
41 GLENDINNING AVE.

The museum was established in 1996 by St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church to celebrate their heritage and educate visitors about Coptic civilizations. The Copts are a distinct ethnic group and are the largest Christian denomination in Egypt, Libya and Sudan. The museum’s collection spans centuries of religious artifacts from North Africa. Highlights of the collections include religious icons, paintings, ancient manuscripts, textiles and jewellery, mashrabiya (18th-century wood screens), pottery and more. Canada’s 35,000 Copts primarily live in Toronto and the surrounding GTA. St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church is located in Markham, Ontario and was the first Coptic Church in North America in 1964.

Location: Steeles, L’Amoreaux, Milliken, Agincourt, Tam O’Shanter
Interests: History, Culture
Estimated: 1.5 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

The Scarborough landscape has transformed from wilderness and forests to rural farmland to neighbourhoods, subdivisions, industrial complexes and commercial centres. This tour looks at the development of Scarborough’s northern neighbourhoods and subdivisions that grew out of farming hamlets and villages established in the 1800s, and which boomed in the 1950s. See history unfold by exploring historic sites that date back thousands of years to the modern day developments that make these communities flourish.
2) **DEVONSLIEGH PLACE (CASA IMPERIAL FINE CHINESE RESTAURANT), 4125 STEELES AVE. E.**

**Directions:** Head north on Pharmacy Avenue and turn right onto Steeles Avenue East. Continue east past Warden Avenue. Devonsleigh Place is located approximately 150 metres east of Warden Avenue on the south side of Steeles Avenue East.

Devonsleigh Place was built in 1850, when L’Amoreaux was still a farming hamlet, and is one of the area’s oldest historic structures. The home was built for William Hood, a prominent farmer, who added a second floor in 1887. The building is a simple brick structure with plain lintels (support above windows/doors) over the ground floor windows. What makes the building stand out is the bell-shaped European-style mansard roof, with four sloping sides getting steeper halfway down, and the pointed dormer windows that stick out from the roof, ornamented with trim. The building was sold in 1870 to the Gough family, who renamed the site Devonsleigh Place, in honour of their hometown of Devon, England. The name Devonsleigh Place has stuck, and today, the beautiful historic site houses Casa Imperial Fine Chinese Restaurant and is a popular place for events.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
In 1846, Christie’s Methodist Church was built on Warden Avenue and was later demolished around 1940, but the church’s small cemetery can still be found in a park in the east parking lot of nearby Bridlewood Mall at 2900 Warden Ave.

3) **L’AMOREAUX PARK AND PASSMORE FOREST, 1900 MCNICOLL AVE.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Steeles Avenue East and turn right to go south on Birchmount Road. Continue south to reach the northwest corner of L’Amoreaux Park, located south of Sanwood Boulevard across from the walkway to Ambercroft Boulevard. Turn left onto the path to enter the park and walk through the forest trail. If you are driving, you can park at the L’Amoreaux Community Recreation Centre on the southeast side of the park at the McNicoll and Kennedy Road intersection.

This park is known for its accessible paved trails, peaceful ponds and wooded areas. L’Amoreaux North Park, located above McNicoll Avenue has a large pond known as L’Amoreaux Pond, which is connected to the nearby West Highland Creek. At the northwest end of the park, you can find Passmore Forest. It is named after Frederick Fortescue Passmore, an architect, surveyor and civil engineer, who surveyed the Scarborough Township in 1850 and 1862. In just 12 years, the surveys revealed that there was significant deforestation in the area due to industrialization. Today, Passmore Forest and the surrounding park is protected and contains 1.5 kilometres of trails for visitors to travel.

To learn more information about wildlife and plant life in Scarborough, see the Wildlife Activity on page 117.

4) **WENDAT VILLAGE (L’AMOREAUX NORTH PARK), 1900 MCNICOLL AVE.**

**Directions:** Look for the plaques at the north end of L’Amoreaux Pond in L’Amoreaux North Park, near a bridge that connects to the forested area.

In L’Amoreaux North Park, archaeological evidence was found of a Wendat village originally on this land 600 years ago. Before 1650, the Wendat people formed a confederacy of five independent nations, including the Attinniaoenten (people of the bear), Hatingeennonnihak (makers of cords for nets), Arendaenronnon (people of the lying rock), Atahontaenrat (two white ears) and Atonchronon (people of the bog). Archeological excavation in the area, known as the Alexandra Site, discovered over 19,000 artifacts, including evidence of up to 17 longhouses, sweat lodges and hearths. Beads made from seashells originating in the Atlantic Ocean were found, indicating the extensive trade networks of the Wendat confederacy. After 1650, the Wendat nations were dispersed throughout North America. Today, the Huron-Wendat Nation, led by a council made up of a Grand Chief and eight Heads of Families, is located in Wendake, Quebec.

**Insider Tip:** Kidstown Water Park, located at 3159 Birchmount Rd. is a great way for preschool and grade school children to cool down on hot summer days. It is the only water park operated by the City of Toronto. Kids can play in a variety of areas that include a slide, splash pad, spray rings, squirting aquatic animals, tipping bucket, wading pool and more.
EXPLORE MORE

FINCH HYDRO CORRIDOR EAST TRAIL
Connected to L’Amoreaux Park is the Finch Hydro Corridor East Trail, which is a beautiful patch of public greenspace that runs 1.6 kilometres from Birchmount Road to Pharmacy Avenue along the south side of McNicoll Avenue. The multi-use recreational trail was transformed from the under-utilized land where Ontario Hydro built transmission lines in 1950. It is part of a larger Finch Hydro Corridor Trail, an initiative of the City’s Bikeway Trails Implementation Plan, which will extend 30 kilometres from the Black Creek neighbourhood in the west end to Richmond Park in the east end. Be aware that there are a number of gaps in the trail along the way due to street crossings. The trail is a citywide connector and also links with other parks, trails, transit and amenities.

5 SCARBOROUGH CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 3223 KENNEDY RD.

Directions: Exit the park on the south side onto McNicoll Avenue and continue east to Kennedy Road. Turn left onto Kennedy Road and continue north to the Chinese Baptist Church on your right. If you are driving, park in the lot behind the church.

The Scarborough Chinese Baptist Church is a striking building, designed by Teeple Architects, with a large fluid structure and sweeping roof. The building includes a sanctuary that seats 1,600 people, multi-storey Fellowship Hall, chapel, community spaces, gymnasium and library. The Toronto Chinese Baptist Church began with the first Chinese speaking worship service in 1967 in downtown Toronto’s Chinatown. Due to the expanding Hong Kong Chinese community in Scarborough, another church was founded in 1987 on Birchmount Road. The congregation continued to grow until this structure was built in 2007 to service a multicultural and multilingual congregation.

6 VIMY OAKS, 3223 KENNEDY RD.

Directions: Walk to the west side of the Chinese Baptist Church to the small forested area along Kennedy Road.

After the Battle of Vimy Ridge was won, Leslie Miller, a Canadian soldier, planted acorns on his farm in Scarborough that he originally took from an oak tree on the Vimy Ridge battlegrounds in France during the First World War. Several of the oak trees planted by Miller still survive. Because the original trees were destroyed in the battle, the Vimy Ridge Foundation and Vimy Oaks Legacy Corporation is using cuttings and grafting technologies to repatriate these oaks back to Vimy Ridge. The trees will be planted adjacent to the Canadian National Vimy Memorial.

EXPLORE MORE

PACIFIC MALL, 4300 STEELES AVE.
Located at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Steeles Avenue East, Pacific Mall is one of the largest Asian malls in North America. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Scarborough’s population of Chinese people from East Asia, South Asia and the West Indies grew rapidly. Pacific Mall opened in 1997 to meet the needs of this growing community. The second floor contains a Heritage Town, a Pacific-style market with nearly 100 vendors.

7 ONTARIO CHINESE ART ASSOCIATION, 3838 MIDLAND AVE.

Directions: Go south on Kennedy Road and turn left onto McNicoll Avenue. Go east on McNicoll Avenue and turn left to head north on Midland Avenue. The destination is located on the west side of Midland Avenue, north of Artillery Street.

The Ontario Chinese Art Association (OCAA) is a non-profit organization that formed in 1979 to provide a platform for Chinese artists to connect and promote local and international artists and exhibitions. Originally located on Beverley Street in downtown Toronto, the OCAA moved to Scarborough as the Chinese population increased in the area. With over 300 members, the OCAA is an active organization that hosts exhibitions, seminars, art classes, members’ art shows and gallery rentals.
8) SCARBORO VILLAGE PLAZA MURAL (2004), 3300 MIDLAND AVE.

**Directions:** Head south on Midland Avenue to the Silver Star Boulevard intersection. Enter the parking lot of the plaza on the southwest corner of the intersection. The mural is located on a south facing wall near the bottom of the parking lot.

The Scarboro Village Plaza includes a rich array of independent businesses and franchises including salons and restaurants. The mural portrays the changing cultural demographics in the surrounding Milliken neighbourhood depicting an early market when the area’s population was mostly European immigrants alongside contemporary Asian markets. It was painted by artists Ian Jones, Larry Mar and William Lazos. Milliken is one of the most diverse neighbourhoods in the city with three quarters of the residents born outside of Canada.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Agincourt was named by general store owner John Hill in 1858. Hill was granted a post office through a French-Canadian parliamentary connection, who, it is said, asked that Hill give the post office a French name. Settlers to the Agincourt community were primarily English and Scottish and would not like a French name, so Hill cunningly named the post office Agincourt after a region in France, but also the location of a battle where King Henry V of England’s army defeated the French army in 1415.

9) AGINCOURT PUBLIC SCHOOL, 29 LOCKIE AVE.

**Directions:** Continue south on Midland Avenue and turn right onto Lockie Avenue. Agincourt Public School will be located on your left.

In 1913, a two-room elementary school was established to meet the needs of the rapidly growing community of Agincourt. Over a century later, the schoolhouse is now the oldest school in Scarborough to continue its original function. It was also the first school in Scarborough to offer secondary education. This Georgian-style building has a symmetrical design, decorated with white stone lintels and sills on the windows. The two original brick chimneys also remain. The building has a heritage designation for its architectural features and importance to the development of the community.

**Walking tour ends**

10) KNOX UNITED CHURCH, 2569 MIDLAND AVE.

**Directions:** Turn left from Lockie Avenue back onto Midland Avenue. Continue south to Sheppard Avenue East. Knox United Church is on your left at the northeast corner of the intersection.

At the time this church opened in 1848, it was a timber framed building with a small congregation of 40 members, but due to growing demand, a new brick building in the Gothic Revival-style was built in 1872, including tall pointed lancet windows and a spire. As Agincourt has grown and changed over the past century, the church has had a number of additions to continue to serve its community, including adding facilities for a church school program, music program, a Mandarin Chinese Ministry and Fellowship, which offers worship and sports activities.
DID YOU KNOW?
Agincourt became one of the largest communities in Scarborough after two major railways established stops there in the second half of the 19th century. Used to switch freighters on trains, it was the largest railway yard on the line when it first opened in April 1964. Today the Canada Pacific Railway Toronto Yard, on the east side of Agincourt, is one of the busiest yards in Canada.

Agincourt grew quickly, becoming the largest community in Scarborough Township by 1900. It officially incorporated as a village in 1912. For over a century, Agincourt has continued to grow, and today it is home to many diverse populations, including Hong Kong Chinese, Taiwanese, Sri Lankan, Egyptian and Estonian communities. The neighbourhood is home to Sheppard East Village, a Business Improvement Area that formed in 2007 and includes 500 businesses.

THE DRAGON CENTRE,
23 GLEN WATFORD DR.

Directions: Exit onto Sheppard Avenue East and walk east to Glen Watford Drive. Turn left to head north on Glen Watford Drive. The Dragon Centre is on your right.

The Dragon Centre was the first mall in North America to focus on Chinese-owned shops and restaurants. It was built in 1984 as a response to the rising East Asian populations in the Agincourt neighbourhood. Its success was a catalyst for the building of other malls in the Greater Toronto Area, with over 40 Chinese malls open by 2001. At the time the Dragon Centre was being built, the three plazas adjacent were opening up many Chinese-owned businesses.

SHEPPARD-BRIMLEY MURAL (2016),
SHEPPARD AVENUE EAST CP UNDERPASS

Directions: Exit onto Sheppard Avenue East underpass. The mural is on the southwest wall of the underpass.

Elicser Elliott, a Toronto-based street artist, depicts people that you might find on your travels around Scarborough in the mural. When painting, Elicser takes inspiration from the surrounding community and creates a collage of buildings, streetscapes and people. He often plays with scale, abstraction and translucence in his work. The people depicted in his work often have exaggerated features and are painted interacting with one another. This gives Elicser’s murals a distinctive liveliness. This mural was created in partnership with StreetARToronto.

Tropicana Community Services, located at 1385 Huntingwood Dr., was founded in 1980, primarily to offer counselling services for youth. In 1984, Tropicana established formal links with the United Way of Greater Toronto, and was the first organization from the Black and Caribbean communities to become a United Way member-agency. Over the decades, it has continued to expand its scope and reach. Today, it provides services for youth, newcomers, members of the Caribbean and Black communities, and others in need, including counselling, settlement services, tutoring, youth leadership programs and day care.

PAULINE JOHNSON JUNIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL (TEKAHIONWAKE),
35 DUNMURRAY BLVD.

Directions: Head west on Sheppard Avenue East until Bay Mills Boulevard on the north side of the street. Turn right on to Bay Mills Boulevard. Follow the road and turn right onto Eaglestone Road and continue until Dunmarry Boulevard. Turn right, and look for the school on your right.

This elementary school is one of four schools across Canada named for Emily Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake), who lived from 1861 to 1913. Born near the Grand River in present-day Ontario, Pauline Johnson was a successful performer and popular writer, who was published in many newspapers and magazines. She also wrote numerous books of poetry. Johnson was the first woman, other than the Queen, and the first Indigenous person to be celebrated with her portrait on a commemorative Canadian stamp, presented in 1961 on the centenary of her birth. In 1945, Johnson was designated as a Person of National Historic Significance by the Federal Government.
**WISHING WELL WOODS, 1801 PHARMACY AVE.**

**Directions:** Turn left onto Eaglestone Boulevard and head south to Bay Mills Road. Follow the road south to Sheppard Avenue East. Turn right onto Sheppard Avenue East and head westbound to Pharmacy Avenue. The woods are located behind a strip mall at the southeast corner of the intersection.

This small woodlot is a patch of centuries old greenspace still intact from the area’s rural roots. In 1827, Christopher Thomson settled on this land and named his farm Wishing Well Farm after he built a well on the property. Eventually, the farmland was developed in 1956 and the subdivision was named Wishing Well Acres in honour of this history.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
The one-millionth home built after the Second World War is located at 47 Beacham Cres. in the Wishing Well neighbourhood. When the Camisso family purchased the house in 1956, they were accompanied by a procession from the Wishing Well Shopping Centre to their new home, which was followed by celebrations and speeches.

**Useful Information**
- First Story Toronto: firststoryblog.wordpress.com
- Heritage Toronto: heritagetoronto.org
- Mural Routes: muralroutes.ca
- Nation Huronne-Wendat: wendake.ca
- Ontario Chinese Art Association: ocaa.info
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- Sheppard East Village BIA: sharesheppard.ca
- St. Mark’s Coptic Museum: copticmuseum-canada.org
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- Tropicana Community Services: tropicanacommunity.org
- Vimy Ridge Foundation: vimyfoundation.ca

**Sources**
- Arleen Chan, The Chinese in Toronto from 1878: From Outside to Inside the Circle
- Canadian Pacific Railway website
- Casa Imperial Chinese Restaurant
- First Story Toronto
- Heritage Toronto
- Metroland Media, Agincourt’s Dragon Centre was Epicentre of Chinese Community’s settlement in Scarborough
- Metroland Media, Heritage Homes to be Incorporated into Commercial Development
- Multicultural History Society of Ontario
- Mural Routes
- Nation Huronne-Wendat
- Ontario Chinese Art Association
- Pacific Mall
- Scarborough Chinese Baptist Church
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Sheppard East Village BIA
- St. Mark’s Coptic Museum
- StreetARToronto
- Toronto District School Board
- Toronto Parks
- Toronto Star, The Beauty of Milliken’s ‘Multicultural hodge-podge’
- Tropicana Community Services
- Vimy Foundation

**Photo Credits**
- Ann Brokelman
- Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto
- City of Toronto
- Matt Forsythe
- Toronto Archives
- Toronto Public Library
- Tropicana Community Services
**Location:** Malvern, Morningside, Hillside  
**Interests:** Culture, History, Nature  
**Estimated:** 2 hours  
**Type:** Walk, Cycle, Drive

This tour explores the cultural and community hubs of the past and present. Contemporary hubs such as Malvern Library and Y+ contemporary gallery are contrasted by the historical buildings belonging to the still-rural Hillside area and Rouge Valley. This tour follows the development of Malvern, which originally formed in 1856 as a farming hamlet and today is a lively and diverse suburban community, largely the result of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation taking over the farmlands to build a community of affordable homes in 1972. With a boom in immigration to the area in the 1980s, Malvern is a community that continues to welcome newcomers to Canada.

**Getting to the tour start**

- **From Warden Subway Station:** Take the 102 Markham Road bus northbound to Sheppard Avenue East. Walk east on Sheppard Avenue to Progress Avenue to reach your first destination.
- **From Highway 401:** Exit northbound on Markham Road. Follow the road north and turn right onto Sheppard Avenue East. Drive east and turn right onto Progress Avenue. The parking lot is to your left, just opposite of Orchid Place Drive.

**Walking tour starts**

1. **CHINESE CULTURAL CENTRE OF GREATER TORONTO,**  
   5183 SHEPPARD AVE. E.

This Cultural Centre has become a significant multicultural hub within the community and the city as a whole. Constructed in 1998, the building includes a traditional Chinese garden, an octagonal public courtyard, performance hall, multipurpose space, resource centre, art gallery, art studios and conference rooms. The Chinese Cultural Centre provides a number of services for the community and hosts annual cultural festivals, events and educational programs.

Look for the Legacy in Motion Mural, a Cultural Hotspot SPARK Project, on the northeast corner of the building. The mural depicts a flock of birds in flight and symbolizes the sharing of arts and culture internationally. The large birds represent elements of arts and culture, such as architecture, visual arts, dance, theatre or cuisine. The smaller birds feature textile patterns from around the globe. The mural was painted by lead artist Rob Matejka with Leyland Adams, Joefrey Anthony Cabalu, Mel Coleman, Banafsheh Erfanian, Siddarth Khaire, Raoul Olou, Menelik Powell and Kareen Weir.
2) **BURROWS HALL LIBRARY AND R.I.S.E. EDUTAINMENT, 1081 PROGRESS AVE.**

**Directions:** The library is located on the west side of the same building complex as #1.

Opening in 1998, as part of a complex with the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, Burrows Hall serves the local community. The library contains a collection in multiple languages, including a large collection in Chinese.

Located at Burrow’s Hall Community Centre is Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere (R.I.S.E), which is a youth-led community initiative, founded by Randell Adjei, that focuses on creating a space and opportunities for young people to express themselves through performance and literary arts. R.I.S.E began in 2012 as a small informal group of 20 youth sharing their poetry and stories with each other at a resource centre in Scarborough Town Centre. As more people participated in the group, they transformed into a youth-led collective of artists and activists. All are welcome to join R.I.S.E on their open mic nights every Monday.

**Insider Tip:** While on this tour, look for the many painted Bell boxes in the Malvern neighbourhood. For more information, see the Malvern Bell Box Tour on page 43.

3) **SCOTT WESTNEY HOUSE AND MAJOR ABBAS ALI PARK, 180 MCLEVIN AVE.**

**Directions:** Turn west onto Sheppard Avenue East, and head north on Malvern Street to McLevin Avenue. Continue on McLevin Avenue to the next destination opposite Shepmore Terrace in Major Abbas Park on the north side.

This charming stone house in Major Abbas Ali Park was built with local materials and is over 130 years old. Originally located on Sheppard Avenue East, it was moved to this location in 1990 reflecting a shift to preserve heritage buildings in Scarborough at that time. The house is named after its previous owners, the Westney and Scott families, who were early settlers to the area. Like many historic sites in Scarborough, the building has been repurposed to meet the needs of the community and today houses the West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre’s program Targeting Women in Skills Training (TWIST), which assists young women in finding employment through job experience and training.

In 2010, the park was renamed in honour of a local community worker, Major Muhammad Abbas Ali (a major in the Pakistan Army), who was enormously charitable throughout his life and fundraised for many national and international charities. He moved to Scarborough in 1989 and founded the nearby Muslim Welfare Centre of Toronto in 1993. During his lifetime, he walked over 10,000 kilometres in charitable marathon walks, including charities such as UNICEF, World Health Organization, Children in Need and many more. His longest charitable walk was a 2,500 kilometre trek from the United Arab Emirates across Saudi Arabia to Mecca to fundraise for a hospital in Karachi, Pakistan.

4) **JAMES WEIR FARMHOUSE, 1021 TAPSCOTT RD.**

**Directions:** From McLevin Avenue, turn left onto Taspcott Road. Follow Tapscott Road north toward McNicoll Avenue. Your next destination is on the right just before McNicoll Avenue. If you are walking, this destination is approximately 30 minutes away from #3. Alternatively, you can take the 134 Progress bus northbound on Tapscott Road to McNicoll Avenue and walk south to the destination.

This farmhouse was built 1861 from stones gathered from the surrounding fields. It is named after James Weir (1814-1897), who came to Scarborough from Scotland in 1833. Weir was a Loyalist who assisted in the dispersion of the rebels under William Lyon Mackenzie in 1837 during the Upper Canada Rebellion, which was an insurrection against the British-led government of Upper Canada. James Weir Farmhouse was restored in 1975 and used as a home for night caretakers at a nearby factory for Titan Wheels. When esteemed Canadian actor Jim Carrey was in his teens, he and his family worked custodial jobs for Titan Wheels and this was their home.
5) HISTORIC MALVERN SCHOOL, 5810 FINCH AVE. E.

**Directions:** Head south and turn left onto Finch Avenue East. Follow the road east toward Neilson Road. Your destination is on the north side of the street just before Neilson Road.

The former Malvern Public Schoolhouse, originally S.S. #3, was built around 1872. The 19th century school building speaks to the early development of the Malvern neighbourhood, which was one of the earliest developed areas in Scarborough. The building was typical of schoolhouses at that time, a one-room plain brick building with arched windows. Today it is Whitefield Christian Academy.

6) ISLAMIC INSTITUTE OF TORONTO, 1630 NEILSON RD.

**Directions:** Turn left onto Neilson Road and head north. Your destination will be on the right. If you are driving, turn from Neilson Road into the parking lot on the south side of the building.

The Islamic Institute of Toronto was established in 1996. This educational institution offers post-secondary courses in Arabic Language, Islamic Jurisprudence, Ethics and Spirituality, Islamic History and Civilization, Comparative Religion and Civic Engagement. The institute also offers social and recreational programs for youth and adults. Its mission is to nurture and establish Islam as a living reality in the lives of Muslims and to enhance the Islamic identity in society at large.

7) MALVERN TOWN CENTRE, 31 TAPSCOTT RD.

**Directions:** Head south on Neilson Road to Tapscott Road. Turn right onto Tapscott Road toward Malvern Town Centre. If you are driving, there is an extensive parking lot in front of the mall.

Built in the late 1980s, this mall also operates as a popular community hub. Malvern Town Centre is a plain brick structure, but the grand glass entranceway and central atrium makes this mall stand out. The entrance extends outward with one central peaked glass column. Three arches in the parking lot are placed adjacent to the entrance. For a fun tropical feel, enjoy the mall’s many large palm trees. The businesses are largely independent and locally owned and the mall is host many services such as TAIBU Community Health Centre and Service Canada.

8) TAIBU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE, 31 TAPSCOTT RD.

**Directions:** Exit the mall through the main entrance and head south toward Tapscott Road. Your next destination is located in the building to your left.

TAIBU Community Health Centre is a multidisciplinary, not-for-profit, community-led organization founded in 2008 by the Black Health Alliance that is the only community health centre in Canada that gives special attention to health issues specific to people of African descent. They offer health services, and a number of social, educational and recreation programs for all ages. The word TAIBU is a Kiswahili (Swahili) word that means, “be in good health.”

The roots of TAIBU’s specialized healthcare services can be traced back many decades to the work of Lillie Johnson. Johnson, born in Jamaica in 1922, became Ontario’s first Black Director of Public Health in the Leeds-Grenville and Lanark district. In 1981, Johnson founded the Sickle Cell Association of Ontario. She was a strong advocate for universal screening for sickle cell disease and by 2005 this was realized. As a result of her work and advocacy, the Sickle Cell Association of Ontario and TAIBU, working in partnership with Scarborough Hospital, established specialized primary care services for adults with sickle cell disease at this site. Johnson has received many honours for her important work, including the Order of Ontario in 2011.

**Insider Tip:** Malvern Recreation Centre at 30 Sewells Rd. is a free and fully accessible centre that offers a wide variety of programs and amenities for all ages. However, the centre has a focus on youth specific programming, including volunteer opportunities and a youth advisory council. The Toronto Skateboard Committee runs an indoor wooden skatepark inside the ice rink of the Malvern Recreation Centre in the summer months.
9) MALVERN LIBRARY, 30 SEWELLS RD.
Directions: Turn left onto Tapscott Road and follow it east to Sewells Road. Continue on Sewells Road until you reach the library in the park on the north side of the street.

The Malvern Library opened in Malvern Community Recreation Centre in 1982. Today, it is operated by the Toronto Public Library and runs a variety of educational and social programs for all ages. The library houses a youth hub and features collections in English, Chinese, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Tagalog, Tamil, Urdu and Punjabi. Malvern Library also houses the Rita Cox Black and Caribbean Heritage Collection, one of the most significant Black and Caribbean heritage collections in Canada. It includes over 16,000 print and audiovisual materials about the Black and Caribbean historical and cultural experience.

The Malvern Library is home to Success Power Opportunity Teamwork (S.P.O.T.), a youth-led non-profit arts space. The 3,770 square foot youth centre has a dance studio, recording arts studio, program space, youth lounge and a Digital Innovation Hub.

DID YOU KNOW?
Dr. Rita Cox is a storyteller, author and librarian who pioneered the library’s Black Heritage and West Indian Resource Collection. After her retirement from the Toronto Public Library in 1995, Dr. Cox was appointed a Citizenship Court Judge by the Government of Canada. In 1997, Dr. Cox was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada for her outstanding work in storytelling and literacy.

Walking tour ends

10) Y+ CONTEMPORARY, 1345 MORNINGSIDE AVE.
Directions: Follow Sewells Road East to McLevin Road. Turn right onto McLevin Road and continue east to Morningside Avenue. Turn right to head south on Morningside Avenue and turn into the parking lot. Please note that Y+ contemporary is not visible from the street and the gallery entrance is located off the south parking lot.

Y+ contemporary is a non-profit storefront gallery and studio space that provides space for emerging artists to develop, produce, engage and experiment. It was co-founded in 2015 by four University of Toronto Scarborough Campus graduates: Danièle Dennis, Daniel Griffin Hunt, Dorica Manuel and Tiffany Schofield. The gallery provides an inclusive space for an emerging arts community in Scarborough. It is open to the public Wednesday to Saturday from 12 noon to 5 p.m. during exhibitions. The 2018 Cultural Hotspot SPARK Partnership with Y+ contemporary helped their residency program provide opportunities for youth to work in parallel with emerging artist mentors – learning how to develop a body of work, and prepare and mount an exhibition. The residency participants’ work was exhibited at the gallery, followed by an extended presentation at UTSC’s Doris McCarthy Gallery vitrines.

11) MALVERN UNDERPASS MURAL (2015), MORNINGSIDE AVE. (NORTH OF OLD FINCH AVE.)
Directions: Turn right to head north on Morningside Avenue. Continue north on Morningside Avenue to the underpass located north of Old Finch Road.

The mural depicts various leisure activities, such as skateboarding and basketball, and a nature scene with a grizzly bear. The street signs depicted read “I love Malvern.” It was created by the Malvern Family Resource Centre in partnership StreetARToronto. Lead artist Brad MacMillan worked with youth volunteers from Malvern to develop and paint the mural.

12) SEWELL’S BRIDGE, SEWELLS ROAD (NORTH OF OLD FINCH AVENUE)
Directions: Go back south on Morningside Avenue and turn left onto Old Finch Road. Follow Old Finch Road to the end and continue onto Sewells Road. Follow Sewells to where it intersects with the Rouge River.

Built in 1912 and restored in 1981, this steel bridge on Sewells Road is one of the oldest bridges in Scarborough and is the only remaining suspension bridge on a public road in Ontario.
13 HILLSIDE CHURCH, 361 OLD FINCH AVE.

**Directions:** Turn to head south on Sewells Road back to Old Finch Road. Turn left and follow Old Finch Road to your next destination, located on your right just before Reesor Road.

This Methodist Church opened in 1877 and remains largely the same as when it was built, although it has not had a worship service for many years. The structure is a simple wooden frame with plain arched windows and a gabled roof. The Hillside community was named after a mansion, built in the neighbourhood in the early 1800s by local mill owner William A. Milne, which still stands today.

14 HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL, 2259 MEADOWVALE RD.

**Directions:** Continue east on Old Finch Road to Meadowvale Road. The school is located on the southeast side of the intersection.

Hillside Public School is a one-room wood frame schoolhouse that was erected in 1853. It was moved to this site three decades later and bricked in. The building is still used for education today, serving as one of the Toronto District School Board’s five outdoor education centres, focusing on hands-on outdoor experiences that teach environmental education. Behind the building are a number of raised garden beds used for teaching.

15 TORONTO ZOO, 2000 MEADOWVALE RD.

**Directions:** Turn left onto Meadowvale Road and head south to Zoo Road. Turn right into the parking lot of the Toronto Zoo.

The Toronto Zoo is a popular destination for families and tourists. It is the largest zoo in Canada and has over 5,800 animals. In 1966, the Metropolitan Toronto Zoological Society was formed with the objective of developing a new zoo for Toronto, replacing the antiquated Riverdale Zoo. It was built on 287-hectares of land owned by the Metropolitan Toronto & Region Conservation Authority and is owned and operated by the City of Toronto.

16 ROUGE VALLEY CONSERVATION CENTRE, 1749 MEADOWVALE RD.

**Directions:** Exit the zoo on the south side. Follow Zoo Road across Meadowvale Road. A large parking lot is located to the right on the south side of Zoo Road.

The Rouge Valley Conservation Centre, run by the Rouge Valley Foundation, is dedicated to protecting and restoring the natural heritage of the Rouge Valley, which is the largest urban park in North America stretching from Toronto into Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville. The Foundation operates environmental restoration projects and research, as well as running educational programming and interpretive walks. The Conservation Centre is housed in a restored historic home that was built in 1893 and owned by the Pearse family, who operated a sawmill on the Rouge River.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
The Seneca Settlement, Ganatsekwyagon, at the base of the Rouge River is recognized as a National Historic Site of Canada. The Indigenous site is located within the boundaries of Rouge Valley Park but the location is sensitive and no public access is allowed. Archeological evidence has dated the settlement back to the 1600s, with excavations discovering thousands of artifacts including glass trade beads.
Useful Information
- Burrows Hall: torontopubliclibrary.ca/burrowshall
- Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto: cccgt.org
- Heritage Toronto: heritagetoronto.org
- Islamic Institute of Toronto: islamicinstitute.ca
- R.I.S.E Edutainment: riseedutainment.com
- Rouge Valley Conservation Centre: rvcc.ca
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- TAIBU Community Health Centre: taibuchc.ca
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- Toronto Public Library: torontopubliclibrary.ca
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca.ca
- Toronto Skateboarding Committee: torontoskateboarding.com
- Toronto Zoo: torontozoo.com
- Y+ contemporary: ypluscontemporary.com

Sources
- Barbara Myrvold, People of Scarborough: A History
- Beach Metro
- Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto
- City of Toronto
- Heritage Toronto
- Islamic Institute of Toronto
- R.I.S.E Edutainment
- Rouge Valley Conservation Centre
- Scarborough Historical Society
- TAIBU Community Health Centre
- Toronto District Schoolboard
- Toronto Public Library
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto Zoo
- University of Toronto Scarborough Campus
- Y+ contemporary

Photo Credits
- Ann Brokelman
- Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto
- Islamic Institute of Toronto
- NadiaTalent
- R.I.S.E Edutainment
- TAIBU Community Health Centre
- Toronto Public Library
**Location:** Ellesmere, Scarborough Town Centre

**Interests:** History, Art, Architecture

**Estimated:** 1.5 hours

**Type:** Walk, Cycle, Drive

Explore Scarborough’s core. This constantly growing area of Scarborough speaks to the development of suburban neighbourhoods in the 1950s and the rapid urbanization to come, including an improved transportation network, high-rises and pedestrian areas. This tour also highlights many of the public art pieces, community arts projects and gathering places that make this neighbourhood vibrant and welcoming.

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**Getting to the tour start**

- **From the Victoria Park Subway Station,** take the 24 Victoria Park bus northbound to the Ellesmere Road stop. Cross to the south side of Ellesmere Road and cross the parking lot toward Parkway Mall.

- **From Highway 401,** take the Victoria Park Avenue southbound exit. Continue south on Victoria Park Avenue to Ellesmere Road. Park at the Parkway Mall parking lot on the southeast side of the intersection.

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**1 PARKWAY MALL, 85 ELLESMERE RD.**

This mall stands out with the sweeping space-age arch that can be found on the north side; it was a popular architectural feature of shopping centres in North America in the 1950s. The mall was built to service the surrounding neighbourhood, which quickly developed from rural farmland into a suburban neighbourhood after the Second World War. When the mall opened in 1958, its flagship store was the Grand Union grocery store. Today, the mall has smaller retail stores that focus on independent businesses and services for community members. Valued as a prime example of a Modernist building, the site was designated a Heritage Property in 2015.

**2 ELLESMERE SKATEPARK, 46-56 CANADIAN RD.**

**Directions:** Turn right onto Warden Avenue and head south. Take the first left on to Canadian Road. Follow Canadian Road and turn left into the Ellesmere Community Centre’s parking lot.

The Skatepark is located at the Ellesmere Community Centre with a mix of quarter pipes, ledges, banks, rails and more. The skatepark offers many opportunities for young people. It has an extensive skateboard summer camp, with report cards and certificates, and also has an active youth advisory council.

Make sure to check out the colourful mural completed in 2018 as a Signature Project of the Cultural Hotspot in partnership with Art Starts. The mural was painted by six youth led by local mural artists Jacquie Comrie Garrido and LuvSumone (Moises Frank).
3) KENNEDY COMMONS, 2021 KENNEDY RD.

Directions: Turn right onto Canadian Road and continue on it. Turn left onto Birchmount Avenue. Drive north and take the first right onto Ellesmere Road. Continue on Ellesmere Road and turn right to head north on Kennedy Road. Turn right into the parking lot at Kennedy Commons, opposite Antrim Crescent.

Kennedy Commons was established in 1999 and takes up an entire city block with almost 500,000 square feet of retail space. It was developed with the goal of creating an integral shopping district on the northern end of the Kennedy Road BIA, topping the 3.5 kilometre-long business improvement area. The BIA was founded in the 1980s and today supports the over 300 businesses in the area.

Discover great restaurants in the area, see the HOT Eats section on page 121.

4) UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ARTICLE #2: COME UNITY (2009), 1163 ELLESMERE RD.

Directions: Turn left to head south on Kennedy Road and turn left onto Ellesmere Road. Drive east on Ellesmere Road and turn right into the parking lot on the southeast corner of the intersection.

From left to right, this mural portrays hands passing a gift, a boat journey by sea and five children as pillars holding up the word “community.” It was designed by a team of youth including Jordan Chretien, Maggie Chan, Johnny Yang and Tristan Joseph, and led by mural artist Rob Matejka. The mural is part of Amnesty International’s Project Urban Canvas. It focuses on Article #2, which states: “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind.” The project was managed by Mural Routes, and supported by a grant from the City of Toronto.

5) A VISION REALIZED MURAL (2010), 1197 ELLESMERE RD.

Directions: Turn right onto Ellesmere Road and turn right on Oakley Boulevard. The destination is in the parking lot on the east wall of the plaza. If you are driving, there is a parking lot on the southeast corner.

A Vision Realized celebrates the Midland Park subdivision. The mural was painted by Sarah Collard and depicts houses with sharply angled roofs emerging from a lush garden. The Midland Park subdivision was built from 1959 to 1962 and was envisioned by developer Curran Hall and architect Ted Ross, using the Mid-Century Modern architectural style. The style is sympathetic to the area’s topography, leaving many of the hills, rocks and trees intact. This architectural style is still unique within Scarborough today. Features such as carports, picture windows, and plain, clean lines and natural materials were used in the exteriors and interiors. Today, there is a community effort to have the area recognized as a Heritage Conservation District.

6) BIRKDALE RAVINE, 1100 BRIMLEY RD.

Directions: Turn right to head east on Ellesmere Road and turn right into the driveway at Birkdale Ravine. If you are driving, the parking lot is to the left of the entrance.

Birkdale Ravine is an important greenspace for the neighbourhood, enabling visitors to enjoy the area’s natural features and West Highland Creek. Visitors to the park can see the creek run through the ravine in its natural form, but the waterway has been channelized in the surrounding areas. Near the north bank of the ravine was the site of a Wendat village around 1260. Look for the Scarborough Historical Society’s plaque. It was excavated in 1956 by University of Toronto students, who found tools and fragments of pipes, pottery and tools. Inhabitants of the village were buried a short distance east of the village, including the Tabor Hill Ossuary (see #10 on page 61).

The ravine is also becoming known for its many Sakura Trees, commonly known as cherry blossoms, which were donated in 2015 by the City of Sagamihara, a Tokyo suburb in recognition of its friendship agreement with Toronto. See them in bloom in springtime.

Insider Tip: Birkdale Art in the Park is an annual one-day outdoor community arts festival that features local artists, artisans and community organizations. It is held in the Birkdale Ravine and the Birkdale Community Centre. In 2018, Birkdale Art in the Park was a SPARK project of the Cultural Hotspot.
7) **SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE LIBRARY, 156 BOROUGH DR.**

**Directions:** Turn right onto Ellesmere Road and drive eastbound. Turn left onto Borough Approach West and walk to Borough Drive. Cross to the north side, turn right and walk east on Borough Drive to the library. To park, continue straight from Borough Approach West onto Brian Harrison Way and park in the lot to your left.

This beautiful and bright library was opened in 2015 as the Toronto Public Library’s 100th branch. It houses a collection of 50,000 books, audio books and other materials in English, Chinese, Gujarati and Tamil. It is a community hotspot, which offers a number of programs for all ages and features a Digital Innovation Hub with new technologies. The accessible open-concept building has won numerous design awards for its use of space, green roofs, its flexibility for growth and ability to complement its surroundings.

8) **SCARBOROUGH CIVIC CENTRE, 150 BOROUGH DR.**

**Directions:** Exit the library and turn right to the west entrance of the Scarborough Civic Centre.

The Scarborough Civic Centre, designed by Raymond Moriyama, opened in 1973 in the presence of Queen Elizabeth II. The building is known for its soaring white shapes, curves and asymmetrical design. It is shared by the Toronto District School Board and the City of Toronto and offers many services for residents, such as licenses and permits. It is also home to the Scarborough Community Council. There are many public art pieces and gallery display areas to be discovered in the rotunda when you walk in.

9) **21 POINTS IN EQUILIBRIUM (1973), 150 BOROUGH DR.**

**Directions:** Located inside the Scarborough Civic Centre and east entrance.

In 1973, James Sutherland was commissioned to create a work for the new Scarborough Civic Centre. Make sure to look up. This aluminum art piece is hanging from the ceiling and extends down five storeys. It continues on the exterior of the building.

10) **ALBERT CAMPBELL SQUARE, 150 BOROUGH DR.**

**Directions:** Walk through to the Civic Centre to the east entrance. Exit the building.

The square is named after the first Mayor of Scarborough, Albert Campbell, and features landscaped gardens and a performance stage for special events and concerts. In the summer, it has a reflecting pond and fountain that is transformed into an outdoor skating rink in the winter months. Sculptures created for the 1994 International Granite Sculpture Symposium by nine international artists are installed throughout the area (see #11).

11) **ART AT SCARBOROUGH CENTRE**

**Directions:** Keep an eye out as you walk around Scarborough Civic Centre and the surrounding area.

Scarbourn Civic Centre is rich with public art. Many of these sculptures were created for the International Granite Sculpture Symposium held in 1994. Nine artists from around the world visited Scarborough to create large-scale public art in granite. Keep an eye out for these sculptures as you walk.

**ERUPTION**

**JANIS KARLOVS (1994)**

**FIRONACCI CADENZA**

**UGA DRAVA (1994)**

**READING SCULPTURE**

(Artist/Date Unknown)**
**THE HAND OF GOD**
CARL MILLES (1975)

**ODE TO THE SUN**
ROB SCHREEFEL (1994)

**PROCESSION**
PETER ROLLER (1994)

**EARTH AND SKY**
PETER ROLLER (1994)

**ICARUS**
GORD SMITH (1980)

**KALFA SCULPTURE**
(ARTIST/DATE UNKNOWN)

**NATURAL DEVELOPMENT**
PETER MACHATA (1994)

**SENSOR**
YOSHIO YAGI (1994)

**STONE FOR QUIET WATER**
KNUT WOLD (1994)

**12 FRANK FAUBERT WOOD LOT,**
185 BOROUGH DR.

**Directions:** Walk east through the park next to Albert Campbell Square and turn right on Town Centre Court. Walk south to Borough Drive and cross to the south side. Turn to the left and walk to the entrance of the woodlot.

This heavily forested five-hectare park is a woodlot remaining from the farmland that was the property of early settler George Scott, who bought the property in 1829. The woodlot contains a number of sculptures (listed in #12) and trails. Under ownership of the City, the land was named in 2000 for Frank Faubert, who was the last Mayor of Scarborough before amalgamation.

**13 SCARBOROUGH TOWN CENTRE,**
300 BOROUGH DR.

**Directions:** Follow Borough Drive north to Town Centre Court. Go west toward the Scarborough Civic Centre. At Albert Campbell Square, turn right and head toward Scarborough Town Centre. If you are driving, return to your car and drive south on Brian Harrison Way. Turn right on Borough Drive and follow it east and northbound, under the RT tracks and into the parking lot of the Scarborough Town Centre.

The mall was opened in 1973, when Scarborough had a population of around 200,000 (now well over 600,000). It housed Canadian department stores Eaton’s and Simpsons among its 130 original stores. The mall has had numerous renovations and extensions over the decades to accommodate a growing population and today is still a thriving commercial and social centre of the community.

**14 WALK OF FAME,**
300 BOROUGH DR.

**Directions:** Inside the Scarborough Town Centre, go to the escalators or elevator on the south side and go to the lower level. The Walk of Fame is located on the other side of the elevators in front of the food court.

The Scarborough Walk of Fame Association is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to honouring individuals who bring pride to the community of Scarborough and serve to inspire tomorrow’s leaders.

The first inductees were burn-unit founder Dr. Lloyd N. Carlsen, educator Dr. R. H. King, NBA player Jamaal Magloire, pulmonary scientist Dr. Charles C. Macklin,
artist Doris McCarthy, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and former television personality, the Honourable David Onley, Olympic hockey player Vicky Sunohara, early settler David Thomson, hip-hop artist Wes Williams (Maestro Fres-Wes), and geriatric care entrepreneur Dr. Joseph Yu Kai Wong. Other notable inductees include Dwayne Morgan, Farley Flex and Kardinal Offishall.

OLD SCOTT HOUSE, 520 PROGRESS RD.

Directions: Exit the mall on the northeast side and cross the road to the north side at Corporate Drive. Turn left and follow the road west to the next destination.

In 1829, George Scott, an early Scottish settler to the area, purchased farmland that stretched from Ellesmere Road to Sheppard Avenue. He built this house in 1841 and the farm became one of the most prosperous in the township. The Scott family continued to live on this land until 1943. The house was restored and renovated and is now used as a restaurant.

DID YOU KNOW?

Completed in 1985, the aboveground Scarborough Rapid Transit (SRT) line was once thought to be our technological and transportation future. Originally planned as a streetcar route, the city decided to run trains instead, known as linear induction cars. The SRT was an inspiration to other cities, such as Vancouver and Detroit, which also introduced light rail lines with a magnetic propulsion system. The SRT was built in an existing CN railway corridor along a seven-kilometre route. The original plan was to have it extend to Malvern, but instead ended at a yard at McCowan Road. The well-known chime for the closing TTC doors on the SRT and subway systems had its debut on the SRT when it first opened in 1985.

KALEIDOSCOPE MURAL (2018), 1967 ELLESMERE RD.

Directions: Head east on Progress Avenue and turn right to head south on McCowan Road. Turn left onto Ellesmere Road and continue east to the recreation centre. If driving, turn right on Dolly Varden Boulevard and right again into the parking lot. Exit your vehicle and turn left on Ellesmere Road. The mural is on the western side of the building.

This bright and beautiful mural highlights the nature found in Scarborough, with many colourful butterflies painted along the length of the front wall of the Centennial East Recreation Centre. Led by VIBE Arts in partnership with StreetARToronto and professional muralist Ryan Dineen, the mural was painted in collaboration with a group of emerging youth artists and volunteers, following a series of community consultation meetings.

EXPLORE MORE

CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

Centennial was the first publicly funded college in Ontario. The college opened in 1966 and was named Centennial College in honour of the upcoming 100th birthday of Canada. The Warden Woods Campus, Centennial’s first home, was located in a repurposed factory building previously owned by the Canadian Arsenals Ltd. This location closed in 2014. The Progress Campus is located nearby at Markham Road and Progress Avenue, which is now the largest Centennial College campus. The other two Scarborough campuses are located at Morningside and Ashtonbee. There are three other college locations in Toronto.
Useful Information

- Art Starts: artstartsto.com
- Heritage Toronto: heritagetoronto.org
- Kennedy Road BIA: kennedybia.com
- Mural Routes: muralroutes.ca
- Scarborough Walk of Fame: scarboroughwalkoffame.com
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- Toronto Public Library: torontopubliclibrary.ca
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca.ca
- Toronto Skateboarding Committee: torontoskateboarding.com

Sources

- Art Starts
- Birkdale Art in the Park
- Canadian Architects
- City of Toronto, Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan
- First Gulf
- Heritage Toronto
- Kennedy Road BIA
- Midland Park Toronto
- Mural Routes
- Project Urban Canvas
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Toronto Parks
- Toronto Public Library
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto Skateboarding Committee
- VIBE Arts

Photos

- Ann Brokelman
- Art Starts
- City of Toronto
- Jose San Juan
- Matt Forsythe
- Toronto Public Library
TOUR 4: BELL BOX MINI TOUR

Location: Malvern
Interests: Art
Estimated: 45 min.
Type: Walk, Cycle

The Bell Box Murals Project is an independent, community-engaged art program presented by Community Matters Toronto in partnership with Bell Canada. Since 2009, artists from the Bell Box Murals Project have painted over 300 murals on Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in 36 communities throughout Southern Ontario and Quebec. The Bell Box Murals Project is an innovative collaboration between private business, community organizations, local artists and local governments that benefits all members of the community.

Getting to the tour start

From Warden Subway Station, take the 102 Markham Road bus northbound to Sheppard Avenue East. Transfer to the 85 Sheppard East bus eastbound to Gateforth Drive.

From Highway 401, exit northbound on Markham Road. Follow the road north and turn right onto Sheppard Avenue East. Continue to Gateforth Drive. There is a parking lot located on the north side of Sheppard Avenue East just before Gateforth Drive. The first destination is located across from the parking lot on the south side of Sheppard Avenue East.

Useful Information
- Bell Box Murals Project: facebook.com/bellboxmuralsproject

Sources, Photos
- Bell Box Murals Project
Loop 2
Tour 1: Discover Wexford

Location: Wexford Heights
Interests: History, Nature
Estimated: 2 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

Explore these Scarborough neighbourhoods, which are rich in industrial and commercial history. Sitting near the Don Valley, Wexford once connected with a much longer Dawes Road, which, in the 1830s, was one of the busiest roads in Ontario. Wexford was the threshold between the rural farmland and lumber industries of the north and the urbanized city to the south. Today, you will see that one of the most defining features of the Wexford streetscape is the abundance of strip malls, a product of the 1950s, that are now hubs of locally owned businesses.

Getting to the tour start

Take the subway to Victoria Park station on Line 2. Catch the 24 Victoria Park bus northbound to Eglinton Avenue East. Walk east, or transfer to the 34 Eglinton East bus and ride two stops eastbound to Lebovic Avenue. Cross the street to the north side of Eglinton Avenue and walk approximately 100 metres west to the front of the plaza.

Exit the Don Valley Parkway eastbound onto Eglinton Avenue East. Continue on Eglinton and turn left onto Hakimi Avenue. Take your first left into the parking lot driveway and take your first turn left again to park at the SmartCentres plaza.

1. **Golden Mile of Industry, 1900 Eglinton Ave. E.**

Look for the two heritage plaques on Eglinton Avenue East in front of the plaza. In the late 1940s, the Golden Mile of Industry stretched a mile along Eglinton Avenue. The General Engineering Company (GECO) built and ran a large munitions plant south of Eglinton Avenue. The Scarborough Township purchased 225 acres of land and 145 buildings on Eglinton Avenue (the former GECO site) from the Dominion Government. The farmlands on Eglinton Avenue from Victoria Park Avenue eastwards were soon transformed into the Golden Mile industrial complex. To attract businesses during Canada’s post-war economic boom, the land was offered at inexpensive prices and low property taxes. Since then, the Golden Mile attracted a range of major companies, including Delco, Thermos, Frigidaire, and car manufacturers like General Motors and Volkswagen. In 1954, the Golden Mile Plaza opened at Victoria Park Avenue and Eglinton Avenue East, becoming the largest shopping centre in Canada. And in 1959, the Golden Mile Plaza was even visited by Queen Elizabeth II. While the area was booming for a number of decades, many of these industries have moved out since the 1980s. Today, there are plans to redevelop the area into a residential and commercial centre.
2) ASHTONBEE RESERVOIR PARK AND WEXFORD PARK, 10 ASHTONBEE RD.

Directions: Turn onto Eglinton Avenue and turn left to go north on Hakimi Avenue. Turn left on Ashtonbee Road. The park is on the north side. If driving, keep going west on Ashtonbee Road to Pharmacy Avenue. Turn right into the parking lot.

At the south end of the greenspace is Ashtonbee Reservoir Park, which is a 9.2 hectare park located on top of Ashtonbee Reservoir, where the City stores some of its water supply. Ashtonbee Park features numerous cricket pitches and multipurpose sports fields. The park is situated at the eastern end of the Gatineau Hydro Corridor (See #3). The connected Wexford Park has a large mature forest at the northern end, with surrounding recreation areas (children’s playground, shady lawns and two small softball diamonds).

3) GATINEAU HYDRO CORRIDOR TRAIL

Directions: The east-west path between the Ashtonbee Reservoir and Wexford Park is the Gatineau Hydro Corridor.

Within the past decade, this large urban park has been the target of many natural restoration efforts. The City of Toronto, community environmental groups and local residents have teamed up to build a continuous trail and to plant native trees and wildflowers. The trail is part of a project, called the Meadoway, which is a partnership involving the City of Toronto, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the W. Garfield Weston Foundation. It will connect four ravines, 15 parks and over 30 neighbourhoods in Scarborough, enabling cyclists and pedestrians to travel through the park from the Don River East to Rouge National Urban Park. The area will soon be able to support a greater diversity of local wildlife and plant life as well as create recreational greenspace for local community members along the path.

DID YOU KNOW?
The Gatineau Hydro Corridor Trail is one section of the City of Toronto’s Pan Am Path, an 87-kilometre legacy project of the Pan Am/Para Pan Am Games in 2015. The path connects numerous trails from the border of Brampton, northwest of the city, to the border of Pickering in the east.

4) CHAPEL OF SAINT JUDE, 10 HOWARTH AVE.

Directions: Exit the park onto Pharmacy Avenue. Turn right to go west on Surrey Avenue. Turn right onto Victoria Park Avenue. Take the next right to your destination.

Located in the graveyard is the Chapel of St. Jude, which was built in 1848 and is the oldest church building in Scarborough. The small church was built by local farmers and seated about 60 people. The plank walls were chiseled to look like stone and many of the beams still have the axe marks from the original construction. In the 1950s, a larger brick church was built on the east end of the property to accommodate the rapidly growing population of Wexford, but the original chapel still remains.

DID YOU KNOW?
In the 1840s, the Wexford community formed around The Rising Sun Inn, which was located at the crossroads of Pharmacy Avenue and Lawrence Avenue East. The owner of the inn opened a post office in 1865 and named it Wexford, after the county in Ireland where he was from, and soon the community became known by that name. Wexford was a farming hamlet for a century; since the 1950s, it has quickly developed as a vibrant business district and multicultural neighbourhood that features a wide array of diverse, independent food shops and restaurants. Discover local eateries in the HOT Eats section on page 121.
5) COALITION MUSIC, 1731 LAWRENCE AVE. E.
**Directions:** Turn right onto Victoria Park Avenue to Lawrence Avenue East. Coalition Music will be on your right.

In 2010, Coalition Music moved to this historic building, which used to house a school and convent. Coalition Music has expanded its operations from a record label to developing the Canadian Music Incubator, which focuses on mentoring artists through every stage of their career. The building houses rehearsal spaces and a recording studio. They have been essential in the development of Canadian artists including Our Lady Peace and Simple Plan.

6) WEXFORD COLLEGIATE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS, 1176 PHARMACY AVE.
**Directions:** Turn right onto Lawrence Avenue East. Continue east and turn left on Pharmacy Avenue to head north to the next destination.

The school was officially opened to students in 1965 as Wexford Collegiate Institute by the Scarborough Board of Education. It was renamed Wexford Collegiate School for the Arts in 2006 in recognition of its specialized arts programs. They are well known for their glee club, the Wexford Gleeks, who have had high-profile engagements including a feature on TVO’s Doc Studio, and accompanied a duet with astronaut Chris Hadfield (while he was on the International Space Station) and Ed Robertson singer of the Barenaked Ladies. The visual arts and theatre programs have ties to artists and arts organizations that work directly with the students in a professional setting. Famous alumni of Wexford Collegiate include artist Shary Boyle, portrait artist Todd D. Claydon, singer and songwriter Fefe Dobson and journalist Helen Mann, to name a few.

7) WEXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 7 ELINOR AVE.
**Directions:** Turn right onto Pharmacy Avenue and head south to Lawrence Avenue East. Turn left to head east to Elinor Avenue. There is a parking lot located on the north side of the building.

The first Wexford Presbyterian Church began in 1953 with a congregation of 13 people. The congregation grew and the current building was opened in 1963. The building has 12 sides, each with a steep pointed window. While the building was designed in the Mid-Century Modern style, as seen in the simple ornamentation and jutting angles, it also uses influences from Gothic Cathedral architecture with its steep gables.

8) WEXFORD RESTAURANT, 2072 LAWRENCE AVE. E.
**Directions:** Continue east to Warden Avenue. The Wexford Restaurant is in a strip mall on the northeast side of the intersection.

The Wexford Restaurant is a neighbourhood staple serving up comfort foods. It is particularly known for its breakfast menu, claiming that over three billion eggs have been cracked and 10 billion coffees have been served since opening its doors in 1958. Check out the historical photographs on the walls while you enjoy your meal.

**Insider Tip:** You can find eateries with African, Asian, Caribbean, East and West Indian, and Mediterranean cuisines in this neighbourhood. The Wexford Heights BIA has been operating since 2004 and hosts the popular annual Taste of Lawrence Festival in celebration of these cultural businesses along Lawrence Avenue East.

9) TASTE OF LAWRENCE FESTIVAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY MURAL (2013) AND TORSO SCULPTURE, 2075 LAWRENCE AVE. E.
**Directions:** Cross to the south side of Warden Avenue and Lawrence Avenue East. Find the Taste of Lawrence 10-Year Anniversary Mural and Torso sculpture at the Lawrence Heights Plaza.

This mural on the west wall celebrates the Taste of Lawrence Festival, an international food and culture festival that takes place annually in July along Lawrence Avenue East, from Birchmount Road to Warden Avenue.
In front of Lawrence Heights Plaza is Torso, a nude cast-concrete female figure by John Ivor Smith. The figure is cut off at the knees with stumps for arms. The modernist artist was born in England in 1927 and immigrated to Canada at the age of 13 as part a program to evacuate children during the Second World War when England was heavily bombed. He studied physics and worked for the Northern Electric Company creating advertisements, before turning to fine art and sculpture. Smith won a Canada Council Junior Fellowship in 1955 to study casting techniques and experimented with new materials and modernist designs. Smith went on to become the first sculpture teacher at Concordia University in 1966.

10 ARRIVAL MURAL (1997), 2231 LAWRENCE AVE. E.
Directions: Drive east on Lawrence Avenue East and pass Birchmount Road. McGregor Park Community Centre will be on the right.

Located at the entrance of the McGregor Park Community Centre, the mural designed by artist David Wright explores ideas of migration and arrival. The mural depicts migrating Canada geese transforming into monarch butterflies that arrive and alight on a fishpond.

Continue inside to find artwork created by local youth and the McGregor Park Library. The library and community centre are linked together by a 130-square metre space called “The Commons.” The space was built in collaboration with, and for, the young people in the community.

DID YOU KNOW?
While the 54A Lawrence East bus covered a shorter route when it was established in 1963, today the line is nearly 54 kilometres between Eglinton Station and Starspray Boulevard. It is the longest TTC route that operates seven days a week. Lawrence Avenue East has been a major arterial road since Scarborough’s formation, originally known as 1st Concession Road. The Lawrence East bus route connects to both the Yonge Subway Line and the Scarborough RT. Lawrence Avenue East developed as a corridor for commercial development, particularly known for its strip malls that support local businesses.

11 EAST SIDE MURAL (1995), 2450 LAWRENCE AVE. E.
Directions: Head east on Lawrence Avenue East. After Kennedy Road, take the first right to turn off Lawrence Avenue toward the RT Station. You can view the mural from outside the doors to the pedestrian entrance. If driving, turn right toward Prudential Drive. Follow Lawrence Avenue to the parking lot. An underground pedestrian pathway is located on the northwest side of the parking lot.

Best viewed from outside of Lawrence East Station, the East Side Mural is attributed to Sady, a member of the Graffiti Knights, a group of Scarborough street artists, and covers an entire wall next to the station. It can be seen from the northern side of the station and from the eastbound platform. The Graffiti Knights formed in 1982 and were well known for their creations across Scarborough, which were painted in high visibility locations during the 1980s and 1990s.
Useful Information

- Coalition Music: coalitionmusic.com
- Heritage Toronto: heritagetoronto.org
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- The Meadoway: themeadoway.ca
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca.ca
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca.parks
- Wexford Heights BIA: wexfordbia.ca
- Working Women Community Centre: workingwomencc.org

Sources

- Coalition Music
- Adam Melnyk, Visual Orgasm: The Early Years of Canadian Graffiti
- Coalition Music
- Globe and Mail, The Meadoway Hydro Corridor to be Transformed into 16 Kilometre Park
- Heritage Toronto
- Scarborough Historical Society
- St. Jude Anglican Church
- The Taste of Lawrence Festival
- The Torontoist
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto Parks
- Toronto Transit Commission
- Waddingtons
- Wexford Heights BIA
- Wexford Presbyterian Church
- Wexford Restaurant

Photos

- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
- Scarborough Historical Society
- SimonP
Location: Bendale, Woburn
Interests: History, Art
Estimated: 1.5 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

Get lost in the history of Scarborough while on this tour. Visit historic sites and monuments that speak to the human history on the land. Learn about the Tabor Hill Ossuary, which marks the 13th century burial ground connected with early Indigenous settlements. Visit the Scarborough Museum and stroll along St. Andrews Road to explore some of the oldest heritage structures in Scarborough.

Getting to the tour start

Take the Scarborough RT to Lawrence East Station on Line 3. Catch the 54 Lawrence East bus eastbound to Barrymore Road. Cross to the north side of Lawrence Avenue East to the first destination.

Exit the 401 Highway southbound on Brimley Road. Continue south on Brimley Road and turn left onto Lawrence Avenue East. Drive east and turn left into the driveway at Bendale Acres.

1 BENDALE ACRES LONG-TERM CENTRE MURAL (2018), 2920 LAWRENCE AVE. E.

Artist Sean Martindale collaborated with youth, community members and residents from the Bendale Acres long-term care home on the creation of a six-storey mural. Symbols designed by the residents are painted around the depiction of a tree that extends up the southeast corner of the building, including the fleur-de-lis, maple leaves, rainbows, acorns, flowers and more.

The project was led by VIBE Arts with funding by the City of Toronto's StreetARToronto program.

2 THOMSON MEMORIAL PARK, 1005 BRIMLEY RD.

Directions: Turn right onto Lawrence Avenue East and continue until Brimley Road. Turn right to walk north on Brimley. Turn right into Thomson Memorial Park.

Thomson Memorial Park was created from the farm fields of Scarborough’s early settlers. It is named after David Thomson (1760–1834) and Mary Glendenning Thomson (1767–1847), who were Scottish immigrants to Canada, and are considered the first official European settlers in Scarborough. The park contains forested areas, picnic areas, playgrounds and wading pools. Outdoor sports facilities include a baseball diamond, soccer field and tennis courts.
Insider Tip: Thomson Park plays host to a large Canada Day celebration with family-friendly activities, live music and a parade. If you visit in August, don’t miss your chance to enjoy delicious ribs, fun games, creative vendors and more at Scarborough Ribfest! This free volunteer-run event is hosted by The Rotary Club of Scarborough.

3 SCARBOROUGH MUSEUM, 1007 BRIMLEY RD.

Directions: Scarborough Museum is located off of Brimley Road at the main entrance to Thomson Memorial Park.

Set along the walking trails of beautiful Thomson Memorial Park, Scarborough Museum traces the story of this community’s rural roots and two centuries of immigration. The museum was established in 1962 and is situated on property first granted to David and Mary Thomson, who settled in Scarborough around 1798. The museum consists of four buildings that were moved to the site between 1962 and 1974. Every year, the staff of the Scarborough Museum recreate the 19th century gardens to enhance the surroundings of the museum buildings. Scarborough Museum is one of 10 historic museums operated by the City of Toronto. Toronto’s historic sites engage visitors, inspire passion, challenge ideas and connect the past to the present.

CORNELL HOUSE

Originally built in 1858, this clapboard farmhouse was restored and furnished to its 1914 state. It was home to the Cornell family who came to Scarborough from Rhode Island in 1799. The family built the township’s first sawmill at Highland Creek and were influential in the building of a road along the lake in the early 1800s, which later became Kingston Road.

MCCOWAN LOG HOUSE

Built circa 1850, this log house was restored and moved to Thomson Memorial Park in 1974. It was originally occupied by early settler William Porteous McCowan (1820-1902), a member of the family that nearby McCowan Road is named after. Many of the furnishings were made by hand by the occupants themselves. Smaller objects such as kitchen utensils and other metal tools are also on display.

KENNEDY GALLERY

The gallery is housed in a 1920s tractor garage relocated from Lyman Kennedy’s farm in Agincourt. The building was renovated to serve as an exhibit space and multipurpose activity room. Renovations incorporated flooring and interior wainscoting salvaged from the historic Malvern Methodist Church, which was built in 1864 and demolished around 1975.

HOUGH CARRIAGE WORKS

The Hough Carriage Works is a two-storey frame building built around 1856. The building displays a collection of equipment and artisans’ tools that demonstrate the importance of transportation when Scarborough was still a rural community. On the first floor, the wagon parts were built and assembled while on the second floor, the paint and finishing touches were applied.

4 TOTEM POLE

Directions: Find the map of the park on a sign next to the museum and locate the picnic areas. Follow the wide paved road toward Picnic Area B. Once you reach Picnic Area B, continue walking straight ahead to find the bridge and Picnic Area C. A bridge over Highland Creek is located on the right hand side of the gazebo. Cross the bridge and you will find another small bridge on the left hand side. Pass the small bridge and find the totem pole on your left in the open field area.

This totem pole is modelled after one that stands in the Royal Ontario Museum. It was made by James A. (Bert) Small and donated by him to the park in honour of the 1967 centennial celebrations. Small is a visual artist and member of the Ontario Society of Artists and Painters Guild, B.C. He works mostly in watercolour painting, as well as sculpture and woodcarving.
5) **SEXTON’S HOUSE, 115 ST. ANDREWS RD.**

**Directions:** Pass the gazebo in Picnic Area D, across from the totem pole. Walk across the open area and up a small flat hill on the far left side that leads to St. Andrews Road. Turn right and follow St. Andrews Road heading east until you reach a small white building known as the Sexton’s House.

**Note:** Private property, observe from the street only.

The Sexton’s House is part of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, where the churchyard caretaker lived. The wood board house was built in 1883 and was restored by the Scarborough Historical Society. It is now part of a valuable historic site that dates back to early European settlement in Scarborough.

6) **ST. ANDREWS ROAD**

**Directions:** Continue north and turn right on St. Andrews Road.

This winding, narrow road follows the path of West Highland Creek and travels through what was once the Thomson Settlement, which was considered the first European settlement in Scarborough and consisted of mills and homesteads. The historic buildings that line this road date back a century and a half and transport you to Scarborough’s early days.

7) **ST. ANDREWS CHURCH CEMETERY, 115 ST. ANDREWS RD.**

**Directions:** Past the Sexton’s House you will reach St. Andrews Church Cemetery.

**Note:** Active church and cemetery, please be respectful.

St. Andrews Church Cemetery sits on land that was once part of the Thomson family farm. There are several tombstones from the 1800s in this cemetery. Locate the plaque commemorating the Thomson Settlement on a tombstone-style cairn in the cemetery.

8) **ST. ANDREWS CHURCH AND CENTENNIAL LIBRARY, 115 ST. ANDREWS RD.**

**Directions:** Next to the cemetery is St. Andrews Church, as well as Centennial Library. Walk across the cemetery to the other end and exit from the metal gate that leads to the parking lot of the church.

The congregation began in 1818, and is the oldest congregation in the former City of Scarborough. The original church structure was made of wood and erected in 1819 and was called the Presbyterian Church in Scarborough, led by Richard Thomson, Colin Drummond, Andrew Thomson and David Thomson. In 1849, the congregation replaced the wooden structure with the brick, Gothic-Revival architectural style building we see today.

The Scarboro’ Centennial Memorial Library was built in 1896 to mark the 100th anniversary of the opening of the township. The first land grant was issued in 1796, but the land wasn’t settled until three years later when David and Mary Thomson arrived. In 1955, the library’s members established the Centennial Library as a free public library, which continued to operate until the building of the new Bendale Library Branch in 1961. Look for the library building on the northeast side of the church.

9) **SPRINGFIELD FARMHOUSE, 146 ST. ANDREWS RD.**

**Directions:** Continue walking east on St. Andrews Road and you will find James Thomson’s house on the left side of the road.

**Note:** Private property, observe from the street only.

The Springfield Farm was established in 1802 by Andrew Thomson, a native of Dumfrieshire, Scotland and brother to Scarborough’s first white settler, David Thomson. Andrew Thomson’s son, James, acquired the land in 1839, and in 1840, built this house with stones gathered from the nearby fields and brick made from local clay. James Thomson was one of the founders of the first public library in Scarborough. He was elected as its first librarian and later became its president. Today, this farmhouse is the oldest remaining brick dwelling in Scarborough.
10) **TABOR HILL OSSUARY, 525 BELLAMY RD. N.**

**Directions:** From McCowan Road, turn right and head south. Make a left on Lawrence Avenue and head east. Make a left on Bellamy Road. Tabor Hill Ossuary will be on your right.

The Tabor Hill Ossuary is a Wendat burial ground that dates back to the 13th century. The Wendat is a confederacy of Iroquoian-speaking nations and this burial ground contains the remains of approximately 475 Iroquoian peoples who were buried communally through the Wendat Ceremony, Feast of Souls. The burial site was discovered when farm lands were developed into residential properties in 1956. It has been connected with the Wendat Village located nearby on Highland Creek (see #6 on page 34).

11) **POETRY IS PUBLIC IS POETRY AT CEDARBRAE LIBRARY (2010), 545 MARKHAM RD.**

**Directions:** Go back to Lawrence Avenue and turn right to head east. Turn right on Markham Road to get to Cedarbrae Library. There is a parking lot behind the library.

The library originally opened in 1966 as the Cedarbrae Regional Library, and in 2010 was renovated to better serve the surrounding community with updated facilities and technology for programming, and special events. As part of the renovation, an installation of three lines from Rosemary Sullivan’s poem Exile was mounted in bronze lettering on the walkway to the library. The poem reads: “a man packed a country/ in a suitcase with his shoes/ and left.” Poetry is Public is Poetry is an initiative of the City of Toronto Cultural Services and Transportation Services in partnership with the Toronto Public Library and the Toronto Public Library Foundation.

12) **SECOR CAIRN, 20 STEVENWOOD RD.**

**Directions:** Head south on Markham Road and make a left on Stevenwood Road, one block south of Cedarbrae Library.

Secor Cairn was erected in 1938 and is a large stone monument that contains 12 gravestones, mostly of the Secor family. The cairn marks a family burial ground, with the earliest recorded burial in 1819. It was erected in memory of Peter Secor, the first Reeve of the Township of Scarborough, who was a local official and council president in 1850.

13) **MASARYK MEMORIAL INSTITUTE, 450 SCARBOROUGH GOLF CLUB RD.**

**Directions:** Continue on Stevenwood Road and turn right onto Confederation Drive. Take the second right onto Scarborough Golf Club Road. You will see the sign for Masaryk Memorial Institute.

Masaryk Memorial Institute is a not-for-profit, charitable organization offering a number of programs and activities that promote and preserve the Czech and Slovak heritage in Canada. It was established by those who fled the oppressive regimes in their countries; fascism in the 1940s and then communism in the 1950s and 1960s.

Nearby is Crucified Again, a sculpture of a tortured man crucified on a hammer and sickle, a symbol of Soviet oppression. The monument was created by sculptor Josef Randa and unveiled on Czechoslovak Day in 1989.

14) **NATIVE TREES OF TORONTO, UTILITY BOX MURAL (2018), SCARBOROUGH GOLF CLUB ROAD AND MARCELLA STREET**

**Directions:** Head north on Scarborough Golf Club Road and cross to the east side at Marcella Street. The utility box is on the northeast corner.

This beautiful and educational public art piece was painted by Jasmin Liu and highlights the diversity of tree species native to Toronto. The depiction of each leaf is numbered and matches the list of tree species at the bottom on each side.
CEDAR RIDGE CREATIVE CENTRE, 225 CONFEDERATION DRIVE.

**Directions:** Go back south on Scarborough Golf Club Road and turn left onto Confederation Drive. Continue on Confederation Drive east and turn right on Tingle Crescent to access the Cedar Ridge parking lot. Follow the driveway to the main building.

Cedar Ridge Creative Centre is a vibrant City-run arts hub housed in a 1912 historic mansion, nestled within picturesque gardens. The main house features the Cedar Ridge Gallery, which is run in partnership with the Cedar Ridge Studio Gallery to highlight contemporary artists, local community arts groups and more. The upper floor of the house, as well as the adjacent Carriage House, consists of working studio spaces where engaging, hands-on creative arts programs are offered for all ages. The nearby cottage is home to the summer artist residency program and the Community Arts Guild. Behind Cedar Ridge Creative Centre is a nature trail that connects with a formal paved path in Highland Creek Park and leads to Morningside Park.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
The Community Arts Guild creates multidisciplinary art connecting those separated from each other through language, culture, age, income, ability and distance. They work with residents and organizations in east Scarborough to make artwork exploring puppetry, theatre, music, installation, writing, textile art and more. In 2018, the Community Arts Guild brought their mobile installation INTERLACING to different sites in north and central Scarborough as a Signature Project of the Cultural Hotspot. A 10’ x 5’ loom was set up in parks, parking lots, libraries and storefronts, where the public could weave their personal and collective memories creating a timeline of Scarborough’s history.

**Useful Information**
- Cedar Ridge Creative Centre: toronto.ca/cedarridge
- Community Arts Guild: communityartsguild.ca
- First Story Toronto: firststoryblog.wordpress.com
- Masaryk Memorial Institute: masaryktown.ca
- Miller Lash House: millerlashhouse.ca
- Mural Routes: muralroutes.ca
- Poetry is Public is Poetry: poetryispublic.ca
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- Scarborough Museum: toronto.ca/scarboroughmuseum
- Scarborough Rib Fest: scarboroughribfest.com
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- Toronto Public Library: torontopubliclibrary.ca
- VIBE Arts: vibearts.ca

**Sources**
- Cedar Ridge Creative Centre
- City of Toronto
- First Story Toronto
- Heritage Toronto
- Masaryk Memorial Institute
- Poetry is Public is Poetry
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Scarborough Museum
- StreetARToronto
- Toronto Parks
- Toronto Public Library
- VIBE Arts

**Photos**
- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
- Community Arts Guild
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Scarborough Museum
TOUR 3: COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN EAST SCARBOROUGH

Location: West Hill, Highland Creek
Interests: Art, Culture, History
Estimated: 1.5 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

This tour takes you to the urbanized areas around Highland Creek in West Hill. Centuries ago, the land in this area was covered in forest, but today only about six percent of the watershed remains forested. In West Hill, you will see sites that showcase the arts and community organizations that support this diverse and growing community. Crossing into Highland Creek, you can find historic structures and symbols of community pride in the murals that have been painted, many of which celebrate the nature of Highland Creek. You will also tour the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus and see the art and architecture that make this campus an exceptional space for students.

Getting to the tour start:

From Kennedy Station, take the 21 Brimley bus or the 131 Nugget bus northbound to Lawrence Avenue East. Switch to the 54A Lawrence East bus and head east to Orton Park Road. Walk east. The building complex is to your right. Continue to walk east through the driveway alongside Lawrence Avenue East. The mural is located on the east-facing wall of the complex. If walking, please start at destination #6.

From Highway 401, exit southbound on Morningside Avenue. Continue south and turn right to head west on to Kingston Road. Continue west until you reach Orton Park Road. From the left turn lane, turn to head east on Lawrence Avenue East and take your first right into the driveway of the building complex. Take your first left and drive to the northeast side of the building. The mural is located on the east-facing wall near Lawrence Avenue East.

1 LAWRENCE ORTON MURAL (2016), 3941 LAWRENCE AVE. E.

This mural was painted by artists Ted Hamer, Skratch Won and Rowell Soller, and depicts the natural environment intersecting with the built environment. Many native species to the area are featured in the mural, including a blue jay and red fox. Colourful lettering reads Lawrence Orton with local buildings emerging from the top. This mural was created in partnership with StreetARToronto, Park People, Toronto Community Housing Corporation and SKETCH.

2 LAWRENCE AVENUE BRIDGE

Directions: It is best to walk on the Lawrence Avenue Bridge to see the stenciled murals spanning its walls. Continue walking east over the bridge. If driving, park at destination #3 and walk back westward to view the stencil murals.

Look over the bridge’s railing for a spectacular view of the Highland Creek Watershed and enjoy a view of nature in the city. The bridge’s walkway walls are painted in...
stenciled murals created by local youth, led by artists Rob Matejka and Tara Dorey as part of a Mural Routes project that ran over two summers in association with the Bridging Festival. The Bridging Festival was an arts and culture festival organized by Scarborough Arts and local community organizations, which sought to bring two distinct local communities together – The Kingston-Galloway and Orton Park neighbourhoods that are physically separated by the bridge. Head down the path on the northeast side of Lawrence to see murals painted on the pillars below the bridge.

3) EAST SCARBOROUGH STOREFRONT, 4040 LAWRENCE AVE E.

**Directions:** Continue east on Lawrence Avenue East. The East Scarborough Storefront will be on your left. Park your car in the lot and walk inside for a closer look.

Founded in 2001, East Scarborough Storefront is a partnership of community groups and social service agencies working together to create a thriving community in East Scarborough. They moved to their current building in 2007, which is a repurposed police station with cells used as offices. The Storefront’s Service Hub hosts organizations delivering their programs and services free of charge to residents of Kingston Galloway and Orton Park community. The Hub offers services such as employment, legal, social and youth services, just to name a few.

On the adjacent properties of the Storefront are three murals painted as part of the Tower Neighbourhood Renewal program in 2017. The project set out to improve personal and community wellbeing through inclusive design processes and creative use of space. The murals stretch from the ground to the tops of the buildings. They are colourful and use geometric shapes that form an image reminiscent of leafy branches or feathers. The project was supported by StreetARToronto, the Toronto Foundation and Friends of the Pan Am Path Art Relay Program.

4) SCARBOROUGH CHILD AND FAMILY LIFE CENTRE (RICHARD EADE HOUSE), 156 GALLOWAY RD.

**Directions:** Continue on Lawrence Avenue East and turn right to go south on Galloway Road.

The historic Richard Eade House is now home to Native Child and Family Services of Toronto’s Scarborough Child and Family Life Centre. In 2011, the Scarborough Child and Family Life Centre built an extension onto the existing Victorian building to better serve its community members. The extension is designed to be responsive to the needs of the community and for culturally specific use. It includes a long curving structure with large expansive windows. The environmentally-friendly and sustainable design is composed largely of renewable wood building materials and includes a geothermal heating system and a rainwater collection system that filters run-off pollutants before water reaches the ground. The extension is connected to the two-storey Gothic architectural style house that originally belonged to the Eade family, who came to Scarborough from England and settled in the area in 1877.

The Scarborough Child and Family Life Centre offers a wide variety of programs for Indigenous children, youth and adults in Scarborough. Their services and programs are based on the Medicine Wheel, incorporating a balance of all four elements: spiritual, psychological, emotional and physical.

5) ST. MARGARET-IN-THE-PINES, 4130 LAWRENCE AVE. E.

**Directions:** Head north on Galloway Road and turn right onto Lawrence Avenue East. Turn left into the parking lot of St. Margaret-in-the-Pines Church.

St. Margaret-in-the-Pines was the first Anglican Church in Scarborough built in 1833. A brick parsonage was built on six acres adjoining the churchyard in 1857 and provided a comfortable home for successive clergy for 100 years. The original wooden church, destroyed by fire in 1904, was replaced in 1905 by the small brick building still standing in the cemetery (pictured here). Today, a
new larger church building serves the congregation, built in 1961 in the Mid-Century Modern style. Its simple design uses natural materials and clean lines, such as the steep-gabled roof and impressive wooden-vaulted ceiling. The building is also home to St. Margaret’s Tamil Anglican Church.

Walking Tour Starts

6) RICHARDSON-CORSON HOUSE,
21 OLD KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Turn left onto Lawrence Avenue East. Continue east and turn left to head north onto Kingston Road. Continue east on Kingston Road and turn right onto Old Kingston Road.

The house, built in the Queen-Anne style, is named for John Hunter Richardson, who was instrumental in establishing the West Hill Post Office and Dr. Corson, an early settler to the area. In 1896, Richardson became Scarborough Township’s treasurer and built this new house in 1904 on the lot adjacent to his family’s original dwelling.

7) RICHARDSON HOUSE,
27 OLD KINGSTON RD.

Directions: This destination is located just north of Richardson-Corson house.

The Richardson family, who moved to Scarborough from Ireland, owned this house. The first storey of this house was built out of wood in 1824 and the second storey was added later when the wood was bricked over around 1860. This house is a very good example of the eclectic Upper Canadian vernacular style with influence from the Picturesque and Gothic Revival traditions.

8) MILLER LASH HOUSE,
130 OLD KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue east on Old Kingston Road and then turn left at the University of Toronto Sign. Follow the driveway toward Miller Lash House.

Note: Site visit is by appointment only.

EXPLORE MORE

HIGHLAND CREEK
Highland Creek Valley runs from just north of Toronto, down through Scarborough to Lake Ontario. The landscape was once blanketed in forest, but has changed over the years due to human activity. Despite periods of logging, agriculture, and urbanization, many large natural environment areas have been preserved and are home to sensitive flora and fauna species. The largest forested area in Highland Creek Valley is in Morningside Park, which is home to many forest species, including red foxes and white-tailed deer. In the fall, Morningside Park offers views for watching the salmon run up Highland Creek.

To learn more about wildlife and plant species in the area, see the Wildlife Activity on page 117.

9) U OF T SCARBOROUGH (UTSC)

Directions: Continue east on Old Kingston Road and turn left on Military Trail Road to the UTSC campus. If driving, the parking lot will be on your right.

In 1964, Scarborough College, part of the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Arts and Science, was founded. Today, it is a satellite
campus of the University of Toronto (U of T) and
and was originally designed by U of T Professor and
renowned Australian architect John Andrews, who is
best known in Canada for designing the CN Tower.
The Scarborough Campus is known for its architecture,
with excellent examples of Brutalist and Modernist style
buildings, as well as many innovative contemporary
structures, making the campus a very inspiring place
for students.

10 INTERREGNUM: CORNER
DISPLACEMENT FOR JOHN ANDREWS
(2011), UTSC INSTRUCTIONAL CENTRE,
1095 MILITARY TRl.

**Directions:** Start at the UTSC
Instructional Centre on the northwest
corner of Ellesmere Road and
Military Trail. Once you walk into the
atrium, look straight ahead to find
Interregnum.

Located in the Instructional Centre,
the geometric sculpture responds to
and complements the architectural
features of the building. It was
designed by Daniel Young and Christian Giroux. Young
and Giroux were the recipients of the prestigious Sobey
Art Award in 2011.

11 ANDREWS BUILDING, 1265 MILITARY TRl.

**Directions:** The Andrew’s Building is located on the
south side of Ellesmere Road off Military Trail.

The Andrews Building, designed by renowned
Australian architect John Andrews (see #9),
attracted worldwide

12 LEIGHA LEE BROWNE THEATRE,
1265 MILITARY TRl.

**Directions:** Enter the Andrews Building. You are now
in the Science Wing. Walk along the long hallway until
you reach a set of doors at the end. At the end of the
Science Wing you will find an elevator that takes you
down to Leigha Lee Browne Theatre.

The Leigha Lee Browne
Theatre, named in honour of an
inspirational drama instructor
at UTSC, has been a public
performance venue since
1993. From concerts by world-
renowned musicians to student
performances of contemporary
theatre, the Leigha Lee Browne Theatre serves as an
important hub for arts and culture at UTSC.

13 GALLERY 1265, 1265 MILITARY TRl.

**Directions:** Go back along
the hallway and reach the
big open space called the
meeting place. Go down
to the lower level.

Gallery 1265 is a student gallery run under the
supervision of the Arts Management Specialist
program at UTSC. Gallery 1265 is committed to
providing dedicated exhibition space and learning
opportunities for student artists, curators and arts
managers. Admission is free and the gallery is open to
the public.
A TALL COUPLE

Directions: Use the glass doors beside Gallery 1265 to leave the building and reach the H-wing patio in the perennial gardens.

A Tall Couple, created by Louis Archambault (1915–2003), is a bronze sculpture that was commissioned for Expo 67 in Montreal. It was later donated to UTSC by the House of Seagram, a sponsor of the Canadian Pavilion at Expo 67. The sculpture uses abstracted, modernist forms, which complement the modernist buildings of the campus. It was the first artwork to be acquired for the Doris McCarthy Gallery Permanent Collection, which now has over 1,600 contemporary artworks by Canadian and international artists.

DORIS MCCARTHY GALLERY, 1265 MILITARY TRL.

Directions: Walk back to where you entered the Andrews Building. When you exit the building, you will find a building with the UTSC bookstore (Bladen Wing) on your right. Enter the Bladen Wing and to find Doris McCarthy Gallery on your left.

Doris McCarthy Gallery is a professional art gallery dedicated to the collection, presentation and dissemination of contemporary art in all media. It strives to showcase Canadian and international artists of exceptional merit at all stages of their careers from diverse backgrounds within carefully considered curatorial contexts. See #3 on page 107 to learn more about Doris McCarthy.

HIGHLAND CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL, 1410 MILITARY TRL.

Directions: Head southeast on Military Trail past Gladys Road. The historic school is on your left.

This building has operated as a public school for over a century. Originally built in 1918, the two-room school served both the West Hill and Highland Creek communities. More rooms were added in 1940s and 1950s. The original section in the front was completed by building company John C. Morrish and Sons and masons Roger and William Pearce. The Morrish and Pearce families had a great impact on the building of the Highland Creek Village, including W.J. Morrish Store (now the Scarborough Archives), as well a number of inns, stores and schools.

CREEKSIDE MURAL, 277 OLD KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue south on Military Trail and turn right onto Old Kingston Road. Find the mural on the south side of the street.

The bright and beautiful mural, designed by Emily Harrison, assisted by Peter Rahul and painted with nine youth artists, is a permanent piece of public art created to welcome visitors entering south Scarborough from the east. The nature-themed mural design celebrates the flora and fauna for which the Highland Creek area is well known. The mural design was inspired by the research and art of a local intergenerational group who took part in Mural Routes’ Step x Step: Intro to Mural Art program in 2014. It was created by Mural Routes as one of the Signature Projects of 2014 Cultural Hotspot.

FRAMING DAMES, 362 OLD KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue on Old Kingston Road heading east and find Framing Dames on north side of the road.

Framing Dames is a custom picture-framing shop that specializes in three-dimensional objects, needlework, shadow boxes, museum framing and much more. It carries an array of art supplies, offers art classes and runs a small privately-run gallery space.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN HIGHLAND CREEK MURAL (1994), 382 OLD KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue on Old Kingston Road. The mural is to your left on the east wall of the strip mall facing the neighbouring cemetery.

Painted by artist John Hood, this mural depicts a scene of members of the community working together to build an addition to the Wesley Methodist Chapel in winter 1867. Today, the church building is no longer there, but the cemetery remains.
20. THE AMAZING TED’S RESTAURANT,
404 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue east past the cemetery. Amazing Ted’s Restaurant will be on your left.

Ted Petkoff, founder of Ted’s Restaurant in Highland Creek, was born in Eastern Europe and immigrated to Canada in 1904. Ted took over a local business, Crockford’s Variety Store, and then moved to a new concrete building in 1954, which was named Ted’s Variety and Coffee Shop. He had numerous contracts at the local schools to run their cafeterias until 1972. He sold his diner-style restaurant and the owners kept the name Ted’s. The restaurant is now known as “Amazing Ted’s,” and has continued to serve the Highland Creek neighbourhood for over 50 years. The restaurant is also a popular backdrop for film and television, including The Handmaid’s Tale, Orphan Black and Pushing Tin.

21. SCARBOROUGH ARCHIVES,
6282 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Head east on Old Kingston Road and continue onto Kingston Road. The Scarborough Archives is at Meadowvale Road on the northwest corner. To park, turn onto Meadowvale Road and find the small parking lot behind the building.

Note: Site visit is by appointment only.

The Scarborough Archives is operated by the Scarborough Historical Society, which has been serving the Scarborough community since 1956. It strives to preserve, study and stimulate an interest in the history of Scarborough. The beautiful building, which the Scarborough Historical Society calls home, was originally constructed as a general store and residence for a prominent merchant in Highland Creek, William J. Morrish. Visit this historical architectural gem and hear fascinating stories about the building. The Scarborough Archives has items that you may examine in person, including local newspapers from the 1880s and historic photographs.

EXPLORE MORE

PASSAGE TO PORT UNION (2016),
5500 LAWRENCE AVE. E.
The Passage to Port Union mural was created by lead Artist Allan Bender of Blinc Studios, who worked with the Centennial Community and Recreation Association and local experts to develop a historical timeline of the Port Union community, from pre-settlement to the present day. Several volunteers and six additional artists (John Nobrega, Azadeh Pirazimian, Jesse McCuaig, Frances Potts, Chris Brown, and Melissa Bessey) worked with Bender to cover over 2,400 square feet with the detailed design. The large wall behind the Centennial Plaza is located adjacent to the Port Union Community Recreation Centre, lending colour and history to a busy community hub. The project was produced by Mural Routes, in partnership with the Centennial Community and Recreation Association and StreetARToronto.

DID YOU KNOW?

Historian and writer Rella Braithwaite moved to the Port Union neighbourhood near the intersection of Lawson Road and Centennial Road in 1946, and her family became one of the first Black families in Scarborough. She is descended from one of the largest Black settlements in the province, located near Waterloo, which was formed in the 19th century and settled by people who had escaped slavery on the underground railway.

Rella Braithwaite is known for her contributions to the research and publication of Black history in Canada. She published a book called The Black Woman in Canada in 1975, and worked with teachers on a Black Studies Guide for students in 1978. She played an important role in the formation of the Canadian Negro Women’s Club and National Congress of Black Women.

Rella Braithwaite has received many honours, including recognition in Who’s Who in Black Canada; Scarborough Bicentennial Civic Award; Kay Livingston Award, Congress of Black Women; Accomplishment Award, Association of Black Women; and Black Woman of the Year, Negro Colour Guard.
Useful Information

- Doris McCarthy Gallery: utsc.utoronto.ca/~dmg/
- East Scarborough Storefront: thestorefront.org
- Framing Dames: framingdames.ca
- Gallery 1265: gallery1265.com
- Leigha Lee Brown Theatre: facebook.com/Leigha-Lee-Browne-Theatre-at-UTSC
- Mural Routes: muralroutes.ca
- Native Child and Family Services of Toronto: nativechild.org
- Park People: parkpeople.ca
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca.ca
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- UTSC: utsc.utoronto.ca

Sources

- City of Toronto
- Doris McCarthy Gallery
- Framing Dames
- Highland Creek Connect
- Metroland Media
- Mural Routes
- Native Child and Family Services of Toronto
- Park People
- Scarborough Historical Society
- StreetARToronto
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto District School Board
- Toronto Parks
- UTSC

Photos

- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
- Matt Forsythe
LOOP 3
TOUR 1: ART DISCOVERY TOUR

Location: Birchcliff, Birchmount Park, Cliffside, Scarborough Village
Interests: Art, History
Estimated: 2 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

South Scarborough is home to a number of beautiful murals, turning the entire area into an outdoor art gallery. Painted over the past two decades, the murals celebrate history, community and nature across the Scarborough area.

Getting to the tour start

Take subway Line 2 to Warden Station and transfer to the 68 Warden bus northbound. Take the bus four stops to Upton Road. Walk approximately 75 metres south on the east side of Warden

From Highway 401, exit southbound on Warden Avenue. Continue on Warden south of Eglinton. Turn left into the small parking lot at YouthLink.

1. PUZZLE MURAL (2012), 747 WARDEN AVE.

This mural was painted on Youthlinks’ exterior in 2012 by Mural Routes as part of the Leadership Training in Mural Making program. Elaine Teguibon developed the concept of the mural, which uses puzzle pieces to represent the links and connectivity of people, communities and organizations. It was painted by artists Rob Matejka, Elaine Teguibon, Tara Dorey and Raymond Cho with support from youth employment program artists.

2. BOMB GIRLS AND SCARBORO JUNCTION (2014), WARDEN AVE. AND ST. CLAIR AVE.

Directions: Head south on Warden Avenue and turn left onto St. Clair Avenue East. The mural is located on the north and south side of St. Clair on an underpass just east of Warden Avenue. If driving, park at Warden Subway Station.

Painted by Canadian street artist Omen, this StreetARToronto and Mural Routes collaboration pays homage to Scarborough’s history. The north wall, Bomb Girls, honours women who worked in a nearby munitions plant during the Second World War. Built and run by the General Engineering Company (GECo), the plant was located south of Eglinton Avenue between Birchmount Road and Warden Avenue. The south wall, Scarboro Junction, pays tribute to Scarborough Junction’s historical sites, including the Everest & Sons General Store and the Scarborough Junction Station built in 1873.
DID YOU KNOW?
In 1946, to meet the large demand for housing with the postwar baby boom, a few of the GECo buildings, mainly on Civic Road (south of Eglinton between Warden Avenue and Birchmount Road), were converted into temporary housing for returned soldiers and their families. A few years later, many of those people were transferred into the newly built Regent Park housing development in downtown Toronto.

3) METAMORPHOSIS (2011), 74 FIRVALLEY CT.

**Directions:** Head back west on St. Clair Avenue East and turn left to head south on Warden Avenue. Continue south on Warden and turn right on Firvalley Court and then right into the parking lot.

Metamorphosis is based on the themes of change and transformation. Situated at the entrance, it brings positivity to the community centre. Lead artist Tara Dorey and Mural Routes’ artists led local youth in a series of stencil-making workshops to create the images of the stages of a butterfly’s life and transformation, in addition there are silhouetted natural scenes in the walkway’s inner walls. Visiting artist Redzuan Salleh, from Singapore, designed and painted the outer wall with the help of local youth.

4) FLIGHT (2003), 395A DANFORTH ROAD

**Directions:** Continue south on Warden Avenue and turn left on Danforth Road. Just before you reach Birchmount Road, turn right into the parking lot on the south side of Tim Hortons.

Flight explores themes of migration, transition and change – inspired by the migration of the monarch butterfly. This mural was created from several wood panels, which were put together like a puzzle. It was created as part of the Mural Routes Summer Youth Mural Program and painted by artists Thea Chow, Rob Matejka, Fathima Mohiudden, Katy Mulla and Minal Patel.

5) WARDEN UNDERPASS MURAL (2013)

**Directions:** Head back west on Danforth Road and turn left on Warden Avenue. Look out for the mural on Warden Avenue at the rail underpass, just south of Danforth Avenue.

Created by Mural Routes in partnership with the City of Toronto, this underpass mural was painted by artist De Anne Lamirande to celebrate Scarborough history. The west wall shows the iconic Bluffs and Elizabeth Simcoe, the woman who gave Scarborough its name, while the east wall depicts the historic Bell Estate. The Bell Estate is a cut fieldstone house built in 1830 for the Thornbeck family. It was sold to the Bell family in 1882, who went on to establish Bell’s Scarboro dairy on the property, which served much of the local neighbourhood. Birch trees fill the south centre column and oak trees fill the north centre column, a symbolic joining of the Birch Cliff neighbourhood and Oakridge community.

Walking Tour Starts

**BIRCH TREE MURALS TOUR**

Through two different mural projects, the Birch Cliff neighbourhood has many birch tree-themed murals. Look at the blue-coloured markers on the map to find the birch tree murals from projects such as the Birch Cliff Community Mural project and the Bell Box Mural Project. The Birch Cliff Community Mural Project was developed by members of the community seeking to bring a sense of pride to the Birch Cliff neighbourhood. The idea was to “reforest” the community giving the area a unique identity.

6) GIANT BIRCH TREE (2012), 1445 KINGSTON RD.

**Directions:** From the underpass, head south on Warden. When you reach Kingston Road, you will see Giant Birch Tree on the apartment building at the southeast corner of the intersection.

This mural was created as a part of Birch Cliff Community Mural Project. Mural Routes artist Rob Matejka designed the mural and artists Tara Dorey and Anthony Delacruz, with youth artists, painted this larger-than-life birch tree in a realistic style.
7) BELL BOX MURAL (2016),
LYNN ROAD AND MANDERLY DRIVE

Directions: Walk one block north on Manderly Drive to Lynn Road. Find the mural on the southwest corner of the intersection.

The birch tree motif in this mural by Ruth Hurdle, incorporates beautiful fall foliage into its design. Look closely to find letters on the tree trunks, which spell out the street name Lynn.

8) THE WHITE STAG (2016),
1535 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Walk back to Kingston Road and cross to the south side of the street. Walk one block east on Kingston Road to Valhalla Boulevard. Look for the mural on the west side of Valhalla south of Kingston Road.

Painted as a part of the Bell Box Murals Project, artist Ted Hamer was inspired by stories of the white stag, a mythical being that will lead to profound consequences to those that see it. The white stag, with golden antlers, sits in a birch forest in autumnal colours.

9) LITTLE GEM (2012), 1564 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Walk one block east on Kingston Road to Kildonan Drive. Look across to the north side of Kingston Road at the intersection to find Little Gem.

Artist Tara Dorey painted this mural as a part of Birch Cliff Community Mural Project continuing the birch tree motif. Here you’ll see birch trees backed by forest and framed by soft blue sky.

10) BIRCHES AT SUNSET (2015),
1647 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue walking east on Kingston Road for two blocks to Birchcliff Avenue. Find the mural on the west side of the building.

This mural of birch trees bathed by the setting sun was painted and designed by artist Tara Dorey, and assisted by Emily Harrison and five youth employed at Mural Routes for the summer, as a part of Birch Cliff Community Mural Project.

11) BELL BOX MURAL (2013),
KINGSTON ROAD AND BIRCHCLIFF AVENUE

Directions: Look for the mural on the southwest corner of Kingston Road and Birchcliff Avenue.

Birch trees backed by a rural landscape and farmhouses brings this Bell utility box, by Emily Harrison, to life.

12) BIRCH FOREST (2013),
1650 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Cross the road to the north side of Kingston Road. Birch Forest is on the northwest corner of Kingston Road and Birchcliff Avenue at Birch Cliff Public School.

Designed by artist Rob Matejka and painted by Mural Routes’ youth artists, with support from StreetARToronto and Birch Cliff Public School Parent Council, the mural features three-storey-tall birch trees covering the east wall of the school.

13) BIRCHES AND BLUFFS (2014),
1674 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Walk east on Kingston Road and look out for this mural on the left.

The two-storey mural on the storefront features birch trees and the nearby Scarborough Bluffs. Painted by Tara Dorey, this mural was created by Mural Routes with support from StreetARToronto.
14 **WELCOME TO BIRCH CLIFF (2013), 1720 KINGSTON RD.**

**Directions:** Walk east on Kingston Road and look out for this mural on the left in a small parking lot.

Celebrating the beautiful birch trees and the Scarborough Bluffs, this is another mural in the Birch Cliff Community Mural Project created by Mural Routes and designed by Anthony Delacruz.

\~ Birch Tree Tour Ends

15 **SCARBOROUGH RIFLE COMPANY (1991), 1577 KINGSTON RD.**

**Directions:** Turn back west on Kingston Road on the south side. Look for the mural on Kildonan Drive on the west wall of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 13.

Artist John Hood painted this mural as a tribute to the Scarborough Rifle Company, a 19th century militia. In 1862, the company was headquartered in a school building on Eglinton Avenue near Markham Road. It was the first of several militia companies formed in York County and saw active service on the Niagara frontier three times from 1865 to 1866, defending Canada against the Fenians, an Irish Republican organization that targeted British army forts in Canada to pressure Britain to withdraw from Ireland. The Scarborough Rifle Company later became the No. 1 Company of the 12th Battalion of Infantry, the forerunner of the Queen’s York Rangers. The mural was restored in 2010 by Alan Bender.

16 **SCARBOROUGH ARTS, THE BLUFFS GALLERY, MURAL ROUTES AND MONARCH BUTTERFLY MURAL, 1859 KINGSTON RD.**

**Directions:** Head east on Kingston Road. Scarborough Arts is located on the south side past Birchmount Road.

A non-profit, local arts service organization, Scarborough Arts brings individuals and groups together to create and cultivate innovative arts and cultural programs in Scarborough. Step inside to see artwork by local and emerging artists in the Bluffs Gallery, run by Scarborough Arts.

Scarborough Arts led a Signature Project for the 2018 Cultural Hotspot, which celebrated central and north Scarborough, and involved touring a large-scale Scarborough Sign, modelled after the Toronto Sign located at City Hall, to various sites around Scarborough to promote community pride.

Also located at this site, Mural Routes is responsible for the majority of the murals in Scarborough, including many of those featured on this tour. Mural Routes is the only member-based, not-for-profit, arts service organization in Canada dedicated to the creation, development and promotion of public wall art.

Two monarch butterfly murals adorn the building; one on the front door and the other on the garage door at the rear of the building, facing the parking lot. These murals were painted in 2003 by Mural Routes youth artists as a training exercise in preparation for creating the Flight mural (see #4). Enjoy the butterfly garden created by artist B.C. Johnson planted around the building.

17 **SUSTENANCE: WESTERN GATEWAY (2014), KINGSTON ROAD UNDERPASS**

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road on the south side past Glen Everest Road. Look to the left at the underpass to find this mural.

**Note:** If you are driving for this portion of the tour, it is best to park your car at Rosetta McClain Gardens (5 Glen Everest Rd.) to see this mural. If you are walking or cycling, be careful as there is a lot of traffic on Kingston Road.

Sustenance is one of two gateway murals created as a Signature Project of the 2014 Cultural Hotspot. This beautiful mural, created by Bill Wrigley, focuses on the community’s relationship with the bluffs overlooking Lake Ontario and the natural flora and fauna that thrive in the region. There is a focus on the migration of birds and butterflies. The Cathedral Bluffs are depicted on the left and the Scarborough Bluffs on the right. It was created in partnership with Mural Routes, StARToronto and the Cultural Hotspot.
**18. Scarborough War Memorial, 2190 Kingston Rd.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road. Look to the left to find the Scarborough War Memorial at the intersection of Kingston Road and Danforth Avenue.

The Scarborough War Memorial, constructed of limestone and bronze, is one of the oldest monuments in the south Scarborough area. It was erected in 1931 to honour soldiers fallen during the First World War. It was unveiled by Fleet Admiral Earl Jellicoe and Ontario Premier George S. Henry. Subsequent memorial plaques were added to honour those who fought in the Second World War and the Korean War.

**19. H.M. Schooner, Onondaga C. 1793 (1992), 2340 Kingston Rd.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road. The mural is located on the north side of Kingston Road, east of Sharpe St.

Painted by Jeff Jackson in 1992, this mural celebrates the Onondaga, a ship that was built near Kingston in 1790, and served as flagship of the Provincial Marine until her retirement seven years later. This was the ship in which Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe and his wife Elizabeth sailed across Lake Ontario, from Niagara-on-the-Lake to the town of York (now Toronto), to establish the capital of Upper Canada (now Ontario).

**20. Spooner’s Garage (1992), 2348 Kingston Rd.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road. The mural is depicted on two facing walls.

These two murals, painted by Phillip Woolf, depict Spooner’s Garage, an automobile garage, at two different times in its history: in 1926 and 1947. The owner of the garage, Art Spooner, sustained the business during the Great Depression in the 1930s by supplementing the business with driving lessons, a 24-hour towing service and even a restaurant.

**21. The Bluffs as Viewed by Elizabeth Simcoe C. 1793 (1992), 2378 Kingston Rd.**

**Directions:** Continue east on the north side of Kingston Road. Look for this mural on the wall of a small parking lot on the left.

Painted by artist Risto Turunen, the mural depicts the Scarborough Bluffs rising from Lake Ontario, with a small boat below, which represents the boat from which Elizabeth Simcoe, wife of Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe, first saw the bluffs. She was so impressed after seeing the bluffs that she convinced her husband to name the area after a town in England with similar looking cliffs. She wrote in her diary on August 4, 1793 “...after rowing a mile we came within sight of what is named in the map the highlands of Toronto. The shore is extremely bold and has the appearance of chalk cliffs... we talked of building a summer residence there and calling it Scarborough.”

**22. Cliffside Golf Course (1991), 2435 Kingston Rd.**

**Directions:** Continue walking east on Kingston Road. Cross to the south side of Kingston Road at Sandown Avenue. Find this mural less than a block south of Kingston Road on Sandown Avenue.

This area used to be the site of a golf course. The Cliffside Golf Club was started in 1931 by George McCordick, when he converted an old farmhouse into a clubhouse. It was closed in 1950 as new housing and commercial development spread along Kingston Road. The golf club had a beautiful view of Lake Ontario. The mural was painted by Dan Sawatzky and restored in 2011 as part of Mural Routes’ leadership training program.

**23. Chrysalis (2004), 2446 Kingston Rd.**

**Directions:** Looking northeast from the intersection of Kingston Road and Sandown Avenue will give you a good view of Chrysalis, located on the second floor of 2446 Kingston Rd.
Working with themes of metamorphosis, transition and migration, members of a Scarborough storyteller group, Bluffers Tales, told a series of stories that celebrate the experiences of community members who immigrated to Canada. The artists incorporated these stories into the mural. The monarch butterfly is a central figure in the mural; a physical representation of metamorphosis. Chrysalis was created by Mural Routes, painted by artists Leah Burns, Katy Mulla and Ellen Bleiwas.

24 HALF WAY HOUSE (1990), 2502 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Walk back to the north side of Kingston Road and continue east. The mural is located on the east wall of the building, just before Midland Avenue.

Created by John Hood, Half Way House depicts an inn of the same name that stood at the corner of Kingston Road and what is now Midland Avenue. Half Way House was a rural stage coach stop halfway between the village of Dunbarton and the St. Lawrence Market in Toronto. The building served many purposes before being moved to Black Creek Pioneer Village in 1965.

Walking Tour Ends

25 GREETING TO TANIPERLA (2001), 2685 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue to drive east on Kingston Road and turn right on Brimley Road. The mural is located in the field behind the Scarboro Mission at 2685 Kingston Rd.

Greeting to Taniperla, initiated by the Red Tree Collective, is a re-creation of a mural painted in Chiapas, Mexico in 1998 by a group of Mayan villagers and later destroyed by Mexican armed forces. The imagery of the original Taniperla mural reflected on Tzeltal Mayan traditions and portrayed ideals of community life. In an act of solidarity, the mural of Taniperla has also been re-created in the towns of Rosario and Bariloche in Argentina. The Toronto project draws attention to the struggle in Chiapas and to issues affecting our own Indigenous communities. Painted by artists Lynn Hutchinson, Claire Carew, Raffael Iglesias, Shelley Niro, Hannah Claus, Sady Ducros with Scarborough youth.

26 IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS (1996), 2835 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Continue to drive south on Brimley Road and make a left on Barkdene Hills. Make a left on Eastville Avenue and drive north towards Kingston Road. The mural is located in a parking lot of a plaza on the southeast corner of Eastville Avenue and Kingston Road.

This commemorative mural, painted by Phil, Jennifer and Jamie Richards, depicts passengers boarding a radial car at Stop 17 on the Toronto and York Radial Line, which was located at the nearby junction of St. Clair Avenue and Kingston Road. In the background is Scarborough High School, now R.H. King Academy, which was built in 1922. The mural blends symbols of Scarborough’s rural heritage with its development, with both a horse-drawn wagon and cow depicted alongside and a radial car and gas-powered truck. This mural was a Scarborough Bicentennial project, initiated by the Cliffcrest Community Association and managed by Mural Routes.

27 ARTS BEYOND THE ROAD, 2882 KINGSTON RD.

Directions: Head back south on Eastville Avenue and turn left on Sloley Road. Make a left on Harewood Avenue and drive north passing Kingston Road. You will find this mural behind the building.

Artist Lauren Kuzyk designed this mural to be inclusive, so that painters of all levels and experience were able to contribute. This beautiful rainbow-coloured mural represents the Scarborough Bluffs. This mural was created as a SPARK Project of Cultural Hotspot as part of Arts on the Road: The Kingston Road Creative Walk 2014. Arts Management students from R.H. King Academy worked together under the direction of Lauren Kuzyk.
Useful Information
- Bell Box Murals Project: facebook.com/bellboxmuralsproject
- Birch Cliff Community Mural Project: facebook.com/birchcliffmurals
- Mural Routes: muralroutes.ca
- Scarborough Arts: scarborougharts.com
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart

Sources
- A Space Gallery
- Bell Box Mural Project
- Mural Routes
- Scarborough Arts
- Scarborough Historical Society
- StreetARToronto

Photos
- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
- Mural Routes
Location: Oakridge, Birchmount
Interests: History, Culture, Nature
Estimated: 2 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

This area is home to many independent businesses, historic homes and gathering spots. There is a rich past in these communities, with some of Scarborough’s first buildings. Today, this area is a vibrant part of the Scarborough community, enriched by public art, murals, community organizations and more.

Getting to the tour start:

Take the subway to Victoria Park Station. Your first destination is on the platform.

Take the Don Valley Parkway southbound and exit to go eastbound onto Eglinton Avenue East. Continue east and turn right onto Victoria Park Avenue. Continue south and turn left into the station parking lot, just north of Danforth Avenue.

1 VICTORIA PARK STATION, 777 VICTORIA PARK AVE.

The Victoria Park Subway Station opened in 1968. It was one of only two subway stations to be found in Scarborough at the time. Victoria Park was also the second elevated subway station on the network.

2 WARDEN WOODS PARK, 125 PHARMACY AVE.

Directions: Turn right onto Victoria Park Avenue and then make another right onto Denton Avenue. Follow Denton Avenue east to head north on Pharmacy Avenue and turn right into Warden Woods Park.

The township of Scarborough acquired Warden Woods from the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1959. This thickly forested park escaped the clear-cut logging of much of the surrounding area and follows Taylor Massey Creek. It is home to a mature forest and wildlife, and features the Gus Harris Trail, which is named after Scarborough’s fifth mayor. Follow the path to see the park’s sand banks, which have been left exposed since a glacier formed the valley 12,000 years ago.

To learn more about wildlife and plant life in Scarborough, see the Wildlife Activity on page 117.
3) **OWL MURAL (2014), 3206 DANFORTH AVE.**

**Directions:** Turn back south on Pharmacy Avenue to Danforth Road. The mural is on the northeast side of the intersection.

Painted in early 1976 on the wall of MacMillan Auto Sales, the owl mural was a familiar neighbourhood landmark. The owner of MacMillan painted the original owl to go along with the then tagline of the business: “make the wise choice.” Over time, the condition of the mural deteriorated. Artist De Anne Lamirande collaborated with the new building owner, Gary Bintsis, and painted Wise Owl to keep the neighbourhood icon. Lamirande incorporated the original tree and owl into a new colour scheme.

4) **GREAT HORNED OWL MURAL, 3333 - 3349 DANFORTH RD.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road on the south side to August Avenue. The mural is on the east wall of the building complex.

Painted by Magicfinnga WonG, the mural depicts a great horned owl. Below the owl are a number of circular images that include cosmos, landscapes and depictions of fish and feathers painted in the West Coast Art style.

5) **POLLINATION OF OAKRIDGE MURAL (2016), 3300 DANFORTH AVE.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Danforth Avenue. Find the mural at the northeast corner of Danforth Avenue and Byng Avenue.

Artist De Anne Lamirande’s inspiration for the mural on the wall of Chopstick Foods lies in her appreciation of the environment. She believes sharing art with the community inspires others and creates involvement. Bees and a monarch butterfly were incorporated in the design to bring awareness to saving these species. Lilies are a tribute to the owner of Chopstick Foods, Lili. A community event was also a part of this mural as area residents and children added their own brush strokes to the mural. It was created with support from the Crossroads of the Danforth BIA and StreetARToronto, and was selected as best mural by the Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas.

6) **OAKRIDGE PARK, 3459 DANFORTH AVE.**

**Directions:** Continue east. You will find Oakridge Park on the south side of Danforth.

Oakridge Park is a gathering spot in the community with a baseball diamond, a multipurpose sports field, splash pad and a children’s playground. Annually, the local Crossroads of the Danforth BIA organizes Wheels on The Danforth and Festival in the Park, a summer festival featuring classic cars, hot rods and motorcycles, entertainment, a bicycle tour, children’s area, marketplace and more.

**EXPLORE MORE**

**MANN COACH HOUSE, 1253 KINGSTON RD.**

**Note:** Private property, observe the house from the street only.

Mann Coach House was a gatehouse to the north of Donald Mann’s mansion. While Mann’s house burned down in the 1930s, the gatehouse remains and is in use to this day. Donald Mann was a Canadian railway contractor and entrepreneur. Partnering with William Mackenzie, he built railway lines in western Canada, the United States, Brazil and China. In 1895, Mann and Mackenzie began purchasing and building the lines in western Canada which would later become the Canadian Northern Railway (CNoR), a system that would stretch from Vancouver Island to Cape Breton Island and form Canada’s second transcontinental railway system.
**7) BANK OF COMMERCE/COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1660 KINGSTON RD.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Danforth Avenue and turn right to head south on Warden Avenue. At Kingston Road, turn left to walk east to Birchcliff Avenue. The destination is on the north side of Kingston Road.

Scarborough Council had meetings on the second storey of this building from 1922 to late 1940s, when Scarborough was still incorporated as a township. It was soon after, that Scarborough became a part of Metropolitan Toronto and then later amalgamated into the City of Toronto in 1998. This building serves as a reminder that from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century, Scarborough was a separate municipality from the City of Toronto with its own representatives and council. Today, Scarborough Community Council, comprising of Toronto City Councillors in Scarborough wards, meets at the Scarborough Civic Centre.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

In 1927, a group of entertainers began the Variety Club in Pittsburgh, which helped other entertainers and supported civic initiatives. In 1928, the theatre manager of the Sheridan Square Theatre found an infant named Catherine abandoned in the theatre, and the Variety Club members acted as guardians to support her until she was adopted at the age of five. The group continued to help children in need, and now it is a multinational children’s charity with 14,000 members in 14 countries.

**8) BIRCHMOUNT FIRE HALL (SCARBOROUGH FIRE DEPARTMENT MUSEUM), 351 BIRCHMOUNT RD.**

**Directions:** Continue east on Danforth Avenue and left on Birchmount Road. At Birchmount Road and Highview Avenue, find Birchmount Fire Hall on the right side.

Birchmount Fire Hall was the first fire hall in Scarborough. It was built in 1925, housing the township’s first fire department and the first police department. Today it is recognized as a historic site, which houses a museum to preserve the local firefighting history. The museum collection can be viewed by appointment.

**9) VARIETY VILLAGE, 3701 DANFORTH AVE.**

**Directions:** Go south on Birchmount Avenue to Danforth Avenue. Cross to the south side and continue east on Danforth Avenue.

This sports, health and fitness centre is open to all members of the community. A central focus of Variety Village is to help young people with disabilities and those who face developmental barriers through integrated sports, life skills programs and other activities. A Toronto-based Variety Club opened Variety Village over 65 years ago as a vocational and training school and residence for youth. Then in 1981, Variety Village reopened its doors as a world class indoor sports facility with adapted physical education, swim classes, track and field, basketball court, thre-tiered Children in Motion activity program and more.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

In 1927, a group of entertainers began the Variety Club in Pittsburgh, which helped other entertainers and supported civic initiatives. In 1928, the theatre manager of the Sheridan Square Theatre found an infant named Catherine abandoned in the theatre, and the Variety Club members acted as guardians to support her until she was adopted at the age of five. The group continued to help children in need, and now it is a multinational children’s charity with 14,000 members in 14 countries.

**10) SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS REFRESHMENT ROOM, 171 MIDLAND AVE.**

**Directions:** Head east on Danforth Avenue and continue onto Kingston Road to Midland Avenue. The destination is on the southeast corner.

Scarborough Bluffs Refreshment Room, commonly known as Stinson’s Shop, is a Scarborough landmark. In the late 19th century, Cliffside, the area between Kingston Road and Lake Ontario, became a popular recreational destination. In response, commercial buildings were developed and transit lines were improved in the area. Scarborough Bluffs Refreshment Room was opened by Albert Stinson in 1903. It received a heritage designation in 2008, as it is a rare surviving building connected to the recreational and transportation history of Scarborough and has a wood-frame structure, dormers and windows typical of the time.
11 COATES HOUSE, 68 CHINE DR.

**Directions:** Continue heading east on Kingston Road and make a right on Chine Drive. Fred Coates House is on the right side of the road.

**Note:** Private property, observe it from the street only.

This is the home of two Canadian artists, Frederick and Louise Coates. Frederick Coates was born in 1890 and moved to Canada in 1913. He worked as a model-maker, sculptor and an art director at Hart House Theatre. His large linocut mural can still be seen at the theatre lobby. Louise Coates was born in 1889 and she was Frederick’s lifelong collaborator. The couple built and lived in this medieval cottage-style house overlooking the Scarborough Bluffs. They were known to host masquerades and theatrical and musical performances in their house. When Frederick Coates first purchased the lot, Chine Drive was largely undeveloped. There is a wooded ravine running to the west, which the southern portion of the street follows to its end.

12 ST. AUGUSTINE’S SEMINARY, 2661 KINGSTON RD.

**Directions:** Head east on Kingston Road. Find Saint Augustine’s Seminary immediately past Chine Drive to your right.

**Note:** Private property, observe it from the street only.

In 1890, the idea was conceived to build a seminary, which would provide English-speaking priests to parishes throughout Canada. After various fundraising campaigns, construction of St. Augustine’s Seminary was begun in 1910. Completed three years later and able to accommodate 100 students, the seminary was dedicated on August 28, 1913. St. Augustine’s became not only the first seminary in English-speaking Canada but also the first institution of higher education in Scarborough. The building is in the Beaux Arts style with influences from the Renaissance Classical tradition.

DID YOU KNOW?

On July 1, 1893 the Toronto and Scarborough’ Electric Railway, Light and Power commenced operating an electric street railway or “Radial Car” line from Queen Street East to Blantyre Avenue, east of Victoria Park. The line opened as part of Canada Day (then called Dominion Day) celebrations, and 12,000 tickets were sold for the first day. Although it is doubtful that all of the ticket holders rode the radial that day, Toronto’s Archbishop did get a turn. In 1898, the route was relaid, and over the next decade continued to stretch eastward to West Hill, becoming the Scarboro Division of the Toronto & York Radial Railways in 1904. In 1921, the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) replaced the line with its streetcar service to Birchmount Road. While the radial extended to West Hill, this section between Birchmount and Eglinton closed in 1936 and was never reestablished by the TTC.

13 HERITAGE MINUTE: MOTELS OF KINGSTON ROAD (2018), KINGSTON ROAD AND BRIMLEY AVENUE

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road to Brimley Avenue. The utility box will be on the southwest corner at Brimley Avenue and Kingston Road. As you head east, look out for the motels along Kingston Road.

This utility box mural, painted by artist Kyla Ross as part of StreetARToronto’s Outside the Box Program, depicts the signs of the areas many well-known motels, some of which still remain today. Kingston Road’s centuries-old history as a travel route resulted in many inns and taverns being built along the road. By the 1950s, motels replaced many of the old inns because of the prevalence of the car and the trend in road-tripping. Also due to its proximity to the Scarborough Bluffs, the motel business on Kingston Road was booming. But by the 1980s, with new major highways established nearby, the motels lost business. Many of the motel buildings were then co-opted by the City for use as overflow housing from the City’s shelter system and as transitional housing for newcomers to Canada.
14 SCARBOROUGH VILLAGE THEATRE, 3600 KINGSTON RD.

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road to Markham Road. The building is located on the north side. Enter the building off Markham Road.

Scarborough Village Theatre is home to Theatre Scarborough, which consists of three theatre companies: Scarborough Players, Scarborough Music Theatre and Scarborough Theatre Guild. Theatre Scarborough has managed the shared theatre space for over 35 years. However, the history of the companies dates back even further. Scarborough Theatre Guild was formed in 1959 and ten years later moved into an old church on Denton Avenue. They were soon joined by Scarborough Players, who also formed in 1959. Scarborough Music Theatre evolved out of the Church of the Master Senior Choir’s concerts in the early 1960s.

15 UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ARTICLE #27 MURAL (2008), 3600 KINGSTON RD.

**Directions:** Continue east on Kingston Road. The mural is located off Kingston Road on the south side of the building.

Created in summer 2008 by local youth, this mural symbolizes the evolution of community as it celebrates strength and diversity through creative participation. The mural includes a map of the world and people engaged in a number of arts and creative activities. It is part of Amnesty International’s Project Urban Canvas and pays homage to Article #27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: “Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.”

16 CORNELL CAMPBELL HOUSE, 3620 KINGSTON RD.

**Directions:** Continue on Kingston Road and find Cornell Campbell House on the right.

The Cornell and Campbell families had a significant impact on the development of Scarborough. William Cornell, a descendant of a Rhode Island colonist who came to America in 1736, settled here on two lakefront-lots in the forest in 1799. With other pioneers he cut out a road, which later became Kingston Road, planted the first orchard and built the first grist (grain) and saw mill in the township. His descendants continued to make notable contributions to the development of Scarborough. Edward Cornell was a member of the township’s first municipal council in 1850. James G. Cornell served as Reeve (1913-1919), Warden of York County, and trustee of Scarborough’s first high school (1920-1932). In 1944, the old farm house became the home of Helen Campbell, a Cornell descendant, and her husband Albert M. Campbell, who served as Reeve of Scarborough (1957-1966), Mayor (1967-1969) and chairman of the Metro Toronto Council (1970-1973).

17 WASHINGTON MANSE, 14 CENTRE ST.

**Directions:** Head east on Kingston Road. Make a right onto Eglinton Avenue East and head west to Centre Street to reach the Washington Manse.

Washington Manse is also called Washington Parsonage or Chester House. It was built in 1875 and enlarged in 1893. This was the first parsonage built by the Washington Methodist congregation in Scarborough. The building is a 19th century Gothic Vernacular structure.

**EXPLORE MORE**

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB EAST SCARBOROUGH PILLARS, 4301 KINGSTON RD.**

You can see a series of murals painted onto the pillars of the fence that stretch across this large property on Kingston Road. The mural is part of Amnesty International’s Project Urban Canvas and depicts Article 24: “Everyone has the right to rest and leisure.” It depicts images of people reading, gardening, and relaxing on a beach. The project was a partnership between POR AMOR and the Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough.
Useful Information

- Birchmount Fire Hall Museum: scarboroughfirefighters.org
- Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough: esbgc.net
- Crossroads of the Danforth BIA: crossroadsbia.ca
- Project Urban Canvas: urbancanvas.aito.ca
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart
- Theatre Scarborough: theatrescarborough.com
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- Variety Village: varietyvillage.ca

Sources

- Birchmount Fire Hall Museum
- Crossroads of the Danforth BIA
- Heritage Toronto
- Scarborough Historical Society
- St. Augustine’s Seminary
- StreetARToronto
- The Torontoist, Motels Along Kingston Road Tell the Story of Scarborough
- Toronto Parks
- Toronto Transit Commission
- Variety Village

Photos

- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
- Kyla Ross
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Scarborough Village Theatre
- Toronto Public Library
Tour 3: Lakeside Parks

Location: Birch Cliff, Scarborough Bluffs
Interests: Nature
Estimated: 1.5 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle

The lakeside parks along this tour are one of the most defining and most recognizable features of Scarborough. Explore idyllic Rosetta McClain Gardens, spectacular Bluffer’s Park and Doris McCarthy Trail, which support many native trees, plant life as well as hundreds of species of animals and birds.

Getting to tour start

Go to Warden Subway Station and take the 12 Kingston Road bus south to the Glen Everest Road stop. Cross to the south side of Kingston Road and enter the park.

From Highway 401, take the Brimley Road exit southbound. Continue south and turn right onto Kingston Road. Pass Glen Everest Road to the park entrance.

1. **Rosetta McClain Gardens, 5 Glen Everest Rd.**

   Offering a spectacular view of Lake Ontario from the top of the bluffs, Rosetta McClain features rose gardens and a rock fountain surrounded by a large pergola with vines. There are many benches throughout the park for you to sit on and enjoy the surroundings. There are over 100 species of birds that have been spotted in the park. It is the only park in Toronto that has plaques on the trees to identify their name and species. Walk to the west side of the park to find the plaques.

   To learn more about wildlife and plant life in Scarborough, see the Wildlife Activity on page 117.

   **Insider Tip:** The gardens are the southernmost point of a network of eleven parks along the Scarborough Bluffs.

2. **Bluffer’s Park, 1 Brimley Rd. S.**

   **Directions:** Exit Rosetta McClain Gardens and head east on Kingston Road to Brimley Road. Turn right on Brimley Road and follow it to Bluffer’s Park.

   Bluffer’s Park is a south Scarborough gem. There are activities for the whole family, including fishing from the shore, hiking, birdwatching, picnicking and more. The bluffs stretch for about 14 kilometres along the Lake Ontario shore. Follow the trails to enjoy both the beach and the bluffs’ geological treasures. When you reach the end of the trail, look up to the west to find the most photographed point of Bluffer’s Park and enjoy the magnificent and jutting edges of the bluffs.

   The Scarborough Bluffs are made up of 11 distinct parks, some of which offer a spectacular view of Lake Ontario, marina and the beach. Popular photo spots include the lookout point at Cathedral Bluffs Park and Scarborough Bluffs Park. Cathedral Bluffs Park is the highest point of the bluffs standing 90-metres above the shore. This lookout is accessible when walking east from the south end of Broadmead Avenue. To access the Scarborough Bluffs Park lookout, walk south from the south end of Scarboro Crescent.
3) FOOL’S PARADISE, 1 MEADOWCLIFFE DR.

**Directions:** Head north on Brimley Road and turn right on Kingston Road to head east. Turn right onto Pine Ridge Drive. Turn right again onto Meadowcliffe Drive and follow it to the end.

Doris Jean McCarthy was born in 1910 in Calgary, Alberta and spent more than 70 years living in her home atop the Scarborough Bluffs, affectionately named Fool’s Paradise. In 1939, McCarthy bought 12 acres overlooking the Bluffs. McCarthy’s mother called the property a “fool’s paradise” because she thought the purchase was an excessive spend for the then young art teacher. But after designing and building the home, completed in 1946, it became a symbol of her creativity. Fool’s Paradise nurtured McCarthy’s artistic process and she wanted to give other artists an opportunity to live and work at the site that fostered so much of her own artistic expression. To that end, she bequeathed Fool’s Paradise to the Ontario Heritage Trust, which established the Doris McCarthy Artist-in-Residence Centre. This unique, living and working incubator for visual artists of all disciplines offers privacy and an opportunity for creative concentration. Fool’s Paradise is occasionally open to the public for events such as Door’s Open Toronto.

McCarthy graduated from the University of Toronto Scarborough in 1989. Although she travelled to and painted in five continents, she is best known and celebrated for her Canadian landscapes. She was a beloved artist, writer and teacher and through her body of work and the legacy of Fool’s Paradise, she continues to inspire a generation of Canadian artists.

Named after the acclaimed Scarborough artist (see #3), the trail follows Bellamy Ravine and combines some of Doris McCarthy’s favourite things: art, nature and the Canadian landscape.

The trail follows nearly 24 hectares of ravine and descends about 90 metres in elevation from the top of the Scarborough Bluffs down toward Lake Ontario. While some sections of Bellamy Creek have been channelized in engineering projects, much of the creek is also a natural stream. The area is largely populated by native tree species like white and yellow birch, American beech, white oak and sugar maple, and is home to a diversity of wildlife including white-tailed deer, beavers, foxes and coyotes. There are also over one hundred species of birds that have been spotted on the trail.

To learn more about wildlife and plant life in Scarborough, see the Wildlife Activity on page 117.

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Gates Gully, now known as Bellamy Ravine, is part of the Doris McCarthy Trail extending from Kingston Road to Lake Ontario. During the 1830s, it was known as a harbour for smugglers from the United States avoiding import taxes on tea, tobacco and contraband. The trail was located behind Gates Inn and Tavern, built by early settler Jonathan Gates in 1820. The inn was a favourite of Scarborough militia that fought William Lyon Mackenzie’s rebels in the Upper Canada Rebellion.

4) DORIS MCCARTHY TRAIL, RAVINE DRIVE AND BELLEHAVEN CRESCENT

**Directions:** Head back to Kingston Road and turn right to head east. Take the next right onto Ravine Drive. The entrance to the trail is on your right.

Passages, by Marlene Hilton Moore, celebrates Doris McCarthy. Passages is a steel sculpture inspired by the rib cage of a fish and the ribs of a canoe. The sculpture is part of a series celebrating people and places linked together by the theme of passage – a fish’s passage through water, a canoe’s passage through our environment. The interior base depicts an architectural scale ruler, with a stylized end resembling Ontario’s provincial flower, the trillium.
THE SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS

**Directions:** Turn to the right to see the Scarborough Bluffs from the trail below.

The Scarborough Bluffs are a geological treasure and one of the most iconic sites in Scarborough. Layers of sand and clay expose a geological record of the last stages of the Great Ice Age. Many fossils of plants and animals have been discovered in the sediment on the first 46 metres, which formed around 70,000 years ago. On top of this sediment, 61 metres of alternating layers of clay and sand reveal the alternating timeline of glaciers advancing and retreating until about 12,000 years ago.

The parks that make up the Scarborough Bluffs stretch from Rosetta McClain Gardens to East Point Park and contain meadow, forest, beach and wetland habitats. The parks are home to a number of unique plant and wildlife species. The Scarborough Bluffs are a crucial stopover site for migrating birds, providing food and shelter to birds that are resting before and after their seasonal migration over Lake Ontario. While enjoying the trails along Scarborough’s lakefront, keep an eye and an ear out for birds and other wildlife.

Learn more about plant life and wildlife in Scarborough on page 117.

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**Useful Information**
- Ontario Heritage Trust: heritagetrust.on.ca
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca.ca
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks

**Sources**
- Ontario Heritage Trust
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto Parks

**Photos**
- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
Tour 4: Arts in the Guild Tour

Location: Guildwood
Interests: Art, History
Estimated: 1.5 hours
Type: Walk, Cycle, Drive

The history and development of the Guildwood area is tied to an early artists colony established in the 1930s. This tour will take you to many of the sites associated with the artists’ colony and its founders, Rosa and Spencer Clark, who also had a large impact on the development of this neighbourhood.

Getting to tour start:

From Kennedy Subway Station, take the 116 Morningside bus to the Guild Inn East bus stop.

From Highway 401, take the Markham Road exit southbound. Turn left onto Ellesmere Road and then right onto Scarborough Golf Club Road. Continue south on Scarborough Golf Club Road and turn left onto Kingston Road and then right onto Guildwood Parkway. Follow the winding Guildwood Parkway to Guild Park and Gardens. Turn right into the parking lot.

Did you know?

After the Second World War, Rosa and Spencer Clark sold over 400 acres to be developed as the Guildwood Village subdivision, which officially opened in 1957. The Clarks had a clear vision for the subdivision, which included environmentally responsive residential developments, making Guildwood unique in Toronto. For example, homes were planned around existing, mature trees and wires were placed underground to keep the look of the community as natural as possible. The grand gates to the subdivision on Kingston Road were originally forged in England in 1839 for Toronto’s Stanley Barracks, which was located west of Fort York where the Canadian National Exhibition is now. The barracks were demolished in 1953 and the gates relocated to Scarborough as the grand entrance to Guildwood Village.
2) **THE GUILD INN ESTATE (BICKFORD HOUSE), 201 GUILDWOOD PKWY.**

**Directions:** Enter the park and walk south to the main building.

General Harold Child Bickford purchased the property in 1914, named it Ranelagh Park Country Estate and built the well-known Bickford House. Today, the Bickford House is a designated heritage property, and considered an excellent example of early 20th Century Period Revival style with Arts and Crafts detailing.

In 1932, Rosa and Spencer Clark founded the Guild of All Arts after Rosa purchased 450 acres of land. The Guild of All Arts, mainly located in the Bickford House, was an artist colony that contained a shop, a tea room, and studios in fine art and craft, including painting, sculpture, hand loom weaving, tooled leather, ceramics, metal work, wood carving and batik. After the war, the Clarks expanded the colony to include a hotel, restaurant and formal gardens. The area became known as the Guild Inn or the Guild.

During Toronto’s building boom that began in the 1960s, many historic 19th and 20th century downtown buildings were demolished. As an advocate for architectural preservation, Spencer Clark recovered many of these buildings’ facades and architectural features and displayed them on the grounds of the Guild. The park and monuments were sold to the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority in 1978. The hotel continued to be run by Spencer Clark until 1983.

Today, the Bickford House has been restored and is home to the Guild Inn Estate, a restaurant, banquet hall and event space.

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3) **SCULPTOR’S CABIN, GUILD PARK AND GARDENS**

**Directions:** The Sculptor’s Cabin is located on the east side of the parking lot.

The Sculptor’s Cabin was built in 1940 by Danish wood sculptor Aage Madsen. It is the last remaining example of one of the many cabins built to house artists for the Guild of All Arts. Over the years, it has been home and studio for many sculpture artists. Local Scarborough artist Dorsey James carved the Norse mythology ornamentation on the face of the building in 1979.

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4) **THE CLARK CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, 191 GUILDWOOD PARKWAY**

**Directions:** The Clark Centre for the Arts is located on the west side of the Guild Inn Estate.

The Clark Centre for the Arts, opening in 2020, is a City-run creative centre that offers arts studios, a hallway gallery and multipurpose space. Formerly known as Building 191, it was designed and built in 1963 for use as administrative offices and storage for the Guild of All Arts. While the two-storey concrete block and steel structure is very plain, it is ornamented by two large bas-relief panels from the historic 1938 Globe and Mail building and the Marguerita stone originally from the University Avenue Armouries built in 1891.

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5) **THE GREEK THEATRE, GUILD PARK AND GARDENS**

**Directions:** Follow the path south of the Guild Inn Estate in the direction of Lake Ontario.

The Clarks built an open-air theatre from remnants of the historic Bank of Toronto building, which was demolished around 1960. The stage is adorned with eight limestone columns, and Corinthian capitals and arches that were repurposed from the façade of the building. Today, the Greek Theatre is used for events all year round and animated by the Guild Festival Theatre in the summer.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

During the Second World War, the Canadian government leased the Guild Inn and surrounding property and turned it into a training base for the Women’s Royal Naval Service (WRENS). The hotel served as a military hospital for victims of posttraumatic stress disorder. The arts and craft facilities provided therapeutic rehabilitation for the service personnel undergoing treatment there.
DID YOU KNOW?

There are many architecture fragments that trace the history of Toronto. Look for the Temple Building fragment. When the original building first opened in downtown Toronto, it was one of Toronto’s first skyscrapers and was the highest building in the British Empire. It housed the office of the Independent Order of Foresters (IOF) at the time that Dr. Oronhyatekha (1841-1907), a Mohawk physician and scholar, was the Chief Ranger of the organization. The building was demolished in 1970, but you can still see this history reflected in the ornate IOF initials that are carved in the red sandstone blocks under the moose’s head.

LOG CABIN, GUILD PARK AND GARDENS

Directions: Continue south past the Greek Theatre and turn right to head west on the path. The cabin is on your right.

The log cabin was built in approximately 1850. It is commonly referred to as the Osterhout Cabin. The site was provisioned to William Osterhout in 1805, but the property exchanged hands many times before the cabin was even built. It was later purchased with the property by Rosa and Spencer Clark, and modernized to be used as an artist residence and studio at the Guild of All Arts. It was last occupied by sculptor Elizabeth Fraser Williamson, who used the cabin as a studio into the 1990s. Today, the cabin is part of the Clark Centre for the Arts, operated by the City of Toronto, Arts Services.

Useful Information

- Friends of Guild Park: guildpark.wildapricot.org
- Guild Festival Theatre: guildfestivaltheatre.ca
- Guild Inn Estate: guildinnestate.com
- Guild Renaissance Group: guildrenaissancegroup.com
- Guildwood Village Community Association: guildwood.on.ca
- Ontario Heritage Trust: heritagetrust.on.ca
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca/parks
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks

Sources

- Carole M. Lidgold, The History of The Guild Inn
- Friends of Guild Park and Gardens
- Guild Festival Theatre
- Guild Inn Estate
- Guild Park and Gardens Resource Group
- Guildwood Village Community Association
- Heritage Toronto
- Ontario Heritage Trust
- Scarborough Historical Society
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto Parks

Photos

- Ann Brokelman
- City of Toronto
- Dave Teixeira
- Jesse Hildebrand
- SimonP
Wildlife Activity

Scarborough is home to a number of beautiful natural environments stretching from Steeles Avenue East to Lake Ontario, including forests, ravines, beaches and aquatic habitats. Many of the parklands have been designated as Environmentally Significant Areas and are protected from development and environmental degradation because they support a wide range of wildlife. Diverse plant and wildlife populations make places like the Rouge River Valley, Highland Creek Valley and the Scarborough Bluffs true ecological treasures.

Home to the largest urban park in North America, as well as many greenspaces and corridors, everyone is invited to enjoy the outdoors in Scarborough. Many of Scarborough’s parks such as the Finch East Corridor, the Meadoway, L’Amoreaux North Park and Rosetta McClain Gardens have accessible paths through forested and garden areas. There are many opportunities to explore recreational activities, with many parks offering sports facilities, campgrounds and hiking trails. We encourage you to be respectful of these greenspaces.
**Birds**

American Robin  
Baltimore Oriole  
Blue Jay  
Downy Woodpecker  
Gold Finch  
Great Horned Owl  
Hermit Thrush  
King Fisher  
Mute Swan  
Northern Cardinal  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Red-winged Blackbird

**Animals and Insects**

American Bullfrog  
Black Saddlebag Dragonfly  
Coyote  
Eastern Chipmunk  
Eastern Cottontail  
Garter Snake  
Monarch Butterfly  
Opossum  
Raccoon  
Red Fox  
Red Squirrel  
White Tail Deer
A big part of celebrating Scarborough’s creativity, community and culture is reveling in the community’s delicious and diverse food. **HOT Eats** highlights restaurants, cafés and bakeries in Hotspot neighbourhoods and with all of the Cultural Loops touring you’ll need to stop for a bite, before you head out again. **HOT Eats** features over 70 Scarborough eateries, and is home to the city’s most diverse food – you can be sure to find a wide variety of cuisines. Indulge your taste buds at the following Scarborough **HOT Eats** restaurants listed below.

**LOOP 1**

**AKA-ONI RAMEN & IZAKAYA**
633 Silver Star Blvd.
416-298-3828
akaoni.ca
Aka-Oni is a cozy restaurant in north Scarborough that offers a wide range of Japanese food, such as sushi rolls and ramen and a large selection of sake from Japan.

**ANDY’S FISH & CHIPS**
3341 Markham Rd.
416-754-3999
andysfishandchips.com
A small family restaurant and bar specializing in fish and chips and Chinese dishes such as chow mein and Singapore noodles.

**BEEF NOODLE RESTAURANT**
4271 Sheppard Ave. E.
416-297-1581
facebook.com/BeefNoodleRestaurant
Proudly serving a combination of Chinese, Cantonese, and Taiwanese cuisine for over 28 years, Beef Noodle Restaurant offers delicious, authentic Asian flavours.

**BLACK GOLD CAFE**
2101 Brimley Rd.
416-725-9931
cafeblackgold.com
Black Gold Cafe is a hip and elegant espresso bar with fresh French pastries, and healthy brunch options in an elegant atmosphere perfect for dates and one-on-one meetings.

**CHAPLUS BUBBLE TEA**
3250 Midland Ave.
647-345-8225
cha-plus.com
Chaplus offers fruity, homemade tea drinks made from fresh ingredients. Try the Hong Kong-style flavoured waffles and real fruit green teas.

**CHRIS JERK CARIBBEAN BISTRO**
2570 Birchmount Rd.
416-297-5375
facebook.com/ChrisJerkCB
Famous for their jerk shawarma, this popular bistro combines Caribbean and Middle Eastern flavours.

**CONGEE TOWN**
1571 Sandhurst Crcl.
416-321-8899
congeetown.com
Congee Town serves authentic Chinese dishes in the heart of Scarborough. They welcome large parties and events.

**CROWN PIZZA**
2901 Markham Rd.
416-291-0001
halalcrownpizzaca.com
Serving Halal pizza and sandwiches, Crown Pizza is best known for their famous Philly Steak sandwich.

**DOSA RAMA**
2901 Markham Rd.
416-743-9191
dosa-rama.com
Dosa Rama is a north Scarborough spot for vegetarian South Indian cuisine.

**FAT BASTARD BURRITO CO.**
2575 Victoria Park Ave.
416-792-4880
fatbastardburrito.ca
Fat Bastard Burrito offers a broad menu exclusive to burritos, quesadillas and tacos.

**FENG CHA**
3278 Midland Ave.
647-352-6668
feng-cha-tea-shop.business.site
This is the first Feng Cha store in Canada, offering customers healthier desserts such as low-sugar teas and freshly-baked bread.

**FLAMING KITCHEN**
3250 Midland Ave.
647-938-2189
Flaming Kitchen serves up an enormous menu of modern Chinese sizzling noodles, rice and appetizer dishes. Their mentaiko beef udon and popcorn chicken come highly recommended.

**HONEY B HIVES**
2816 Markham Rd.
416-292-6499
Honey B Hives is your north Scarborough late night eats destination. Serving all day breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and open until 3 a.m. every night.
CULTURAL HOTSPOT

LE SPOT BILLIARD LOUNGE
4531 Sheppard Ave. E.
416-298-2888
lespotbilliard.com
Le Spot is the local hangout place especially for those who love these three things: pool, beer and wings.

MARKHAM STATION RESTAURANT
5117 Sheppard Ave. E.
416-299-4141
markhamstation.com
Family restaurant serving all-day breakfast and late night bites 24/7.

NICEY’S EATERY
2290 Markham Rd.
416-321-9991
niceys.ca
Nicey’s brings the taste of the Caribbean to your table. Customers can also enjoy a nice lunch out on their patio.

NIRALA SWEETS & RESTAURANT
2818 Markham Rd.
416-291-7232
niralasweetsandrestaurant.ca
Offering Pakistani, Indian and Bengali-inspired cuisine and the perfect atmosphere for intimate family dinners.

PIZZA LA ROSA
2555 Victoria Park Ave.
416-551-7672
pizzalarosa.com
Voted as Toronto’s #1 Halal Pizzeria by BlogTO, Halal Foodie and People’s Choice for their fresh Halal pizzas.

SAM WOO BBQ RESTAURANT
375 Bamborough Crcl.
416-491-3034
This casual spot has drawn crowds for Chinese barbecue for over 25 years, including char siu, roast duck and dumplings.

SARAVANAA BHAVAN
1571 Sandhurst Crcl.
416-293-7755
saravanabhavan.ca
A gateway to the flavours of India offering the best of North and South Indian cuisines. The chain of restaurants is now spread over 66 branches across the globe.

SHARETEA
3272 Midland Ave.
647-797-4646
1992sharetea.com
Sharetea serves authentic Taiwanese drinks, including bubble tea, milk teas, fruit teas, ice-blended slushies and more.

SHAWARMA TWIST
2901 Markham Rd.
416-293-0008
shawarma-twist.avanto-eats.com
North Scarborough spot for shawarma wraps and platters.

SHOWTIME BISTRO
2761 Markham Rd.
416-450-3373
showtimebistro.ca
One of the favourite restaurants in the Scarborough area that serves top-rated dishes ranging from gourmet burgers to eclectic poutines and delicious desserts.

SMILE DESSERT
3262 Midland Ave.
416-609-9996
facebook.com/smilebydessert
Classic Hong Kong-style dessert shop offering drinks, rice, cakes and other delicious snacks.

SPADE BAR AND LOUNGE
3580 McNicoll Ave.
416-293-8685
spadebarandlounge.ca
This bar and lounge offers exquisite food, great music and one of the best entertainment experiences in north Scarborough.

SUGAR PEONY CAKE BOUTIQUE
4438 Sheppard Ave. E.
647-818-7310
sugarpeony.com
Sugar Peony’s master treatsmiths have won awards from Canada, Switzerland and Japan. Their reputation has made them the choice of clients like celebrity chef Chuck Hughes and Prince Charles.

LOOP 2

ABEYAN PIZZERIA & KEBAB
3879 Lawrence Ave. E.
416-438-1888
abeyanpizzeriaandkebab.com
A local Scarborough pizzeria that offers customers a diverse menu ranging from popular pizza dishes to Indian food such as butter chicken and tandoori chicken.

ARZ FINE FOODS
1909 Lawrence Ave. E.
416-755-5084
arzfinefoods.com
Arz Fine Foods is a food market that features all types of Mediterranean food and Middle Eastern cuisine.

ATHAVAN TAKEOUT AND CATERING
3863 Lawrence Ave. E.
416-289-2828
facebook.com/athavantakeoutcatering
A small take-out eatery near Highland Creek Park offering Sri Lankan favourites.

BURGER FACTORY
2030 Ellesmere Rd.
416-430-0055
myburgerfactory.com
Modern burgers – passionate about crafting the perfect burgers to satisfy your cravings.

CAFE MIRAGE GRILL & LOUNGE
26 William Kitchen Rd.
416-335-1177
cafemirage.ca
One of Toronto’s leading restaurants and catering businesses, Cafe Mirage is an upscale and fully licensed restaurant offering a sophisticated yet casual atmosphere.

CHOPSTICKS SZECHUAN CHINESE RESTAURANT
1163 Ellesmere Rd.
416-755-4655
chopsticksszechuan.com
Family owned, Indian-Chinese restaurant, specializing in spicy flavoured fried rice, noodles, chili chicken and pakoras.
**Crown Pastries**  
2086 Lawrence Ave. E.  
647-351-2015  
crownpastriesbaklava.com  
Cozy Middle Eastern bakery at Warden and Lawrence serving a wide range of sweets, owned and prepared by Syrian brothers, Rasoul and Ismail Salha.  

**D’Pavilion Restaurant and Lounge**  
3300 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-913-3387  
dpavilionlounge.com  
Extensive menu, full sports bar, live music and karaoke, D’Pavilion has it all. Customers can expect good food, good friends and good times.  

**Diana’s Oyster Bar and Grill Scarborough**  
2105 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-288-1588  
scarborough.dianasoysterbar.com  
Bringing you Toronto’s finest dining seafood experience, priding themselves on using the freshest ingredients so you can enjoy a wide variety of menu items inspired from around the world.  

**Eggcellent Grill House**  
4637 Kingston Rd.  
416-724-0303  
facebook.com/eggcellentgrillhouse  
Eggcellent Grill House is an all-day breakfast restaurant on Kingston Road.  

**FV Foods**  
2055 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-751-7555  
fvfoods.ca  
An authentic Filipino restaurant that has been in service for 17 years, offering Filipino hot food dishes, noodles, snacks, desserts, cakes, pastries, bread and catering menu party trays.  

**Flipper’s Fish House**  
2300 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-759-6671  
flippersandwhiteshield.ca  
You can enjoy quiet family dining or a nice business lunch out with an at-home, cozy atmosphere at Flippers. Best known for their fish and chips.  

**Ghadir Meat and Restaurant**  
1840-1848 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-750-7404  
ghadirmeatmarket.com  
Specializing in meat products and carrying a large selection of Lebanese and Mediterranean groceries. Known for their mouth-watering shawarmas and perfectly grilled kebobs.  

**Highland Fish & Chips**  
3351-3359 Ellesmere Rd.  
416-282-2889  
A small restaurant in service for more than 35 years, that serves a variety of seafood dishes, meat pies and beverages.  

**Jerry’s Fish & Chips**  
1190 Kennedy Rd.  
416-225-9944  
Friendly neighbourhood restaurant serving fish & chips, souvlakis, all-day breakfast, burgers and more.  

**Kathy’s Grill**  
1158 Kennedy Rd.  
647-341-5555  
kathysgrill.com  
Friendly family-owned restaurant serving homemade Greek favourites.  

**McCowan Fish & Chips**  
623 McCowan Rd.  
416-431-9155  
A great local spot for fish and chips served with hand-cut fries.  

**Mini Moe’s Burgers, Fries and Funnel Cakes**  
1961 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-351-6637  
mini-moes-burgers-fries-and-funnel-cakes.business.site  
Crowned as one of the best Halal burger joints in Toronto by Halal Foodie, Mini Moe’s simple, but imaginative menu keeps customers returning for more.  

**Nasib’s Quality Shawarma & Falafel**  
1867 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-285-7223  
nasibsshawarma.com  
Serving Scarborough locals high quality shawarmas and falafels for the past 50 years.  

**Nova Ristorante**  
2272 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-751-1200  
ovaristorante.ca  
Serving Italian dishes to Scarborough’s families since 1963.  

**Pho Metro**  
2057 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-750-8898  
phometro.com  
Small Vietnamese restaurant famous for its Banh Hoi (fine rice vermicelli or steamed rolls made of rice-flour), Banh Xeo (Vietnamese sizzling pancake) and Bun Bo Hue (Hue style beef vermicelli soup).  

**Pizza Nova Take Out**  
2272 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-751-1200  
pizzanova.com  
Pizza Nova’s very first take out/delivery franchise – since 1963.  

**Port Union Fish and Chips**  
65 Rylander Blvd  
416-283-3474  
portunionfish.com  
Classic fish ‘n’ chips shop serving up battered seafood and more amid a nautical-themed environment.  

**Sammy’s Family Restaurant**  
639 McCowan Rd.  
416-431-9139  
Family-friendly spot serving a traditional menu of comfort food. A mom and pop all-day breakfast stop that has been part of the neighbourhood for decades.  

**Simply Frosted Cupcakery**  
5550 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-283-7486  
simplyfrosted.ca  
Simply Frosted Cupcakery specializes in cupcakes, custom cakes, shortbread cookies, cake pops, brownies, sweet tables and more.
### Tanjore Catering and Sweets
3478 Lawrence Ave. E.  
416-438-8274
Specializing in vegetarian and non-vegetarian food, this local gem has served Indian fare for over a decade. Includes a take-out counter and dine-in restaurant.

### Ted’s Restaurant
404 Old Kingston Rd.  
416-282-2204
A classic 50s style diner that has been featured in over 100 TV and movie shoots.

### The Real McCoy
1021-1035 Markham Rd.  
416-439-6804  
therealmccoyburgers.com
Real McCoy has been family-owned and operated for 49 years, gaining a city-wide reputation for their juicy homemade burgers.

### The Suya Spot
Scarborough  
269 Morningside Ave.  
416-901-0909  
thesuya-spot.com
Serving authentic African barbecue using Nigerian spices.

### looping guide

| Loop 3 | Aiolio | 2496 Kingston Rd.  
647-748-0064  
aiolio.ca
Serving French favourites and Italian classics with an extensive wine list. |
|--------|--------|-------------------|
| BLUFFER'S RESTAURANT | 7 Brimley Rd. S.  
416-264-2337  
bluffersparkrestaurant.com
Nestled in a 400-acre parkland with wall-to-wall windows and panoramic view of Scarborough Bluffs Marina. |
| BUSTER'S PUB BY THE BLUFFS | 1539 Kingston Rd.  
416-691-1200  
bustersbythebluffs.com
A neighbourhood local serving up pub favourites for over 35 years. |
| Cliffside Hearth Bread Company | 3047 Kingston Rd.  
416-261-1010  
cliffsidehearth.com
Baking in small batches from scratch, this bakery makes classic loaves, savory snacks and decadent sweets. |
| Duckworth's Fish and Chips | 2282 Kingston Rd.  
416-266-0033
This fish and chips joint is known for serving traditional deep fried halibut and crispy chips. |
| Gourmet Schnitzel House | 2286 Kingston Rd.  
416-264-7268  
gourmetschnitzelhouse.com
This Eastern European eatery offers a variety of schnitzel dinners and traditional fare. |
| Ikki Sushi | 2253 Kingston Rd.  
416-264-3332  
ikkisushi.com
Serving fresh and tasty sushi and other traditional Japanese dishes. |
| Jatujak | 1466 Kingston Rd.  
416-698-1466  
jatujak.ca
Specializing in authentic, home-style Thai food, Jatuak uses fresh ingredients for a taste of Thai street food. |
| King's Garden Sushi and Wok | 3103 Kingston Rd.  
416-269-1365
A cozy spot for some fresh Japanese sushi and Chinese dishes. |
| Mayettes Restaurant | 3331 Danforth Ave.  
416-463-0338  
mayettes.ca
Get a taste of the Philippines, with a unique fusion of Spanish and Asian Cuisine. Serving Scarborough since 1987. |
| Seraphia Inspired Cuisine | 2979 Kingston Rd.  
416-264-8951  
seraphiainspiredcuisine.com
Delicious Mediterranean inspired food made with seasonal, fresh and local ingredients. Take out and catering only. |
| Tabaq | 50 Danforth Rd.  
416-686-2625  
tabaqrestaurants.com
Offering excellent, popular Indian cuisine using fresh ingredients, 100% Halal meat and the best spices available. |
| Tara Inn | 2365 Kingston Rd.  
416-266-6200  
tarainn.ca
An Irish pub that features a vintage vibe and serves traditional Irish breakfast and pub fare. |
| The Birchcliff Coffee Bar | 1666 Kingston Rd.  
416-690-6040
A rustic coffee shop specializing in espresso drinks and baked treats, located near the Scarborough Bluffs. |
| Vindaloo Indian Cuisine | 2891 Kingston Rd.  
416-901-1133  
vindalooocuisine.com
A fine dining restaurant offering signature Indian dishes, including curries and lots of meats from the tandoor. |
| Vi Pei Bistro | 3101 Kingston Rd.  
416-266-1405  
vipei.ca
Enjoy fresh healthy foods at this wholesome Italian bistro. |
| Working Dog Saloon | 3676 St. Clair Ave. E.  
647-347-2339
A rustic, cozy pub offering comfort foods that use fresh, local ingredients. |
REFERENCES

To learn more about local organizations, events and festivals, visit the websites listed below:

**ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS/SITES**
- Bell Box Murals Project: facebook.com/bellboxmuralsproject
- Birchmount Fire Hall Museum: scarboroughfirefighters.org
- Cedar Ridge Creative Centre: toronto.ca/cedarridge
- Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto: cccgt.org
- Coalition Music: coalitionmusic.com
- Guild Festival Theatre: guildfestivaltheatre.ca
- Islamic Institute of Toronto: islamicinstitute.ca
- Masaryk Memorial Institute: masaryktown.ca
- Mural Routes: muralroutes.ca
- Ontario Chinese Art Association: ocaa.info
- Project Urban Canvas: urbancanvas.aito.ca
- R.I.S.E Edutainment: riseedutainment.com
- Scarborough Historical Society: scarboroughhistorical.com
- Scarborough Museum: toronto.ca/scarboroughmuseum
- St. Mark’s Coptic Museum: copticmuseum-canada.org
- StreetARToronto: toronto.ca/streetart
- Theatre Scarborough: theatrescarborough.com
- VIBE Arts: vibearts.ca
- Y+ contemporary: ypluscontemporary.com

**BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS**
- Crossroads of the Danforth BIA: crossroadsbia.ca
- Kennedy Road BIA: kenedybia.com
- Sheppard East Village BIA: sharesheppard.ca
- Wexford Heights BIA: wexfordbia.ca

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**
- Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough: esbgc.net
- East Scarborough Storefront: thestorefront.org
- Heritage Toronto: heritagetoronto.org
- Malvern Family Recreation Centre: mfrc.org
- Native Child and Family Services of Toronto: nativechild.org
- Ontario Heritage Trust: heritagetrust.on.ca
- Park People: parkpeople.ca
- Rouge Valley Conservation Centre: rvcc.ca
- TAIBU: taibuchc.ca
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: trca.ca
- Toronto Archives: toronto.ca/archives
- Toronto District School Board: tdsb.on.ca
- Toronto Parks: toronto.ca/parks
- Toronto Public Library: torontopubliclibrary.ca
- Toronto Zoo: torontozoo.com
- Tropicana Community Services: tropicanacommunity.org
- University of Toronto Scarborough: utsc.utoronto.ca
- Variety Village: varietyvillage.ca

**EVENTS AND FESTIVALS**
- ARTSIDEOUT: artsideout.ca
- Birkdale Art in the Park: artintheparkbirkda.wixsite.com
- Highland Creek Heritage Festival: hchf.ca
- Scarborough Afro-Caribbean Festival: scarboroughafrocaribfest.com
- Scarborough Community Multicultural Festival: scarboroughcommunityfestival.ca
- Scarborough International Film Festival: scarboroughfilmfestival.com
- Scarborough Ribfest: scarboroughribfest.com
- Tamil Fest: tamilfest.ca
- Taste of Lawrence: tasteoflawrence.com
- TO Food Fest: tofoodfest.com
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- StreetARToronto
- TAIBU
- Toronto Public Library
- Tropicana Community Services