



Tourism Investment

Overview

Invest in Hastings County! Being the second largest County in Ontario with an area of 5,964.5 km², the County stretches from the beautiful Bay of Quinte up north to Algonquin Park. Tap in to an existing market that offers tourists an array of attractions with an abundance of lakes and rivers, rugged outdoor trails and main street shops and boutiques including:

- Bancroft, the “Mineral Capital of Canada” because of the great variety of mineral specimens and rock collecting
- A recreational trail system stretching more than 200 Km
- Numerous heritage attractions such as the O’Hara Mill Homestead, North America’s smallest jail house in Tweed and the Hastings County Museum of Agricultural Heritage
- Studio tours and live theatre
- Our cheese factories - we are the Cheese Capital of Canada
- Numerous pristine lakes that dot our landscape offering boating and other recreational activities
- Numerous conservation areas and provincial parks such as Algonquin and Lake St. Peter
- A luge track in Bancroft



Location and Transportation

- Hastings County is located halfway between Toronto and Ottawa, served by Canada’s largest toll-free Highway 401, Trans Canada Highway # 7, and Highways 62, 37, and 28, offering excellent road accessibility
- Passenger rail service is provided by Via Rail Canada. Greyhound Canada Bus Line provides bus transportation to Hastings County with several stops within and around the County. We are just 2 hours east of Pearson International Airport in Toronto. Several registered aerodromes in and around the County offer numerous options for air transportation

Distances to Major Urban Areas

City	KMs/Miles	Drive Time
Toronto/ GTA	165/103	1.75 hrs
Montreal	360/225	3 hrs
Windsor/ Detroit	540/338	6 hrs
New York, NY	678/424	7 hrs
Fort Erie/ Buffalo	336/210	3.75 hrs
Ottawa	168/105	2 hrs
Syracuse	264/165	2.5 hrs

Support for Tourism Business

- There are many initiatives within the County to help support tourist operators including several Chambers of Commerce, business improvement associations, our Small Business Centre, Community Futures Development Corporations and coalition projects such as ComfortCountry.ca



Cost Competitive

- Labour wages in the County are competitive, yet lower than the provincial average

Quality of Life

- Experience the Best of Both Worlds through small town charm and rural living that is so desirable while still being close to the big city life
- The upside of Hastings is easier access to outdoor activities, a less



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hectic lifestyle and a short commute to work whether along our scenic roads or over the Internet

- We're not far from major metropolitan areas like Toronto and Ottawa

Accommodations

- Hastings County is home to many resort lodges, motels, inns, campgrounds, commercial cottages and bed & breakfasts, many of which are located on our beautiful lakes and rivers. These are complemented with relaxing family restaurants and tea rooms
- A 2005 Statistics Canada Travel Survey showed overnight visitors spent 300,121 person nights in Hastings County, with 81,510 of these nights or 27% spent in roofed commercial lodgings such as hotels, motels, resorts, B&Bs and commercial cottages and 13,195 person nights or 4% were spent in local campgrounds or trailer facilities

Festivals & Events

- Hastings County hosts an endless list of special events, always attracting residents and tourists. Here are just a few of the exciting events the County has to offer:

February: Bancroft Frosty Frolics Winter Carnival, Marmora Snofest & Sled Dog Races, Marmora

April: Marmora Area Canoe & Kayak Festival

May: Maynooth Celtic Festival

June: Crowe Valley Lions Country Music Jamboree, Deseronto Waterfront Festival, Centre Hastings Regatta, Stirling Truck Show & Shine

July: Madoc Canadian Heritage Music & Arts Festival, Tweed Hungerford Agricultural Fair, Bancroft Rockhound Gemboree, Bancroft Stone Carver's Show & Symposium, Stirling Festival of the Arts

August: Hastings County Farm Show & Plowing Match, Stirling Agriculture Fair, Shannonville's World's Fair, Bancroft Arts Festival, Hastings Highlands Loggers Games, Tweed Country/Bluegrass Jamboree and BBQ, Central Hastings Amazing Race, Coe Hill Agriculture Fair

September: Marmora Country Jamboree, Bancroft Septemberfest

October: Tweed & Area Studio Tour

The 14 Municipalities which make up Hastings County are:

- Town of Bancroft
- Carlow Mayo Township
- Centre Hastings
- Town of Deseronto
- Faraday Township
- Hastings Highlands
- Limerick Township
- Madoc Township
- Marmora & Lake Township
- Stirling-Rawdon Township
- Tudor & Cashel Township
- Municipality of Tweed
- Tyendinaga Township
- Wollaston Township

