



BRONTE CREEK

Uniquely urban Provincial Park

In the heart of Oakville, residents and visitors alike flock to Bronte Creek Provincial Park – a 684 hectare (1,690 acre) park that is as large as Central Park in New York City.

Home to more than 10 kilometers of multi-purpose trails, Bronte Creek also boasts a number of picnic shelters, nature centre, more than 100 campsites, children's playbarn, one of Canada's largest outdoor pools as well as a farm and a turn-of-the-century living history museum within Spruce Lane Farmhouse.

Built in 1899, Spruce Lane Farmhouse, along with Silvercreek house, was owned by the apple and strawberry farming Breckon family. Members of the Breckon family

continued to inhabit the home until the late 1950s, at which point it was turned into a rental property with various families living there until 1972. That's when Spruce Lane Farmhouse was acquired by the provincial government. The area's historical significance is linked to its First Nations encampment history. The waterway was utilized for fishing and logging and there was a brick kiln located in the area.

Today the farmhouse is used as Bronte's living history museum. Though there are other farmhouses in the park, Spruce Lane is the best for heritage presentations. The museum's themes present the history of early settlement farming from the 1890s to 1910.



Aerial shot of Bronte Creek in 2017.

www.OntarioParks.com

- **Bronte Creek Ravine** - 50 m (115 ft) deep
- **Family camping experience** –from tents to large RV's
- **Swimming** Bronte Creek Provincial Park is home to one of Canada's largest outdoor pools. This 1.8 acre pool is located at the Recreation Complex in the Day-Use area. The pool is a large pond shape that is designed for wading with a starting depth of mere centimeters, gradually deepening to 2 m (6 ft) in the center. Lifeguards are on duty. (There is an additional fee to use the pool area.) Pool Season : July 1st to Labour Day. (temporary closures may occur due to weather).
- **Hiking** Five great hiking trails that showcase the natural beauty of the park.
- **Fishing** You can access the creek easily by following Half Moon Valley Trail. Once there you may fish (in season) for rainbow trout, splake, steelhead and Pacific salmon.
- **Children's Farm** with live farm animals.
- **Turn-of-the century Spruce Lane Farm House** (c.1899)
- **Disc Golf Course**
- **Birding** Bronte Creek Provincial Park, with

- its open fields, is a favourite of many birds of prey, hawks, merlin, kestrels and eagles. Not to mention various species of owls. The park is known to be home to more than 190 species of birds.
- **Pet Exercise Area** The park has two leash free areas; one is a .5 km loop located in the Day-Use area and one 2 km loop in the Campground.
- **Picnic Shelters** There are 11 picnic shelters available for rental between the second weekend in June and Labour Day. The shelters are first-come first-served for the remainder of the year. All shelters have large charcoal barbecue grills for use. (must supply own charcoal)
- **Excellent interpretive programs** - Maple Syrup Festival in March.
- **Seasonal Events** Ghost Walks in August, Camper Halloween and Homestead Christmas in December.
- **Winter Activities** Tobogganing, cross-country skiing. (weather permitting)
- **Natural Heritage Education**

-The Nature Centre is where visitors can learn about glaciers and wildlife or meet for special outings such as spirit walks or coyote howls.
-Spruce Lane Farm House is the centre of the annual Maple Syrup Festival and Victorian Christmas Program. During the summer months you can chat with the staff in period costume about life in the early 1900s and witness some of the activities from that time.



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