

Historic Attractions

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8 FORT GEORGE: A National Historic Site, Fort George was built between 1796 and 1802 and was used as the headquarters for the Centre Division of the British Army during the War of 1812. Now, the site provides an opportunity to look into the early military history of Niagara. Tour through 19th century military architecture including the blockhouses, officers' quarters, army mechanic's shop and guard house. The fort's powder magazine is the only building to have survived the Battle of Fort George and is the oldest military building in Ontario. Throughout the summer, experience the sounds of the Fife and Drum Corps, witness the training manoeuvres of the 41st Regiment Infantry unit, taste food prepared over an open fire in the Officer's Kitchen, and witness musket and artillery demonstrations. Fort George is located in Niagara-on-the-Lake and is open daily from May to October. (www.friendsoffortgeorge.ca)

- **Event: Saturday & Sunday Aug. 18, 19.** Fife and drum corps and infantry units from historic sites across Canada and the United States will be showcased at the event featuring military music and drills of the early 19th century.



The Fort George Fife and Drum Corps performs at the St. Davids Heritage Day celebration in 2017. Metroland File Photo

9 CRAWFORD LAKE: At Crawford Lake, you can visit the reconstructed Iroquoian longhouses and learn the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada through regular programming like Longhouse Lore and the Season of the Three Sisters. The Conservation Halton park boasts a lake surrounded by an accessible boardwalk trail. Larger-than-life wooden carvings along the way feature species at risk. The Nassagaweya Canyon trail runs 4.6 kilometres from Crawford Lake to Rattlesnake Point, another Halton Conservation park. Crawford Lake Conservation Area, located in Milton on Guelph Line north of Derry Road, is open every day from 8:30 a.m. until 9 p.m. (www.conservationhalton.ca)

- **Event: Meditation Hike: Saturday, July 7 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.** Instructors guide hikers through mindfulness and meditation.



Fire starting demonstration at Crawford Lake longhouse. Metroland File Photo

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WESTFIELD HERITAGE VILLAGE: With a vision to create a pioneer village as a non-profit educational institute, D. Glenn Kilmer and Golden (Goldie) L. MacDonell purchased 30 acres of land in Rockton in October 1960. As high school teachers at a school in Brantford, the two hoped to preserve and educate about the 19th century rural life in Upper Canada. Their vision came to life in 1964 when Westfield opened to the public in Rockton. Westfield features a collection of more than 35 historical buildings, which has made it one of the most interesting historical destinations in Ontario. Carefully restored and staffed with costumed interpreters, the buildings portray early Canadian culture. Visitors experience history demonstrations and can join guided tours of the 130-hectare site bordered by woodlands, meadows and trails. Westfield is open on Sundays and holidays, May to October. (westfieldheritage.ca)

- **Event: Sunday, July 1 from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Canada Day:** Discover what life was like in early Canada. Tour the village, historic buildings, or take a hike on the trails.



Printing plates inked and ready for the 19th century printing press at Westfield. Metroland File Photo



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