

## Introduction

### The City of Owen Sound

The City of Owen Sound is located on the southern shores of Georgian Bay in a valley below the sheer rock cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment. Owen Sound is characterized by a magnificent harbour and bay, two winding rivers, tree-lined streets, an extensive parks system, and tree-covered hillsides and ravines, which are home to a wide variety of flora and fauna.

Owen Sound is the largest urban community in Grey and Bruce Counties, which combined represent a primary commercial market of 158,000. Owen Sound is the seat of the County of Grey government, and is the location for a number of regional, provincial and federal government offices. There are twelve elementary schools, three secondary schools, and six private schools in addition to a Georgian College campus.

Points of interest include four conservation areas (Inglis Falls, Indian Falls, Hibou and Pottawatomi), Kelso Beach and the City's waterfront trail system, Harrison Park, Grey Roots Museum & Archives, Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery, Billy Bishop Home & Museum, Owen Sound Marine & Rail Museum and the Farmers' Market.

The downtown, recently refurbished and reminiscent of the 1900s, offers an economy that is balanced and diversified. The Heritage Place Shopping Centre on the east side complements the vibrant, scenic downtown core and other arterial shopping areas.

Citizens and visitors can enjoy extensive recreation facilities and opportunities in Owen Sound. The City operates two arenas, and numerous soccer and baseball complexes. Three golf courses serve the City. Excellent boating and fishing are available on the bay, and during the winter residents can access thousands of kilometres of snowmobile trails, cross-country skiing areas, and downhill skiing clubs.



### Transportation:

The City is located at the intersection of four provincial highways: #6, #10, #21 & #26. Approximate travel times:

Barrie.....	120 km - 1.75 hours
Buffalo, NY.....	350 km - 4.0 hours
Detroit, MI.....	365 km - 4.0 hours
Hamilton.....	190 km - 2.25 hours
Kitchener-Waterloo.....	150 km - 2.0 hours
London.....	210 km - 2.75 hours
Ottawa.....	540 km - 6.5 hours
Sarnia.....	225 km - 3.25 hours
Toronto.....	190 km - 2.25 hours