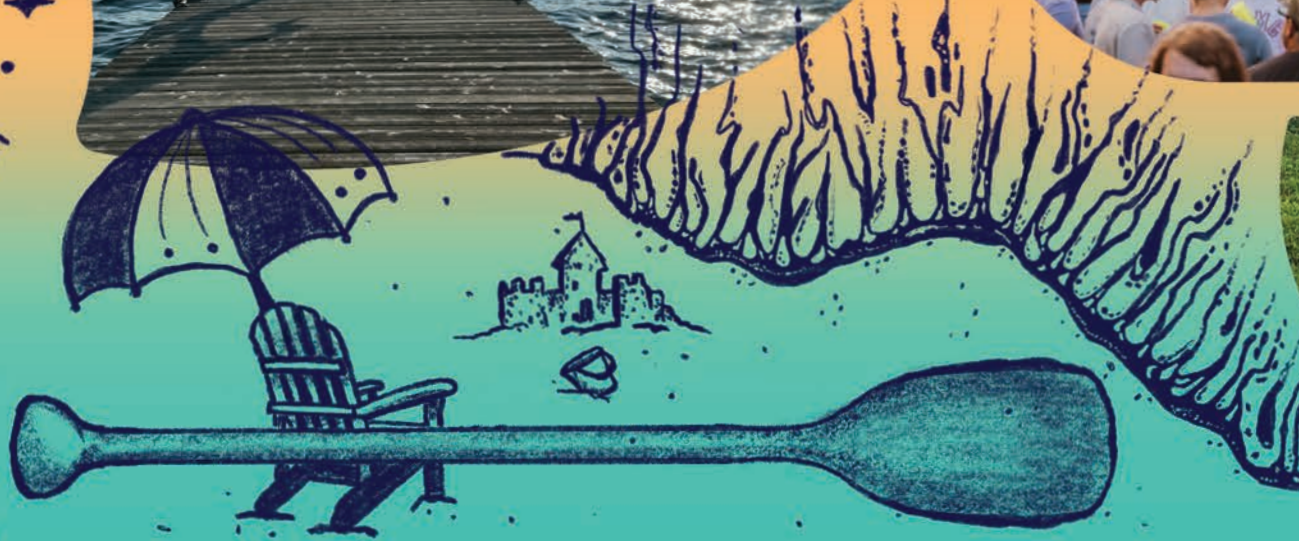




f @ J v in  
@tourismnorthbay



# NORTH 2026 BAY



## CHIEF CATHY STEVENS

Aanin / Hello:

On behalf of the Nipissing First Nation Council and Community, we warmly welcome you to our traditional Anishinaabe territory.

Nipissing or Nbisiing, meaning “place of little waters”, is home to a growing Nation rich in culture, language, and history. Our community is located along the shores of Lake Nipissing, with citizens living both on and off-reserve. Our people have lived in this territory for thousands of years, caring for the land and water that continue to sustain us today.

Lake Nipissing is more than a body of water - it is central to our identity, well-being and way of life. We fish, hunt and harvest on this land and water with care, respect, and responsibility. The lake has supported our people since time immemorial and remains vital to our culture, economy and spirituality. We belong to this lake and the land and we kindly ask that it be treated with the respect it deserves. As you enjoy its beauty, please remember that its health is essential not only to us but to all the beings that rely on it.



Our people traditionally speak Nbisiing Nishnaabemwin (Ojibwe), which is recognized as our official language, while English is a secondary language. Nipissing First Nation continues to prioritize language revitalization through community programming and education, ensuring our words and teachings are carried forward for future generations.

Education is an important part of growing a strong Nation. We proudly operate Nbisiing Secondary School, a First Nation-run high school where students learn both academic subjects and Nishnaabe ways of living. Through culturally grounded education, our youth are supported in living mno-bmaadziwin - the good life - rooted in balance, respect, and identity.

Historically, the Nbisiing Nishnaabeg were key traders due to our location at the heart of major trade routes, and today we continue to honour our role as stewards of the land and water. As you explore and appreciate our territory, we invite you to do so with mindfulness and respect.

Miigwech / Thank you,



Chief Cathy Stevens

Welcome to North Bay.

Nestled between Lake Nipissing and Trout Lake, our City is a place where natural beauty meets unique experiences. Whether you're exploring scenic trails and waterways, browsing local shops, enjoying great restaurants, or discovering art and culture, there's always something new to experience.

North Bay sits on the traditional territory of the Anishinabek Nation, home to Nipissing and Dokis First Nations, and we proudly celebrate the people, history, and culture that help shape our community today.

Whether you're here for a quick stop or a longer stay, we hope your time in North Bay leaves you with lasting memories that bring you back again and again.

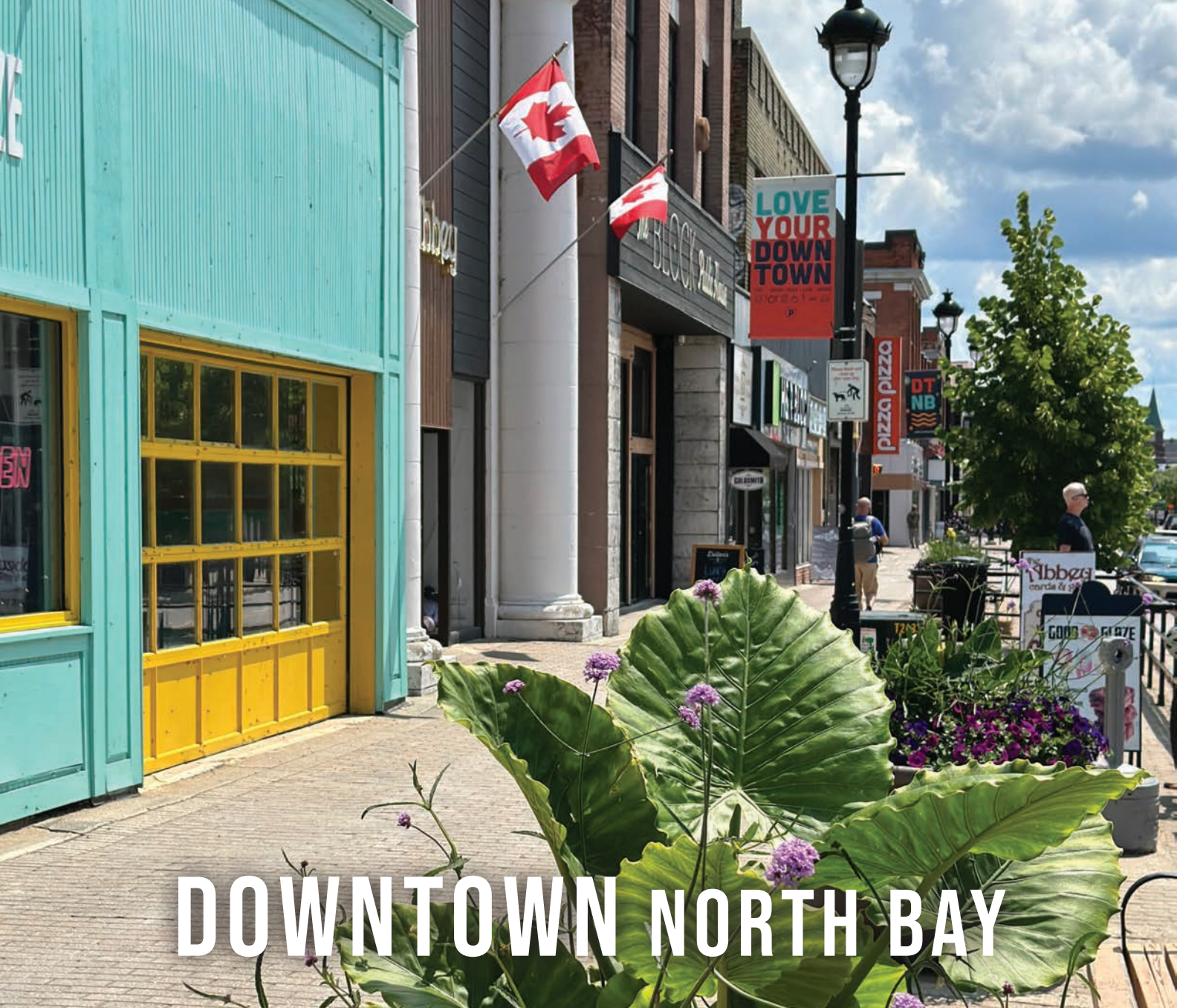


Mayor Peter Chirico

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# DOWNTOWN NORTH BAY

Discover the vibrant heart of North Bay, where small-town charm meets a lively, walkable downtown just minutes from the waterfront. Stroll from one shop to the next without any rush. Just a short walk from the waterfront, the downtown core is full of locally owned spots—little boutiques, bakeries that smell like fresh bread, and cafés that are perfect for a slow morning or an afternoon catch-up.

It's the kind of place where you can spend an hour... and end up staying all day.

Downtown North Bay is more than a place—it's an experience. Throughout the year, the streets come to life with signature events and festivals that bring people together:

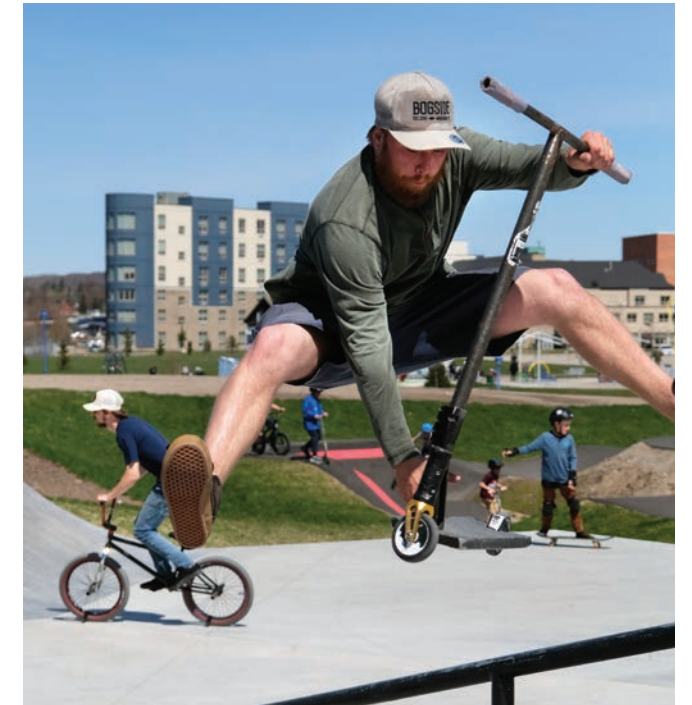
1. Browse local art during Downtown Gallery Hops
2. Shop fresh and local at the beloved North Bay Farmers' Market (held rain or shine on Wednesdays and Saturdays in summer),
3. Or join the crowds for can't-miss events like the Bay Block Party in August and the festive Outdoor Winter Market and Old Fashion Downtown Christmas Walk in November

Easy to explore by foot or car, the downtown offers convenient access with pedestrian-friendly streets and free parking options, making it simple to stop, shop, and stay awhile.

## WATERFRONT

Just a short five-minute walk from downtown, the stunning shores of Lake Nipissing invite you to slow down and soak it all in. This expansive waterfront is one of North Bay's most iconic experiences, offering sandy beaches, scenic walking paths, and breathtaking sunsets in every season.

Take a relaxing stroll along the shoreline, find a spot on the beach to watch the waves roll in or hire a paddle board to enjoy the shallow warm waters of the lake. Families gather at the playgrounds, enjoy lakeside picnic or set out on the water aboard the Chief Commanda II for a memorable lake cruise.



## FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN

North Bay doesn't need to try to be family-friendly—it just is.

With plenty of free and accessible activities for all ages. There's space to play, room to explore, and plenty of ways to spend a day together without overplanning.

Spend the day enjoying outdoor basketball and volleyball courts, the Kiwanis All Wheel Skate Park and Pump Track and all accessible playground or cool off at the splash pad located just steps from the North Bay Museum.

There's a timeless feel here too. The Heritage Carousels bring old-fashioned magic, while the miniature train offers a simple kind of joy that never really goes out of style. It's the kind of place where memories are made without trying too hard.

With so much to see and do within walking distance—from downtown shops to waterfront adventures—North Bay makes it easy for families to connect, explore, and create lasting memories together.



“Walkable downtown just minutes from the waterfront”





# PADDLING PRISTINE WATERS

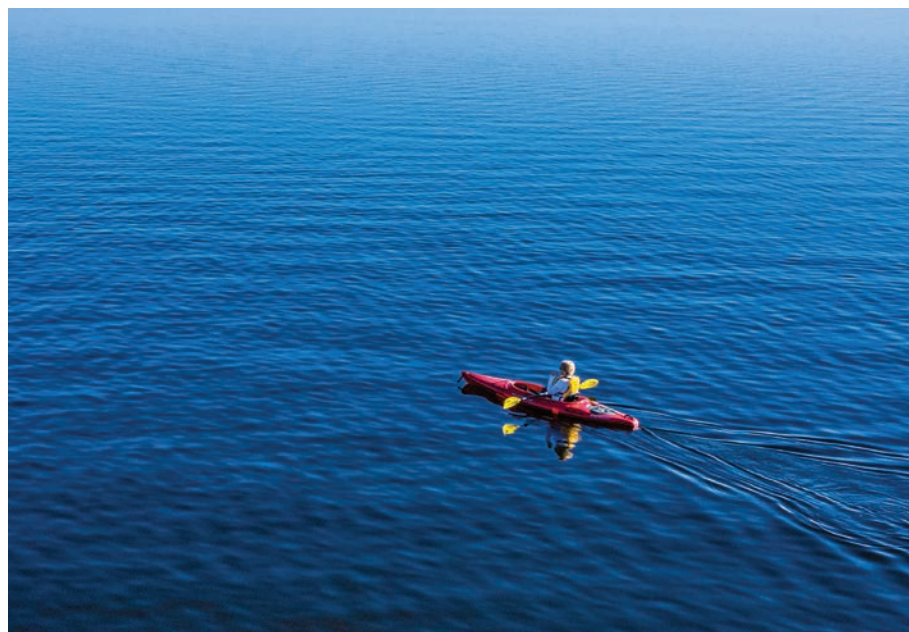
written by discovery routes

The opportunities to get out on the water are boundless in North Bay. Nestled on the shores of two pristine freshwater lakes; Trout Lake and Lake Nipissing, and interlaced with flowing rivers and creeks, secluded beaches and wild wetlands, this place is a water-lovers paradise.

Experience one of Lake Nipissing's spectacular sunsets on a calm summer's night from a stand-up paddleboard (SUP), or head over to Callander Bay with your kayak for a

leisurely day-trip to Lake Nipissing's west shore to spot wildlife and waterfowl on the edge of a provincially significant cranberry bog. Kayak and SUP rentals are available from the Boathouse Rental Company conveniently located at North Bay's Waterfront Park on Memorial Drive.

Trout Lake has a number of convenient public boat launches with all-day, free parking which makes it easy to get out on the water for a floating picnic or an early morning paddle with mist rising



from crystal calm waters pierced by the haunting cry of the loon. Olmsted Beach on Trout Lake is home to the North Bay Canoe Club and dragon boat team. It's not unusual to see races and regattas of young Olympic hopefuls honing their skills.

Trout Lake is the headwaters to the legendary Mattawa River system - the ancient water highway used for generations for transportation

and trade by the area's first people, the Anishinaabe, followed by the Voyageurs and fur traders, lumbermen and settlers. Modern-day explorers can imagine the whispers of the past echoing from the towering cliffs as they paddle the 64km route between North Bay and Mattawa. With up to 12 portages, backcountry campsites and multiple access points, the paddle can be done as a day-trip or over any number of days.

The historic La Vase Portages are a series of three portages connecting Trout Lake to the lower La Vase River and Lake Nipissing. Notorious for its muddy conditions by the Voyageurs, the full route today is challenging and best undertaken as a guided canoe tour with The Friends of La Vase Portages as part of their annual event in July.

For world-renowned backcountry paddling, North Bay is the gateway to Algonquin Park's quieter access points at Kiosk and Kawawaymog Lake. A number of looped routes in the Park are suggested by Discovery Routes at [discoveryroutes.ca](http://discoveryroutes.ca).

“Modern-day explorers can imagine the WHISPERS OF THE PAST echoing from the towering cliffs as they paddle”

for more paddling fun:



1



### SAILING + CRUISING

Learn to sail or unwind on a scenic cruise across Lake Nipissing, complete with unforgettable sunset views.

2



### FISHING

Cast a line year-round in fish-filled waters known for its abundance of walleye, pike, muskie, and bass.

3



### POWERSPORTS

Tackle rugged terrain in every direction with adrenaline-fueled off-road adventures right from the city.

4



### HIKING

Discover over 85 km of trails, from easy nature walks to challenging hikes through diverse northern landscapes.

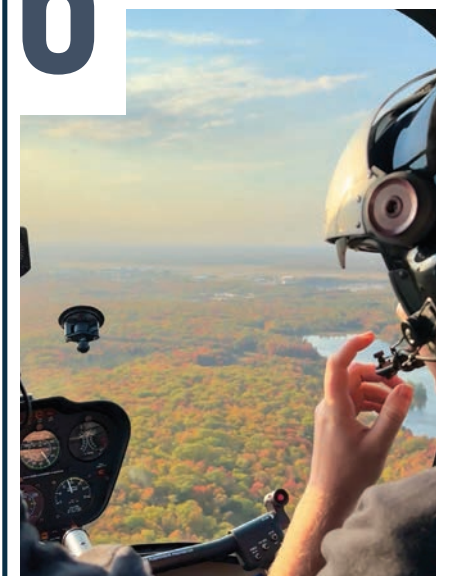
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### CYCLING

Ride everything from smooth waterfront paths to rugged mountain bike trails and endless gravel backroads in a top cycling destination.

6



### HELICOPTER FLIGHTS

Soar above lakes, forests, and waterfalls for a breathtaking aerial view of North Bay's natural beauty.

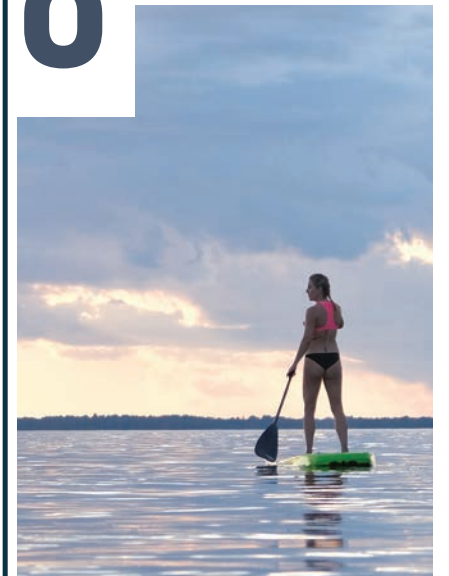
7



### GOLF

Tee off on scenic courses that blend challenging play with beautiful Northern Ontario natural backdrops.

8



### PADDLING - SUP, CANOE AND KAYAK

Launch from one of 40+ beaches and explore pristine waters from peaceful lakes to iconic northern river routes.

“North Bay offers everything from soft adventure experiences to thrilling power sports.”

for more adventures:



# 8 OUTDOOR ADVENTURES IN NORTH BAY



# TRAILS NOT TO MISS

*written by discovery routes*

Trail enthusiasts will find that active outdoor adventure is a lifestyle in North Bay with nature trails, winding paved pathways, rugged mountain bike tracks and endless gravel backroads all just steps from the door. In fact, Discovery Routes, is a local charity who support and celebrates a vast network of trails in the region for every level of hiker and cyclist to explore the 85+km of trails found in the city of North Bay! Each and every one of them offers a unique and immersive way to experience this area.

## HIKING

The beautiful Duchesnay Falls tops the list as a popular must-see destination as it boasts a network of trails ranging from 0.2 to 12km. Duchesnay Creek flows down the escarpment in a series of waterfalls alongside the Education Centre trails. A heart-pumping hike to the inner trails at the top of the escarpment is rewarded with beautiful views of Lake Nipissing and the Manitou Islands from a small lookout tower. Off the beaten path, the Black Forest Trail is a short 1.5km stroll through an Instagram-worthy towering pine plantation. The Otter Lake trails are a hidden gem that will take you to the outskirts of North Bay on a 4km adventure that sees few visitors. The local Conservation Areas (pg 28), each unique in their own way, offer so many more hiking trails suitable for the whole family: see Laurier Woods, Laurentian Escarpment, La Vase Portages Hiking Trails, Kinsmen Trail and Chippewa Creek EcoPath.



## CYCLING

For cyclists of every level, the self-guided Spirit of the Bay Cycling Tour will have you engaging with the local arts community while cycling through a secret garden, rolling along the shores of Lake Nipissing and exploring colourful murals throughout the downtown. The tour includes a family-friendly ride along the Kate Pace Way – North Bay’s contribution to the longest recreational trail in the world, the Trans Canada Trail. Road cyclists can extend the route to take in some of the region’s quiet secondary highways and rural roads with wide, smooth paved shoulders.

For the more adventurous, take a ride back in time following the self-guided Red Toque Cycling Tour. Across the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Métis, a rich history comes to life while riding the glorious gravel and paved backroads that make up the Voyageur Cycling Route. This route is also the inspiration for The Voyageur 200, a 200KM gravel bike race that runs in August.

Mountain bikers will want to connect with the North Bay Mountain Bike Association when visiting North Bay. This volunteer-led organization has built fast and flowing trails at Three Towers and Laurentian Escarpment Community Trails. With natural granite ridges, bedrock berms and built technical features for every ability, North Bay’s mountain bike trails have something for everyone. The association also runs a series of competitive and skill development events and activities throughout the year including hosting provincial Enduro races. Other mountain bike opportunities in North Bay are laid out in Discovery Routes’ Grind the North adventure.

Get trail maps, route descriptions and day-trip suggestions from [discoveryroutes.ca](http://discoveryroutes.ca).



“NORTH BAY HAS SOME OF THE BEST SUMMER TRAILS FOR HIKING AND CYCLING”

for more trails:



# SPRING



One of the most captivating aspects of spring in North Bay is the transformation of its natural surroundings. As temperatures rise, the snow and ice melt away, revealing the lush greenery that lies beneath. Trees and flowers burst forth in a symphony of color, painting the city with hues of pink, purple, and white.

For those who cherish the great outdoors, North Bay offers a multitude of opportunities to bask in the beauty of the season. The city's extensive network of hiking and biking trails comes to life, as avid adventurers and casual strollers alike take to the pathways. Places like the Kinsmen Trail, Kate Pace Way, and the scenic trails of the Duchesnay Falls provide a perfect backdrop for watching spring bloom.

Water enthusiasts can take advantage of the warming weather by kayaking or canoeing on Trout Lake or Lake Nipissing or one of the region's picturesque rivers. The

gentle ripples of the water mirror the blue skies and budding trees, creating a serene and tranquil environment.

Spring also marks the return of wildlife to the region. Birdwatchers and nature enthusiasts can spot a wide variety of migratory birds that pass through North Bay during their spring migration. Whether you're an experienced birder or a curious beginner, the region's forests, wetlands, and parks offer excellent opportunities to observe these winged travelers.

Spring is like a beautiful symphony of renewal with a vibrant burst of colours and life. With its enchanting landscapes, cultural festivals, and a plethora of outdoor activities, North Bay emerges as a destination where the spirit of the season comes alive and its abundant natural beauty is a playground waiting to be explored.

## ACTIVITIES + EVENTS:

- Downtown Gallery Hop
- Stroll the Kinsmen Trail
- Canoe La Vase Portages
- Cycle along the Lake Nipissing waterfront
- Observe birds returning in Laurier Woods
- Powassan Maple Syrup Festival
- Enjoy the self guided Downtown Art Tour on Driftscape
- Cheer on the paddlers at the Mattawa River Canoe Race
- Have fun at Northern Tykes and the VR play zone
- Maamwi Kindaaswin Pow Wow

for more spring fun:



# MAAMWI KINDAASWIN POW-WOW IN NORTH BAY

written by *Sandra Thorkelson*

Each June, the heartbeat of Indigenous culture fills the waterfront at Lee Park as the Maamwi Kindaaswin Pow-Wow welcomes community members and visitors to gather in celebration. Hosted by the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre, this vibrant event invites everyone to experience living Indigenous traditions through song, dance, food and community connection.

“Maamwi Kindaaswin” in Ojibwe means “to learn together,” and that spirit is felt in every drumbeat and dance step. Free to attend and open to all ages, the pow-wow is an opportunity to experience Indigenous culture in a welcoming and respectful environment.

If it’s your first pow-wow, you’re warmly welcomed. Here’s a helpful guide on what you can do — and what not to do — to ensure a respectful and meaningful experience.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

### ✓ Listen to the MC

The Master of Ceremonies is your guide throughout the day, explaining dances, songs and protocols. Pay attention to announcements — especially when asked to stand for Grand Entry or special honour songs.

### ✓ Stand for Grand Entry

Held at noon each day, Grand Entry is one of the most powerful moments of the pow-wow. Eagle Staffs, drummers and dancers in beautiful regalia enter the circle together. Standing (if you’re able) shows respect.

### ✓ Join Inter-Tribal Dances

When invited, step into the dance circle during inter-tribals. Everyone is welcome to participate. Simply follow the dancers and move clockwise — the same direction as the sun.

### ✓ Ask Questions

Pow-wows are both celebration and cultural gathering. If you’re unsure about something just ask. Many people are happy to share knowledge and help you learn.

### ✓ Support Indigenous Vendors

Browse more than 50 artisan booths featuring handcrafted goods, beadwork, art and delicious food. Purchasing directly supports Indigenous families and communities.

### ✓ Take Photos — Mindfully

The colours and movement make for incredible photos. Listen carefully for announcements about when photography is not permitted and always ask before taking close-up photos of dancers outside the circle.

### ✓ Visit the Sacred Fire

A sacred fire burns throughout the weekend, tended by firekeepers. Visitors are welcome to observe, reflect and learn about medicines such as sage, cedar, sweetgrass and tobacco. This is a quiet, respectful space.

## WHAT NOT TO DO

### x Don’t Call Regalia “Costumes”

Dancers wear regalia — not costumes. These garments are deeply personal and culturally significant. Never touch regalia without permission.

### x Don’t Sit in the Entryways

There are four doorways into the dance circle. Keep these areas clear at all times, as they are used during specific songs and ceremonies.

### x Don’t Touch the Drum or Items in the Arbour

The Arbour at the centre of the circle is where drummers and singers gather. Visitors are welcome to look, but never touch anything without express permission.

### x Don’t Photograph Restricted Moments

Certain songs, ceremonies and the sacred fire may not be photographed. When asked to put cameras away, do so respectfully.

more information on the  
Indigenous history:



### x Don’t Bring Alcohol, Drugs or Pets

To maintain the cultural integrity of the pow-wow, alcohol and drugs are not permitted on the grounds. Pets should also be left at home.

## A CELEBRATION FOR EVERYONE

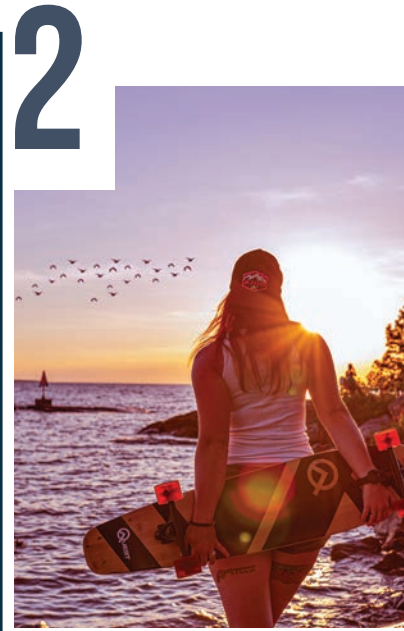
Bring a lawn chair, sunscreen and a refillable water bottle. Most importantly, bring an open heart and a willingness to learn. In North Bay, this is more than an event — it’s a living celebration of culture, community and connection.





## 1 GO MURAL SPOTTING

Discover vibrant murals and hidden urban art across the city that turn every stroll into a photo-worthy adventure. Download the self-guided Downtown Artwork Tour: [bit.ly/DriftscapeNorthBay](https://bit.ly/DriftscapeNorthBay)



## 2 CRUISE THE WATERFRONT

Walk, bike, or relax along the shores of Lake Nipissing, then settle in and unwind as you take in one of North Bay's legendary sunsets.



## 3 EXPLORE MUSEUMS

Step into North Bay's rich past at the North Bay Museum, uncover a world-famous story at the Dionne Quints Museum, and explore Canada's military legacy at the Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence.



## 4 CHASE WATERFALLS AT DUCHESNAY FALLS

Just minutes from downtown, lace up your hiking shoes and enjoy this natural wonder as it cascades its way down the Canadian Shield — a must for visitors craving a beautiful hike, epic photos, and fresh air.



## 5 ENJOY A CONCERT AT THE BANDSHELL

Grab a blanket, bring some snacks, and enjoy the lively sounds of summer with free outdoor music all season long.



## 6 INDULGE IN ICE CREAM

Treat yourself to a creamy, sweet delight while exploring the city's lakes, parks, and downtown streets. Choose from a number of locally owned shops serving up sweet treats.

# 10 FUN THINGS TO DO IN NORTH BAY

for more fun:



## 7 NORTH BAY CRUISERS

Catch the chrome and nostalgia with the North Bay Cruisers, where classic cars and summer evenings come together in true retro style.



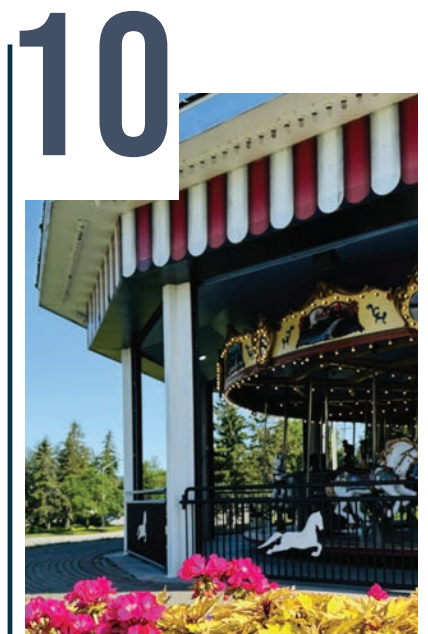
## 8 CANOE LA VASE PORTAGES

Paddle a historic route once travelled by Indigenous and European voyageurs and experience a true connection to Canada's past.



## 9 SWIM AT THE BEACH

Cool off in the clear waters of Trout Lake at The Cove or unwind on North Bay's most popular, Shabogescic Beach where sun, sand, and lakeside fun come together effortlessly for a perfect laid-back summer day.



## 10 THE HERITAGE RAILWAY + CAROUSELS

Find your inner child and step into a world of nostalgia and joy with charming carousels + train ride that delights visitors of all ages.



# A DAY IN THE HEART OF NORTH BAY

written by creative industries



**North Bay's  
arts & culture  
community is a  
MUST DO.**

Beyond its small-town charm, known for attracting film and television producers and tourists alike, Downtown North Bay offers visitors a rich cultural landscape to explore. From lively murals adorning walls and street corners to remarkable art galleries, eclectic artisanal markets, and captivating live performances, a day in the heart of North Bay's arts and culture scene promises an unforgettable journey through the soul of the city.

## **A Morning Street Art Tour**

As the sun rises over the heritage buildings of the downtown core, begin your day with a warm cup of coffee from one of the many cafes and set out on a leisurely stroll that doubles as an outdoor art gallery. The streets come alive with vibrant murals and public art pieces from local and contemporary Canadian artists.

Embark on your own self-guided adventure with the free Downtown Art Tour using the Driftscape app. This easy-to-use tour takes you through the ever-evolving collection of art scattered throughout downtown. Explore at your own pace and experience the colour and vibrancy these works bring to public spaces.

## **Gallery Hopping: A Local Creative Tradition**

From street-side art to indoor gems, North Bay's galleries and shops await along the Main Street corridor. These spaces set the scene for a city tradition known as the Downtown Gallery Hop, a quarterly event where visitors and locals explore participating galleries and enjoy cultural programming.

A must-see stop is the WKP Kennedy Gallery, North Bay's public art gallery located in the Capitol Centre, showcasing a diverse collection of contemporary and traditional works. Nearby, the White Water Gallery—Canada's longest-running artist-run centre—supports local talent while hosting contemporary Canadian artists through thought-provoking exhibitions and events.

No visit is complete without the North Bay Museum, located in the historic Canadian Pacific Railway station. With interactive and artifact-based exhibits for all ages, the museum also hosts popular events throughout the year, including the Retro Video Game Exhibit in spring and Haunted Hikes in fall.

## **Retail Therapy: Local Craftsmanship and Artisan Treasures**

Along Main and Oak streets, shops highlight local artisans and craft makers, offering a variety of locally sourced products.

The FARM – fashion, art, retail market – is a collective of emerging and established designers supporting local and Canadian talent. It offers both a boutique-style retail space and a collaborative workspace, making it a go-to for locally made finds.

For those drawn to hands-on creativity, Stix & Stones offers knitting and crocheting supplies and workshops, inviting visitors to embrace the joy of handmade craftsmanship.

## **Evening Vibes in a Music City**

As evening sets in, North Bay's vibrant music scene comes to life. Start your night at the historic Capitol Centre's Betty Speers Theatre, a heritage venue that has hosted legendary performers such as Johnny Cash, Phyllis Diller, Brenda Lee, and Roy Orbison. Today, it continues to showcase touring artists and local talent, including the North Bay Symphony and Blues Fest.

Looking to keep the night going? Head to Lou Dawgs on Main Street East, a local favourite featuring live music most days of the week.

For a taste of Latin flavour, take a short walk to La Casa de Maria, where authentic Mexican and Latin American cuisine meets lively evening entertainment, from DJ nights to live bands and salsa dancing.

If you're visiting in late August, don't miss the Bay Block Party, the largest annual street festival in the north, where downtown transforms into a music lover's dream. Festival season aside, any time of year is the right time to experience live music across the city.

After a day spent exploring, shopping, and enjoying live entertainment, it's time to unwind and reflect on the artistic pulse that defines Downtown North Bay. Whether it's the first stop on your itinerary or the last, the city's arts and culture scene is a must-experience, with local artisans, musicians, shops, and venues ready to welcome you.

# CELEBRATING FRANCOPHONIE: LES COMPAGNONS DES FRANCS LOISIRS, A CULTURAL BEACON IN NORTH BAY

written by Les Compagnons des Francs Loisirs

## VIBRANT, FRENCH, AND THRIVING

In North Bay, Francophone culture is a living, evolving part of the city's identity. At the heart of this vibrant community stands Les Compagnons des francs loisirs, an organization that has been nurturing French language and culture in the region for more than sixty years.

Founded in 1963, Les Compagnons has grown alongside the community it serves. Over the decades, the organization has helped create countless moments that bring people together—concerts, cultural gatherings, celebrations, and community activities where residents can connect, share, and celebrate in French.

Today, the Francophone community in North Bay reflects the diversity of Northern Ontario itself. Long-established Franco-Ontarian traditions meet new cultural influences brought by Francophones from across Canada and around the world. Les Compagnons continues to play a key role in bringing these different voices together through culture.

## A CULTURAL SEASON GUIDED BY DIVERSITY

For the 2026–2027 cultural season, one word captures the vision of Les Compagnons: diversity.

Each year, beloved artists return to North Bay while new voices from the wider Francophone world are introduced to local audiences. Together, they create programming that celebrates both tradition and innovation, reflecting a Francophone identity that continues to grow and evolve.



## SUMMER 2026

Summer offers many opportunities to experience Francophone culture in North Bay.

Artist Gabrielle Goulet will perform at Leisure Farms for a lively outdoor concert. She will also present a free show near the North Bay marina, inviting residents and visitors alike to enjoy an evening of music by the waterfront. Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day remains another important moment for the community to gather and celebrate Francophone heritage. A highlight of the season will take place in June with “Vacances” by Flip Fabrique, presented during Culture Nights in partnership with the City of North Bay. This travelling performance transforms public spaces into vibrant stages where acrobatics, theatre, and community spirit come together.

## FALL 2026

Autumn begins with one of the most meaningful celebrations for Franco-Ontarians: Franco-Ontarian Day on September 25. This year's festivities will feature artist Zale Seck, whose energetic rhythms and multicultural influences reflect the richness of the global Francophonie.

This year, the celebration carries special significance with the presence of a permanent Franco-Ontarian flagpole in front of City Hall, where the green and white flag now proudly flies—a daily reminder of the French-speaking roots that are part of North Bay's story.

In October, families can enjoy the popular Pumpkin Hunt at Champlain Park, a festive fall event featuring free activities such as bouncy castles, pumpkin decorating, mazes, and outdoor games.

The season continues in November in Sturgeon Falls, where beloved Franco-Ontarian singer Damien Robitaille will bring his creativity and vibrant stage presence to audiences.

For those who enjoy traditional social gatherings, square dancing evenings will also be offered more frequently this year—bringing people of all ages together around this classic French-Canadian pastime.

## WINTER 2027

Winter in North Bay would not be complete without the Carnaval des Compagnons, a beloved celebration that now carries more than 64 years of tradition.

Throughout the month, Carnaval brings the community together with a wide range of activities that showcase the spirit of Northern Ontario winters. Visitors can plan their weekends around events they enjoy most—whether it's taking part in an ice-fishing tournament, trying curling with Club Richelieu North Bay, or attending a lively improvisation match with LINO.

Families can also enjoy Welcome to Winter in North Bay, a festive outdoor day featuring sliding, skating, fireworks, and street animation, where residents and visitors gather to celebrate the season together.

Another highlight is Journée Boréal, a winter celebration for families that encourages everyone to experience the joy of the outdoors. The festivities are complemented by a special performance from a talented artist at the Capitol Centre, adding a memorable touch to the Carnaval season.

Designed as a month-long celebration, the Carnaval offers something new each day—making it the perfect time to experience winter in North Bay at its most festive.

## SPRING 2027

Spring continues the cultural season with hands-on workshops that celebrate traditional craftsmanship and heritage.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore activities such as limberjack (bonhomme gigueux) workshops, pottery workshops, and traditional sash weaving. These workshops will take place across the region, including Mattawa, North Bay, Nipissing West, and East Ferris, allowing communities throughout the region to participate.

March is also Francophonie Month, highlighted by the Souper de la Francophonie organized by Club Richelieu Sturgeon Falls. The event brings together community leaders, artists, and residents to celebrate French language and culture. Throughout the month, renowned francophone artists will also visit the Nipissing region to take part in the festivities.

## A COMMUNITY ACTIVE AT EVERY AGE

The vitality of North Bay's Francophone community can also be seen in programs designed for older adults. At the Centre de vie active – Compagnons d'Or, French-speaking seniors gather regularly to stay active, build friendships, and participate in social activities in their language. These initiatives play a quiet but important role in strengthening community connections and well-being.

## A FRANCOPHONE COMMUNITY THAT CONTINUES TO GROW

What began more than six decades ago with a handful of determined families has grown into a vibrant and welcoming community. Today, North Bay's Francophonie continues to flourish—supported by strong traditions and enriched by the cultures and stories of those who now call the region home.

As a new cultural season approaches, one message stands out clearly: in North Bay, diversity is not only welcomed—it is celebrated.

for more:



# SUMMER



Summer in North Bay is an enchanting symphony of sun-kissed adventures and natural splendor that leaves visitors and locals alike in awe.

Nestled amidst the picturesque landscapes of Northern Ontario, the city of North Bay transforms into an oasis of excitement and relaxation as warm rays dance upon shimmering lakes, sandy beaches and lush forests.

Whether enjoying the day on the serene, sandy shores of Lake Nipissing, or taking in the exciting outdoor adventures like hiking along the breathtaking Duchesnay Falls, paddling the deep waters of Trout Lake or biking the Three Towers Trail System, there is an endless array of activities to discover.

The vibrant atmosphere comes alive with fun festivals, bustling markets, and outdoor music and entertainment to enjoy under starlit skies. All these experiences forge bonds and create memories that last a lifetime.

Embrace the warmth of North Bay's northern hospitality where locals greet visitors with open arms and share their rich heritage through captivating stories and delightful cuisine.

The spirit of summer in North Bay is not just a season; it's an enchanting journey that revitalizes the soul and encourages visitors to immerse themselves in the awe-inspiring wonders of this Canadian paradise.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES + EVENTS:

- Bay Block Party
- Bike the Kate Pace Way
- Boatapalooza
- Ride the Chief Commanda II
- FREE Music concerts at the Kiwanis Band Shell
- Golf
- Helicopter Flights
- Heritage Carousel & Mini Train
- Nipissing Bass Masters Tournament
- North Bay Pride
- North Bay Farmers' Market including Strawberry & Corn Festivals
- Paddle Trout Lake
- Sail Lake Nipissing
- Shake The Lake Ribfest

*for more summer fun:*



# STEP, SNAP, DISCOVER: SELF-GUIDED TOURS IN NORTH BAY

Discover North Bay at your own pace with self-guided tours powered by the DriftScape app. From history and art to hidden gems and scenic spots, the app makes exploring the city interactive, fun, and effortless.

The app also acts as your personal navigator, helping you move easily between attractions and free self-guided tours ensuring you don't miss any highlights. You can also listen and interact in English, French, Dutch and Spanish, making it accessible to many.

Art lovers can follow the "Downtown Art Tour", that takes you through the ever-evolving collection of art scattered throughout the downtown. Pause for a photo or dive into the stories behind each piece for a deeper appreciation of the city's creativity.

Modern-day adventurers will be captivated by whispers of the past with each paddle stroke along the "Legendary Waterways" tour that includes Lake Nipissing, La Vase River Portages, Trout Lake and The Mattawa River.

The "Farmstand Gravel Cycling Tour" offers an engaging ride through scenic farmland featuring rolling hills, waterways, and lush forested areas. Quiet roadways with both paved and hard-pack gravel sections lead you to a variety of farm gate stands offering produce, meat, baked goods, maple syrup, preserves and artisanal crafts.

The fan favourite is the "Top 10 Holiday Movie Hot Spots", which guides you to locations featured in beloved holiday films filmed right in North Bay. From cozy cafés to snowy street corners, it's perfect for families, film buffs, and anyone looking for a bit of festive magic.

Whether you're a first-time visitor or a local looking to see North Bay from a fresh perspective, self-guided walking tours are an immersive, interactive way to connect with the city. Download the app, lace up your walking shoes, and let North Bay reveal its secrets one step at a time.

Pro tip: Keep your phone charged and wear comfy shoes—adventure is just around the corner!



Nestled among the rolling landscapes and pristine wilderness of Northern Ontario, North Bay has quietly become a must-visit destination for golf enthusiasts seeking both challenge and natural beauty. The region is home to a collection of courses that cater to every level of player, from beginners looking to enjoy a relaxed round to seasoned golfers chasing their next test.

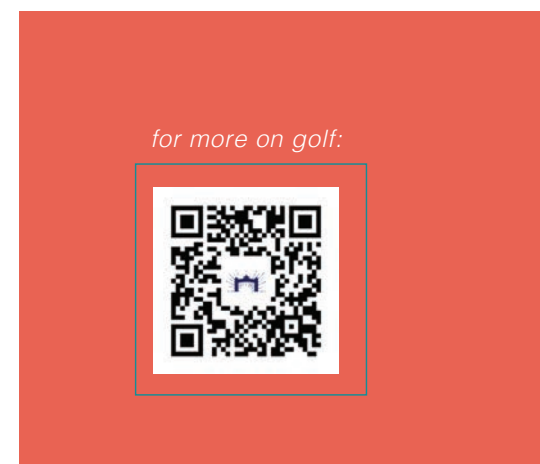
Public courses such as Highview Golf Course and Clear Springs Golf Course showcase the area's signature terrain, blending tree-lined fairways, elevation changes, and strategic hazards. Highview offers a welcoming, scenic experience ideal for all skill levels, while Clear Springs—recognized as a hidden gem in Canada—demands precision with its narrow fairways and well-placed bunkers.

Nearby, Osprey Links Golf Course and Laurentide Golf Course provide distinct playing styles. Osprey Links combines a classic links-style front nine with a forested back nine, while Laurentide winds along the scenic Sturgeon River, offering a balance of challenge and playability.

For those seeking a quick yet memorable round, Terrace Suites Golf Course delivers a unique executive layout set against breathtaking views of Callander Bay, perfect for sharpening short-game skills in a relaxed setting. Meanwhile, Pinewood Park Golf Course offers convenience and versatility, pairing an enjoyable course with on-site accommodations and amenities.

At the pinnacle of the region's golf scene is the prestigious North Bay Golf & Country Club. Designed by renowned architect Stanley Thompson, this championship course challenges players with its length, water features, and meticulously maintained greens, all set against panoramic escarpment views.

With diverse course designs, stunning scenery, and a welcoming golf community, North Bay offers more than just a round—it delivers a complete Northern Ontario golf experience.





### 1 MAAMWI KINDAASWIN POW-WOW

Experience the heartbeat of Indigenous culture as powerful drumming, breathtaking regalia, traditional dancing, and authentic food come together in a celebration that is both moving and unforgettable.



### 2 NORTH BAY POUTINE FEAST

Indulge in Canada's most iconic comfort food reimagined in deliciously creative ways — then vote for your favourite while enjoying live entertainment and lakeside summer vibes.



### 3 LA SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CELEBRATION

Immerse yourself in vibrant French-Canadian culture with live music, family-friendly activities, and a joyful community atmosphere proudly celebrated by Les Compagnons des francs loisirs.



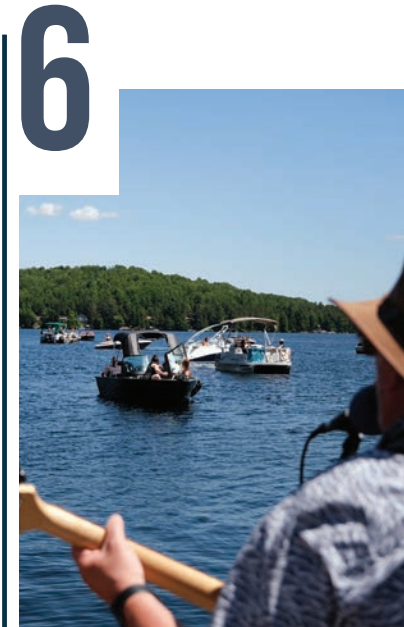
### 4 SHAKE THE LAKE RIBFEST

Follow the smoky aroma to the waterfront where award-winning rib teams, cold drinks, and live music create the ultimate summer BBQ experience — all with a view of Lake Nipissing.



### 5 HOT SUMMER NIGHT MUSIC FESTIVAL

Grab a lawn chair, feel the breeze off the water, and settle in for a free outdoor concert showcasing incredible local and regional talent under a glowing North Bay sunset.



### 6 BOATAPALOOZA

Pull up by boat, paddle in by kayak, or claim a coveted patio seat at Average Joe's on Trout Lake and enjoy live music in one of the most uniquely North Bay summer settings imaginable.

# 10 SUMMER FESTIVALS YOU CAN'T MISS IN NORTH BAY

for more:



“North Bay – a vibrant lakeside city that transforms into a festival wonderland during the warmer months.”



### 7 ON THE EDGE FRINGE FESTIVAL

Discover bold, original, and unexpected performances as theatre, comedy, dance, and experimental art take centre stage in an intimate festival that celebrates creativity without limits.



### 8 BAY BLOCK PARTY

Downtown North Bay transforms into a high-energy street celebration filled with live music, local eats, patio culture, and a buzzing crowd that captures the city's welcoming spirit.



### 9 AFRO-CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL

Feel the rhythm, taste the flavour, and celebrate the rich traditions of African and Caribbean cultures through music, dance, food, and vibrant community connection.



### 10 NORTH BAY PRIDE

Celebrate love, inclusion, and community with colourful parades, live performances, and joyful events that make Pride in North Bay both heartfelt and high-energy.

# CAPTIVATING ENVIRONMENTS



written by north bay-mattawa conservation authority

Ready for an outdoor adventure like no other? North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority (NBMCA) offers an escape into nature, with 15 stunning conservation areas and multi-use trails waiting to be explored. Whether you're looking for a wilderness hike, the thrill of mountain biking, or the relaxation of a beachside picnic, this region has it all—a combination of natural beauty, rich history, and outdoor fun.

NBMCA's conservation areas are more than just scenic spots—they are vital, protected landscapes designed to preserve diverse ecosystems for future generations. These captivating environments offer visitors a chance to reconnect with nature, appreciate biodiversity, and understand the importance of NBMCA's conservation efforts. Conservation areas play an essential role in helping prevent and reduce harmful impacts of climate change and flooding, preserve and improve water quality, and create

habitat for a variety of wildlife, fish and birds.

Pack your hiking boots, binoculars, mountain bike, paddle, fishing rod, or camera and set out to experience the awe-inspiring views and vistas of our near north forests, wetlands, and waterways!

North Bay is home to seven amazing conservation areas and trails to explore within the City:

## Laurentian Escarpment Conservation Area

Take in the breathtaking views of North Bay, Lake Nipissing and the surrounding area from this scenic location. Hikers, dog-walkers, and mountain bikers share the multi-use trails and younger visitors will love the children's storybook along the McNutt Family Trail installed in partnership with the Community Oriented Outdoor Literacy (COOL) group. Also found are the remnants of a historic 53-foot ski

jump, built in 1936 by Laurentian Ski Club volunteers and was once a site for local and provincial ski competitions for several years, until WWII started.

## Laurier Woods Conservation Area

Spanning 101 hectares (250 acres), Laurier Woods is home to over 33 species of birds and serves as a stopover for an array of migratory birds. With over 6.5 km of trails that wind through a provincially significant wetland, rocky outcrops, and upland forests, this conservation area is perfect for hiking and wildlife viewing. Don't miss Michael's Boardwalk and the Haist Viewing Platform for some of the best views of the area. Owned and managed in partnership between NBMCA and the Friends of Laurier Woods, this conservation area is a tribute to the power of community collaboration and environmental stewardship.

## La Vase Portages and Elks Beach Conservation Areas

Travel back in time as you explore these sites rich in history, where First Nations, fur traders, and Voyageurs made their way by canoe between the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. The waterways at these two conservation areas connect to Trout Lake and Mattawa River, which bears the prestige of being named a Canadian Heritage River System. Historic plaques at both conservation areas mark the significance of these two sites in Canada's history books.

## Eva Wardlaw Conservation Area

For a peaceful spot to relax, enjoy a picnic, and admire sunrises and sunsets on Lake Nipissing, this is the spot. Here, you'll also find a backflow control structure that protects approximately 500 properties by managing water flow between Lake Nipissing and Parks Creek during high water events, making it both beautiful and vital for local flood management.

## Kate Pace Way and Kinsmen Trail

Looking for a paved path to explore? The 12 km Kate Pace Way (named in honour of Olympic skier and North Bay native Kate Pace Lindsay), offers a perfect route for biking, walking, rollerblading, or e-biking along the Lake Nipissing Waterfront or to the Municipality of Callander's 2.5 km Cranberry Trail. The 5.4 km Kinsmen



Trail, another paved trail, features the Chippewa Creek EcoPath and Miskwaadesi (Ojibwe for Painted Turtle), a turtle-shaped granite petroform and amphitheatre, a tribute to the traditional lands and teachings of the Anishinaabe, built in partnership with the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre.

Whether you're hiking through lush forests, biking along scenic waterfronts, or simply soaking up the stunning landscapes, NBMCA's conservation areas and trails offer endless opportunities for outdoor enjoyment!

For dog owners, your furry companions are welcome but remember to keep them on a leash to ensure everyone's safety—human, wildlife, and your pet. Be sure to dispose of any pet waste responsibly to help keep the trails clean and safe for everyone!

So, what are you waiting for? Grab your gear and hit the trails to experience the stunning natural beauty and rich history of the area.

For trail maps and directions to all 15 NBMCA's conservation areas and trails, visit: [nbmca.ca/conservation-areas/find-a-conservation-area](http://nbmca.ca/conservation-areas/find-a-conservation-area)



# NORTH BAY: WHERE PRIDE LIVES YEAR-ROUND

written by Seth Compton  
from Northern Lights Equity Consulting

## THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT NORTH BAY.

Set along the shores of Lake Nipissing, this vibrant Northern Ontario city offers more than postcard sunsets and waterfront trails — it offers belonging. For 2SLGBTQI+ travellers, North Bay isn't just welcoming during Pride week. Inclusivity here is lived, practiced, and celebrated every day of the year.

This is a place where you can hold hands on the waterfront, meet friends at a show downtown, browse queer-led art spaces, and feel completely at ease doing it.

## A QUEER-FRIENDLY CITY AT HEART

North Bay's 2SLGBTQI+ community is visible, creative, and deeply rooted. Across the whole city, you'll find queer-owned and queer-affirming businesses woven naturally into the city's culture.

From café's to bookstores, art galleries to evening hotspots - these spaces offer more than great coffee or handcrafted goods they create hubs of connection, creativity, and community pride.

North Bay's foundation of care is reflected in the many organizations, practitioners, and peer groups that prioritize inclusion and wellbeing. Community organizations such as OUTloud North Bay help anchor the city's queer leadership, youth programming, and advocacy work. The North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre, the YMCA, and the North Bay Public Library offer welcoming programs for people of all ages.

Here, queer culture isn't tucked away — it's part of the city's pulse.

## A QUEER WEEKEND ITINERARY IN NORTH BAY

### FRIDAY: ARRIVE & UNWIND

Check in, then head straight to the waterfront. Walk or roll along the scenic Kate Pace Way as the sun sets over Lake Nipissing. Dinner downtown might mean community vibes at Cecil's Brewhouse & Kitchen or comfort food and conversation at The Moose Cookhouse. Cap off the night with drag bingo, live music, or trivia at one of the city's inclusive nightlife spots like Fox and Fiddle or Lou Dawgs.

### SATURDAY: CULTURE & CONNECTION

Fuel up with coffee and conversation at Twiggs Coffee Roasters or Gd2Go Coffee Co. before diving into North Bay's creative side. Explore White Water Gallery, browse local stores, or attend a workshop at Good Atlas.

Lunch at Crossroads Convenience or Casey's Bar & Grill before visiting the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre or the North Bay Museum to deepen your understanding of the region's layered history and identities. If outdoors is more your thing then take a trip down memory lane with a ride on our Heritage Railway and Carousel before soaking up the sunshine at one of the beautiful beaches on either Lake Nipissing or Trout lake.

Evening belongs to performance — whether it's live theatre, a touring act, or a local drag showcase at the Capitol Centre, you'll find storytelling that reflects the community's diversity and joy. Fans of gaming and pop culture will find welcoming environments at North Bay Games & Hobbies and Outpost Gaming.

### SUNDAY: COMMUNITY & CALM

Slow down with brunch and lakeside views. Connect with local groups or check community boards for meetups hosted by OUTloud North Bay or North Bay Pride. Before heading home, take one last walk along the water or visit Duchesnay Falls — a short beautiful walk to a cascading waterfall on the Laurentian Escarpment.

## PRIDE IN NORTH BAY

Each year, North Bay Pride transforms the city into a colourful celebration of visibility and joy. The Pride Parade fills downtown with music and movement, while film screenings, workshops, markets, and family-friendly events create space for every generation to participate.

But what makes Pride here special is that it doesn't feel like a single event — it feels like a reflection of the community year-round. Markets spotlight queer makers. Creative festivals uplift 2SLGBTQI+ artists. Local venues host drag performances and inclusive gatherings throughout every season.

Pride in North Bay is both celebration and commitment — a promise that everyone deserves to feel safe, seen, and supported.

## MORE THAN A VISIT

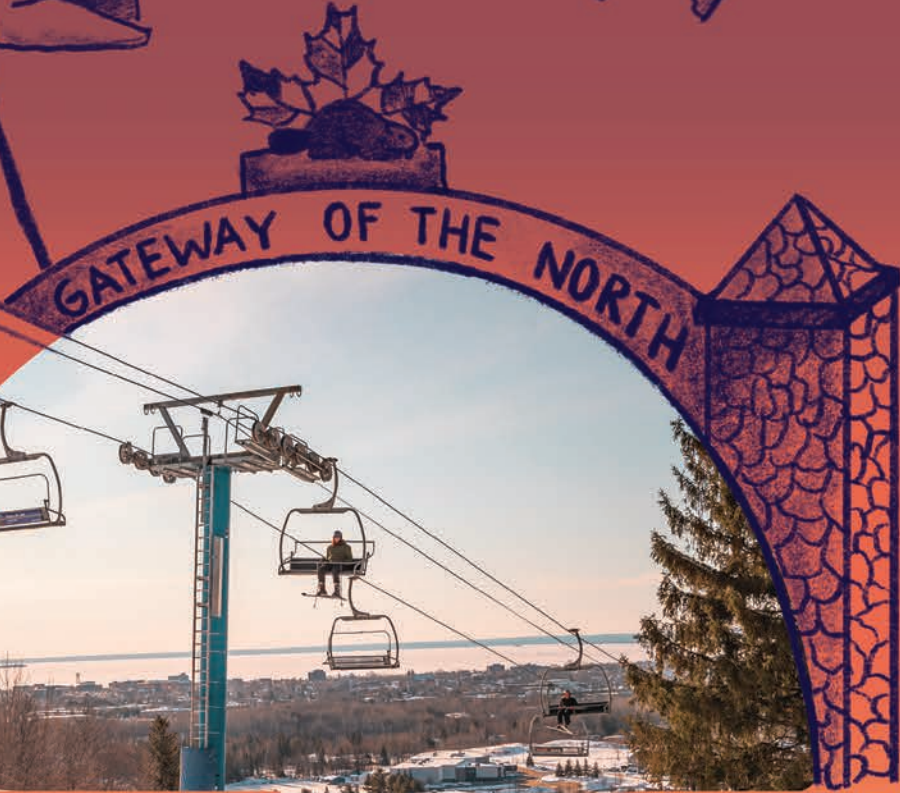
North Bay offers something increasingly rare: a smaller city where queer travellers can experience outdoor adventure, arts and culture, nightlife, and genuine community — all in one weekend.

Swim at the beach. Paddle at sunset. Browse indie bookshelves. Laugh loudly over dinner.

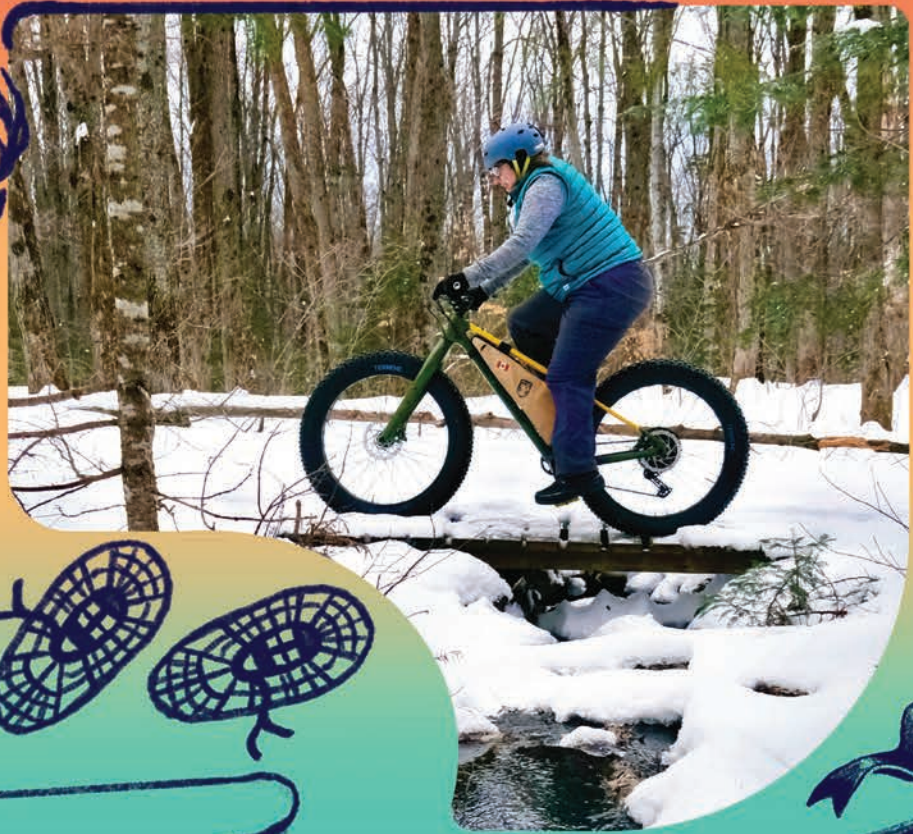
And feel, unmistakably, that you belong.

In North Bay, Pride isn't just an event. It's part of the landscape.





f @Jolin @TourismNorthbay



# FALL



## FALL ACTIVITIES + EVENTS:

- Scenic Fall Colours Tour
- Fall Family Fun Farm Days
- Catch a North Bay Battalion Home Game
- Haunted Hikes with the North Bay Museum
- Halloween Events
- Soiree Franco
- Capitol Centre Shows
- Head fore a round of golf
- North Bay Farmers' Markets
- Paddle Lake Nipissing
- Hike Duchesnay Falls
- Cycle Laurentian Escarpment
- North Bay Film Festival

*for more fall fun:*



As the summer sun gives way to cooler temperatures and the leaves transform into a kaleidoscope of vibrant colours, North Bay emerges as a place of unparalleled natural beauty during the fall season.

The city's numerous parks and nature reserves become enchanting wonderlands, when the lush green foliage gives way to a palette of fiery reds, deep oranges, and brilliant yellows, each offering a unique blend of autumn hues. Be it the towering hardwoods of Laurier Woods Conservation Area, the Kinsmen Trail or the EcoPath that meanders down the escarpment, these stunning areas which also link up with the famous Kate Pace Way, offer captivating vistas of the fall foliage.

Paddlers and fishing enthusiasts can take to the waters of one of the region's numerous rivers and lakes, where the mirrored surface reflects the vibrant colours of autumn, creating a mesmerizing visual symphony.



The fall season is not just about picturesque landscapes but also a time for celebration. It is for this reason that the city is host to a range of events and festivals that highlight the region's culture and natural beauty. From harvest and film festivals to art exhibitions inspired by the season, there's always something to engage the senses and celebrate the splendor of autumn.

Whether you're a leaf peeper, an outdoor adventurer, or simply someone looking to revel in the beauty of fall, North Bay stands ready to welcome you with open arms and a tapestry of breathtaking colours.



# EXPERIENCE THE THRILL

*written by Jeff Mcgirr, local powersports enthusiast*

Imagine a place that embraced off-roading and snowmobiling so much that no matter which direction you looked you would find riding opportunities. Did you know a place like this exists? Do you dream about off-road 4x4 adventures, and two-wheel trails nestled within mega terrain and stunning forests? Or perhaps snowmobile heavens of interconnected trails, deep abundant snow, and ride-to-your-door services? You may think to reach such an amazing place you would have to drive dozens of hours, but the reality is North Bay is just 3 hours north of Toronto, 4 hours west of Ottawa and less than 6 hours from major USA-Ontario border crossings.

## Off-Road Trails

The topography in the region lends itself to naturally create some of the best off-road riding adventures. This diverse terrain formed by glacier activity thousands of years ago mixes rock, gravel, sand, loams, and soils creating the perfect mix of terra-firm for powersports adventures. Atop the landscape, you will be within the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Forest which boasts plenty of multifarious vegetation and in the fall expect to see



stunning fall colours. There's a bounty of riding opportunities in all directions, offering great adventures no matter your method of transportation. To get you started I've provided a synopsis of the best and easiest to access off-road destinations in the area.

The Voyageur Multi-Use Trail System is located just a few minutes east of North Bay within the foothills of the Laurentian Mountain range. Here you will find 300km's of signed, mapped, and marked off-road multi-use trails. This trail system boasts varied terrain for all experience levels and vehicle

types such as ATV, SXS, Off-Road or Adventure Motorcycle, and even 4x4 Trucks and Jeeps. Within the trail system, you can expect to find several unique points of interest including the historic Purdy Mica Mine which dates back to the 1940s, majestic lookouts including the scenic Redbridge Lookout, and Birds Eye View as well as crystal clear lakes. The trail system can be accessed via a few different points, including via Songis Road by Camp Conewango as well as three separate points to the north of the town of Mattawa off of Highway 533.

In addition to the extension and best-in-class VMUTS trail system opportunities exist for off-road explorers to venture onto an abundance of crown land trails in the area, of popular note are two locations, the first being south of Bonfield and east of Powassan in Boulter Township and the second being just north of the city at Sand Dam Road., in both locations you will find an abundance of exploration opportunities on unmaintained old colonization and logging roads, remote backcountry lakes and even mythological sites.

## Snowmobile Trails

You can ride anywhere from North Bay; it's one of the many reasons why it is such a great place to snowmobile. Trails in the immediate area offer great diversity combining twisting forest trails with plenty of elevation change, wide open utility corridors that lead to extensive vistas, scenic lake runs accordingly marked, and even self-guided snow tours that take in unique points of interest that offer learnings from a local legend. It's common for the area to have one of the longest snowmobile seasons in the province, sometimes stretching from December into April, this extensive season allows for local clubs to build an ample base providing some of the best quality trails you will find anywhere.

The Near North Trail Association along with its local member clubs, the North Bay Snowmobile Club and South Shore Snowmobile Club, maintain some of the world's greatest snowmobile trails that connect directly to the city of North Bay. Popular in the area are three world-renowned snowmobile tours including the Ride Around Algonquin Park (RAP) tour, the Ride Around Nipissing Tour (RAN) and the Explorers Snow Tour.

North Bay is a popular destination to ride out of for day trips as you can ride in all directions and access thousands of kilometers of maintained snowmobile trails. While riding the trails in the area it's common to see an abundance of wildlife including moose and deer and even occasionally the evasive lynx. The area is also a great choice to base

when heading even further north as the main provincial TOP A and TOP D trails run right through North Bay.

The local hotels and motels are snowmobile friendly, with many offering secure snowmobile lock-up parking, plenty of room for trucks and trailers, and easy access to fuel, restaurants, and most importantly direct trail ride from your door access.

For more detailed rider resources:



# THREE MUSEUMS; ONE INCREDIBLE NORTH BAY STORY



## MISKWAADESI

written by The North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre

Step beyond North Bay's stunning waterfront and outdoor adventures to uncover the stories that shaped this northern Ontario city. From the railway that founded the city to world-famous sisters to a top-secret Cold War command centre, North Bay's museums reveal a rich and surprising history waiting to be explored.

### DISCOVER LOCAL STORIES AT THE NORTH BAY MUSEUM

Located in the heart of downtown inside the historic Canadian Pacific Railway station, the North Bay Museum invites visitors to explore the city's roots. Through immersive exhibits, artifacts and photographs, you'll uncover stories of Indigenous heritage, early settlers, railways, logging and the industries that built the region.

Engaging and family-friendly, the museum does an exceptional job of connecting past to present. Interactive displays and rotating exhibitions ensure there's always something new to discover, whether you're a first-time visitor or returning to dive deeper into North Bay's layered history. It's the perfect starting point for understanding how this northern community grew into the vibrant city it is today.

### MEET THE WORLD-FAMOUS SISTERS AT THE DIONNE QUINTS MUSEUM

Just a short walk away, the Dionne Quints Museum shares one of the most extraordinary birth stories in Canadian history. In 1934, the Dionne quintuplets became the first known identical quintuplets to survive infancy, drawing global attention to North Bay.

Housed in the original Callander home where the sisters were born, the museum features personal artifacts, photographs and memorabilia that paint a vivid picture of their early lives and international fame. Visitors gain insight not only into the media frenzy that surrounded the sisters, but also into the complex social and political issues of the time. It's a moving and thought-provoking experience that reveals how five tiny lives left an enormous mark on the world.

### GO UNDERGROUND AT THE CANADIAN FORCES MUSEUM OF AEROSPACE DEFENCE

For a completely different chapter of local history, head to the Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence. This museum tells the powerful story of North Bay's critical role in continental defence during the Cold War.

Exhibits highlight the city's underground bunker—once described as “the hole” that helped protect North America—along with radar technology, aircraft models and compelling personal accounts from those who served. Visitors will leave with a new appreciation for North Bay's strategic military importance and the dedicated people who worked behind the scenes to keep skies secure.

Together, these three must-visit attractions offer a fascinating look at the people and events that shaped North Bay. Whether you're a history enthusiast or simply curious, they offer unforgettable experiences that connect you to the stories that define this northern Ontario destination.

Nestled along the scenic Chippewa Creek EcoPath in North Bay, visitors can step into and experience the enchanting sanctuary of “Miskwaadesi” (in Ojibwe, means “Painted Turtle”). This remarkable partnership in between the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre (NBIFC) and the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority (NBMCA) blends cultural heritage and nature seamlessly.

As you explore, immerse yourself in a vibrant tapestry of Indigenous wisdom and traditions interwoven with the beauty of nature. Four majestic cedar posts in yellow, red, black, and white beckon you to journey through the Medicine Wheel—a spiritual compass guiding us through life's complexities and our connection to Mother Earth.

Miskwaadesi's shell depicts the 13 moons of the lunar calendar with 13 large scutes, while 28 smaller scutes represent the days in between. This turtle also honors the Anishinaabe creation story, acknowledging Indigenous

heritage in an urban setting where over 8,000 Indigenous people reside.

More than a cultural gem, Miskwaadesi is an oasis for environmental restoration and community. NBIFC and NBMCA work tirelessly to reintroduce native plants to the habitat and by the creek, seven stones symbolize the Seven Grandfather Teachings: Love, Honesty, Courage, Wisdom, Truth, Humility, and Respect. This unique outdoor space is also an amphitheatre which welcomes gatherings for performances or peaceful reflection on Miskwaadesi's teachings.

Embark on a journey of culture, nature, and tradition with each step strengthening your bond with the land and its wisdom. Be enchanted by the “Painted Turtle,” and let your spirit soar amid Chippewa Creek EcoPath's tranquil beauty.

Visit: [nbifc.org/culture/miskwaadesi-painted-turtle-ampitheatre](http://nbifc.org/culture/miskwaadesi-painted-turtle-ampitheatre)



more information on the Indigenous history:



1



### PADDLE INTO COLOURS

glide across Trout Lake as the shoreline bursts into red and golds, where every stroke feels like you're moving through a living painting.

2



### HIKE THE SEASON

Follow forested trails, chase waterfalls, and wander along scenic pathways where crisp air and crunching leaves make every step unforgettable.

3



### RIDE THROUGH THE RAINBOW

From granite ridges to flowing forest trails, cycling in North Bay means carving through a canvas of autumn colour at your own pace.

4



### EMBRACE FARM-FRESH FALL FUN

Get lost in a corn maze, sip hot chocolate by the bonfire, and pick the perfect pumpkin—it's the kind of simple joy that defines the season.

5



### TAKE IN THE VIEW FROM THE TOP

Soar above the treetops on a scenic chairlift and watch the city glow beneath a patchwork of vibrant leaves.

6



### ADVENTURE OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Explore winding backcountry trails on ATV, side-by-side or dirt bike, where every turn reveals another sweeping view of fall at its boldest.

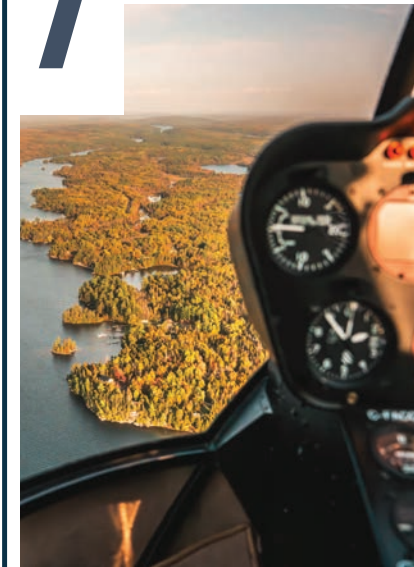
# 8 WAYS TO EXPERIENCE FALL AT ITS FINEST

"FALL DOESN'T JUST ARRIVE IN NORTH BAY — IT PUTS ON A SHOW."

for more:



7



### SEE IT FROM THE SKY

Lift off for a bird's-eye view of the Laurentian landscape and watch North Bay transform into a breathtaking sea of colour below.

8



### FALL FAIR AT THE FARMER'S MARKET

Celebrate the season at the North Bay Farmers' Market Fall Fair, where fresh harvest flavours, local makers, and small-city charm come together in one festive autumn experience.

# Taste THE BAY

## NORTH BAY, ON



for more culinary fun:



North Bay is a hidden culinary gem that offers a diverse range of gastronomic experiences for food and drink enthusiasts. From farm stands to unique vegan options and food truck variety, North Bay has something to tantalize every palate.

Let's embark on a culinary adventure through this vibrant city.



### CULINARY DELIGHT

Taste The Bay is a new culinary initiative aimed at showcasing the city's vibrant food and drink scene. This flavoursome program invites visitors and locals alike to indulge in a wide array of local culinary delights, a true taste of the diverse and flavourful northern offerings. This new program will continue to be built upon to feature a range of dining experiences, from restaurant tours to food and drink pairings, seasonal prix fixe 3 course dinner menus, cocktail mixing events, chef-led experiences and so much more. Find out more information here: [tourismnorthbay.com/taste-the-bay](http://tourismnorthbay.com/taste-the-bay).

### FARM STANDS AND FRESH PRODUCE

North Bay and its surrounding areas are blessed with fertile farmlands that yield a bounty of fresh produce. One of the best ways to experience this agricultural richness is by visiting local farm stands. These stands offer a direct connection to local farmers and their offerings. You can find a variety of fruits, vegetables, herbs, and more, that can inspire your culinary endeavours.

If you are short on time and can not spend a day touring, be sure to stop in to the North Bay Farmers' Market that runs year round. Summer markets run rain or shine every Wednesday and Saturday mornings in front of the North Bay Museum and Winter markets are open on Saturday mornings inside on the lower level of the Kennedy Building downtown. Recognized as one of the province's best, the Farmers' Market is a definite must when you are in North Bay.

### MAPLE SYRUP FUN

North Bay is surrounded by multiple maple syrup farms, and it's a delightful tradition to indulge in maple-themed festivities during the syrup season. Typically occurring in early spring, maple syrup events offer a unique opportunity to experience the sweet magic of maple production.

You can visit local sugar bushes to see how maple sap is transformed into the golden nectar we all love. Many sugar shacks offer tours, demonstrations and, of course, the chance to enjoy delicious maple-infused treats like pancakes, maple taffy, and more. It's a sweet educational experience that showcases a beloved Canadian tradition.

### RESTAURANTS AND CAFÉS

North Bay boasts a wide range of restaurants, catering to all culinary preferences and group sizes. Whether you are a fan of Canadian comfort food, international cuisine, or exotic flavours, you will find a range of dining establishments to satisfy your cravings.

There are also a number of restaurants prioritizing local ingredients allowing them to change their menus to reflect the season. This ensures that diners get a taste of the freshest, locally grown ingredients, and it also supports the sustainability of local agriculture.

### VEGAN AND PLANT-BASED OPTIONS

Vegan and plant-based dining has been on the rise, and North Bay is no exception. The city has seen a surge in vegan-friendly eateries, making it an appealing destination for those who follow a plant-based lifestyle. From vegan soups to plant-based burgers, creative salads and desserts, there's a diverse range of options reflecting the increasing demand for vegan and vegetarian preferences.

### FOOD TRUCK OPTIONS

These mobile culinary delights are often found at local events, festivals, and popular gathering spots, adding a vibrant and dynamic element to the city's food scene. From gourmet burgers and tantalizing tacos to artisanal ice cream and international flavors, food trucks in North Bay ensure that locals and visitors alike can savor a diverse selection of delectable dishes while enjoying the city's scenic beauty.



### LOCAL BREWERIES

When you are ready to wash all this food down with some locally award-winning breweries then you need to head to Gateway City Brewery and Cecil's Brewhouse and Kitchen.

With the owners of Gateway City Brewery sharing a deep sense of pride for North Bay and wanting to see the city flourish they are crafting interesting and approachable vegan beers & hard seltzers. They figured what better way to spread that love for their city than with great tasting, fresh craft beer named directly after unique locations and attractions in North Bay.





# SPEND THE DAY AT THESE CONSERVATION PARKS

written by north bay-mattawa conservation authority

## DO YOU HAVE THE HEART OF AN EXPLORER?

At North Bay - Mattawa Conservation Authority (NBMCA) conservation areas throughout the region, you'll discover the thundering waterfalls of Eau Claire Gorge, the footprints of glaciers at Corbeil, the spectacular views of Almaguin Highlands from Powassan Mountain, the "meeting of two rivers" at Mattawa Island, and the Lake Trout of Papineau Lake.

*Corbeil Conservation Area (15 minutes east of North Bay, off Hwys 17 & 94)*

Corbeil Conservation Area includes part of the historic LaVase River and its floodplain. Recognizing its unique ecological features, NBMCA developed a self-guided, 1.8 km trail which leads visitors through a variety of landscapes. Several interpretive sites detail the changes that occurred in the forest over time. A highlight of the walk is several interesting rock formations that were created by glaciers during the last Ice Age.

*Eau Claire Gorge Conservation Area (40 minutes east of North Bay, off Hwys 17 & 630)*

The most spectacular scenic feature is the Gorge itself, where the Amable du Fond river flows between steep rock walls in a dramatic series of rapids and waterfalls. A self-guided 1.9 km interpretive trail details the natural and

human history of the area, including a long gone log slide and dam built on the property in the 1870s for the Mackey Lumber Company. A replica logger's cabin, found along the trail, was reconstructed in 1989. (Please note the cabin is for day use only - overnight stays and campfires are not permitted.)



*Mattawa Island Conservation Area (48 minutes east of North Bay in the Town of Mattawa)*

A sandy beach on the Mattawa River, not far from the junction of the Mattawa and Ottawa Rivers, is the perfect spot to cool off from summer's heat and enjoy a family picnic. Downstream from the conservation area, you'll see the historic three white crosses overlooking the town, high on the crest of the hill on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River. Originally built in 1686

to mark the "meeting of two rivers", the crosses have been replaced and restored several times since.

*Papineau Lake Conservation Area (1 hr east of North Bay, off Hwy 17 east of Mattawa)*

A boat launching ramp and dock provide boaters and anglers with access to picturesque Papineau Lake, well-known with the locals for Lake Trout. Ontario Fishing Regulations for Fisheries Management Zone 11 gives the inside scoop on the season, size, and limits for your catch. There is, however, no limit to the number of photographs you can take! The 227.5 ha (562 acres), 4.3 km long lake is just the right size to explore in a canoe or kayak. You may even catch a glimpse of wildlife along the shoreline of this isolated lake.

*Powassan Mountain Conservation Area (25 minutes south of North Bay in the Town of Powassan)*

Breathtaking views of the rolling highlands await you at the top of the gentle Powassan Mountain. An adjoining trail system called "The Pines" offers visitors a low impact recreation opportunity and access to the lookout. The Pines Trails are maintained by local community volunteers supported by the Municipality of Powassan.

# HIT THE ROAD: SCENIC DRIVE TOURS AROUND NORTH BAY

Northern Ontario is made for the open road, and North Bay is the perfect starting (and ending) point for two unforgettable self-drive adventures: the Lake Nipissing Tour and the Lake Temiskaming Tour. Both offer natural beauty, charming towns, and plenty of local flavor along the way.

## LAKE NIPISSING LOOP TOUR

The Lake Nipissing Loop is a full-day scenic drive that can be driven in all seasons and takes you through a mix of charming small towns, serene waterfronts, and picturesque countryside. Along the way, you'll enjoy a blend of Northern Ontario's history, culture, and culinary delights—from local treats and artisanal goods to stunning natural vistas. The route offers plenty of opportunities to stretch your legs, explore shops and markets, and take in the tranquil beauty of the lake and surrounding forests. By the end of the day, with the sun setting over the water, you'll return to North Bay with a camera full of photos, a few local treats in hand, and memories of a truly immersive Northern Ontario experience.

## LAKE TEMISKAMING LOOP TOUR

This self-drive loop celebrates the expansive shoreline, deep waters, and rich cultural tapestry of the region. The Lake Temiskaming Loop Tour will take you north of North Bay, and up and over into Quebec before making your way back into Ontario. This route is ideal for travelers who enjoy quiet roads, dramatic lake vistas, and charming small towns. Along the way, discover lighthouses, local artisans, and heritage sites that tell the story of the lake's role in trade and settlement. Outdoor enthusiasts will appreciate the opportunities to hike, kayak, or simply take in the panoramic views from scenic pull-offs. The tour provides a perfect balance of adventure and letting you immerse yourself in the beauty and history of Northern Ontario and Abitibi- Temiscamingue.

Both tours are designed to be flexible—you can drive them in a single day, or spread your journey over a 2 to 3 days to fully explore the sights. Grab your map, pack some snacks, and hit the road.

Pro tip: Bring a camera, comfortable walking shoes, and a sense of adventure—you never know what hidden gems you'll discover along the way!

for more:



## LAKE NIPISSING LOOP HOT SPOTS

1. Callander Lighthouse & Lookout – Morning views over Callander Bay; perfect for photos and a peaceful stroll.
2. Mill Bay Park Ice Creamery & Board's Honey (Restoule) – Treats for all ages: creamy ice cream and local honey.
3. Port Loring – enjoy a short cruise on the Port Loring Eco and Historical Tour boat and some lunch at The Port Shores.
4. French River Trading Post – Iconic stop for Indigenous crafts, souvenirs, and fudge.
5. Sturgeon Falls – enjoy a boardwalk stroll along the marina to the sweeping views where the river meets Lake Nipissing.



## LAKE TEMISKAMING TOUR HOT SPOTS

1. Temagami Fire Tower – Climb the historic fire tower for breathtaking panoramic views of the forests and lakes of the Temagami region
2. Devil's Rock Hike – Challenge yourself with the Devil's Rock trail for a 180-degree lake view
3. Ville-Marie – Explore this lakeside community and take a guided tour at Parks Canada National Historic Site; Obadjiwan-Fort Temiscamingue
4. Témiscaming – explore the many viewpoints of the Chutes Gordon and the old local railway museum.
5. Mattawa – Discover the historic town at the Ottawa and Mattawa Rivers' meeting point, a gateway to Indigenous and fur-trading history.



# WINTER

## WINTER ACTIVITIES + EVENTS:

- Hit the slopes at Laurentian Ski Hill
- Cross country ski at Nordic Ski Club
- Try your hand at kick sledding on frozen lakes or trails
- Fat Bike or snowshoe the Laurentian Escarpment
- Go ice fishing on Lake Nipissing
- Enjoy the Lee Park ice skating oval
- Run the RAN and hit the snowmobiling trails (District 11)
- Walk up and enjoy the sights and trails at Duchesnay Falls
- The Santa Claus Parade
- Annual Old Fashioned Downtown Christmas Walk
- Carnaval des Compagnons
- Experience Ice Follies (biennial outdoor art festival)
- Cheer loudly at a North Bay Battalion home game
- Ho Ho Ho 5km Run
- Families First – New Years Eve Celebration
- Outdoor Winter Market Experience

for more winter fun:



When a pristine blanket of snow covers the landscape, North Bay transforms into a winter wonderland offering a treasure trove of winter activities and experiences that beckon both residents and visitors to embrace the joys of the winter season.

Strap on your skis or snowshoes and venture into the expansive wilderness that surrounds the city. With the city's extensive network of trails, the hushed, snow-covered forests and frozen lakes create a serene and enchanting backdrop, making each excursion a journey into the heart of winter's magic.

For those looking for a bit of height, Laurentian Ski Hill is a favorite destination for downhill skiing and snowboarding, with slopes suitable for beginners and experts alike. The thrill of gliding down the slopes, surrounded by the breathtaking views of Lake Nipissing, is an experience that is sure to get your heart racing.

Lake Nipissing becomes a vast playground during the winter months. Ice fishing enthusiasts flock to the frozen lake, drilling holes and patiently waiting for the telltale tug on their lines. Ice fishing shacks dot the landscape, creating a unique and communal experience for anglers.

Whether you're seeking thrilling speeds, stunning winter landscapes, or the camaraderie of fellow riders, North Bay is a fantastic destination to explore the joys of snowmobiling.

Winter festivals and events also light up North Bay's calendar. From Christmas parades and outdoor ice skating rinks to biennial Ice Follies (a festival celebrating contemporary and community engaged art), there is always something to celebrate in this city during the colder months.

For those who prefer a slower pace, cozy up in a welcoming space with a warm cup of hot cocoa or a bowl of hearty soup at one of the city's charming cafes or restaurants.

Whether you are a winter sports enthusiast, a nature lover, or someone simply seeking the magic of the season, North Bay invites you to embrace the wonders and fun of winter in true Northern style.



# A YEAR-ROUND ANGLERS PARADISE

written by mat koprash, local fishing enthusiast

The 'Gateway of the North', offers anglers a premier fishing experience just three hours north of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Boasting accessibility to numerous lakes, including the renowned Lake Nipissing, Trout Lake, Lake Nosbonsing, Talon Lake, and the Restoule Chain of lakes, North Bay provides year-round opportunities to target a diverse array of species. Whether you're an avid angler seeking trophy catches or a family looking for a relaxing fishing getaway, North Bay has it all.

North Bay's fishing scene caters to anglers targeting various species, including walleye, musky, smallmouth and largemouth bass, northern pike, and trout (including laker, splake, and spec/brooke). The region's flagship waterbody, Lake Nipissing, stands out as a world-class fishery with its vast ecosystem, numerous islands, and breathtaking views. The lake hosts a rich population of walleye, bass, musky, and pike, providing opportunities for anglers to pursue trophy-caliber fish in open water and during the ice fishing season.

## Lake Nipissing: A Year-Round Gem

Lake Nipissing's allure extends across all seasons. Anglers can explore main lake structure, weedy bays, large river systems, and the hundreds of islands and shoals that it is host to. In winter, the lake transforms into an ice angler's paradise, with thousands of shacks dotting its frozen surface. Ice fishing enthusiasts mainly target walleye and perch, with the added popularity of Burbot fishing. Lake Nipissing truly stands as the community's top producer, fostering a sense of camaraderie among ice anglers.

## Hidden Gems: Trout Lake, Turtle Lake and Talon Lake

Trout Lake, connected to Turtle Lake and Talon Lake, offers a unique blend of serene landscapes and varied fishing experiences. While Trout Lake has a dense population and sees frequent pleasure boaters, it remains a hidden gem. Smallmouth bass thrive in its waters, and the musky fishery is a staple for North Bay locals, Turtle Lake,

often overlooked, surprises explorers with its remote and untouched beauty, providing peaceful shorelines, massive rock bluffs, and a thriving fish population.

Talon Lake, another excellent fishery, offers multi-species opportunities including lake trout. The presence of walleye, smallmouth bass, and musky, combined with accessible ice angling options through the Ontario Federation Snowmobiling Club (OFSC) trail, makes Talon Lake a versatile destination for anglers throughout the year.

## Lake Nosbonsing: A Pike Haven

Lake Nosbonsing, renowned for its annual June Pike Tournament, is another gem in the area. This sheltered inland lake ensures anglers can fish regardless of weather conditions, offering many different bays and structures to target. Largemouth bass, steadily increasing in population, and walleye can also be targeted year-round, with ice anglers finding success in the pursuit of walleye.

## Restoule Chain of Lakes: A Southern Escape

For those seeking a day trip from North Bay, the Restoule Chain of lakes beckons. This system, including Restoule, Commanda, Stormy, and Cloudy Lakes, hosts a variety of species, such as lake trout, musky, walleye, bass, and crappie. Situated south of North Bay, the Restoule Chain offers a pristine escape, complete with a provincial park and all the amenities needed for all-season adventures.

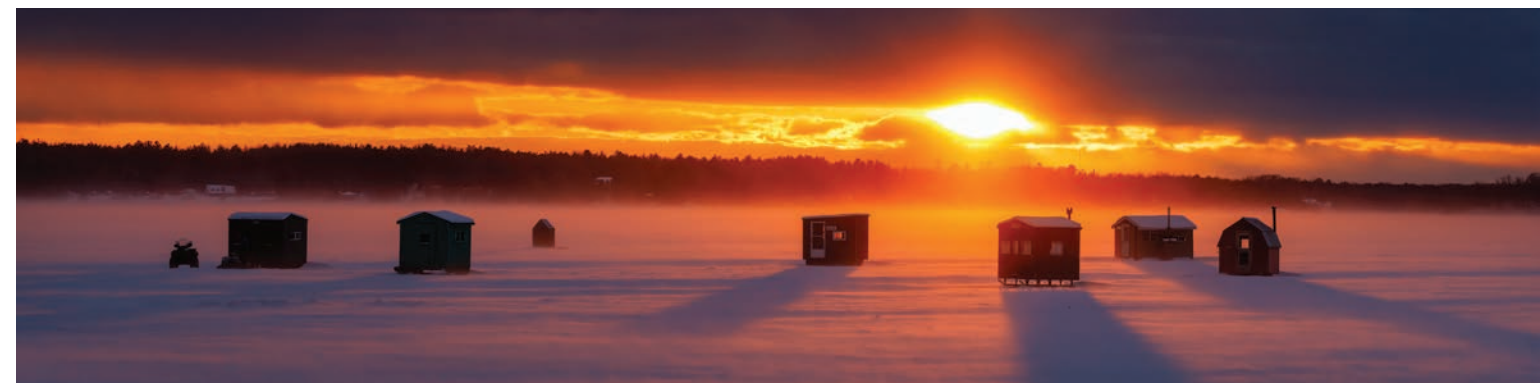
## Accommodations and Accessibility

North Bay prides itself on providing a range of accommodations, from campsites to full housekeeping packages. Anglers and families can choose from low-pressure, highly populated fisheries to secluded retreats, catering to both hardcore anglers and families alike. With all four seasons, including a stable winter with ice conditions from January to March, North Bay guarantees a memorable fishing experience.

As you plan your next fishing trip, consider North Bay as your destination. With its diverse fisheries, breathtaking landscapes, and year-round accessibility, North Bay caters to anglers of all levels and preferences. Load up your vehicle and embark on a journey just three hours north of the GTA, where an angler's paradise awaits along the high-speed four-lane highway. North Bay is more than a 'Gateway of the North', it's an invitation to a fishing adventure for all seasons.



for more fishing fun:



1



**FAT BIKING**

Power through snowy singletrack and groomed winter trails where every turn delivers a rush of adrenaline and a fresh blast of crisp northern air.

2



**ICE FISHING**

Drill a hole, drop a line, and settle into the peaceful stillness of a frozen lake—then feel the thrill when a walleye or northern pike tugs back.

3



**SNOWMOBILING**

Launch into thousands of kilometres of perfectly groomed trails, where endless snow and breathtaking winter scenery make every ride unforgettable.

4



**ICE SKATING**

Glide beneath the trees along the winding skating path at Lee Park, where twinkling lights and frosty air create pure winter magic.

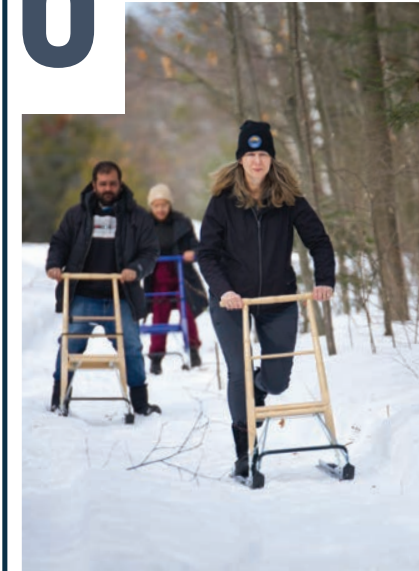
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**CROSS COUNTRY SKIING**

Stride across frozen lakes or carve through expertly groomed forest trails, soaking in the quiet beauty of unspoiled wilderness.

6



**KICKSLEDDING**

Try this uniquely Nordic experience and cruise across snowy paths—fun, eco-friendly, and perfect for making winter memories with family.

# 9 WAYS TO EMBRACE WINTER IN NORTH BAY

for more winter fun:



“WINTER ISN'T SOMETHING TO ESCAPE HERE — IT'S SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE.”

7



**ICE FOLLIES**

Experience winter art like never before at Ice Follies, where larger-than-life art installations transform North Bay's frozen shoreline into a unique and spectacular outdoor gallery.

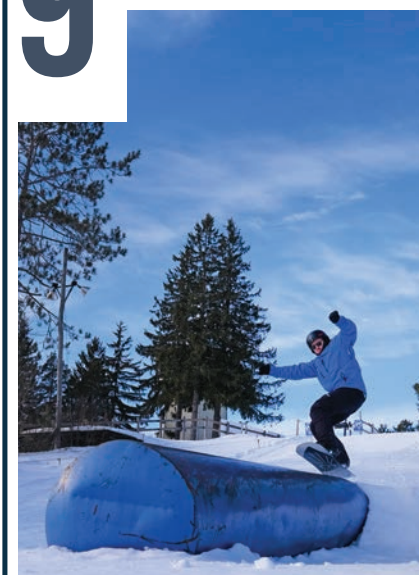
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**CATCH A BATTALION GAME**

Feel the energy inside Boart Longyear Memorial Gardens as the North Bay Battalion hit the ice—fast-paced hockey, roaring fans, and small-town spirit at its best.

9



**SKIING + SNOWBOARDING**

Just minutes from downtown, carve the slopes at Laurentian Ski Hill for big winter fun with cozy lodge vibes to warm up after your last run.

# WINTER WANDERS



written by discovery routes

North Bay embraces winter with a vast network of trails for hiking and snowshoeing, fat biking and kicksledding, downhill and cross-country skiing. Keep active all winter long in this snow-lover's paradise.

A winter wander through the snow-laden trees with only the sound of snow crunching under snowshoes will soothe the soul. Laurier Woods offers trails to spot winter birds and white-tailed deer, or for an up-close wildlife encounter, feed the chickadees from the palm

of your hand at the Cranberry Trail in Callander. North Bay Nordic's 8+km of well-marked snowshoe trails will take you past ice falls, across frozen beaver meadows, along a ridge line and to a beautiful lookout. Duchesnay Falls has something new to offer in every season with the winter being one of the best and most peaceful. The views of the city from the Education Centre Trails and Laurentian Escarpment are breathtaking when the temperatures drop.

Curious about winter cycling? Now is your chance to discover this exhilarating activity in the perfect winter landscape. Challenging single-track trails wind across the Laurentian Escarpment and groomed ski trails at Nipissing University welcome fat bikers. Just outside North Bay, the Stepping Stones Trails offer a great combination of lake riding and single-track trails groomed by fellow fat bikers and volunteers. Remedy Rides has a small fleet of fat bikes for rent.



Experience the joy of gliding over the frozen landscape on North Bay's cross-country ski trails. With a history dating back to 1975, North Bay Nordic Ski Club welcomes an active community with 50km of groomed trails for classic and skate skiing through forest trails. Nordic, as it is affectionately known, is a family-friendly club with active youth and adult programming, trails lit for night skiing, a full stock of rentals and a heated clubhouse. No vehicle? No problem. Nipissing University atop North Bay's escarpment grooms cross-country ski trails for both traditional and skate ski – free to use and accessible by public transit! As the training grounds for the Nipissing Lakers Nordic Ski Team, the trails regularly host ski races. Keep the heart pumping at Wasi Ski Club's 43km trail network just 15 minutes outside of North Bay.

Kicksledding originated in Sweden in the late 1800's and today is a unique and fun way to get around on snow and ice. Experience this invigorating winter

activity with SISU Adventures, a local company with Finnish roots.

Laurentian Ski Hill & Snowboarding Club is a family-friendly hill just minutes from Downtown North Bay. At 300 feet with 6 runs, a variety of terrain including gentle slopes for beginners, challenging runs for experienced skiers, and terrain parks for freestyle enthusiasts. Parking is available at both the top and bottom of the hill, with the bottom providing convenient access to the main chair lift. Rental equipment and lessons for first-timers are available and with multiple events throughout the year, day-camps and ski races, the hill has something for everyone.

As the temperatures drop and lakes and ponds freeze over, residents and visitors eagerly lace up their skates to glide across the glistening ice. A very popular destination is the Lee Park oval where individuals, couples and families can experience the skate path which winds in and around the trees and parkland. The skating path provides a

smooth and enjoyable experience for skaters of all ages and skill levels.

Visit: [DiscoveryRoutes.ca](http://DiscoveryRoutes.ca) for a full list of winter trails in and around North Bay.



# ICE FOLLIES

## HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO AN ART FESTIVAL ON A FROZEN LAKE?

Every two years, the frozen expanse of Lake Nipissing becomes more than just winter scenery — it becomes a dazzling outdoor art gallery. Ice Follies is North Bay's signature winter art festival, turning the coldest part of the year into one of the most creative, uplifting experiences you can have in Ontario.

Here's why Ice Follies should be on your bucket list in mid-February 2027 — when art, nature and community come together in a way that exists nowhere else.

### 1. A ONE-OF-A-KIND ARTISTIC CANVAS

Ice Follies isn't an indoor exhibition — it's a festival of art on ice. The festival transforms the pristine surface of Lake Nipissing into an interactive outdoor gallery where contemporary works — from sculptures and lights to immersive installations — play with light, wind, ice and snow. It's art that interacts with nature itself.

### 2. IT'S FREE AND OPEN AROUND THE CLOCK

One of the festival's most remarkable features is that it's completely free and accessible 24/7. Bundle up and explore

the artworks at dawn, at dusk, under the stars or in sparkling winter sunshine. Each time of day offers a new perspective on how the work interacts with the elements.

### 3. INSPIRING CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY

Ice Follies showcases a dynamic mix of local, regional, and Indigenous artists whose work reflects culture, environment, identity and connection to place. Past festival artists have ranged from innovative Indigenous collectives to media artists and sound designers whose creations transform the landscape into something magical.

### 4. EXPLORE THOUGHT-PROVOKING THEMES

Each edition of the festival explores a theme that ties together artwork and experience but is always centred around ice and water. Previous themes have delved into ideas like resilience, connection and transformation — concepts that resonate deeply in winter, when the landscape itself is in flux.

### 5. COMMUNITY EVENTS AND INTERACTIVE MOMENTS

Ice Follies isn't just about viewing art — it's about participating in it. Previous festivals have included guided tours, community choirs, artist talks and interactive workshops, offering deeper insight into the meaning behind the installations and the creative process.

### 6. THE WINTER WONDERLAND SETTING

North Bay's winter backdrop is legendary: wide open skies, crisp air and the glittering expanse of a frozen lake. Ice Follies embraces this environment, inviting visitors not just to see art, but to feel winter as a joyful, inspiring season. Whether you're a seasoned art fan or just seeking a bucket-list winter experience, this is where cold becomes captivating.

The next Ice Follies runs in mid-February 2027 — a perfect chance to experience contemporary art in its most elemental form. Pair your visit with other winter activities like snowshoeing, ice fishing or warm local dining to make the most of North Bay in winter.

for more winter fun:





# AIRFORCE WINGS

written by 22 wing/canadian forces base north bay

2026 Celebration on June 10th

22 Wing/Canadian Forces Base (CFB) North Bay is the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF)'s central wing for guarding North American air sovereignty.

RCAF Station North Bay opened on September 1, 1951, as part of Canada's national air defence network, built in response to the Cold War. In 1963, the station was renamed CFB North Bay, and Canada's North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) Underground Complex (UGC) was where Canadian and American NORAD personnel guarded North America's Cold War frontline 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Over the years, the base was home to 430 Day (Fighter) Squadron, 445, 419, 433 and 414 All-Weather (Fighter) Squadrons. In 1992, the last squadron (414 Squadron) left the base, and the airfield structures were sold.



In 2006, the new Sergeant David L. Pitcher Building, home of the Canadian Air Defence Sector, replaced the UGC, with state-of-the-art, air defence computers and electronics. In 2014, 22 Wing began space surveillance, connecting to Sapphire, Canada's first military satellite.

static displays, aerial demonstrations by the Canadian Armed Forces, and performances by the 22 Wing Band.

Community members and visitors alike can also tour the Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence located on the base at CFB North Bay. This museum strives to create a



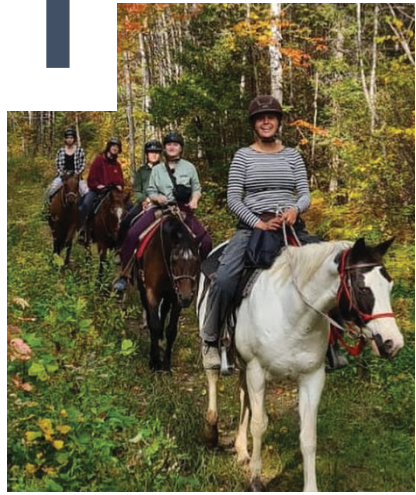
22 Wing and CFB North Bay host an annual Armed Forces Day to recognise members of the Canadian and American Air Force who, as part of NORAD and in support of the mission of the Canadian Air Defence Sector at 22 Wing/ CFB North Bay contribute to the successful bi-national organisation and have been part of the North Bay community for over 70 years.

deeper understanding and connection to Canada's historical and current contributions to air defence by creating lasting connections to the history and artifacts.

The RCAF 2024 celebrations marked 100 years of service for the Royal Canadian Airforce. The centennial milestone placed the RCAF in a unique position to honour its distinct heritage, recognize its tremendous people, and generate excitement for its bright future.



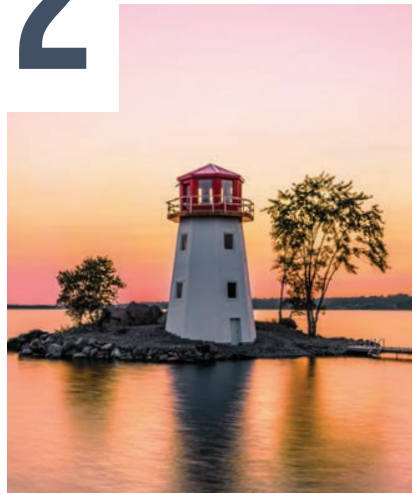
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### SADDLE UP AT VON DOELER'S RANCH

Trade city streets for open fields at Von Doeler's Ranch, where horseback riding experiences let you connect with nature at a slower pace. Whether you're a first-time rider or a seasoned equestrian, it's a peaceful countryside escape just a short drive east from North Bay.

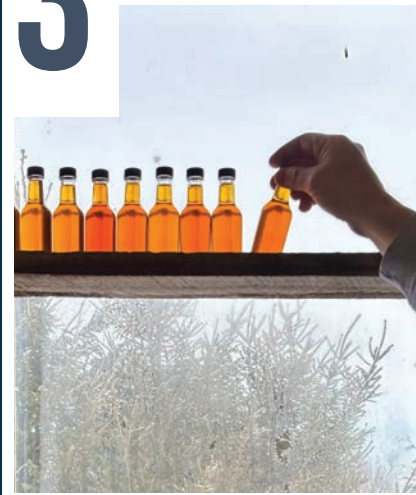
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### CATCH SUNSET AT CALLANDER BAY LIGHTHOUSE

Just minutes south of North Bay, the Callander Bay Lighthouse is a picture-perfect stop for lakeside views and golden-hour photography. Pair it with a stroll along the waterfront and ice cream in Callander for a simple but memorable outing.

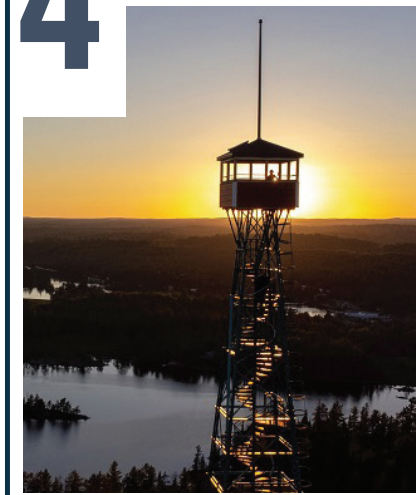
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### SWEET STOPS AT LOCAL MAPLE SYRUP FARMS

Springtime in Northern Ontario means maple syrup season. Visit nearby sugar bush farms including Bella Hill Maple Syrup, Matthews Maple Syrup, Long's Maple Syrup and Sugarstone Farm to tour the sugar shacks, see sap boiling into liquid gold, and sample fresh maple taffy on snow. It's a classic Canadian experience that tastes even better when shared.

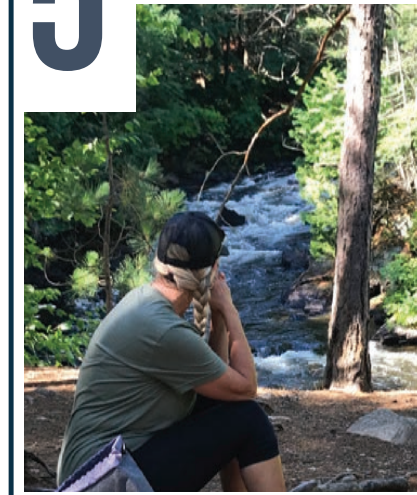
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### CLIMB THE TEMAGAMI FIRE TOWER

Adventure seekers will love the drive north to Temagami, where the historic fire tower rewards climbers with sweeping views of endless forest and sparkling lakes. The hike up Caribou Mountain is invigorating, and the panoramic payoff at the top is unforgettable.

5



### CHASE WATERFALLS

Located east of North Bay, Eau Claire Gorge features dramatic rock formations, forested trails, and the rushing Amable du Fond River carving through ancient stone. It's an ideal day trip for hikers and photographers looking for something rugged and awe-inspiring.

6



### DISCOVER ART & MYSTERY AT SCREAMING HEADS

Turn your road trip into an artsy adventure south a visit to the iconic Screaming Heads sculptures. These larger-than-life concrete works scattered across a rural landscape make for quirky photos and a one-of-a-kind experience you won't find anywhere else.

7



### WANDER THE SUNFLOWER FIELDS

Late summer brings vibrant colour to Powassan's sunflower fields at Foxfire Heritage Farm. Spend the afternoon wandering rows of towering blooms, snapping photos, and soaking up the sunshine. It's a feel-good escape that's perfect for families, couples, or a girls' day out.

8



### GO BERRY PICKING AT LEISURE FARMS

Nothing says summer like fresh strawberries straight from the field. Head to Leisure Farms for pick-your-own berries, farm market goodies, and a laid-back rural vibe. It's a sweet way to spend a morning before heading back to North Bay with baskets full of flavour.

"Our day trips promise to showcase the very best of what this enchanting region has to offer."

for more day trips:



# 8 GREAT DAY TRIPS FROM NORTH BAY

# PARKS + LEISURE



## RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

North Bay has some great indoor and outdoor recreation facilities to try your hand at curling, tennis, Baseball, soccer, football, Volleyball, indoor swimming pools, downhill skiing, cross country skiing, hiking, hockey, skating and so much more.

### ARENAS + ICE SPORTS

- Boart Longyear Memorial Gardens
- Pete Palangio Arena
- West Ferris Arena
- North Bay Community & Recreation Centre
- North Bay Granite Club

### GYMS + WELLNESS CENTRES

- Robert J Surtees Athletics Centre
- 22 Wing Fitness + Wellness Centre
- Canadore Education Centre Gym
- Canadore Sportsplex
- North Bay YMCA

## OTHER SPORTING FACILITIES

- Laurentian Ski Hill
- North Bay Nordic Ski Club
- Kiwanis All-Wheel Skate Park + Pump Track
- North Bay Tennis Club
- KTP Raquet Club
- Education Centre Beach Volley Ball Courts
- Three Towers Trail
- Laurentian Escarpment Trails



and for all other facilities:



## CONSERVATION AREAS

Experience some beautiful conservation areas in and around North Bay:

- Laurentian Escarpment Conservation Area
- Laurier Woods Conservation Area
- La Vase Portage Conservation Area
- Eau Claire Gorge Conservation Area
- Corbeil Conservation Area
- Powassan Mountain Conservation Area
- Shields-McLaren Conservation Area
- JP Webster Nature Preserve

For more information head to: [nbmca.ca/conservation-areas](http://nbmca.ca/conservation-areas)

## BEACHES AND SPLASHPADS

Cool off during the summer in one of many great spots throughout the city:

### BEACHES

There are a total of 43 public beach access areas in North Bay including:

- Shabogesic Beach
- Sunset Beach
- Champlain Beach
- The Cove
- Olmsted Beach

### NORTH BAY'S FAMILY OF ROTARY SPLASH PAD AND PLAYGROUND

Located behind the North Bay Museum is a 3 zone family splash pad and playground.

### DOG PARKS

North Bay Off-Leash Dog Park is located next to Champlain Park and is patrolled by the North Bay and District Humane Society Animal Control Services.



**WE ARE CLOSER  
THAN YOU THINK**



## WHERE TO STAY?

Whether you are planning a weekend getaway or a family vacation, North Bay has something to offer everyone. After spending a fun filled day exploring, there is nothing better than getting a great night's rest. No matter how you plan to spend your night, you will find a variety of accommodation options to suit your needs. From cozy lakefront cottages to extended stay hotels, North Bay accommodations are designed to make your stay a comfortable and memorable one.

book now:



North Bay is nestled between two stunning lakes and surrounded by natural forests all while being a modern city with its own unique features. Historically considered the "Gateway to the North", North Bay is ideally located at the crossroads of trans-continental highways, railways, air and fibre-optic routes. Located 3 hours north of Toronto and 4 hours west of Ottawa, North Bay is easily accessible by land or air, and provides excellent links to the north, south, east and west.



### FLYING

Just minutes from the downtown core, the municipally owned, YYB North Bay Jack Garland Airport boasts the longest runway in Northern Ontario. YYB offers a modern, full service, barrier free and passenger friendly terminal as well as many on site services and amenities. Get real-time arrival and departure info at [yyb.ca](http://yyb.ca).

### BUS

Ontario Northland provides reliable and comfortable motor coach transportation to and from North Bay with buses arriving and departing daily.

Visit [ontarionorthland.ca](http://ontarionorthland.ca) for details and to plan your trip.

### RAIL

Ontario Northland is proud to be working toward the reinstatement of a passenger rail in North Eastern Ontario in 2026.

The Northlander train service will provide a safe and reliable transportation option between Toronto and Timmins, with a rail connection to Cochrane.

Visit [ontarionorthland.ca/en/northlander](http://ontarionorthland.ca/en/northlander) for updates.

### GETTING AROUND THE CITY

When in North Bay, visitors can access different vehicle rental agencies, taxi services and the Urider, ride-sharing program.

North Bay Transit can also provide a public, accessible transportation and cost-effective option.

Visit [myridenbt.northbay.ca](http://myridenbt.northbay.ca) for transit schedules.



### DRIVING

North Bay is located at the junction of Highway 11, Highway 17, and Highway 63, providing visitors traveling from all directions the opportunity to stop and enjoy what the city has to offer.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### HOTELS & RESIDENCES

	Number of Rooms	Suites Available	Wheelchair Access	Restaurant/Breakfast	Pool/Beach	Fitness	Internet	Pets Allowed	Waterfront
<b>BEST WESTERN</b> 700 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://bestwestern.com">bestwestern.com</a> 705-474-5800 1-800-461-6199	130	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>CANADORE RESIDENCE &amp; CONFERENCE CENTRE</b> 15 College Dr. <a href="http://stayrcc.com/locations/north-bay/">stayrcc.com/locations/north-bay/</a> . 705-980-1301 x 7002 (May-Aug)	128	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>COMFORT INN AIRPORT</b> 1200 O'Brien St. <a href="http://comfortnorthbay.com">comfortnorthbay.com</a> 705-494-9444 844-682-6145	57	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>COMFORT INN LAKESHORE</b> 676 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://comfortnorthbay.com">comfortnorthbay.com</a> 705-476-5400 844-497-3446	73	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>DAYS INN &amp; SUITES NORTH BAY</b> 340 Main St. W. <a href="http://wyndhamhotels.com/en-ca/days-inn">wyndhamhotels.com/en-ca/days-inn</a> 705-495-6461 877-937-8483	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>FAIRFIELD INN &amp; SUITES BY MARRIOTT</b> 115 Eloy Rd. 705-256-6784	92	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>HAMPTON INN BY HILTON</b> 950 McKeown Ave. <a href="http://northbay.hamptonbyhilton.com">northbay.hamptonbyhilton.com</a> 705-474-8400 877-409-8499	102	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS &amp; SUITES</b> 1325 Seymour St. <a href="http://hiexpress.com/northbayon">hiexpress.com/northbayon</a> 705-476-7700 866-899-9053	116	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>HOMWOOD SUITES BY HILTON</b> 495 Oak St. W. <a href="http://hwnorthbay.homewoodsuitesbyhilton.com">hwnorthbay.homewoodsuitesbyhilton.com</a> 705-495-3000	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>NIPISSING UNIVERSITY SUMMER ACCOMMODATIONS</b> 100 College Dr. <a href="http://booking.nipissingu.ca/accommodations">booking.nipissingu.ca/accommodations</a> 705-474-2526 ext.4804	424	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>QUALITY INN</b> 1525 Seymour St. <a href="http://choicehotels.com/cnb42">choicehotels.com/cnb42</a> 705-495-1133	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>RAMADA BY WYNDHAM</b> 201 Pinewood Park Dr. <a href="http://ramadapinewoodparkresort.ca">ramadapinewoodparkresort.ca</a> 705-472-0810 800-461-9592	102	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>SUPER 8</b> 570 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://super8.com">super8.com</a> 705-495-4551 888-828-4551	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>TRAVELodge BY WYNDHAM</b> 718 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://travelodgenorthbay.com">travelodgenorthbay.com</a> 705-472-7171 866-578-7171	76	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

### MOTELS, COTTAGES & BED AND BREAKFASTS

<b>BAY MOTEL</b> 4335 Hwy. 11 N. <a href="http://bay-motel.com">bay-motel.com</a> 705-497-3140 800-954-8242	10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>BO-MARK MOTEL INC.</b> 3207 Hwy. 11 N. <a href="http://bomarkmotel.com">bomarkmotel.com</a> 705-474-3100 888-287-3100	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>FRANKLIN MOTEL &amp; TRAILER PARK</b> 444 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://franklinmotel.ca">franklinmotel.ca</a> 705-472-1360	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>GLEN GARRY MOTEL &amp; COTTAGES</b> 785 Lakeshore Dr. 705-472-1085	6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>GLENWOOD MOTEL &amp; COTTAGES</b> 467 Lakeshore Dr. 705-472-1644	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>GRAY'S LOG HOUSE B&amp;B</b> 5270 Hwy. 63 <a href="http://graysloghouse.com">graysloghouse.com</a> 705-495-2389	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>KNIGHTS INN</b> 255 McIntyre St. W. <a href="http://redlion.com/knights-inn/on/north-bay/knights-inn-north-bay">redlion.com/knights-inn/on/north-bay/knights-inn-north-bay</a> 705-474-4770	42	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>LAKESHORE SUITES</b> 710 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://lakeshoresuites.com">lakeshoresuites.com</a> 705-497-9000 855-497-9001	22	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>NIPISSING INN</b> 1078 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://nipissinginn.ca">nipissinginn.ca</a> 705-472-0800 800-848-0800	5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>NORTH BAY INN</b> 666 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://northbayinn.ca">northbayinn.ca</a> 705-482-7537	10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>SUNSET INN ON THE PARK</b> 641 Lakeshore Dr. <a href="http://sunsetinn.ca">sunsetinn.ca</a> 705-472-8370	21	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>THE FINCH BEACH RESORT</b> 585 Banner Ave. <a href="http://stayatthefinch.ca">stayatthefinch.ca</a> 705-243-6474	4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>TORBAY SUITES</b> 587 Banner Ave. <a href="http://torbaysuites.net">torbaysuites.net</a> 705-474-4266 888-786-7229	4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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