

VISIT



# Ontario's West Coast

HURON COUNTY • CANADA



[ontarioswestcoast.ca](http://ontarioswestcoast.ca)



# Ontario's West Coast

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We acknowledge that the land known today as Huron County is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Neutral peoples. We recognize the First Peoples' continued stewardship of the land and water, and that this territory was subject to the Dish with One Spoon wampum, under which multiple nations agreed to care for the land and resources by the Great Lakes in peace.



# GO TOUCH GRASS ... OR SAND

Welcome to Ontario's West Coast—your invitation to go touch grass in 2026. What began as a tongue-in-cheek phrase becomes something more meaningful here: a chance to step away from screens, slow down, and reconnect with what's real. In Huron County, that reset goes beyond nature—it's about feeling part of a place. It's found in simple moments: a chat at a farm stand, a tip from a shop owner, sharing a table, trail, or sunset.

Connection comes easily through local food, live theatre, and vibrant main streets.

Yes, there are sandy beaches and Lake Huron sunsets—but what stays with you is the feeling of belonging. Start here, follow your curiosity, and let Huron County welcome you.



# BEACHES



## Port Blake Day Park



Located at the north of Grand Bend, Port Blake Day Park offers a sandy beach with a bluff-top grassy picnic area with views of the spectacular Lake Huron sunsets. The park offers a picnic pavilion, washrooms, changing rooms, playground equipment, BBQs, and picnic tables. Dogs are allowed on the beach and must be leashed.

The park is open daily from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm from May 15 to October 12, 2026. The cost is \$30.00 per vehicle, flat daily rate payable by debit card only (no cash or credit cards). No buses or recreational vehicles (RV's) over 28 feet are permitted.



## Point Farms Provincial Park



Once the site of a popular Victorian-era summer resort, the Point Farm Hotel, which operated from the mid-1800s until 1915, Point Farms Provincial Park has some of the finest beaches on Ontario's West Coast.

There is a beautiful, natural, sandy beach located north of the point and easily accessible from the Colborne Campground and beach parking lot. *Please note: there are no lifeguards posted at the beaches. Pets are only permitted in the designated area.*

The park offers many family-friendly experiences including 6 km of hiking trails, playgrounds and playing fields, washrooms, store, picnic areas, and RV, trailer and tent camping for longer stays. Day-use and camping fees apply.



## Ashfield Park



Ashfield Park offers an escape from some of the busier beaches on the lakeshore. The 15-acre day use park is an ideal location to host a get-together or picnic in the park's pavilion and two universally accessible washrooms and a changeroom. To get to the public beach, just follow the winding road down from the park to a breath-taking secluded white sandy beach.

Ontario's West Coast  
Beaches



# HIKING TRAILS



## Goderich to Guelph Rail Trail



Stretching 132 km from the shores of Lake Huron in Goderich to the historic city of Guelph, the Goderich to Guelph Rail Trail (G2G Trail) offers a scenic journey through the heart of Ontario's West Coast. Built along a former railway corridor, this multi-use trail features crushed stone and short paved sections ideal for cycling, walking, running, and cross-country skiing.

In Huron County, the trail winds past open farmland, charming small towns, wooded areas, and picturesque bridges, providing a peaceful way to experience the region's agricultural landscape and rural heritage. Access points in communities like Blyth, Auburn, Goderich and Walton make it easy to explore a short stretch or plan a full-day adventure.

## Maitland Trail



The Maitland Trail Association (MTA), a non-profit, volunteer-driven organization, was established on July 2, 1975, with the vision of creating a trail that follows the picturesque Maitland River. Today, their dedicated volunteers maintain over 80 km of marked hiking trails, offering hikers and nature enthusiasts the chance to explore the beauty of the Maitland River Valley.

The MTA maintains the following trails:

- Maitland Trail (including side trails)
- Millennium Trail
- Menesetung Trail
- Maitland Woods
- Sifto Loop
- Section of the G2G (Goderich to Guelph Rail Trail – from the Menesetung Bridge to Auburn)

The MTA also hosts the popular annual El Camino Maitland event each September.

## South Huron Trails



The South Huron Trail is an 8 km, all-season trail that winds through the scenic Ausable River Valley. This accessible trail links MacNaughton Park in Exeter, and Morrison Dam Conservation Area.

Thanks to trail loops of different lengths (2 km, 4 km, or 8 km), you can spend 20 minutes or two hours enjoying nature. The Morrison Reservoir (Morrison Lake) is a human-made reservoir created by the construction of Morrison Dam in 1959 to provide a consistent water supply to a former canning factory in the town of Exeter.

Today, the area offers a unique ecosystem with many recreational opportunities. We invite you to explore Morrison Dam Conservation Area (MDCA) throughout the year and experience all its natural wonders!

Ontario's West Coast  
Hiking Trails



# COUNTY FOREST TRACTS

## **Robertson Tract – *A Legacy of Woodlands***

The Robertson brothers were passionate about reforestation. In 1936, they started planting trees on marginal farmland, making Robertson Tract one of the first plantations in the County. The brothers were so dedicated to the effort that they left their family farm to the County in 1947 as a legacy for future generations and a permanent natural buffer to the Maitland River.

A total of over 205,000 trees were planted on the property between 1936 and 1954. A Norway Spruce seed orchard was developed on several acres of the property resulting in millions of seedlings for the effort to plant 2 billion trees in Ontario up until the early 1990s.

The Maitland Trail goes through the Robertson Tract and follows the river's edge. A network of logging roads connect to the Maitland Trail and the level topography makes hiking and cycling easy. The property is a working forest, with selective harvest of trees occurring every 15 to 20 years.

Robertson Tract is located west of Auburn on Pinery Line.

## **Stevenson Tract – *A River Runs Through It***

Explore a piece of Ontario's reforestation legacy on the beautiful trails of the Stevenson Tract. Purchased by the County in 1951, this 200 acre property was part of a province-wide effort to reforest fragile lands for the improvement of water quality, reduction of flooding, and conservation of soil. Bisected by the Maitland River and the Sunshine Creek, the property offers fish and wildlife habitat alongside spectacular views.

West of the river, the Stevenson Tract features eskers which are long ridges of sand and gravel deposited by retreating glaciers. One of the trails runs along the top of an esker. Tree species on the property are predominantly Sugar Maple and White Pine.

For the 75th anniversary of the County forest program, a new interpretive trail was developed east of the river. This trail features a stone bridge over the Sunshine Creek.

The Stevenson Tract is located east of Brussels at the corner of Clyde Line and Morris Road.

## **Redmond Tract**

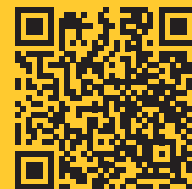
The Redmond Tract is one of 14 forested properties owned and maintained by the County of Huron. The properties were originally part of the "Agreement Forest" program, a partnership between the province and local municipalities to re-establish forest cover on marginal land.

The partially forested Redmond property was purchased from Raymond Redmond in 1971, and over 47,000 additional trees were planted. A stream and two-acre pond are located on the east side of the property.

Featuring a mixture of upland Sugar Maple Forest and towering White Pines, the 150-acre property offers year round hiking along with seasonal snowshoeing, skiing and cycling. As a "working forest," the Redmond Tract provides sustainable harvests of wood products while providing fish and wildlife habitat and recreation.

Located north of the scenic village of Auburn, the Redmond Tract is just off the Donnybrook Line on Westfield Road.

Ontario's West Coast  
Forest Tracts





## History



The Huron County Forestry Commission is pleased to announce that under the 100th Anniversary Program, the Huron County Forestry Commission has planted 100 million trees in Huron County. The Huron County Forestry Commission is proud to be a part of the 100th Anniversary Program.

The Stevenson Tract was purchased by the County in 1981 for the purpose of reforestation. Like many of the other County forests and plantations from that time, the tract had proven to be unproductive for agriculture. Over 142,000 trees were planted here between 1952 and 1986. Today the tree cover shows that a forest can be truly re-established within a lifetime. The Sunnyside Creek on this side of the property is named for the nearby power rings of Sunnyside in the west, and evidence of historic building foundations are present along the river trail.



# Welcome to



# Stevenson Tract

*This managed forest protects soil, water, and wildlife habitat. Sustainable harvest of forest products occurs in some areas.*

Enjoy these activities. Respect fellow visitors.

- |                      |             |            |            |         |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------|
| Hiking               | Snowshoeing | Equestrian | Geocaching | Fishing |
| Cross-Country Skiing | Cycling     | Birding    | Dogs       | Hunting |

## Prohibited Uses

- |         |           |         |         |           |                       |
|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Smoking | Campfires | Camping | Alcohol | Littering | Unauthorized Vehicles |
|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|

### CAUTION

Working in proximity to this property is discouraged with an authorized user. Please notify us.

Please report any hazards, concerns, or comments. Phone: 519-524-8304 Ext. 3 Email: [stevenson@huroncounty.ca](mailto:stevenson@huroncounty.ca)

### USE AT OWN RISK

Responsibility lies with the user. Please use common sense.

# www.huroncounty.ca

## Nature

The Madawaska River and Sunnyside Creek both run through the Stevenson Tract providing excellent habitat for fish and wildlife. Combined with floodplains, wetlands, deciduous and coniferous forests, shrub thickets and adjacent meadows, the property supports biodiversity and provides valuable ecological services including protection of soil and water. In making this property available for hiking and nature appreciation we ask that you stay on the trails, take nothing but photos, and leave nothing but footprints.



# GOLF

Ontario's West Coast offers 10 different courses to choose from. Each course offers its own distinct course design, challenges, and hazards, the one thing they all share in common is the picturesque landscapes we're famous for.

## Woodlands Links



Lush manicured landscapes, challenging water hazards and beautifully wooded areas make Woodlands Links a first choice for any golfer. Woodlands is an Audubon and championship Links course.

## Seaforth Golf Club



Whether you are a serious golfer or simply looking for an occasional enjoyable round the 18-hole par 71 course which was redesigned in 2005 by Canadian Golf Hall of Fame member, Dan Halldorson, will exceed your expectations.

## Ironwood Golf Club



Ironwood Golf Club offers you an excellent 18-hole golf course in superb condition at a good value. Those are some of the reasons why golfers come from all over southwestern Ontario and beyond to enjoy our scenic, challenging, tree-lined fairways and course.

## Goderich Sunset Golf Course



The Goderich Sunset Golf Club has been proudly serving its customers for more than 45 years. Featuring numerous strategically placed sand traps and narrow tree-lined fairways, the Goderich Sunset Golf Club was designed to test players of all skill levels.

## White Squirrel Golf Club



White Squirrel Golf Club in Zurich, Ontario is a scenic, welcoming 18-hole golf course with a par 71 layout that suits players of all skill levels, featuring well-maintained fairways and some challenging greens that make it enjoyable for casual rounds, league play and tournaments alike.





Ontario's West Coast  
Golf



# THEATRE



## Blyth Festival



Since 1975, the Blyth Festival Theatre has put all Canadians and certainly rural Canadians centre stage — telling our stories, sharing our history, and celebrating our way of life.

The Blyth Festival remains true to its original mandate: *To produce and present the best in Canadian storytelling*. The Blyth Festival has premiered 156 (and counting) new Canadian plays. All of these are plays written by Canadians, directed by Canadians, designed by Canadians, and performed by Canadians. All of them are fully-realized professional productions about life in rural Canada.

Enjoy summer performances in the cool and comfort of Blyth Memorial Community Hall, a 373-seat theatre, originally built by the community to commemorate the young men lost in World War One. Or take in the country setting at The Harvest Stage, a permanent open-air, fully accessible amphitheatre, with a thrust stage and audience on three sides. It's an intimate venue with open skies above.



## Huron Country Playhouse



The Huron Country Playhouse offers audiences a dynamic mix of Broadway-style musicals, hit comedies, intimate dramas, musical revues, and family-friendly productions across its Mainstage and South Huron Stage, delivering professional live theatre experiences throughout the season.

Located in a country setting on the sparkling shores of Lake Huron, and next door to Dark Horse Estate Winery, the Huron Country Playhouse is the perfect spot to experience summer theatre. There are 650 seats in the mainstage auditorium and 300 seats in the South Huron Stage auditorium.

Part of Drayton Entertainment, a charitable organization has grown from a fledgling theatre in the village of Drayton, Ontario into a national phenomenon in Canadian theatre to include seven theatres operating in five unique communities. Each theatre maintains its distinct identity, but at the same time combines the strengths and energy of all to provide an entertainment experience that is unparalleled.

# HERITAGE



## Huron County Museum



The Huron County Museum is home to historical and cultural exhibitions, both temporary and permanent with a mission to engage our community in preserving, sharing, and fostering Huron County culture. Thousands of artifacts illustrate the history of both our rural and urban communities in a variety of themes and topics.

The Huron County Museum has been welcoming visitors and exhibiting the stories of Huron County since 1951. Join us in 2026 as we celebrate our 75th anniversary! It started as the dream of one man, Joseph Herbert Neill, to collect the items that he felt told the stories of the settlement of Huron County and continues to this day. As our collections continue to grow so do the stories that we can discover!

Permanent exhibitions feature early settlement, agriculture, industry, military, and main street galleries including a full-size steam locomotive central to the building. A variety of temporary exhibitions throughout the year investigate and explore topics of local significance.

The Huron County Archives cares for the archival collection at the Huron County Museum which can be accessed by the public for research purposes.

The Huron County Museum typically offers a variety of events, activities and exhibits throughout the year to welcome the public through our doors and we endeavour to tell the stories of Huron County in a variety of methods on-site, off-site and online.



## Huron Historic Gaol National Historic Site Opens May 15, 2026



The Huron Historic Gaol is a unique octagonal building which served as the County jail from its opening in 1841 until closure in 1972. At the time of construction, it was viewed as a model of

humanitarian prison design. Originally the building served as Gaol for the Counties of Huron, Bruce, and Perth but after the counties separated the building served only the County of Huron for the majority of years.

Throughout its history the Gaol housed inmates registered for crimes from misdemeanors to criminal convictions, including three men who were hanged for crimes of murder. It also provided shelter as the House of Refuge for the ill, destitute and mentally ill. Men, women and children all spent time in the Gaol throughout its history, with

thousands of names and situations in the Gaol register.

The Gaol is now a National Historic Site visited by thousands of people each year. Visitors are welcomed daily to climb the central staircase, explore the cellblocks and learn the real stories of the people who spent time behind bars. While onsite visitors can also visit the Governor's House, built in 1911, as the home for the Gaoler and his family.

Special events throughout the summer months also allow extended opportunities to explore the Gaol and encounter the stories of past in-mates within the walls.

Ontario's West Coast  
Heritage Sites



# VISUAL ARTS

## Meet some of our artists



3 Pines Sunset

### Brad Turner

#### **What inspired you to become an artist?**

Growing up in Bayfield my mom was a teacher and dad was a mechanic. I bought my first 35mm Pentax camera when I was 15. Capturing local people and places fueled my passion and shaped me as a film director and photographer.

#### **What mediums do you work in, and what draws you to them?**

I have always liked working in black and white for my personal street photography. I mainly shoot on film, but I also like monochromatic cameras and digital infrared.

#### **How would you describe your artistic style or the themes you explore in your work?**

I always seek simplicity in my shots by finding unique composition and point of view. This allows me to photograph people and places that I hope inspire people to explore the story behind the subject.

#### **How does Huron County's landscape, people, or way of life influence your art?**

Having worked all over the globe, I find that Huron County is the place that fills my soul. I feel fortunate that I have been able to capture the immanence of Bayfield and preserve memories of growing up in a small lakeside community.

### Brigitte Wolf

#### **What inspired you to become an artist?**

My work is rooted in an understanding of the past. She has studied traditional stained glass and knows that the transmission of light is the essential function. Her work probes the mysterious process by which light is transformed into ideas and emotions.

#### **What mediums do you work in, and what draws you to them?**

I have been working in stained glass for over 40 years. My work is primarily flat glass, intended for private and public spaces, enhanced with sandblasting and glass painting.

#### **How would you describe your artistic style or the themes you explore in your work?**

Always, in my work, there has been a desire to balance a traditional visual vocabulary with a modern sensibility.

#### **How does Huron County's landscape, people, or way of life influence your art?**

Life along Lake Huron offers a constant dialogue between water and land, shaping both the imagery and colours of my art. Supported by a thriving local creative scene, I value the chance to participate in the galleries and cultural events that make this region a haven for artists.

## Elizabeth Van den Broeck

### **What inspired you to become an artist?**

Art was always my thing from the very beginning. All through school I was the kid who was constantly drawing — especially horses — and my parents were incredibly supportive. I just knew this was what I was meant to do. There was never anything else I wanted more.

The challenging part was figuring out how to build a life around it. Finding a way to support myself through my art took time and creativity. Opening my gallery and offering art related services like custom framing and printing made it possible. It gave me both the materials and the outlet I needed to keep exploring, creating, and growing as an artist.

### **What mediums do you work in, and what draws you to them?**

I work in a range of mediums, but my primary focus is oil paint, especially on paper. I'm drawn to oil because of its extended drying time, giving me the freedom to blend, adjust, and build a wide range of colours without losing vibrancy. Oils also dry to the colour I intend, unlike acrylics, which tend to darken, so I can work with a level of precision and subtlety that really suits my process.

I also love working in soft pastels for many of the same reasons. They offer pure, immediate colour and let me play with composition and tone in a very intuitive way. Both mediums give me the ability to explore colour deeply and let the image evolve naturally as I work.

### **How would you describe your artistic style or the themes you explore in your work?**

My paintings are mostly contemporary impressionist, defined by bold spaces and heightened, non-literal colour. I often begin by laying down strong underlying colour and then painting the negative spaces first, allowing the image to emerge naturally from the background. This approach creates a distinctive separation between my strokes and colour fields, giving the work a structured yet expressive feel. My love for the outdoors draws me time and time again to landscapes and I use my work to help me broaden my knowledge of my surrounding environment.



Reverence

### **How does Huron County's landscape, people, or way of life influence your art?**

Huron County is my home and my heart, and it's the landscape, trees, and native fauna of this place that inspire my work almost exclusively. When people say there's no place like home, I feel that deeply; the fields, riverbanks, and woodlots around me are the foundation of my artistic language.

In my current body of work, I'm drawing my reference points even closer. I've become increasingly interested in the role of native flowers and trees in our local ecology, and how understanding them can shift our perception of beauty. Invasive species surround us, and learning to identify and mitigate them has changed the way I see the land. At the same time, discovering and celebrating native plants, and the ways they support insect life, has become a joyful part of my process.

Paintings that honour these small ecological "wins," like Joe Pye Weed thriving along the riverbank, make me genuinely happy. They allow me to celebrate the resilience and quiet importance of the natural world right outside my door.

Ontario's West Coast  
Art Galleries and Studios



# SPECIAL EVENTS



## Bayfield 150

Summer 2026



Bayfield, Ontario, is celebrating its 150th anniversary of incorporation throughout 2026 with a series of community events, historical projects, and celebrations.

Highlights include:

*Celebration & Events:* A “Rock the Block” party featuring live music by Highway 21 is scheduled, and other events are featured at the Village of Bayfield events page. *The Bayfield Story Project:* The Bayfield Historical Society is collecting stories, photos, and documents to create a digital scrapbook of village memories. The *Bayfield Garden Club* is selling handcrafted gardening aprons to mark the occasion. *Historical Recognition:* The Huron County Museum is featuring artifacts from its collection to highlight the village’s history, according to Bayfield Breeze.

## Howick Homecoming 2026



July 3-5, 2026

Howick Township will celebrate its 170th anniversary from July 3–5. The community comes together to mark this milestone in a big way, with events for all ages to enjoy. The Kids Zone will be a highlight on Saturday, July 4, featuring inflatables, a balloon artist, face painters, a reptile show, and more. Hot dinners will be served Friday and Saturday evening, with tickets available in advance. Live entertainment on Saturday night will feature the Kyle McAdam Band. Family, friends, and visitors are invited to join the celebration at the Howick Community Centre.



## Huron Pioneer Thresher & Hobby Association's 65th Annual Reunion

September 11- 13, 2026



Step back in time at the annual Blyth Steam Show, hosted by the Huron Pioneer Threshers and Hobby Association, where vintage steam engines, antique tractors, and traditional farming demonstrations bring rural history to life. This family-friendly event offers a hands-on look at early agricultural practices alongside exhibits, entertainment, and classic small-town hospitality.



## Goderich Salt & Harvest Festival



September 3-6, 2026

Celebrate the rich heritage and vibrant community spirit of Goderich Salt and Harvest Festival, a signature fall event set along the shores of Lake Huron and proudly recognized as one of Ontario's Top 100 Events. Held over Labour Day weekend—September 3 to 6, 2026—this lively festival attracts thousands of visitors each year and honours Goderich's historic salt industry and agricultural roots with a full weekend of family-friendly activities, live entertainment, and local flavours.

Experience it all through hop-on-hop-off bus tours that bring the story of Goderich's salt mining to life, a high-energy Compass Minerals Concert in Courthouse Square, and an immersive salt mine virtual reality experience. Savour harvest-inspired menus and cocktails with a dash of salt, catch emerging talent at the Battle of the Bands, and relax in the Salty Basin Beer Garden. With horse-drawn wagon rides and plenty of children's activities, the festival offers something for every age in a welcoming, waterfront setting.

Ontario's West Coast  
Events



EXPLORE

# Ontario's West Coast

## HURON COUNTY





# DISCOVERY TRAILS



## Central Huron Giant Chair Tour



Explore Clinton and surrounding towns through this unique self-guided tour featuring nine oversized wooden red chairs placed at stunning photo spots across the area. This family-friendly activity showcases Central Huron's history, culture, and gorgeous views. This fun roadside attraction offers the perfect outdoor adventure in Huron County. Start at any of these locations and explore today!

- Bluestone Wake Park – 37524 Telephone Road, Clinton
- Cowbell Brewing Co. – 40035 Blyth Road, Blyth
- Ball's Bridge – 38199 Little Lakes Road, Goderich
- Sloman Railcar Museum – 20-102 Victoria Terrace, Clinton
- Sculpture Garden – Millennium Park, 21 Ontario Street, Clinton
- The Radar Antenna – Park at: Radar Auto Parts, 20 King Street, Clinton
- The Water Building – 11 Princess Street E, Clinton
- Clinton Raceway – 147 Beech Street, Clinton
- Holmesville – 424 Holmes Street, Holmesville



## Brussels Fairy Door Trail



The fairies of Brussels invite you to come and explore their unique village by following the Brussels Fairy Door Trail! From Homecoming Park (445 Turnberry St., Brussels), embark on your adventure by following one or more of our three routes! Search for fairy doors and fairy homes and gardens along these routes. Each door has been lovingly made and decorated to fit the fairy that lives in it. You will find them nestled against trees along the road or by businesses, churches and community facilities.

The fairies ask that you please respect their space and not touch them, their homes, or their belongings as they could lose their magic! Keep in mind that fairies do move around, so please move on to another location if you do not see any.



## Barn Quilt Trail



The Huron County Barn Quilt Trail was created in celebration of the 2017 International Plowing Match, Rural Expo (IPM), and to mark Canada's 150th Birthday as part of the greater Canada Barn Quilt Trails. Since 2017, the number of barn quilts in Huron County has continued to grow and there are now well over 200 of these community artworks scattered across the County. The Quilt Trail guides you along Huron County's highways and back roads, showcasing vibrant barn quilt blocks that celebrate local stories, farms, families, and businesses. Displayed on barns, homes, parks, and schools, these artworks honour rural heritage while inviting families to explore the landscape, follow the map and discover the heartfelt stories behind each design.

# VINE & ALE TRAIL

Welcome to Huron County's Vine & Ale Trail—your guide to the farm-to-tap breweries and family-owned wineries of Ontario's West Coast. Explore one of the province's emerging wine regions, where picturesque vineyards, rolling hills, and passionate vintners create unforgettable tasting experiences. Sample crisp whites, bold reds, and locally-crafted brews infused with hops, apples, and maple syrup, all reflecting the vibrant spirit of the region. As you sip and stroll, you'll discover the charm of Huron County's scenic landscapes, from panoramic farmland vistas to welcoming small towns and villages. Follow the trail, enjoy warm hospitality, and toast to a journey filled with great flavours, breathtaking views, and some of the best sunsets in the world over Lake Huron.

## BREWERIES

- **Bad Apple Brewing Co.**
- **Cowbell Brewing Co.**
- **Goose & Gander Brewhouse Bayfield – *New in 2026!***
- **Imposter Brewing Company**
- **Square Brew**
- **Stone House Brewing Company'**

## CIDERY

- **East Street Cider**

## WINERIES

- **2nd Streetlight Estate Winery**
- **Bayfield Berry Farm**
- **Sterling Sands Vineyard – *New in 2026!***
- **Maelstrom Winery**
- **Schatz Winery at Hessenland**





# TASTE TRAILS

## Meet some of our farmers



### Farm Little



At Farm Little, they do a lot... They raise and process their own meat, their own flour, and bake their own bread, and source the best local products around!

Their little store is jam-packed with organic/pastured/local meats, stoneground flours, organic pantry staples (dried fruits, nuts, seeds, rice, baking ingredients), organic produce, dairy, and so much more.

#### ***What inspired you to start farming or producing food here?***

We noticed a lack of quality, organic food available in Huron County. That, and the fact that we both wanted to be able to make a living while being home with our kids.

#### ***What is one product from your farm that visitors should try?***

Our top sellers would definitely be our house-made sausages, red fife flour, and dried mangoes.

#### ***What's one thing about farming or producing food that most people would be surprised to learn?***

Although the lifestyle isn't one that we'd trade for anything; it's not a walk in the park. We don't get to take days off regardless of weather, sickness, or any other curveball that life throws at us.

#### ***What is your favourite season on the farm, and why?***

Spring, 100%! Everything comes to life, the sun shines more, and we can go outside without taking 20 minutes to get everyone's outerwear on!



### Hayter's Farm



The Hayter's Story: A family-owned turkey farm in Dashwood, Ontario is the place where three generations of the Hayter family have devoted their passion for premium quality turkey. From the whole bird to many delicious turkey products they're yours to enjoy.

#### ***What inspired you to start farming or producing food here?***

Harry Hayter began raising turkeys on our family farm in Dashwood. Since 1948, second and third generation have continued his passion for raising turkeys.

#### ***What is one product from your farm that visitors should try?***

There are nearly 50 turkey products available for all seasons and occasions. From turkey steaks, fillets, burgers and sausage for the grill. Or smoked ready-to-eat products from the deli. Or oven ready products - turkey lasagne, chili, meatloaf and roasts.

#### ***What's one thing about farming or producing food that most people would be surprised to learn?***

We are the only family-run turkey operation in Canada that produces turkey from poult to plate.

Turkey is all we do - from raising the turkeys to processing, packaging, and shipping across Canada - all from our family farm.

We also offer our turkey products from our farm retail outlet.

#### ***What is your favourite season on the farm, and why?***

Because we can now offer variety of products, turkey can be enjoyed all year around. But Thanksgiving and Christmas is still the family favourite.



### **Grazing Meadows Wagyu**



Tim and Donna Prior live just east of Brussels and own and operate Grazing Meadows Wagyu. Through innovative grazing practices on their 100-acre farm, they specialize in raising high quality Wagyu beef cattle for human consumption and breeding stock.

#### ***What inspired you to start farming or producing food here?***

Being a town lad and marrying a farm girl landed us on a farm in Huron County with great soil and growing conditions to start our journey to grow great food here.

#### ***What is one product from your farm that visitors should try?***

One product to try for sure is our Wagyu jerky. Super amazing. Quite frankly, though, all our cuts of

wagyu meat are so scrumptious. Simply a mouth-watering eating experience.

#### ***What's one thing about farming or producing food that most people would be surprised to learn?***

We are open to show and teach our consumer how our meat is raised and cared for. As food producers we are here to educate and show off our operation.

#### ***What is your favourite season on the farm, and why?***

Spring is our favorite season for sure. All the calves are born at that time of year, and all the plants, trees, and wildlife start their growth and new beginnings in the spring.

## Meeting Place Organic Farm



Nestled in the rolling hills of northern Huron County, Meeting Place Organic Farm is stewarded by the McQuail family; currently three generations living together on the farm, shepherding the farm's goals of sustainability. They build community, regenerate the environment, and raise happy, healthy animals. The primary work on the farm is raising certified organic, grass-fed and finished beef animals; pastured pigs, pastured meat chickens and laying hens (eggs); growing organic apples, and cut flowers, and hosting community events.

### ***What inspired you to start farming or producing food here?***

Tony and Fran emigrated to Canada in the early 1970's, and were drawn to the rolling hills as they reminded them of home. Always concerned about the human impact on the world around them, and passionate about animals, organic and regenerative farming was an obvious direction to take. They started using draft horses, raising dairy goats and sheep. In 2014, Katrina moved home to start the farm succession, and take over the farm and business. She was pulled back to the farm with fond memories of growing up there, and more recent experience of being so happy when she worked on the farm for her summers. Now Katrina and Ben are raising their three small children on the farm, while continuing the family legacy.

### ***What is one product from your farm that visitors should try?***

That's hard to narrow down. Everything is so delicious. The easiest one to transport and that is accessible to everyone would be our apple butter. Made from our certified organic apples, still growing on the trees that were on the farm when we first got the farm. Our Northern Spys are what give it the special tang which make most people fall in love with it. It has no added sugar, is vegan, and is great on crackers, sandwiches, as a marinade for pork chops, added to BBQ sauce or used in baking!

### ***What's one thing about farming or producing food that most people would be surprised to learn?***

I think it is really easy for people to romanticize farming or producing food. To think about all the great moments, (of which there are many), being

with baby animals, growing little seedlings and planting them out. And, it is super unsexy. There is all of the business side of it; traceability paperwork, government paperwork, paying bills, invoicing customers, responding to emails, etc., etc., etc., and then there is the working outside in all weather

### ***What is your favourite season on the farm, and why?***

Just one season!? I love them all for different reasons. Autumn is when everything is ripe and beautiful. We've got our flower gardens in full bloom and production, the apples are being harvested, we've put up our hay, the animals are still rotationally grazing on the pastures, we're eating vegetables from our gardens, and the light is just beautiful. People are back from summer holidays and starting to gather for events again, so we're also hosting and building community.

Spring is my favourite because of all the baby animals. Our calves are being born, we're getting our day old chicks, bunnies and goat kids. We're hatching out ducklings and the sows are farrowing their litters of piglets. It's such a magical, if messy, time. It is also when we are planting so many seeds to get ready for our own growing, but also to sell as seedlings at our Mother's Day Farm Open House and Seedling Sale. It's the time of year that feels full of potential and rebirth!

## FARMERS' MARKETS

### **BAYFIELD FARMERS' MARKET**

Clan Gregor Square, Bayfield

May to October:

Fridays, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

### **BRUSSELS MARKET**

Richmond Square,

589 Turnberry Street, Brussels

On select Fridays from June to August:

2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

### **GODERICH FARMERS' MARKET**

Courthouse Square, Goderich

May to October: Saturdays,

8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Ontario's West Coast  
Farmers' Markets





# DINING

*Meet some of our chefs*



**Andrew McIntosh**  
**Black Dog Village Pub & Bistro**



***What sparked your passion for cooking?***

Canada is very multi-cultural, being able to apply seasoning and preparations from around the world to locally-sourced products sparked an interest in cooking.

***How would you describe your cooking style in a few words?***

My cooking style is to keep it simple and let the ingredients speak for themselves.

***What is one Huron County ingredient or producer that you love working with?***

We have had a partnership with Metzger Meats in Hensall since 2005. The smoked sausage is a favourite.

***What dish on your menu should every visitor try at least once?***

The Confit Duck Wings are a must try.

***When you're not in your own kitchen, where in Huron County do you love to eat or grab a drink?***

Eddington's in Exeter is consistent and delicious.



**James Eddington**  
**Eddington's of Exeter**



***What first sparked your passion for cooking?***

The creativity and the hustle and bustle of the kitchen. Watching people get enjoyment of a creative and sustainable meal really ticked off all the boxes. I knew, I was never destined to be in an office or sitting at a computer. The kitchen has always had my heart.

***How would you describe your cooking style in a few words?***

Scratch • Seasonal • Approachable

***What is one Huron County ingredient or producer that you love working with?***

Masse Fruit and Vegetables • Firmly Rooted • Weth Mushrooms • Hayter's Farm • Metzger's Meats • Veri Produce • Lipmens Farms • Eddington's Farm, etc., etc., etc.

***What dish on your menu should every visitor try at least once?***

White Squirrel Cheesecake • Must pre-order.

***When you're not in your own kitchen, where in Huron County do you love to eat or grab a drink?***

Bayfield has a great selection of restaurants • Part 2 Bistro in Goderich.

**Peter Gusso**  
**Part II Bistro**



***What first sparked your passion for cooking?***

I lived with my friends in college (Fanshawe) and cooked for them so I didn't have to pay rent for about a month. I really enjoyed it.

***How would you describe your cooking style in a few words?***

Consistency • Flavourful • Part Fine • Part Casual

***What is one Huron County ingredient or producer that you love working with?***

Robinson's Maple Syrup

***What dish on your menu should every visitor try at least once?***

Cheddar Cheese Stuffed Perogies Topped with Maple Bacon, our House Salsa and Sour Cream

***When you're not in your own kitchen, where in Huron County do you love to eat or grab a drink?***

Eating in Huron County - Eddington's of Exeter - Metzger's Steak. Drinking in Huron County - Square Brew (Goderich) - West Coast IPA while on the Golf Simulator.

Ontario's West Coast  
Restaurants



# BAKERIES



Follow the scent of fresh bread and butter through Huron County and you'll discover a bakery scene that feels both nostalgic and newly inspired—where small-town charm meets scratch-made quality in every bite.



In Goderich, **Culbert's Bakery** is home to the legendary cream puff donuts that have become a must-try for visitors and locals alike. Arrive early—these famous treats sell out fast—and experience a true Huron County tradition that keeps people coming back year after year.



Just down the block from Culbert's, **Blake Street Bakery** is proud to serve up mouth-watering treats made 100% from scratch using the freshest ingredients.

Whether you're stopping in for a freshly baked scone or pairing your pastry with a hot Blake Street latte, every visit feels warm, welcoming, and deliciously satisfying.



Located just north of Goderich, **Red Cat Bakery** pairs exceptional baking with a deep connection to the land. Using organically grown grains and working in rhythm with nature, their breads and pastries reflect

care, craft, and a thoughtful approach to food rooted in Huron County's agricultural traditions. Store hours at the farm: Fridays, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm.



For a countryside experience, seek out **The Tart Shack**, a charming weekend only farm stand where pastries are made from scratch using ingredients grown right on the farm whenever possible. It's a hidden gem that offers a true taste of Huron County's rural roots.



In Exeter, **White Squirrel Bakery** specializes in handmade artisanal breads—sourdough, focaccia, and cornbread—alongside baked goods like cookies, scones, muffins, and macarons. Using locally sourced ingredients, each item reflects a commitment to quality, craft, and community.



**Sprouted Mill & Bakery** in Seaforth offers a thoughtful, small-batch approach to baking. Specializing in sprouted grain sourdough, freshly milled flour, and nutrient-dense baked goods, their traditional methods and wholesome ingredients create bread that's as nourishing as it is flavourful. Open Fridays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm only.



## SLICE OF PIE TRAIL



Who doesn't love pie? Find out where to get the best tasty, fresh baked pies across Huron County with our **Slice of Pie Trail!**

Ontario's West Coast Bakeries and Cafés



# ACCOMMODATIONS - Cottages and Camping



## Cottage Stays



Your Lake Huron Getaway Experts! Find your perfect pet-friendly cottage rental along Ontario's beautiful Lake Huron coast — from Grand Bend, Bayfield, and Goderich to Point Clark. Whether you're

looking for a cozy couples' hideaway or a spacious family retreat, they've got you covered offering a wide variety of cottages to suit every need, from romantic getaways to large-group retreats. Whether you're planning a winter weekend escape, a waterfront beach holiday, or a charming stay in the village of Bayfield, they have the ideal vacation home to help you create lasting memories.

### ***What makes your cottages a great place to stay when visiting Huron County?***

I focus on homes that are more than just a place to sleep. My guests appreciate the well-equipped kitchens and spacious, sparkling clean rooms that make it easy to gather the whole family or a group of friends comfortably.

### ***What do guests love most about staying with you?***

My guests love the reassurance of having a lifelong local as their guide. They love feeling looked after by a friend rather than a platform, enjoying peaceful, pet-friendly spaces with the reassurance that I'm always paying attention to their needs—so you can focus on making memories.

### ***What nearby experience, attraction, or local gem do you always recommend to your guests?***

Stroll Bayfield's historic Main Street for shopping, then enjoy a meal at the Black Dog or Beach Street Station in Goderich. For a local taste, I always recommend a flight at Bad Apple Brewing or a visit to Maelstrom Winery.

### ***What would you tell someone about why they should spend time in Huron County?***

Huron County is where you come to put the phone away and breathe. Between visits to the farmers' markets for fresh wildflowers and eggs, quiet walks on the beach, our world-class sunsets, it's the ultimate place to spend time with your favorite people.



### **Auburn Riverside Retreat**



A family-run camping retreat located outside Auburn, Ontario on the banks of the Maitland River. Families gather at the Riverside Retreat to relax and enjoy good food and the stunning scenery of southwestern Ontario. We have over 5,000 feet of pristine riverfront access, canoes, tubes, and endless hiking trails. Our facilities are designed to make your camping experience unforgettable.”

#### ***What makes your place a great campground to stay when visiting Huron County?***

Auburn Riverside Retreat is 15 minutes away from Goderich and Lake Huron and 10 minutes from Blyth. With our rental accommodations or tent/trailer sites, we have the perfect spot for everyone to stay.

#### ***What do guests love most about staying with you?***

Take a relaxing tube down the river or join us for our many activities every weekend. Kids clubs are offered throughout the week mid summer as well.

#### ***What nearby experience, attraction, or local gem do you always recommend to your guests?***

Enjoy a lunch at the Cowbell Brewery, hike the Maitland Trail, bike the G2G, visit the Saturday morning Goderich Markets, or enjoy a show at the Blyth theatre. There really is something for everyone close by.

#### ***What would you tell someone about why they should spend time in Huron County?***

Huron County really is the perfect place to relax and unwind. With lots to see and do, who wouldn't want to come to Huron County.

# ACCOMMODATIONS - Hotels and Bed & Breakfast



## Southbank Suites



Southbank Suites is a boutique hotel in the heart of Huron County, just 20 minutes from the beaches of Grand Bend. Housed in a beautifully restored 1877 church, our spacious suites feature chef-ready kitchens, luxury

ensuite, and private living areas — giving families, couples, and groups the comfort of home with the indulgence of a luxury stay.

### ***What makes your place a great place to stay when visiting Huron County?***

Southbank Suites offers the rare combination of boutique luxury and generous space. We're just 20 minutes from Grand Bend's famous beaches, but tucked away from the noise — giving guests the best of both worlds: Huron County adventure by day, refined calm by night.

### ***What do guests love most about staying with you?***

Guests tell us it's the space. Whether it's a family spreading out across a full living area, a couple enjoying a quiet breakfast in a chef-ready kitchen, or a group sharing a bottle of local wine after a day at the lake — our suites feel like a home away from home, only better.

### ***What nearby experience, attraction, or local gem do you always recommend to your guests?***

Grand Bend's beach is an easy favourite — especially at golden hour when the Lake Huron sunset is simply breathtaking. We also love pointing guests toward White Squirrel Golf Course, and the local food and wine scene in Huron County, which is far better than most visitors expect.

### ***What would you tell someone about why they should spend time in Huron County?***

Because it's Ontario's best-kept secret — for now. The beaches rival anything in the province, the local food and wine scene is extraordinary, and the pace of life here reminds you what a real vacation feels like. Come once and you'll plan your return before you leave.



Ontario's West Coast  
Stays



## Kildonan House Bed & Breakfast



Kildonan House estate is a unique boutique inn located in Clinton the Heart of Huron County. It was originally built in 1867, by Richard Irwin, who was a notable businessman and grain merchant. Kildonan House has a rich history, as one of the most historical estates in Huron County.

Bob and Janice Clark, Proprietors and Winston, their golden retriever, Concierge, focus on guests' experience during their visit, in their four stately suites. They offer their guests specifically prepared meals from locally sourced providers, and offer gluten-free, vegan, or vegetarian meals as requested.

Kildonan House has central air as well as a heated saltwater pool, with complimentary pool towels for guest's enjoyment.

### ***What makes your place a great place to stay when visiting Huron County?***

A great benefit for our guests enjoyment is being in the Heart of Huron County, so traveling to Goderich, Bayfield, or Blyth is only a short 15 drive.

### ***What do guests love most about staying with you?***

Our guests especially enjoy the use of our saltwater pool, and relax on the front porch, or explore our professionally-maintained gardens.

### ***What nearby experience, attraction, or local gem do you always recommend to your guests?***

The attractions here are exponential, from the Maelstrom Winery to Cowbell Brewery or the short drive to Bayfield and the sunset views from Pioneer Park.

### ***What would you tell someone about why they should spend time in Huron County?***

Spending time in Huron County has been a significant attraction for our guest's experience to enjoy the relaxed ambience of the West Coast of Ontario, and the spectacular sunsets that are unique to Lake Huron.

# TOURISM OPERATORS



**519 Tours**



**Maitland Valley  
Fishing Charters**



**Fly Fitters**



**Papple  
Aviation**



**Goderich  
Boat Cruises**



**Wave Limo  
and Tours**



**Great Lakes  
Helicopter Tours**



# VISITOR INFORMATION



## Goderich Visitor Information Centre

33 St. David Street, Goderich

## Information Centres

### North Huron Westcast Community Centre

99 Kerr Dr, Wingham

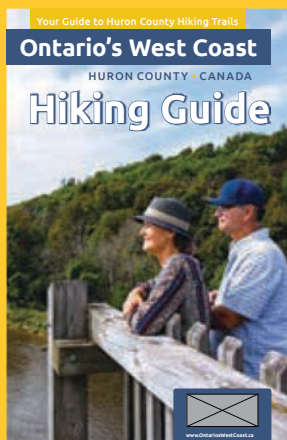
### Bayfield Historical Society & Archives

20 Main Street North, Bayfield

### Branches of the Huron County Library



## Ontario's West Coast Guides



Visit  
Ontario's  
West Coast





# Ontario's West Coast

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