

Eating, Dining, & Art in Toronto

Let me start by saying that Toronto is extremely multicultural and therefore one can find amazing restaurants serving food from all corners of the world (well, almost). I can go on forever with favourites, not only in terms of where to eat but also where to listen to fusion jazz, Rock, Latin and beyond (For, helpful info in this department see <https://www.seetorontonow.com/bars-nightlife/torontos-thriving-live-music-scene/>)

One way to think about where to eat is in terms of neighbourhoods. I list below neighbourhoods where one can find great restaurants. This means that SSR attendees can search for restaurants in a neighbourhood using a search engine such **OpenTable**. I will focus only on the downtown neighbourhoods that are easily accessible by public transport. There is safe public transport to all these neighbourhoods (a combo of buses, subway and streetcars – and you only pay once at the beginning of the trip). Needless to say, Uber, Lyft and Taxis all work as well).

Below is a list of some of my favourite neighbourhoods, each with its own history, character, and great/fun restaurants:

- Harbourfront (NB walking distance from the conference venue) – lots going on in the summer! Not to be missed - A stroll along harbourfront on warm summer evenings. See <https://www.harbourfrontcentre.com/festivals/> for programs.
- The Annex (Bloor/Spadina and onwards, close to OISE and U of Toronto). Multicultural and very affordable – After all, you have to feed all these students....
- Chinatown (FYI Toronto has 5 (!) Chinatowns scattered across the city) but I am talking about the Spadina/Dundas one. Affordable. Can/should be combined with a visit to the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) on Dundas.(PS if you visit the AGO do not miss the **Aboriginal Art section**).
- The Distillery District (Book ahead).
- Greektown (Danforth) (not only Greek!)
- Harbord (West of U of T)
- Kensington Market
- Ossington
- College Westward starting at Spadina. (Ethiopian, Farsi, Jewish, Italian, Portuguese, Brazilian....). Hip.
- King St (West of University); (PS For some culture, check out the TIFF building (a.k.a. Toronto International Film Festival), with its fantastic movies and 2 great restaurants).
- Queen St West
- Beaches area. Do not miss the boardwalk if you make it here.

This recent article from **Timeout** lists fantastic restaurants, though some are on the pricy side. Definitely book ahead!

<https://www.timeout.com/toronto/restaurants/best-restaurants-in-toronto>

If you want to check out some museums here is my top-list (all downtown and easily accessible):

- **Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery** (at the Harbourfront, close to the conference venue)
- **Art Gallery of Toronto** (AGO)(subway to University at Dundas)
- **Royal Ontario Museum** (ROM). Bloor/University
- **Gardner Museum** (Bloor/University)
- **Bata Shoe Museum** Bloor/St George (be open-minded, this is not what you think — it will be your anthropology 101 on shoes, and beyond)
- My grandson would definitely add **The Hockey Hall of Fame** (walking distance from the conference venue).

Enjoy.

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