Mississauga is a city of villages, created through the amalgamation of several heritage communities, including Port Credit, Streetsville, Clarkson, Cooksville and Malton.

# Mississauga: A Cultural Canvas

**Absolute World twin skyscrapers** 

#DYK

CANADA'S **6TH LARGEST CITY** 

**HOME TO 75+ FORTUNE 500** COMPANIES

Mississauga is a young, welcoming city with diversity woven into its fabric. People from across the globe have made Mississauga home and are integral to the exciting transformation taking place in this sprawling metropolis that reaches from Pearson International Airport southward to historic villages situated along the Lake Ontario waterfront. A positive entrepreneurial vibe is evident at every turn, from the city's modernization programs to a flourishing arts scene, vibrant cultural celebrations and global cuisine.

### **NOTABLE**

In 2024, Mississauga celebrated a culinary milestone with two restaurants earning spots in the prestigious MICHELIN Guide. Guru Lukshmi received a Bib Gourmand for its flavourful and affordable dishes, while Tamarind Modern Indian Bistro was recognized with a MICHELIN Recommendation for its innovative take on Indian cuisine.

## 145 LANGUAGES



## MISSISSAUGA'S CENTRAL LOCATION

means it's well connected to the rest of Canada and the world, and offers a variety of transportation options:

- Pearson International Airport (YYZ) for domestic and international flights
- GO Transit rail and bus service for inter-city and interregional public transportation
- Seven major 400-series highways and a short drive to downtown Toronto and the U.S. border at Niagara

## **VISIT MISSISSAUGA**

## **TEAM MEMBER TIP**

Mascia Michalakos' favourite unexpected teambuilding activities you can do in Mississauga:

- · Rock climbing and bouldering at Hub Climbing, Canada's largest indoor climbing gym
- Charter a boat and catch freshwater salmon on Lake Ontario
- Challenge yourself and your team at BRKFREE, a unique high-tech, social entertainment experience



"When we choose a destination, we look at the overall vibe and energy so that we're working with a partner and we're in a place where our group is excited to be. Among our program highlights was the opening keynote by Raia "Coach" Carey, manager of culture, diversity and inclusion at the SickKids Foundation, speaking about embracing stress in the workplace. And on the morning of our final day, Visit Mississauga offered several experiences around the city, including a 5-km guided hike, meditation opportunities and an indoor/outdoor swim."

- Tracy Folkes Hanson, CAE, President & CEO, Canadian Society of Association Executives

## **VISIT MISSISSAUGA TEAM MEMBER TIP**

Ryan DeSouza's top picks for familyfriendly fun:

- · Cheer on the Raptors 905 at the Paramount Fine Foods Centre
- Explore Port Credit and its scenic waterfront, shops and restaurants
- Have a blast at The Rec Room with games, virtual reality and delicious eats for all ages

## **BFUTR 2024**

Dates: November 6-7, 2024

Attendees: 5,400 Canadian and U.S. Black tech

employers, professionals and students

Venue: The International Centre

Mississauga welcomed the BFUTR 2024 Global Tech Summit— North America's largest Black tech conference. In partnership with key industry champions, including Visit Mississauga, the summit, hosted by Obsidi®, aimed to bridge the network gap between Black talent and tech career opportunities across North America's tech ecosystem. This dynamic tech event positioned Mississauga as a hub for innovation while delivering regional economic impact.

"BFUTR 2024 is more than just a tech event," says Lekan Olawoye, founder and CEO of Obsidi®. "It's a movement focused on empowering professionals and creating meaningful connections with employers of choice, ensuring Black talent can access opportunities across North America's tech ecosystem. Mississauga's innovative spirit and diverse community make it the perfect location for this global tech industry gathering."

## #DYK

**BOMBARDIER RECENTLY OPENED** A NEW AIRCRAFT **MANUFACTURING CENTRE IN MISSISSAUGA** 

## Mississauge for Grou



7,000+ guestrooms throughout the city

60+ international brand hotels, including Hilton Mississauga/ Meadowvale, Hyatt Place Toronto/Mississauga Centre, Delta Hotels Toronto Mississauga

750,000 sq. ft. of conference and event space, including a number of venues close to the airport for convenient fly-in, fly-out gatherings

Scan the QR code to learn about the Business Events Hosting Incentive Program, which provides financial support to qualified planners who bring conferences and events to the city.



- Mississauga is within an hour's commute of 32 universities and
- 1,400+ multinational firms
- Key knowledge-based industries include aviation, advanced

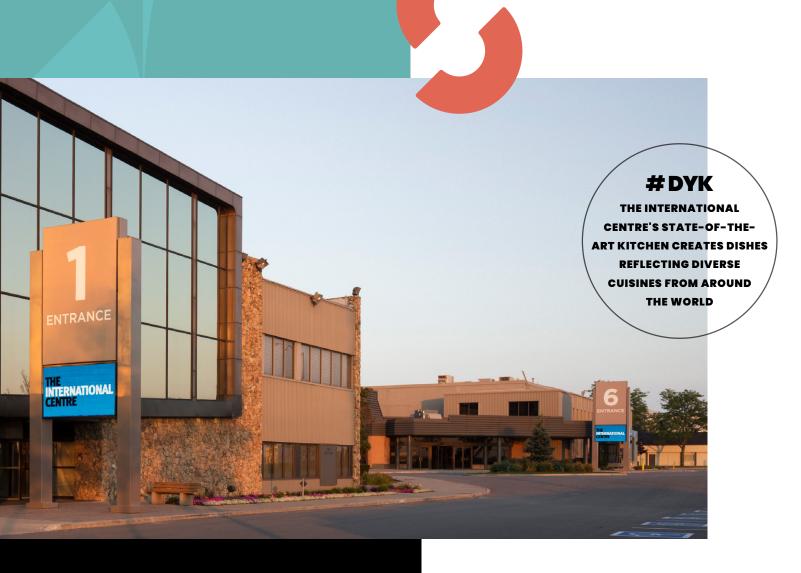




Katelyn May's favourite places to recharge and relax:

- The spa at the Glenerin Inn
- · Paddle boarding
- Yoga
- · Retail therapy





## **FAST FACTS**

- The International Centre is Mississauga's largest event venue
- 500,000 sq. ft. of customizable exhibition and trade show space
- A 48,000-sq.-ft. conference centre and 35 scalable rooms
- Close to Pearson International Airport and many nearby hotels
- Free parking for 5,000+ vehicles

## Trevor Graham, chief operating officer, The International Centre, addresses two topics that are on event planners' minds.

**Sustainability:** "Planners primarily ask us about water conservation, energy conservation and food waste," says Graham. "We're now fully LED throughout our facility and we have sensors and motion detectors to regulate heating and air conditioning. If halls are empty or there are only a few people, everything shuts down to a prescribed level. Food waste can be a challenge when catering for 3,000 to 4,000 people at a time. We work with clients to know how many guests we'll be serving and our preparation is staged to reduce waste. If there is leftover food, we donate it locally on our clients' behalf."

Value for money: "It comes down to cost and our track record of adding value where we can. This can include working with clients to move their events to lower-cost shoulder dates and we negotiate cleaning, security and parking vendor costs on behalf of our customers."



## executive chair, Mohamad Fakih, explains why Mississauga is home.

**Paramount Fine Foods** 

## What excites you about Mississauga?

"I love the diversity. The one recipe of success is hiring good people with a variety of experiences. A lot of skilled people have come to Mississauga from different parts of the world who bring that grit, that hunger to succeed."

## Top suggestions for business visitors?

"I get on my Vespa and go down to Port Credit with my son to grab an ice cream. It feels like Europe, but much nicer. Visitors should also see Celebration Square, where there are plaques to people who have helped make Mississauga what it is today. Also, break bread with other people at all the ethnic restaurants."

## Mississauga Trailblazer

Nav Bhatia, nicknamed the Raptors his journey from India to making a new home in Canada and the obstacles he overcame along the way. Over the years, he's built a the Nav Bhatia Superfan Foundation, raises money to help build community basketball courts and send children

## **FAST FACTS**

- Founded in 2006, Paramount Fine Foods offers Middle Eastern fare through its restaurants and catering service
- The Paramount Fine Foods Centre (formerly called the Hershey Centre), is Mississauga's premier sports and entertainment facility, featuring four NHL regulation size ice rinks, a 5,100-seat multi-purpose spectator arena, portable FIBA-size basketball court, outdoor sport facilities, 25 private suites as well as hospitality and meeting spaces



Kyle Passmore's favourite restaurants for larger groups:

- Clarkson Pump & Patio
- Posta Italbar Cucina
- Bar 6ix Sports & Wings
- GAMETIME Eatery & Entertainment
- The Crooked Cue
- The Wilcox Gastropub



## Versatile Spaces

Small Arms Inspection Building

**The Living Arts Centre** is a fully equipped theatre and event space that's perfect for symposiums, panel discussions, trade shows and celebrations. The on-site LIVE! Restaurant offers private rooms for group dining.

**Mississauga Celebration Square** is located in the heart of the city and hosts cultural events, concerts and festivals throughout the year. The site features a main stage as well as a smaller amphitheatre, with the entire venue able to host up to 30,000 people.

**The Small Arms Inspection Building** is a former industrial space reimagined as a creative hub for arts and culture programming, hands-on workshops, exhibitions, performances and gala events.

**Corporate Event Centre at CHSI** with space to host meetings, training programs, board meetings or conferences for up to 288 people.

**Mississauga Convention Centre** is a highly flexible venue featuring seven interior halls, a stunning foyer, landscaped grounds and space to host up to 2,400 guests.





## Elevated Dining

With more than 2,000 local restaurants showcasing the city's multicultural diversity, visiting groups can sample authentic dishes from across the globe.

Sophisticated **Posta Italbar Cucina** serves quality Italian cuisine with an emphasis on organic ingredients sourced seasonally from local farms. Situated at the waterfront overlooking picturesque Port Credit Harbour, the restaurant has a private dining room for up to 20 guests and the entire venue is available for buyouts for up to 300 people.

The Food District at the Square One Shopping Centre is a curated collection of more than 25 artisans, merchants and restaurants reflecting global cuisine. Among the unique shops are Mogouyan, specializing in hand-pulled noodles served in rich, flavourful broth; Farzi Café, offering modern, Instagram-worthy Indian cuisine; and Hattendo, a Japanese bakery renowned for its delectable cream buns.

#DYK

**GROUPS LOVE THE REC ROOM'S CASUAL FARE + ON-SITE GAMES, BILLIARDS** AND BOWLING



## **VISIT MISSISSAUGA**

## **TEAM MEMBER TIP**

Tej Kainth's favourite dine-around restaurants and foodie festivals:

- NMTO's Food Truck Festivals
- Carassauga Festival of Cultures
- Miga Korean BBQ
- Rick's Good Eats, homestyle Punjabi-Canadian cuisine, owned by Chef Rick Matharu
- · Capra's Kitchen, an upscale Italian eatery owned by Chef Massimo Capra





Bring your partner, kids, family and friends and spend a few extra days in Mississauga to experience more arts and entertainment, shopping, festivals and attractions.

#DYK

**SQUARE ONE IS ONTARIO'S LARGEST** SHOPPING CENTRE AND THE SECOND LARGEST IN CANADA

Recently renovated Glenerin Inn & Spa is ideal for luxurious retreats and wellness getaways. The 1920s historic stone mansion is set amid two acres of manicured grounds and features 30 luxurious guestrooms and suites, private spaces for corporate gatherings, on-site dining and a full-service boutique spa.

Mississauga is a hub for exciting attractions and events! Experience the thrill of BRKFREE, where immersive rooms challenge you with a dynamic mix of physical, mental and skill-based obstacles. Celebration Square, the city's vibrant centrepiece, hosts spectacular festivals and celebrations yearround. From dazzling cultural showcases to lively concerts and family-friendly fun, Mississauga sets the stage for unforgettable experiences.

## **RETAIL DAY TRIPS**

## **Square One Shopping Centre**

offers 330+ brand name shops, retailers and restaurants. Square One sustainability initiatives include solar panels, water management and a rooftop beehive and garden.

Erin Mills Town Centre has completed \$100-million in renovations, including enhancing natural light in the Centre Court. The mall is also home to Cineplex Junxion, Mississauga's newest movie theatre and entertainment complex.

## Heartland Town Centre is

Mississauga's premier outdoor shopping centre and outlet mall. Home to over 180 stores, restaurants and services, Heartland's got you covered for sweet treats with world-famous Krispy Kreme Doughnuts and Ontario's first Crumbl Cookies store.

## **VISIT MISSISSAUGA TEAM MEMBER TIP**

Victoria Clarke's favourite cultural festivals:

- · Jackalope and APIK, two thrilling action sports festivals
- Italfest, Latin Festival and Japan Festival Canada
- TD Mosaic Fest
- Bollywood Monster Mashup, Canada's largest South Asian festival

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## REACH OUT TO THE TEAM

Get in touch to learn how Visit Mississauga can help make your event the best ever!

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