



Destination: Saugeen Shores



With beaches, trails, world-class sunsets, watersports, and welcoming small-town communities—Saugeen Shores is becoming one of Ontario's top vacation destinations.

Whether you're visiting with family, a partner, or on your own, you'll find something your pace in Southampton, Port Elgin, and Saugeen Township.



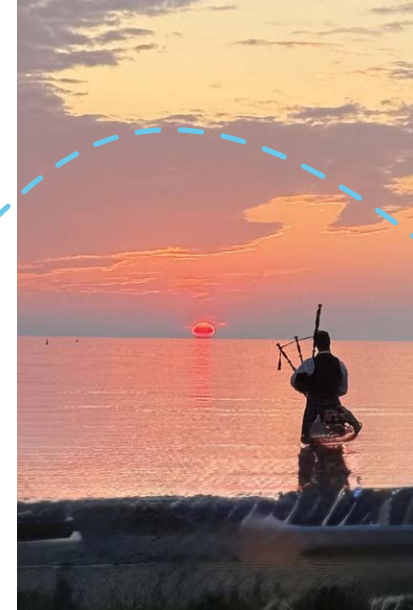
Arts & Culture

Creativity, history, and lakeside tradition run deep in Saugeen Shores. In Southampton, the **Southampton Arts Centre – Art School & Gallery** is a year-round hub for local and regional talent, offering art classes for all ages and skill levels, contemporary exhibits, and free gallery admission. Live performance adds to the community's cultural energy through the **Bruce County Playhouse** and events such as the **Southampton Arts Festival**, bringing together theatre, music, artists, markets, and family activities.



History enthusiasts can explore the **Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre**, with exhibits tracing Bruce County's natural and human history, from Anishnaabwe heritage and pioneer life to marine history, lighthouses, shipwrecks, rail travel, and wartime stories.

Listen for the **Sunset Piper**, a beloved summer tradition performed at sunset along the Lake Huron shoreline. Public art installations add colour and community vibrancy throughout the area while heritage buildings, historic sites, lighthouses, and character-filled shops and restaurants help you discover the stories that shape these lakefront communities.



Accommodations

Saugeen Shores has options for every kind of visit, from quick getaways to extended Lake Huron vacations. Choose from modern hotels and motels, cozy inns, bed and breakfasts, vacation rentals, campgrounds and trailer parks throughout Saugeen Shores.

Campers will find seasonal and overnight sites, serviced and unserviced campsites, and easy access to beaches, trails, shopping, dining, and family attractions. Nearby **McGregor Point Provincial Park** offers forested camping close to wetlands, shoreline trails, boardwalks, and sandy beach areas, with birding and visitor programs throughout the year.

The latest happenings

For the list of upcoming events and business directories, scan the QR code or go to saugeenshores.ca/visit



Events

Saugeen Shores hosts festivals, music, and outdoor traditions year-round—from Port Elgin's beloved fall celebration **Pumpkinfest**, known for giant pumpkins, classic cars, and family fun, to **Southampton's Marine Heritage Festival**, a free summer event honouring Lake Huron's history with hands-on activities and waterfront exhibits.

Experience Indigenous culture at the **Saugeen First Nation Pow Wow**, held the second weekend of August. Enjoy traditional storytelling, arts and crafts, culinary delights, and live performances showcasing the creativity and resilience of Indigenous communities.

Catch the **Canadian Big Band Celebration** and summer concerts at the Port Elgin Pavilion on the beach, where lakeside sunsets create a photo-worthy backdrop.

Cyclists can join the annual **Gran Fondo Lake Huron**, a scenic shoreline ride that supports local healthcare.





Clockwise: Southampton Beach, Fairy Lake, Jubilee Park, Chantry Island

Attractions

Saugeen Shores is a destination where natural beauty, outdoor recreation, and rich heritage come together to create unforgettable experiences for visitors of all ages.

Twelve Lake Huron beaches set the tone in Saugeen Shores, with soft sandy shorelines, spectacular sunsets, and waterfronts made for swimming, paddling, beachcombing, and relaxing.

Iconic landmarks, including the historic **Chantry Island Lighthouse** and the **Range Lights of Southampton**, offer a glimpse into the area's maritime past while providing some of the region's most photographed views.



Inland, **Fairy Lake** offers tranquil beauty, while picturesque parks and green spaces in the communities feature accessible playgrounds, splash pads, picnic areas, and walking trails.

From waterfront boardwalks and cycling routes to vibrant public spaces and outdoor adventures, Saugeen Shores has something for everyone—whether you're seeking active exploration, peaceful relaxation, or memorable family experiences.

Downtowns

Port Elgin and Southampton each offer a welcoming downtown experience where you can shop, dine, and linger at a relaxed Lake Huron pace.

Along Goderich Street in Port Elgin, independent shops carry clothing, gifts, home décor, books, music, and more. It's an easy place to spend an afternoon, whether you're after beach supplies, a locally made keepsake, or stopping for coffee, a meal, or a sweet treat between adventures.

Southampton's downtown has its own distinctive charm, with boutique shops, galleries, cafés, restaurants, and specialty food and wellness shops. Centrally located, you can easily wander between storefronts and waterfront views.

Market days can add flavour to your visit. The **Downtown Port Elgin Farmers' Market** runs Wednesdays through the summer at Green and Bricker Streets, with fresh local produce, artisan foods, handmade goods, creative vendors, and live entertainment.



Southampton's Marine Heritage Artisans and Tastes Market brings the same spirit every Friday through the summer—local food, seasonal finds, and artisan goods that reflect the area's creative and community-minded spirit.

Together, the downtowns of Port Elgin and Southampton invite you to slow down, support local, and experience Saugeen Shores through its shops, restaurants, makers, growers, and friendly small-town hospitality. Come for the beach, then stay for the creativity and character found just steps from the shoreline.





Saugeen Shores is an outdoor playground for every season. More than 50 kilometres of scenic multi-use trails wind through the area for hiking, cycling, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The popular **Saugeen Rail Trail** follows a historic railway corridor between Port Elgin and Southampton. Along the waterfront, pathways connect you to beaches, parks, and vibrant downtowns.

Golf enthusiasts will find beautifully maintained courses, while Lake Huron and the **Saugeen River** provide outstanding opportunities for boating, sailing, paddling, and kayaking. Marinas and harbours in Port Elgin and Southampton provide easy water access for a day of cruising or fishing. Anglers can cast a line from the shoreline, harbour, or river, with salmon, trout, and other species attracting visitors throughout the seasons.

Active visitors can take advantage of premier recreation facilities, including arenas, sports fields, tennis and pickleball courts, the **Pryde Aquatic & Wellness Centre**, and parks designed for year-round play.

Below: North Shore Trail, Biener's Bush Trail



Traditional Lands

The Town of Saugeen Shores is located on the traditional lands and treaty territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, comprised of the Chippewas of Saugeen and the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, within the lands and waters covered by Treaties 45½ and 72.

In 2025, Saugeen First Nation and the Town of Saugeen Shores signed the Friendship Accord—*Wijikiwenydiwaad Miinwa Zgaabiignigan*, meaning “Friends with one another and we are connected.” The Accord reflects a shared commitment to strengthening relationships through partnership, dialogue, and collaboration. Grounded in mutual respect and understanding, it honours the past while creating opportunities for a prosperous and connected future.

Together, Saugeen Shores and Saugeen First Nation share a vision that celebrates the stories, cultures, landscapes, and experiences that define this place. Guided by respect for Saugeen First Nation and the Saugeen Ojibway Nation as the original caretakers of these lands and waters, tourism in Saugeen Shores fosters meaningful connections, supports local businesses and cultural experiences, and showcases the rich heritage and natural beauty of the region while welcoming visitors to experience it with respect.



Beaches and Waterways

- 1 Port Elgin Harbour
- 2 Port Elgin Main Beach
- 3 Shipley Beach

Parks and Trails

- 4 Biener's Bush Trails
- 5 North Shore Park (Accessible Playground)
- 6 North Shore (Waterfront) Trail
- 7 Off-Leash Dog Park
- 8 Port Elgin and District Lions Club Splash Pad
- 9 Saugeen Rail Trail
- 10 Rotary Skate Park
- 11 Waase-Yaa Park
- 12 Woodland Trail

Facilities

- Public Washrooms
- Municipal Parking
- 13 Bruce County Paramedic Services
- 14 Coulter Parkette
- 15 Municipal Office
- 16 Port Elgin Public Library
- 17 Pryde Aquatic and Wellness Centre
- 18 Saugeen Shores Police Services
- 19 The Plex

Attractions

- 1 Amphitheatre - Gzhe-Mnidoo Gi-Ta-Gaan "Creator's Garden"
- 2 Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
- 3 Bruce County Playhouse
- 4 Chantry Island Lighthouse
- 5 Chantry Island Tour Base
- 6 Dominion Lookout - "The Big Flag"
- 7 Historic Town Hall
- 8 Range Lights of Southampton
- 9 Southampton Arts Centre
- 10 Zgaa-biig-ni-gan Bridge

Beaches and Waterways

- 11 Copway Access
- 12 Denny's Dam
- 13 Saugeen River Mouth - Ne'bwaakah Giizwed Ziibi
- 14 Southampton Harbour
- 15 Southampton Main Beach

Parks and Trails

- 16 Fairy Lake
- 17 Jubilee Park (Accessible Playground) and Southampton Rotary Splash Pad
- 18 Pioneer Park
- 19 Scubby's Point Park

Facilities

- Public Washrooms
- Municipal Parking
- Southampton Hospital
- 20 Southampton Coliseum
- 21 Southampton Public Library
- 7 Southampton Town Hall