

Private Group Walks

Take your club, community group, out-of-town visitors or your family on a private group ROMwalk. These can be arranged specifically for your group at any time. Choose from our full roster of over 25 walks described below. The cost is \$10 per person with a minimum group cost of \$100.

About the ROM: Join us on a walk around the ROM. Explore the area through architecture, anecdotes and archival photographs.

Along the Front: The Town of York had a bustling market at Front & Yonge Sts. The elegant Flatiron Building, the Bank of Montreal's Head Office building (which is now the Hockey Hall of Fame) and spacious theatres dotted Front St. A breathtaking Galleria was a recent infill addition. Finally view the handsome Union Station and the venerable Royal York Hotel.

Annex: An introduction to Toronto's first planned suburb for professional and upper middle class residents with unique Toronto architecture from the 1800s to the 21st century.

Arts & Entertainment: Visit the Entertainment District, rich in the early history of city expansion and immigration, now a vibrant area filled with theatres and upscale hotels. This new walk will focus more on the Arts and Entertainment to be enjoyed here, with a respectful nod to its historic past. It will include architecture, the performing arts and Canada's Walk of Fame. The spirit of the district is enhanced by the work of prominent Canadian visual artists. We will look at some of their works along the route.

Cabbagetown North: Cabbagetown is a heritage community, full of incredible homes and history dating back to the mid 1850s, brought back to life through restoration, renovation and community pride.

Cabbagetown South: From the Irish of the 18th century to the global citizens of the 21st, Cabbagetown has been a home to immigrants. Tour includes Victorian workers' cottages, Trinity Medical School, Spruce Court Co-op in Cabbagetown and the high-rises, arts and aquatic centre of the revitalized Regent Park.

Citadels of Wealth: Tour the fascinating financial district. Examine the work of world famous architects such as Mies van der Rohe, I. M. Pei and Santiago Calatrava. In addition, view interesting sculptures such as Sedna, Pasture and the Bay Street Joke.

Danforth: Discover the rich history of "The Danforth" which includes beautiful heritage homes, historical churches, the famous Music Hall and a former Nickelodeon.

Entertainment District: Discover the historical section of the west side of Front and King Streets. This part of the City included the railroad lands, government house and theaters such as the Royal Alexandria. The music and theater tradition continues with new venues such as Roy Thomson hall and the Princess of Wales theater and there are modern government buildings. On this walk we also view and discuss many modern outdoor art sculptures.

Grange: Learn the story of how the Grange developed from a colonial park property owned by Toronto's early elite to become a neighbourhood of immigrants, workers and professionals with social concerns. The walk includes a variety of architectural style buildings from the 19th century Georgian Grange to 21st century dynamic postmodernism of OCAD and Frank Gehry's AGO.

Heart of Toronto: This walk was the original ROMwalk in 1980. It highlights the block bordered by Dundas & Queen and University & Yonge, an area that has been the center of the judicial system, municipal government and the shopping district for over 100 years. The walk will portray early colonial York, Victorian Toronto and the modern city.

Hidden Treasures 1: Start at the Sculpture Garden opposite St James Cathedral and then explore 20 sculptures through the financial core and University Avenue, including 'The Cows', and finish with Henry Moore's 'The Archer' at Nathan Philips Square, City Hall.

Hidden Treasures 2: Examine works of contemporary public sculpture and installation in the business core and entertainment district of Toronto including the 'Bunny Dogs'.

Historic Toronto: Outlines the beginning of the town of York later to become the City of Toronto. We learn about the economic, political, educational, religious and legal systems of the day along with the colorful characters who developed Toronto.

Jarvis: Once the most fashionable address in Toronto, Jarvis Street retains many of its old mansions and churches and has acquired new architectural gems. A walk down this broad street provides insight into its elegant past and energetic present.

Kensington: We wander through what was once the old Jewish Market, past late victorian buildings that have undergone considerable change over the years, and onto the campus of the University of Toronto. Memories of times past mix with the modern life of condos, restaurants and music.

Mount Pleasant 1: Enjoy the stories of the people who were influential in the growth of Toronto during the Victorian era. We also discuss the monuments, mausoleums and burial symbols of that time.

Mount Pleasant 2: We continue our exploration of Mount Pleasant cemetery by leaving the Victorian period behind and moving into the 20th century. There is a mix of interesting monuments, noteworthy individuals such as Drs Banting and Best, architect John Lyle among many others and tragic events such as the Noronic. We also learn more about the different types of services and funeral practices.

Necropolis: Toronto's oldest non-denominational cemetery, the Necropolis, is the final resting place of rebels and reformers as well as many of Toronto's early residents.

Parkdale: Tour this newly re-vitalized neighbourhood and learn about its beginnings as a prosperous suburb of early Toronto.

Queen's Park Circle: The provincial legislature, the mansions on Queen's Park Crescent, St. Michael's University, Victoria University. Learn their stories and their secrets, and see some new and interesting Toronto architecture as well.

Rosedale I: Starts at Castle Frank Road and Bloor Street and traverses the eastern portion of South Rosedale. We look at 19th and 20th century houses in a variety of styles including the oldest continuously occupied home in Toronto.

Rosedale II: Starts at Park Road and Bloor Street and traverses the western portion of South Rosedale including Chestnut Park – called Canada's loveliest suburb when it was completed. We look at houses in a variety of styles dating from the 1850s to current.

Sacred Stones & Steeples: See the several places of worship along Church and Bond Streets, all from different denominations and most dating from the 19th century when churches were the most prestigious buildings in the city. The War of 1812 is also covered, particularly as the original version of St James, the Church at York, became a hospital for the wounded at the time.

St. James Cemetery: Discover the chapel of St James-the-Less and the burial plots of notable and notorious residents who had an impact on our city including many wealthy and powerful members of the Family Compact, the Tory elite of York/Toronto.

Waterfront: While strolling along Queens Quay, learn about the evolution of Toronto's waterfront from its industrial and commercial origins. This tour will explore the history as well as the recent, exciting revitalization of this area of the City.

Whiskey, Wharf & Windmill: Walking through the Distillery district we will encounter a variety of commercial, industrial and residential structures built immediately outside the boundaries of the historic town of York.

Wychwood Park: Come for a walk along winding, wooded streets where Arts and Crafts style houses skirt the edge of a pond - one of Toronto's best kept secrets. Learn about the work of architect Eden Smith and see the homes of Toronto artists George and Mary Reid and Gustav and Sylvia Hahn.

Yorkville: Yorkville, once a satellite Tollgate village, became part of Toronto but has managed to maintain some individual identity despite being totally engulfed by the city and its changing commercial life.