

OTTAWA

3 Days | Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival

BrightsparkSM



TOUR SNAPSHOT

Inspire your students to travel with this 3-day tour of Ottawa. Along with celebrating the start of summer at the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival, your students will explore the history, heritage and culture of our Indigenous Peoples with a guided tour of the Canadian Museum of History, the International Competition Pow Wow and by trying delicious foods at the Culinary Arts Pavilion of the festival. A walking tour of the landmarks of our capital city, a guided tour of the National Gallery of Canada and cycling along the Rideau Canal will round out this very special trip. Your students will be left with an appreciation of the traditions of Canada's Indigenous Peoples and a newfound love of travel.

WHAT'S INCLUDED:



Sites & Activities:

Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival, International Competition Pow Wow, Canadian Museum of History, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa River Cycling Tour, The Byward Market



Brightspark Exclusives:

The Adventure, Indigenous Discovery Walking Tour



Your Brightspark
Tour Leader



Accommodations
2 nights hotel



Transportation
Private motor coach



Meals
2 breakfasts, 2 dinners





WHY BRIGHTSPARK?

PUTTING YOUR EXPERIENCE FIRST

- **Our Tour Leaders Make All The Difference:** They are experts in fun and are equipped with educational content and interactive games that keep your students engaged. Extensively trained and masters in logistics, they deal with all the details to ensure a stress-free class trip!
- **Always Something Fresh:** Brightspark Exclusive activities encourage participation through experiential education. Whether it's a Mystery Heist in Ottawa or Escaping the Port in Montréal, these activities add a WOW factor to your tour.
- **The Best Support:** Our team is with you every step of the way from itinerary planning to board paperwork, online payment collection and 24/7 on-tour assistance. We are dedicated to making the planning process simple and easy.
- **Go. Discover. Inspire:** You are not a tourist, but a traveller; we will expose you and your students to the soul of the destination and ignite your sense of wonder.



EXPERTS IN STUDENT TRAVEL

We have 40+ years of travel experience, exceptional supplier relationships, and an impeccable safety record, you can rest assured your tour will be sparktacular!

95%
OF TEACHERS
LOVE OUR
TOURS

40+
YEARS OF
TRAVEL
EXPERIENCE

33K+
PASSENGERS
TRAVELLED
LAST YEAR



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

THE BEST INSURANCE

Feel safe with the knowledge that your students are fully protected with cancellation insurance provided by Travel Guard, which includes school board cancellation for **ANY REASON.**



"Overall experience from start to finish was fantastic. The kids had a great time and will have memories that will last a lifetime/our tour leaders, Phillipe & Adriele went above and beyond getting to know the students and helping us with special requests. Thank you for everything!"

Gatestone Staff & Students, HWDSB

OTTAWA - 3 Days | Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival

DAY 1

- 7:00 a.m. **Board your washroom equipped, climate controlled highway motor coach** and depart for Ottawa via Highway #407. En route, your Tour Leader will get to know the students on a first name basis.
- 12:30 p.m. **Lunch**
- 2:00 p.m. **Indigenous Focused Tour of the Canadian Museum of History.** Your guided tour will include two of the Museum's three permanent exhibitions. Explore Indigenous heritage in the Grand Hall which focuses on Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Coast, the First Peoples Hall, which celebrates the history, diversity, creativity and resourcefulness of First Nations, Inuit and Métis, or the Canadian History Hall, where Indigenous stories are integral to a national narrative spanning 15,000 years.
- 4:30 p.m. **Hotel check-in**
- 6:30 p.m. **Dinner**
- 8:00 p.m. **Indigenous Discovery Walking Tour.** Highlights include the National Aboriginal Veterans Monument that commemorates the contributions of Indigenous veterans in war and peacekeeping operations. The Land Marker Monument which acknowledges Ottawa is located on unceded Algonquin Territory. The Lost Child, a directional marker that represents guidance and The Canadian Tribute to Human Rights, the world's first monument dedicated to universal human rights.

DAY 2

- 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 10:00 a.m. **Guided Tour of the National Gallery of Canada.** One of the architectural jewels of Ottawa, the National Gallery of Canada's Collection of Indigenous Art includes First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artworks, with an emphasis on contemporary art from 1980 to the present day. View works by some of the best-known Indigenous artists in Canada including Carl Beam, Brian Jungen, Faye HeavyShield, Shelley Niro, Jeffrey Thomas, and Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun and more!
- 11:30 a.m. **Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival.** Enjoy lunch at your own cost in the Culinary Arts Pavilion at the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival. Students will have the opportunity to meet Indigenous chefs, enjoy live cooking demonstrations and purchase taster-sized portions of Indigenous foods. Alternatively, students can visit the many food vendors located on the festival grounds.

- 12:00 p.m. **International Competition Pow Wow.** The Summer Solstice International Competition Pow Wow attracts some of the best singers and dancers from across North America each year with over 192 dancers and 31 drum groups. The competition is set to the powerful heartbeat of the drum as dancers adorned in stunning regalia share their culture and heritage with Pow Wow attendees. Students will have the opportunity to embrace traditions of the past and witness the inspiration of future generations through this performance.
- 1:30 p.m. **Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival.** Explore the grounds and discover a marketplace where you can purchase Indigenous made crafts and fashions; watch Chef Mystery Box cooking competitions, art workshops, Elder teachings, cultural performances and more.
- 5:30 p.m. **Dinner**
- 7:00 p.m. **Live Music at the Summer Solstice Indigenous Festival.** Enjoy live evening performances from both emerging artists and well-established musicians within the Canadian landscape. The talented Indigenous artists have each created a unique sound that honours their culture and resonates with audiences across the world.

DAY 3

- 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 9:00 a.m. **Check out of your hotel**
- 10:00 a.m. **Ottawa River Cycling Tour.** Grab your helmets and follow your guide as you bike along the Ottawa River. This fun outdoor adventure runs rain or shine and allows students to see a different side of Major's Hill Park, Alexandra Bridge, Portage Bridge, Victoria Island and the Main Locks.
- 12:00 p.m. **The Byward Market.** Time to have lunch on your own and explore one of Canada's oldest and largest public markets. Lieutenant Colonel John By, builder of the Rideau Canal, laid out the plan for the market, which features museums, cafes, specialty food shops, restaurants and more.
- 2:00 p.m. **Board your motor coach and depart for home.**
- 8:00 p.m. **Welcome Home!**

START PLANNING NOW!



brightsparktravel.ca



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