

YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE

R-S

RENFREW



Renfrew, Ontario, Canada, is a town on the Bonnechere River in Renfrew County. Located one hour west of Ottawa in Eastern Ontario, Renfrew is the third largest town in the county after Petawawa and Pembroke. The town is a small transportation hub connecting Highway 60 and Highway 132 with the Trans-Canada Highway. It lies about 5 kilometres from the Quebec border, about 10 kilometres by road.

The town of Renfrew makes the claim to be the birthplace of the NHL. One of the four original teams in the National Hockey Association, the precursor to the NHL, was based in Renfrew. The Renfrew Millionaires, fought to be allowed to play in the Eastern Canada Amateur Hockey Association, but with no success. The team's owner M. J. O'Brien eventually financed and put together his own league, the NHA. The Renfrew Millionaires played two seasons of hockey in the NHA, 1911 and 1912, until M. J. O'Brien pulled out to pursue his interests in the railroad.

Bonnechere Falls



2318 Thompson Rd, Horton, ON K7V 3Z8

<http://waterfallsfontario.com/bonnechere-falls.php>

McDougall Mill Museum

65 Arthur Ave, Renfrew, ON K7V 3S1

613) 432-2129

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily



This beautiful stone mill was built in 1855 by fur trader and Hudson's Bay Company agent, John Lorne McDougall. Used originally as a grist mill, the building was renovated and reopened as a museum in 1969. Situated in picturesque O'Brien Park, the mill cradles the second chute of the Bonnechere River and overlooks the town's historic Swinging Bridge.

<http://renfrewmuseum.ca/>

The O'Brien Theatre



334 Raglan St S, Renfrew (613) 432-0866

The O'Brien Theatre was a balconied and elegantly decorated town landmark that was converted from a live theatre to a movie theatre, then upgraded in the 1990s to accommodate two screens, but maintains much of the original appeal.

<http://www.obrientheatre.com/>

<http://town.renfrew.on.ca/community-calendar.cfm>

ROCKINGHAM



View of Rockingham Village, c. 1905, National Archives/J.S.J. Watson Collection 1997-213-117

In 1858, John Samuel James Watson departed from Rockingham Castle, in the English Midlands County of Northamptonshire, under a cloud of disgrace. The 36-year old man had married a scullery maid, Mary Martin, 14 years his junior. This alliance, so far “below his station,” was just not acceptable to the Watson family who had lived at the castle, built for William the Conqueror, since Edward Watson leased the property in 1553.

The Watson clan took a practical approach to solving the problem. Legend has it that they invested £10,000 to finance John's banishment to Canada. He used some of the money to recruit a group of neighbours with the skills necessary to carve a village out of the wilderness. They made their way across the Atlantic, up the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers to Farrell's Landing near Renfrew. They continued along the primitive Ottawa and Opeongo Colonization Road for about 80 km and the Peterson Branch Road for another 5 km. They then turned off for 3 km to their destination, a wooded valley containing a patch of arable soil, rare in the Canadian Shield. A turbulent creek that they named Rockingham ran through the valley, located halfway between today's Brudenell and Combermere.

The backwoods community, fondly named Rockingham, soon boasted a blacksmith's shop, hotel, tannery, school, and a general store operated by John Watson who opened the post office there in 1864. In 1875, an Anglican Church was erected on land donated by John Watson and named St. Leonard's in memory of the stone church in his English home village.



By 1888, the population was about 60 and by 1899, 110. Plays directed by an early schoolmaster, Mr. Reid, attracted audiences and participants from neighbouring villages, as did dances, box socials, concerts, cricket matches and ball games. As the once-abundant red and white pine were logged out, however, the population dwindled. Farmers, disappointed that deforestation had not revealed the anticipated fruitful soil, moved to more promising land. Lumberman J.R. Booth's Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway was opened through Killaloe in 1894, offering an easier way of journeying “up the Valley” and diverted many travellers from the Opeongo Road and Rockingham.

John died in 1913 and his wife Mary in 1916; both are buried at Rockingham, although her death is not recorded on John's headstone.

The church held its last regular service in 1924, although it was not closed until 1941. Designated for demolition in 1995, a group of individuals formed The Friends of Rockingham Church and assumed ownership of the building in 1998.

Rockingham Falls

Just off John Watson Rd in Rockingham. Drive slowly, and just listen for the roar.

See also: Brudenell

ROUND LAKE CENTER

Round Lake is a lake located in Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards Township, Renfrew County, Ontario, Canada. The Bonnechere River flows into the lake in the northwest and flows out of the lake at the southeast.

There are two provincial parks on the lake, Bonnechere Provincial Park on the northwestern shore and Foy Provincial Park on the eastern shore.

In the mid-1920s Hydro constructed a dam on the Bonnechere River downstream from the lake and upstream from the Tramore bridge and flooded the land around the lake. The edge of the lake before the rise in water level was about 75 yards out from our present shore.

Round Lake is the first major lake in the course of the Bonnechere River which begins at Basin Lake in Algonquin Park to the north, and passes through Golden Lake, Eganville, Douglas and Renfrew before emptying into the Ottawa River near Castleford.

Buck Hill, Round Lake, Renfrew County (Alleged Haunting)

Strange lights are reportedly seen on from near the top of Buck Hill, where a young girls is said to have vanished one stormy night.

<http://www.pararesearchers.org/index.php/ghosts-a-hauntings/561-buck-hill-ottawa-valley-ghost-lights>

<http://www.torontoghosts.org/index.php/the-province-of-ontario/eastern/414-buck-hill-ghost-lights>

SCHUTT

Hwy 514 dishes up smooth, fast S-curves from Palmer Rapids, via Schutt to Hardwood Lake. If you want to be hip with the locals, Schutt is pronounced "shoot" not "shut". That's what Christy Schutt's mom called him, and she should know. Christy was the town's first postmaster in 1904. The southbound direction is best to catch the great view as you turn left onto Hwy 28.



SLABTOWN

See Conroy's Marsh, Boulter

ST OLA

A small hamlet named after the parish of St. Olaf in Kirkwall, Orkney Islands. Follow Highway 62 south from Bancroft, about 30 minutes. Note that you pass the Coe Hill turn at 620 and carry onto Trudy's Store. Turn left on St. Ola Road, follow to the Village.

St Ola, at its peak, was a mill town, with a saw mill , first operated by Mr. Canniff, and the grist mill operated by Timothy Solmes. The mill burned down and Canniff, who was unable to rebuild it, so Mr. P.P. Clark took over and built a more modern mill, with a circular saw. The first saw in the first mill was an upright saw. St. Ola had a post office (1870-1970), Orange Lodge and train station at one point. The Old St. Ola Cemetery is located on Lot 14, Conc. 2, Limerick Township.

Flowing over the St. Ola dam, the Beaver Creek flows southwesterly under Sutton Road and Highway 62 . Here, the river bed turns rocky and canoeing is more difficult.

STIRLING

The area around Stirling is made up of farmlands with some forests heavily in sporadic areas with some hills. Rawdon Creek flows near the village centre, the Marsh Creek is to the west and the Trent River with the Trent Canal in the southwest. Its main industry is agriculture with some other businesses. The attractions are River Valley and Stirling's nearby lake Oak Lake which lies south of the community.

Farmtown Park



437 West Front St

Phone: (613) 395 0015

Adults-\$8

Seniors (60 and over)-\$7

Students-\$6

Children 5 years to 12 years-\$4

Family-\$24.

Farmtown Park, previously known as the Hasting County Museum of Agricultural Heritage, was opened in 1997 and has 9 buildings that reflect upon the agricultural heritage of the area. Open between Victoria Day and the end of September, some highlights include the dairy museum, steam engine display, tractor building, harvest building and Heritage Village streetscape.

Oak Hills Golf

1538 Frankford-Stirling Road

Stirling

613-395-2611

A 36-hole golf course. Chipping & putting practice areas & DRIVING RANGE. Café & Bar with outdoor patio. Recently under new management and fully renovated.

<http://www.oakhills.ca/>

Stirling Festival Theatre



Stirling also boasts a popular hometown theatre which was opened in 1927, but it was hardly used until the formation of the Stirling Performing Arts Committee in 1982. The theatre is home to yearly pantomimes, musicals, comedy shows, and more.¹

The Stirling Grand Trunk Railway Station

122 North St Stirling, ON (613) 922-8113

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



The station was refurbished in 2008 for the town's 150th Anniversary celebrations. Situated along the old Maynooth railway line, this architectural piece of history hosts museum tours and visitor information sessions seasonally between Victoria Day weekend and Labour Day.

<http://stirling.ca/>