



**Examples of Day Trips organized by the
Volunteers' Circle of the NGC
For details call 613 241 2787**

1958–2008
ANNIVERSARY • ANNIVERSAIRE

(see below for extended trip)

**Romance in the 1000 Islands : Boldt Castle and Gananoque
Wednesday, 29th August 2007**

Coordinators: Joan Hoffman; Felicity Garrard

Cruise with us to **Boldt Castle** and let your imagination transport you to a world of luxury and splendour that was never destined to be. This fairytale, no-expenses-spared summer home, conceived as the ultimate expression of the love of a man for his wife, was almost complete when she died, suddenly, in 1904. All further work on the castle was abruptly stopped, but much of this extraordinary structure and its surrounding gardens remain to fascinate visitors today.

To reach Heart Island and Boldt Castle, we will board a heritage boat at Rockport for a half-hour **trip through the 1000 Islands**, entering the United States as we disembark on the island. After our visit we will return by boat to Rockport, re-board our bus and travel along the Canadian St. Lawrence shores to the **Gananoque Inn** for a riverside lunch. This venerable Inn, which was once a carriage works, has been taking care of discriminating travellers since 1896, and prides itself on offering fine dining served with a view.

Following lunch we will walk the short distance to the neighbouring **Thousand Islands Playhouse** and immerse ourselves in another romantic story in the form of a matinee performance of the musical “**Anne and Gilbert**”. It is billed as “a toe-tapping’ Island musical...full of loveable characters, lively East coast music and lots of romance”. Based on the next two books in the series after “Anne of Green Gables”, it adds a contemporary sensibility to the now-grown Anne, who is still full of fiery idealistic imagination and always at temperamental odds with her more conventional companions.

**A Day of History and Fine Cuisine
Tuesday, September 18, 2007**

Coordinators: Sheila Klein; Peter Clark

Come and experience life in Canada’s capital when it was known as Bytown. The Bytown museum, our first stop, is located in Ottawa’s oldest stone building and is situated on the Rideau Canal with wonderful views of Parliament Hill and the National Art Gallery. Our guides, in period costume, will explain both our rich historical past as well as the other exhibitions that are part of the museum’s 90th anniversary celebrations. We will see also the National Flag saved from the 1916 fire that destroyed the Centre Block.

Lunch will be served at the well-known L'Orée du Bois restaurant in the Gatineau Hills where we will enjoy French and regional cuisine at its very finest. The restaurant is set in an old farm house nestled in a secluded stand of mature trees.

Our last stop will be the Mackenzie King Estate, which was the home of our 10th Prime Minister, William Lyon Mackenzie King. In 1928 King moved to Moorside where he laid out formal flowerbeds and gathered a collection of picturesque ruins from Canada and abroad. We will have a guided tour of his large elegant cottage where he entertained such famous people as Winston Churchill and Charles Lindbergh. Before we end this enjoyable day we will have a delicious tea in the tea room.

Renoir Returns To The National Gallery of Canada **Thursday July 12th 2007**

Coordinators: Anne Duncker ; Pamela Armstrong

After an absence of ten years, Renoir returns with the summer blockbuster exhibition: **Renoir's Landscapes, 1865-1883 (from 8 June to 9 September)**. We also expect a return of the "Renoirmania" which accompanied the exhibition of his portraits and attracted more than 340,000 visitors in 1997. Please join us for an audio-guided tour of this spectacular exhibition.

Our day will begin at 8.45 a.m. with coffee and muffins before a presentation in the Lecture Hall by David Monkhouse, at 9.30 a.m. after which our tour of the exhibition, from 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., will start with works painted by the young artist in the 1860s, a time when he became acquainted with other painters, some of whom became fellow impressionists. These early paintings reveal his remarkable talent which was to develop further in the 1870s when he began to explore colour and structure, leading to his individual style and freedom of expression. The 1880s were spent travelling in the South of France, Italy and North Africa. The different climate and light of these regions are vividly portrayed in his landscapes. The last paintings were done during his visit to Guernsey.

Following the tour, lunch, with an appropriately Mediterranean flavour, will be served at The Brasserie Metropolitan on Sussex Drive, a ten-minute walk from the Gallery. After our return to the Gallery, at 2.45 p.m., there will be a half-hour film on the life of Renoir, accompanied by tea and biscuits. There will be ample time to revisit the exhibition on your own before leaving the Gallery.

**Extended Trip: Please contact Executive Worldwide Travel
Jean Sheikh at 613 236 5555 for details:**

**STRATFORD AND SHAKESPEARE
A Director's Spectacular Farewell
October 2nd-5th 2007**

Coordinators: Anne Duncker & Ruth Utas

Richard Monette, the Stratford Festival's Artistic Director for the past 14 years, will take his final bow at the end of a season packed with exciting works, including nine being presented for the first time at Stratford. This is indeed a fitting final season for a director who leaves a magnificent legacy for the magical world of the theatre.

October 2nd – Early morning departure for Stratford from the National Gallery of Canada with a delicious boxed lunch provided by the prestigious NAC “Le Café” restaurant. Our afternoon arrival at the elegant **Arden Park Hotel** (with indoor pool) will allow us plenty of time to freshen up before our **Welcome Dinner**, followed by a performance of Rodgers and Hammerstein's ever-entertaining musical “**Oklahoma**”.

October 3rd – Breakfast in our hotel, followed by a **Sightseeing Tour** of the beautiful city of Stratford. After lunch on our own, we'll see the matinee performance of Harper Lee's “**To Kill a Mockingbird**”, the moving story of a white lawyer's seemingly impossible defence of a black man in racially divided Alabama. There will be free time for dinner on our own before seeing Shakespeare's monumental tragedy, “**King Lear**”.

October 4th - Following breakfast in the hotel, we'll visit the popular “hands-on” **Costume Warehouse**. After lunch on our own, we leave for the matinee performance of Shakespeare's “**The Merchant of Venice**”, another brilliant portrayal of an apparently hopeless triumph of justice. There will be some free time before our farewell dinner (including a glass of wine) at an exquisite and unique restaurant: **The Old Prune**.

October 5th - Check-out and departure for the return journey stopping first in Baden for a guided visit of the amazing Italianate style Kilbride Castle, with a unique “trompe l'oeil” interior décor. Our lunch will be at **Verses**, a highly recommended restaurant in Kitchener. We expect to arrive in Ottawa around 7.30 p.m.