Holiday HOUSE TOUR
December 6-7 2019
Welcome to our 21st Annual Holiday House Tour! Once again, we are showcasing distinctive homes and landmark destinations beautifully decorated for the season, as well as our special VIP evening event at The McArthur Estate entitled, “A Winter Wonderland.”

The Rotary Holiday House Tour has been a huge success over the years because of our generous homeowners, our talented and hard-working decorators, and hundreds of enthusiastic volunteers.

This year’s Rotary theme, ‘Rotary Connects the World’ asks Rotarians to strengthen and build the connections that allow generous people to unite and take meaningful action. Each day, our members pour their passion, integrity, and intelligence into completing projects that have a lasting impact.

Through your continued support, each ticket sale helps to give us the means to achieve these goals. To date, the Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake has raised more than $1,000,000 toward making our world a better place both locally and internationally. To you, our supporters, we say a sincere, heartfelt Thank You!

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a wonderful 21st Annual Rotary Holiday House Tour!!!

John Boot
President 2019 - 2020

HOUSE TOUR PROCEDURE
Proceed to any of the six homes to begin your tour. Visit as many sites as desired in a single day or over both days. Please remove shoes while in the homes. In an effort to reduce single-use plastic, we ask you to bring your own reusable shoe bag. There will also be souvenir reusable bags for sale for $2 (donations are welcome). Photographs are not allowed.
LUNCH SPECIALS ON TOUR

7B St. Andrew's Hall, next to the Church, offers a specially priced lunch from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.
12 Peller Estates Winery & Restaurant offers a special lunch menu from 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm.
14 Trius Winery & Restaurant offers a special lunch menu from 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm.
15 Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club Clubhouse Restaurant features a buffet lunch. For reservations call 905-468-3424.

HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR HEADQUARTERS: NOTL
15. Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club

The clubhouse of the oldest operating golf course in North America (since 1875) serves as the Holiday House Tour headquarters with a desk set up for tour information during general tour hours. www.notlgolf.com

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Once a pioneers’ stone house on a hill, Nepanthe is now a quiet country estate. The small living room next to the front door with its original floors and stone walls still intact, is all there was to the original structure built by the Hiscott family in 1855. The remainder of Nepanthe was added 10 years ago, including a stunning muralled kitchen ceiling painted by local artist Paul Gosen. Incorporating ideas and subjects of many important artists throughout history, the mural depicts typical Niagara scenes in a tribute to the beauty and charm of this region.

Regal Florist and Garden Centre has participated in the Holiday House Tour for 21 years and every year we look forward to a new project. We endeavour to provide unique designs that reflect the style of the homeowners while preserving the integrity of their home. Our original plans often take a surprise direction as we experience the unique personality of the home.

31 Prideaux showcases beautiful gardens, a long drive and original carriage house. Constructed circa 1830 by a shipbuilder, the architecture is a blend of Colonial, Dutch, Victorian and French styles. The Colonial influence is evident in the clean lines of the first floor; the Dutch in the shape of the dormer windows and the sweep of the roof line; the Victorian in the vertical siding and shape of the windows and trim; the French in the mansard roof with dormers. This home has been lovingly restored, keeping many of the original features and patina, including a stone mantel fireplace, plank floors, windows, character trim and mouldings.

This home’s unique character inspired The Garden Club of Niagara to use a variety of floral design styles complementing the charm of each individual room, from flowing Victorian to Modern simplicity. As non-professionals, we source the majority of our materials from members’ gardens, drying throughout the fall and cutting seasonal evergreens.
Built circa 1825, Grace House was likely the first house on the block. At that time, homeowners were taxed on the number of windows and storeys in their houses, so the builders of Grace House included only doors on the ground floor, and built 1½ storeys high. The house sat on grade with virtually no foundation for nearly 200 years until the current owner stabilized the structure and re-purposed the original hand-hewn floor joists into the ceiling of the new kitchen. A beautiful French Blue range by La Cornue, custom built in Paris, is now the home’s crown jewel and the kitchen, with its massive quartz-topped wooden island, has become the entertainment centre of the house.

Spade and Sparrow has recently opened a flowers, home and garden store situated in the heart of Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Grace House will be decorated in keeping with the homeowner’s fabulous eclectic tastes both in the old part of the home and the new addition.

Built circa 1830, the Stocking House is one of the earliest examples of Georgian architecture in Niagara-on-the-Lake. It was named after Jared Stocking, the owner of a haberdashery shop on Queen Street known for its fine Beaver hats, who resided in the current structure until 1836. Originally situated on the sidewalk, the house was moved to its current location when front gardens became popular in the 1800s. Since then, the property has undergone many different incarnations including a pub and inn named, The Sign of the Crown, and a residential boys school named, York Academy. Today, it operates as a successful bed and breakfast.

Founder and principal of the beloved Hansel, Gretel, Rudolph and Santa, homeowner Paul Evans’ Christmas style is ‘Go Big or Go Home’. Just after Halloween, he starts assembling the mountain of materials needed to create his holiday magic. ‘Less is nice but more is better’ is the mantra that defines the holiday image of The Stocking House.
Magnolia House was part of the original Phillips estate which was built in the 1800s and took up the entire corner of Queen Street from Mississauga to Simcoe. The current owners fell in love with the property when they first saw the two 100-year-old magnolia trees and their gorgeous pink blooms every May. The owner’s late husband then designed their dream house, and the result is almost exactly as you see it today. The open-plan kitchen and family room are perfect for raising two young children but everyone’s favourite space is the beautiful backyard oasis with outdoor kitchen, pool, wood-burning fireplace and hot tub.

Each year, Mori Gardens showcases live trees decorated in a style and colour palette that blends with the décor of the house. Mantles and staircases are embellished with greens to bring out the beauty of Magnolia House. The dining table is creatively set for Christmas dinner. And outdoors, natural greens in planters is one of our signature trademarks. Enjoy!

BlueGate is an ‘upside-down’ house with the living space on the ground floor and the sleeping quarters below. It was this design that allowed the owners’ Mennonite builders to create ‘a house of windows,’ with soaring dormered ceilings, 9-foot doorways and an 18-foot, hand-cut stone fireplace. The unique layout of the kitchen comes from the chef – in the family’s wish to cook without getting in anyone’s way. ‘Joe’s room’ is the result – a perfectly curated cooking space with everything he needs right at his fingertips. In 2017, BlueGate was awarded ‘Best Compatible Design’ for the new home that best fits into its historic surroundings.

Joe Carlino has worked with some of the world’s most cutting-edge luxury retail icons – Neiman Marcus, Saks, and Holt Renfrew, to name a few. From the outdoor style of LA to the Mies van der Rohe influence of his Chicago home, these brands have helped to form the unique style Joe’s known for today – the culmination of a life well lived.
An evening tour of the seasonally decorated, spectacular McArthur Estate, including:
— The first and second floors
— Spacious third-floor guest suites
— Complimentary sparkling wine
— Complimentary warm beverages served outdoors
— Magically illuminated estate grounds with Reindeer Stables, Santa’s Workshop and Canine Manor
— Special gift
— Carollers strolling through the grounds
— Nativity scene

5-6:30 pm or 7-8:30 pm, Friday and Saturday
$60* prior to October 31. $70* after. Includes General Day Tour.
Free admission for children 1-10 years with VIP ticket.
Two starting points system in place to avoid wait times.
*Eventbrite fees apply. CAN/US $
7. ST. ANDREW’S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 225th Anniversary

On September 30, 1794, at a meeting at Hind’s Hotel it was resolved, “...that as religion is the foundation of all societies, and which cannot be strictly adhered to without having a place dedicated solely to Divine purposes that a Presbyterian Church should be erected in the Town of Newark and that subscriptions for that purpose should immediately be set afoot...” Within a year, the original church was built followed by a school-house in 1802.

The first church was burned down by the Americans during the War of 1812. The congregation met in the schoolhouse until the next church was built. On May 31, 1831, the foundation stone for the current church was laid on the same spot on which the former church stood. The external architecture is designed in the style of Greek Revival which was very popular at the time. The interior of the church is colonial in style and seats 600. The upper pulpit and sounding board were added in 1840. The original box pews, still in use today, were purchased by families and the rent was used to finish the interior. The first organ was added in 1885.

7A. DECORATED BY PARISH MEMBERS HEADED BY CAROLEE WYNIA
St. Andrew’s Manse 322 SIMCOE ST.

The Minister’s house is a stately Georgian building across the street from the church. The manse was built in 1836 by the Rev. Robert McGill with his own funds and was later purchased by the congregation. The porch is inside the front entrance and the hallway is arched. The windows have original interior shutters and the mantels for the 3 fireplaces are hand-carved.

The basement originally included a kitchen, bake ovens and a dumb waiter that went from the dining room to the basement. In 1887, a two-storey brick wing was added and the first furnace replaced the fireplaces in 1892 at a cost of $85. The kitchen was moved to the main floor from the basement in 1937.

A specially priced lunch will be in the Church Hall from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.

8. ANNUAL SITE NOTL: DECORATED BY DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS
Niagara Historical Society & Museum 43 CASTLEREAUGH ST.

The Niagara Historical Society opened Memorial Hall in 1907 as the first purpose-built museum in Ontario. It is linked to the former Niagara High School (1875) and houses one of the most significant local history collections in Ontario.

During the house tour, visitors are welcome to explore the permanent and temporary exhibits exploring the rich history of Niagara-on-the-Lake. On display November 12, 2019 - April 25, 2020, the feature exhibition is A Piece of Her Mind: Quilts & Coverlets.

You are invited to enjoy a cup of hot apple cider and purchase tickets for the Niagara Historical Society’s annual Wine Raffle. The Museum also has a lovely selection of holiday and historical gifts and books which can be purchased in the gift shop. www.niagarahistorical.museum.

9. ANNUAL SITE NOTL
Niagara Pumphouse 247 RICARDO ST.

Ticket holders are invited to visit Artful Treasures, a show and sale of unique holiday gifts by Niagara artists and artisans, open 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Niagara Pumphouse. The Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre is a not-for-profit art gallery and studio located in a heritage building constructed in 1891 on the banks of the Niagara River. The pumping station supplied water to the town of Niagara-on-the-Lake until 1983. Through community effort, the building was restored and converted to a visual art centre in 1994 and offers year-round educational programs, exhibitions and events promoting interest in the visual arts.

www.niagarapumphouse.ca
10. **ANNUAL SITE NOTL: DECORATED BY GARDEN CLUB OF NIAGARA**

*McFarland House* 15927 NIAGARA PARKWAY

This historic Georgian manor home was built by John McFarland and his sons.

Descendants of the McFarlands lived in the house for over 140 years before it was restored by The Niagara Parks Commission and opened to the public in 1959. During the War of 1812, both British and American forces used the home as a hospital, and in December 1813, the British attack on Fort Niagara was launched from the ravine on the property.

McFarland House is one of the only structures to survive the burning of the town when occupying American forces retreated from the area, making it one of the oldest properties in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Today, McFarland House portrays early nineteenth century life in Upper Canada. [www.mcfarlandhouse.com](http://www.mcfarlandhouse.com)

11. **ANNUAL SITE QUEENSTON: DECORATED FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

*RiverBrink Art Museum* 116 QUEENSTON ST.

RiverBrink Art Museum is home to a unique collection of artworks created by historical Canadian, U.S., and European artists.

In addition to the permanent collection, in the fall and winter of 2019 we are also featuring *Compounding Vision*, an exhibition of the work of Toronto-based artist Charmaine Lurch. With a keen interest in the environment and the complex world of bees, Lurch explores borders and boundaries between humans and the natural world. This exhibition of contemporary work includes sculpture, photography, painting and installation. Exhibitions of work by many of Canada’s most celebrated artists, including Tom Thomson, Cornelius Krieghoff, and members of the Group of Seven are also on display in the Georgian-style building.

Visitors may also enjoy our gift shop and the grounds overlooking the Niagara River and Lewiston, NY. The museum will be decorated festively, in holiday tradition. Located at the intersection of the Niagara Parkway and Queenston Street in the village of Queenston. [www.riverbrink.org](http://www.riverbrink.org)

12. **WINERIES ON TOUR: NOTL**

*Peller Estates Winery & Restaurant* 290 JOHN ST. E.

Enjoy a complimentary tasting of our award-winning, sparkling **Ice Cuvée Rosé** at the 2018 Winery of the Year!

Take the opportunity to participate in our **Wine Country Silent Auction**, with all proceeds donated to the Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

*Peller Estates Winery Restaurant* will offer a specially-priced lunch menu from noon - 2:30 pm for House Tour guests. [www.peller.com](http://www.peller.com)

13. **WINERIES ON TOUR: NOTL**

*Wine Country Vintners* 27 QUEEN ST.


Holiday House Tour guests receive a complimentary tasting of **Trius Showcase Late Harvest Vidal**.

14. **WINERIES ON TOUR: VIRGIL**

*Trius Winery & Restaurant* 1249 NIAGARA STONE RD. (HWY. 55)

Trius Winery welcomes you to enjoy a complimentary tasting of our iconic **Trius Red**.

*Trius Winery Restaurant* will offer House Tour guests a specially-priced lunch menu, with seating available from noon to 2:30 pm. [www.triuswines.com](http://www.triuswines.com)
Will the line-ups at the McArthur House be long? The McArthur Estate line-up will have divided entries this year to reduce wait times.

How does the tour work? This is a self-guided tour. You can start at any of the six main houses to get your wristband and view the sites in any order you wish. Many of the properties are close together and easily walkable if you are fully mobile, however, some distances will require a vehicle.

Can I buy tickets at the event or at the NOTL Golf Club? This year, tickets are available ONLINE ONLY. There will only be information at the Golf Club Headquarters.

Is my General ticket valid for both days? YES, you can use your General ticket for both days between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm but please leave your wristband on. You may attend both days of the General Day Tour with your VIP ticket, but only one evening tour at the specific time on your ticket.

Can I get into houses at 4:30 pm? The houses will close at 4:30 pm so you are advised to be at your last house of the day at least an hour prior. Sometimes line-ups can be long so it is better to get there early.

Visit niagaraonthelakerotary.ca/events/holidayhousetour for more Frequently Asked Questions.

Important Note: To reduce single-use plastics, we are asking visitors to PLEASE bring your own shoe bags. A Holiday House Tour souvenir reusable bag will be available for purchase for $2 (donations are welcome).
FUNDED PROJECTS

International Projects
Becas Education, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
District 7090 Gift of Life
Guatemala Literacy Project
Guatemala Water Supply
Hurricane Relief, Dominica
Tabitha Foundation (Cambodian Hospital Supplies)
Marsabit Water and Sanitation Project, Kenya
Medical Outreach Trip, Lima Peru
Muchenje High School Water Supply System, Zambia Wells of Hope
Polio Plus - End Polio Now Program
ShelterBox Disaster Relief

Community Projects
ARID Group Home
Big Bike (Heart & Stroke)
Bike Repair Station
Music Niagara Performance Academy
Niagara College Bursary
Niagara Health System
Niagara Historical Society and Museum
Niagara Hockey Association
Niagara Pumphouse Arts Center
RAFT, Niagara Region
Red Roof Retreat
Rotary Rocks
St. George’s Breakfast Program
The YWCA Niagara Region
Voices of Freedom
Wellspring Niagara
Yellow Door Theatre Project

Youth Support Projects
Crossroads Elementary School, NOTL
Early Act, St. Michael Catholic Elementary, NOTL
Rotary International Student Exchange Program
RYLA, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (Leadership training for young adults 19–25)
SLAPSHOT, Student Leadership Award Program for Students High on Training

DOOR PRIZES

1. Traditional Afternoon Tea for Two at the Prince of Wales Hotel, and tickets for two at a Shaw Festival Theatre performance
2. $75 gift certificate for use in the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club Pro Shop, or the Clubhouse Restaurant, plus Green Fees for 4.
3. Gift certificates for $150 redeemable at Grill on King (233 King Street, NOTL)
4. A trip for two through the Rapids of the Niagara River with Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours
5. Four tickets to the 2019 Rotary Holiday House Tour

To be eligible, complete your electronic entry at the first home you visit.

General tour tickets: $30* CAN/US
*Eventbrite fees apply

Stay for the weekend! Choose from our VIP tour, the annual Candlelight Stroll sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, a Shaw Festival performance of ‘A Christmas Carol’, a winery tour, a fabulous meal, shopping, or a plethora of other activities, all amongst the beautiful, seasonally decorated town.

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