

WELCOME TO TORONTO



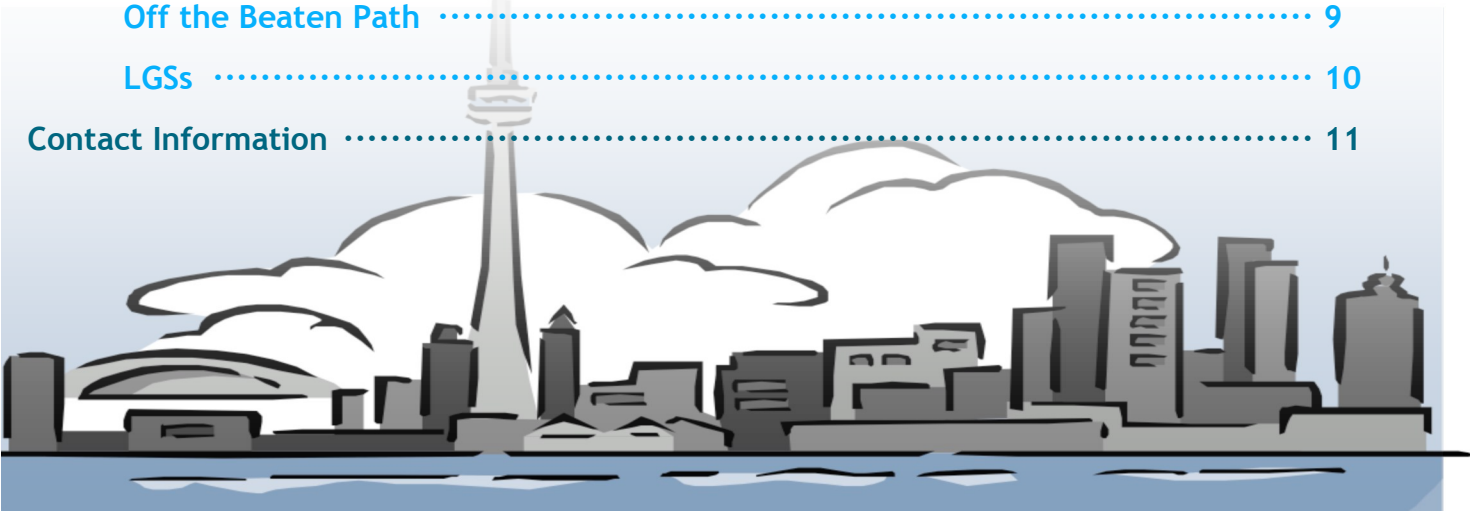
Guide for GP Toronto 2018



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Guide for GP Toronto 2018

Welcome to Toronto!

For the first time, Toronto will be hosting two separate GP events this year. This will serve as a handy dandy guide to the city for all of you wonderful judges when you arrive.

Key Info

Location & Transportation

The venue for both GPs this year is the Enercare Centre, which is located in Exhibition Place. The address details are located on the side margin.

The main method of public transportation in Toronto is administered by the Toronto Transit Commission, also known as TTC. The TTC runs a network of subways, buses, and streetcars throughout Toronto. There are a number of ways to get to the venue, and here are the directions.

From Union Station

From Union Station, take the 509 Streetcar towards Exhibition. The streetcar stop is located underground, next to the Finch-bound subway platform; there are signs overhead to guide you. The streetcar will take you directly to Exhibition Place, and the closest stop to the Enercare Centre entrance is Strachan Avenue. The cost of a one-way fare is \$3.25**

From Pearson Airport

The easiest and most cost effective way to get to and from the Enercare Centre is to take the UP Express train. This is an express train that connects Pearson Airport to Union Station, which is Toronto's central transit station. The first train will depart around 5:30AM and the last will be around 1AM, and runs every 15 minutes. The trip will take about 35-40 minutes. The station is located in Terminal 1, and you will be able to purchase your tickets at vending machines, the service counter, mobile app, or online at www.upexpress.com. The cost of a one-way fare is \$12.35**. Note that the UP Express train is not a part of TTC, and thus cannot be paid for using a TTC ticket or day pass.

Once you are at Union Station, see above for directions from Union.

Event Location

Enercare Centre
100 Princes' Boulevard,
Toronto, ON
M6K 3C3

Dates

February 9th–11th, 2018
May 18th–20th, 2018

Time Zone

GMT -5 (in Feb)
GMT -4 (in May)

Currency

Canadian Dollar (CAD)

Electricity

120V, 60Hz, Plug type A/B

Emergency

Fire/Ambulance/Police: 911
Police Services: 416-808-2222





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From Billy Bishop Airport

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is located on the Toronto Islands. Once you exit the airport, the Enercare Centre is about a 15 minute walk away. Alternatively, you can take the 509 Streetcar at Bathurst Street (direction: Exhibition) which will take you straight to Exhibition Place (about 5 minutes). The closest stop to the Enercare Centre entrance is Strachan Ave. The cost of a one-way fare is \$3.25**

Other Public Transportation Information

If you are exploring the city, the best way to get around is via TTC. Single fare on TTC is \$3.25**, and on most buses and streetcars, exact change is needed as no change is given. If you are planning on travelling a lot by TTC, you can consider getting a day-pass which allows you unlimited rides for the whole day up until 5AM of the following day. The cost of the day-pass is \$12.50 for 1 adult on weekdays. On weekends, a single day-pass can be used for up to 2 adults.

PRO-TIP: Always grab a transfer where you make your initial payment to get into the TTC system (whether on subway, streetcar, or bus). These serve as your proof-of-payment for fare inspectors, and also allow you to transfer to a different vehicle on your journey without having to pay another fare. TTC transfers are valid for 2 hours, and are valid for a single direction of travel only (no round trips, no stopovers).

** Presto Card

On most public transportation, you have the option to pay by Presto Pass, which is a public transportation card similar to Suica/Octopus card that can be found in other cities internationally. The cost of the card is \$6, and is a rechargeable card. The Presto Card provides a discount on TTC and UP Express fares, and is an easier way to pay fares as it is a “tap on, tap off” system as opposed to ensuring you have cash for the fare, or buying tickets in advance. Presto can be ordered online, or purchased at various vending machine and Presto counters throughout the city.

This might be an option to save some money for someone who plans on staying in the city for multiple days and is relying on transit, or expects to return to Toronto in the future. A regular one-way fare for UP Express is \$12.35, or \$9.25 with Presto. Regular one-way fare for TTC is \$3.25, or \$3.00 with Presto.





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Driving & Parking

If you are planning on driving into downtown Toronto, there are a number of parking lots on and near Exhibition Place. Check out <https://en.parkopedia.ca> as a resource to finding those elusive parking lots in the city.

PRO-TIP: For those of you who are not familiar with driving in Canada, note that winter driving might be vastly different from what you're used to back home. Snow drifts and black ice are no joke, so please take care in driving slowly and leaving yourself extra space between the car in front of you. Also, be aware that the streetcar lines that run to Exhibition run on their own dedicated lanes, so be careful when turning onto Lakeshore Boulevard/Queens Quay and DO NOT drive on the streetcar lane. Trust me, you'll get stuck.

Accommodations

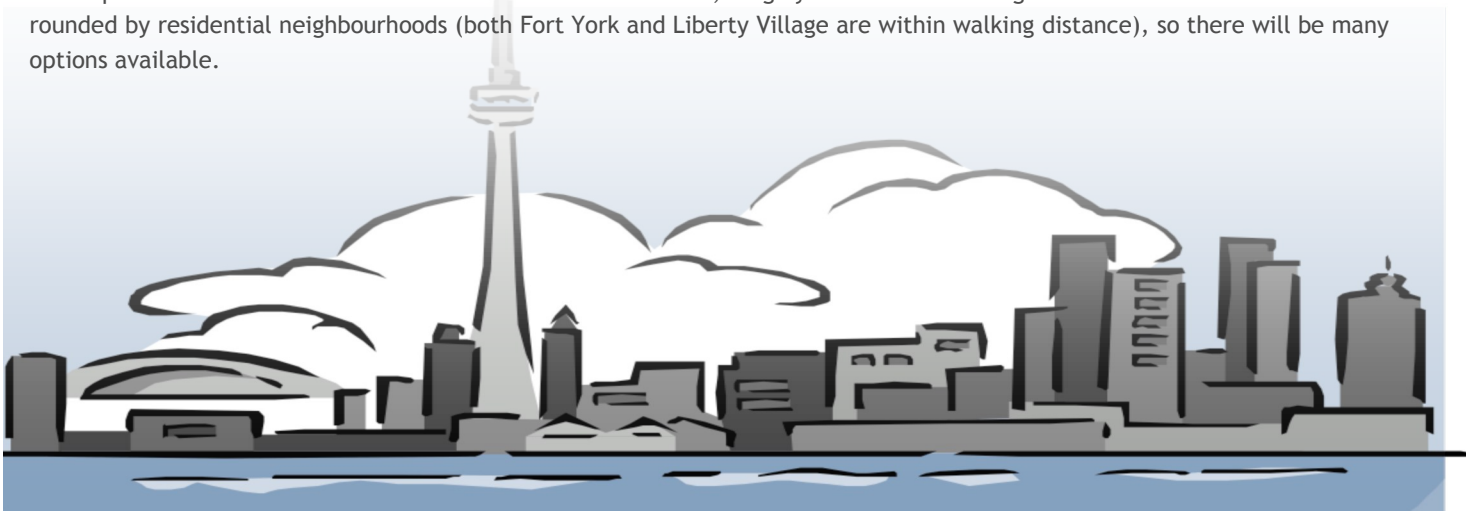
Hotels

There are very few hotels located close to the Enercare Centre, and the closest are listed below. There are also quite a few Airbnb options in Toronto, or alternatively, you can consider getting accommodations near a subway stop on the Yonge-University-Spadina subway line, which would provide convenient access to the venue via TTC.

- Hotel X Toronto (5 minute walk, but does not open until March 1, 2018)
- Radisson Admiral Hotel Toronto—Harbourfront (15 minutes away by 509 streetcar, 30 minute walk)
- Westin Harbour Castle (20 minutes away by 509 streetcar, 40 minute walk)

Cheap/Hostel Options

Similar to the hotel situation above, there are not very many options near the Enercare Centre. Additionally, there isn't a huge hostel presence in Toronto. For cost-effective accommodations, I highly recommend looking at Airbnb. Exhibition Place is surrounded by residential neighbourhoods (both Fort York and Liberty Village are within walking distance), so there will be many options available.



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Key Info

Food Options

Toronto has its own selection of delicious, unique, and trendy cuisine. One of the great things about the food scene here is that there are a plethora of restaurants and eateries that specialize in authentic, foreign and exotic foods. Anything from Nepalese to Ethiopian, a quick Yelp or Google search will yield many options. A few of the top picks of Toronto are listed below, but if there's a particular cuisine you're hankering for, don't be afraid to look it up!

Near the Venue

Mildred's Temple Kitchen (\$\$)—85 Hanna Avenue

Mildred's is one of the most well-known breakfast and brunch places in Toronto. They are open for brunch every day at 11AM (9AM Sat-Sun), and also open for dinner on Thursday and Friday. They have traditional brunch fare like fluffy buttermilk pancakes, breakfast skillet, and a selection of sandwiches and wraps. I recommend Mrs. Biederhof's Blueberry Buttermilk Pancakes (comes with real Canadian maple syrup to boot!)



Amsterdam Brew House (\$\$ to \$\$\$)—245 Queens Quay West

Amsterdam Brew House is one of the most popular bar/grills in Toronto (especially during the warmer months because their patio is right by the water). Their big selling point is their in-house brews on tap, so it's a great option for those who like craft brews. The food is quite good too! For those who want to get an authentic Toronto experience, I recommend getting one (or more) of their beer flights and a plate of poutine.

Price Index

\$ - Less than \$10

\$\$ - From \$10 to \$20

\$\$\$ - From \$20 to \$30

\$\$\$\$ - From \$30 to \$50

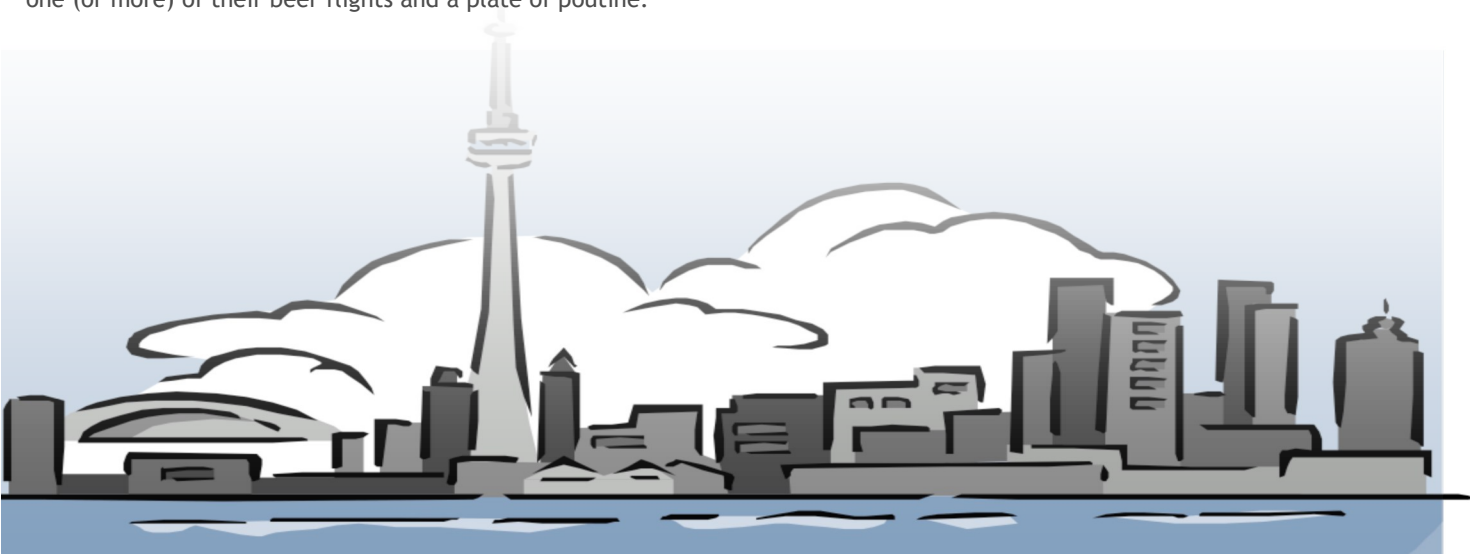
\$\$\$\$\$ - More than \$50

Tipping Customs

Canada has a typical tipping custom of ~10-20% depending on the quality of service that you receive. Typically, your tipping amount should be calculated before tax.

Tax

13% HST is charged on all restaurant/fast food purchases >\$4 (and 5% is charged on purchases <\$4)



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Toronto's "Must-Try" Foods

These are a selection of some of the finest foods downtown Toronto has to offer!

Khao San Road (\$\$)—11 Charlotte Street

This is hands down one of the best places to get Thai food in Toronto. Open on weekdays for lunch, where you'll see quite a few patrons in suits during the lunch rush, or daily for dinner (starting at 5PM). Unfortunately, reservations are not accepted at this highly popular restaurant, so it's recommended that you get there early (especially weekends) to secure yourself a table. The Bangkok-Style Pad Thai is excellent, and I highly recommend getting a glass of their Thai Iced Tea to wash it all down.

Miku (\$\$\$\$ to \$\$\$\$\$)—10 Bay Street

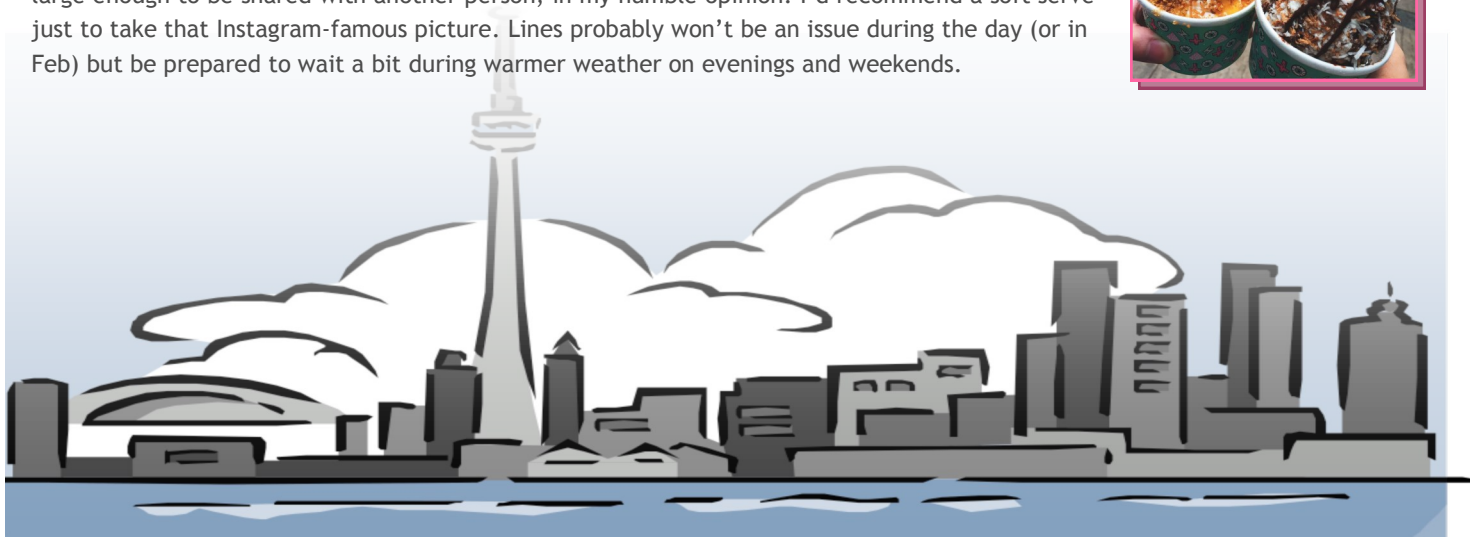
For sushi aficionados, Miku is an excellent option to try both traditional sushi dishes as well as aburi (torched sushi). This restaurant is a Vancouver import, where they made aburi sushi ultra popular. Reservations are recommended for weekday lunch, as you'll see a lot of financial district workers taking their clients here. I recommend the Aburi Oshi Sampler to try out aburi, or if you really want to treat yo'self, I recommend trying one of their Kaiseki menus (multi-course tasting menu).

Wvrst (\$ to \$\$)—609 King Street West

If you couldn't tell from the restaurant name, Wvrst makes sausages. Really good ones. They have a total of 25 different sausages made of traditional ingredients (think Bratwurst, Chorizo etc.) and also various game meats such as pheasant, elk, bison, boar, and kangaroo. Fear not, my vegetarian/vegan friends, Wvrst has options for all of you too. I recommend getting a sausage and a side of their duck fat fries.

Sweet Jesus (\$)—106 John Street

Instagrammers must be familiar with the behemoth ice-cream concoctions that come from Sweet Jesus. From all accounts, these are a dream for every person with a sweet tooth, and are honestly large enough to be shared with another person, in my humble opinion. I'd recommend a soft serve just to take that Instagram-famous picture. Lines probably won't be an issue during the day (or in Feb) but be prepared to wait a bit during warmer weather on evenings and weekends.



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Sightseeing & Entertainment

There are lots of famous tourist attractions in Toronto, so I've listed the choicest of them below. There are also a few that are off the beaten path if you want to tour around like a local, and also some LGSs you can visit if you just want to play some good old Magic.

Popular Tourist Attractions

CN Tower

The CN Tour/La Tour CN is one of the most iconic landmarks of Toronto. A general admission ticket is \$36, and includes entry to the main observation. The top observation deck, SkyPod, requires a separate ticket and an additional fee. There is a rotating restaurant called the 360 Restaurant on the main observation level as well. **PRO-TIP:** Tower entry tickets are complimentary with the purchase of a prix fixe meal for each guest at the 360 Restaurant.

Ripley's Aquarium

Located right beside the CN Tower, this aquarium houses all kinds of sea life, organized in different exhibits. Tickets range from \$21-25 depending on whether you purchase them ahead of time or not. **PRO-TIP:** If you are planning on visiting both the CN Tower and the Aquarium, there is a combined ticket you can buy called the Sea The Sky ticket for \$55.20.

Casa Loma

A "castle" located right in the heart of Toronto, Casa Loma is actually a mansion built in the early 1900s by Henry Pellat. Casa Loma has exhibits showcasing its architecture and interiors, as well as other entertainment events such as an escape room, winter gardens, and classical music concerts. Base entry is \$27, and can increase if you participate in other events.

PRO-TIP: If you would like to visit all of these attractions, plus the Royal Ontario Museum/Toronto Zoo/Ontario Science Centre, I recommend getting the Toronto City-Pass which grants you access to these for \$86+tax (valid for 9 days).



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Off the Beaten Path

Aga Khan Museum



If you're a fan of both architecture and culture, the Aga Khan Museum would be a great place to visit. Named after the Imam (spiritual leader) of the Shia Ismaili Muslims, this museum focuses on Islamic art and culture, all wrapped up in an ultra-modern building. The price of admission is \$20. Be aware that the museum is closed every Monday, but open from 10-6PM every other day of the week. **PRO-TIP:** If you can, visit the museum on Wednesday, as there is a special entry day with free admission to all exhibits from 4PM to 8PM.

Osgoode Hall Great Law Library

If you like taking pictures of amazing architecture, and you've already been to the Aga Khan Museum, I recommend taking a trip out to Osgoode Hall. The Great Library is a part of the Law Society of Upper Canada, and features beautiful domed ceilings and Corinthian-style columns. You may have seen pictures of the famous American Room with the beautiful metal staircase and floor to ceiling shelves. Entry is free, although note that this is a private library paid for by the Law Society and has working lawyers going about their business during the day, so remember "SHH!". **PRO-TIP:** There are free MP3 audio tours on the Law Society website that can help you get the most out of your visit.



Princess of Wales/Ed Mirvish Theatre

Believe it or not, Toronto actually has a pretty active theatre and entertainment scene. For those of you who enjoy live musicals or plays, I recommend scoping out a show at the Princess of Wales Theatre or the Ed Mirvish Theatre. Show information can be found on www.mirvish.com, and tickets can be purchased online or at the various box offices located downtown.



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LGSs

What visit to Toronto would be complete without a visit to our local hangouts? I've listed some of the biggest and most popular stores in the city, as well as the regular event formats hosted throughout the week!

- Face to Face Games—2077a Danforth Ave
- 401 Games—518 Yonge Street
- A&C Cards—452 Spadina Avenue
- Hairy Tarantula North—6979 Yonge Street

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Face to Face	4PM Draft	6PM EDH 6:30PM Modern	4PM Modern 7PM Modern	4PM Standard 7PM Standard	4PM Modern 7PM Modern	4PM Standard 6:30PM Draft 7PM Legacy 7PM Standard	11AM Draft 2PM Standard 5PM Draft
401 Games	4:30PM Draft	6PM Modern	6PM Draft 6PM Standard		6PM Standard	6PM Draft 6PM Modern 6:30PM EDH	12PM Modern 12PM Sealed
A&C	1PM Standard	7PM Standard	7PM Modern	6PM EDH 7PM Legacy	7PM Draft 7PM Pauper	7PM Draft 7PM Modern	1PM Modern
Hairy T		4PM EDH 7PM Legacy 7PM Draft			7PM Standard	1PM EDH 4PM Modern 7PM Modern 7:30PM Draft	





Contact Information

If you have questions about Toronto during your stay, if you are lost or need guidance, please reach out to one of the following judges who will be happy to help you.

Flora Li	416-709-1488
Michael Roesler	613-885-3950
Ryan Nightingale	647-995-0613
Jonathan Goud (Regional Coordinator)	jonbgoud@gmail.com

