



Art shopping in Yorkville

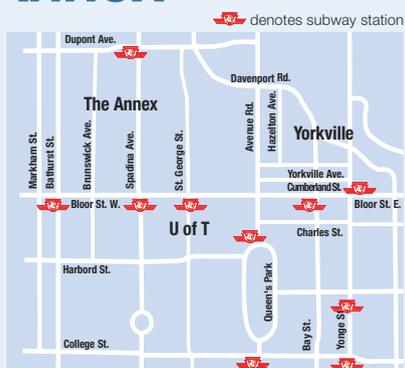
Yorkville + The Annex

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

Home to the elite of the 1870s and the hippies of the 1960s, this area encompasses The Annex, Yorkville, the University of Toronto and the Mink Mile. It's known for its museums and Victorian homes, as well as commercial office towers, luxury hotels and condos.

This is where you'll find not only power shoppers, flashy cars and visiting celebs, but also PR types, public sector workers, academics and writers (author Margaret Atwood lives in The Annex). For luxury shopping, visit Bay and Bloor, Holt Renfrew, Hazelton Lanes and the boutiques of Yorkville; Mirvish Village on Markham is known for one-of-a-kind specialty stores, art galleries, jewellery, DVDs and comics.

Best routes: Start strolling at Bloor and Bay's Mink Mile; turn north, heading toward Cumberland and Yorkville for shopping. To visit The Annex and the University of Toronto, head back to Bloor, walking west toward St. George and beyond to Spadina. Continue to Bathurst and Bloor for Mirvish Village.



SNAP THIS ↑

Royal Ontario Museum

Stand on Bloor Street West to capture the natural history museum's Michael Lee-Chin Crystal façade, designed by Daniel Libeskind. The deconstructivist beauty juts dramatically above the street-level action on Bloor.

Jeanne Lottie Fashion Inc. →

The pink Victorian house showcases designer Jane Ip's colourful, affordable original handbags. 32 Scollard St., 416-975-5115, jeannelottie.com



Shops at Hazelton Lanes

Stroll and shop this tranquil, airy and light-filled upscale mall for high-end clothing and housewares. 87 Avenue Rd., 416-968-8680, hazeltonlanes.com

La Casa Del Habano

Cigar lovers will appreciate the walk-in humidors and the sensational selection of fine smokes. 111 Yorkville Ave., 416-926-9066, lacasadelhabano.ca

Hudson's Bay, Bloor Street

Pick up some souvenirs at this outpost of the iconic Canadian department store chain that dates back to the fur-trade days. 44 Bloor St. E., 416-972-3333, thebay.com

EAT

ONE

This buzziest of spots is where celebrities like Brad, Angelina and George hang out when they're in town. 116 Yorkville Ave., 416-961-9600, onehazelton.com

Bloor Street Diner

The casual café patio is a mainstay for brunch, while the chic dining room is the place to be for cocktails or steak. 55 Bloor St. W., in the Manulife Centre, 416-928-3105, bloorstreetdiner.com

Sassafraz Restaurant

This cornerstone of ritzy Yorkville is a top celeb-spotting venue, but the Canadian cheese selection is also swoon-worthy. 100 Cumberland St., 416-964-2222, sassafraz.ca

Southern Accent Cajun, Creole and Soul Restaurant

Andouille sausage and jambalaya rule at this

New Orleans-style restaurant that's so authentic it has its own in-house psychics.

595 Markham St., 416-536-3211, southernaccent.com

Mistura

Chef Massimo Capra, of television's *Restaurant Makeover*, oversees this fine Italian kitchen (Mistura) with an event space (Sopra) upstairs. 265 Davenport Rd., 416-515-0009, mistura.ca

SHOP

Mayberry Fine Art

For over 40 years, this has become the place to view and shop for important historical and contemporary Canadian art. 110 Yorkville Ave., 416-923-9275, mayberryfineart.com

SEE

Village of Yorkville Park

Different ecosystems are represented here, all dominated by "The Rock," a billion-year-old, 650-tonne monolith that was transported in pieces from the Canadian Shield. 115 Cumberland St.

Queen's Park

The parkland and grounds surrounding Ontario's Legislative Building house more than a dozen historical statues and monuments. Avenue Road at Queen's Park Circle north

Bata Shoe Museum

This well-heeled museum features special exhibitions, plus a permanent collection with 13,000 artifacts detailing the history of footwear. 327 Bloor St. W., 416-979-7799, batashoemuseum.ca

Honest Ed's →

The late, beloved Toronto businessman "Honest Ed" Mirvish opened this iconic bargain warehouse, festooned with lights and humorous sayings, in 1948. "Honest Ed attracts squirrels! At these prices they think he's nuts!" 581 Bloor St. W., 416-537-1574, honesteds.sites.toronto.com



DID YOU KNOW...

The stretch of Bloor Street West between University Avenue and Yonge Street is known as the **Mink Mile** for its high-end luxury shopping. Boutiques calling Mink Mile home include Tiffany & Co., Gucci, Hermès, Chanel and Louis Vuitton, and the strip encompasses some of the most expensive commercial real estate in the world.