The worst part about attending a conference in downtown Toronto is resisting the temptation to step outside and start exploring. And one of the best parts about attending a conference in Toronto is giving in to that temptation.

The list is endless: international cuisine, unique shopping venues, diverse cultural facilities and events, trails, parks, distinctive architecture and nonstop top-caliber entertainment.

If you have limited time because you’re taking in every minute of education, networking and practice-building that’s available at the Ontario Dental Association Annual Spring Meeting, it helps to step out the door with a plan in mind.

Here are a few nearby possibilities.

The Toronto Islands offer some great appeal to conference attendees who start feeling a bit cooped up by the end of the day. Plus getting there is half the fun, with a $7 (round trip), 10-minute (one-way) ferry ride.

If you have at least two people and one of them is at least four feet tall, you qualify for the swan boat rides at Centreville Amusement Park on Toronto Islands.

Some of the top dental companies in the world are ready to help you explore the latest advancements in products and services that can help make your practice more helpful, safe, fun and profitable. It’s all available inside the Metro Toronto Convention Centre South Building, at the Ontario Dental Association Annual Spring Meeting:

See what’s new
Explore offerings from the exhibit floor’s 300-plus companies

Now that you’re here, no matter how detailed your preliminary planning, you have a few decisions to make. The Ontario Dental Association knows how to put on a meeting, so there are some tough choices ahead.

Whatever you do, though, be sure to carve out some exploration time for the exhibit floor.

Here in Toronto
Visit the Tourism Toronto Desk for help booking a big adventure, finding a great place to eat or just taking in a few nearby sights.

• pages 1, 2

Up next: Montreal
Dental Tribune Study Club free C.E. credit is just one reason to go to the Journées dentistaires internationales du Québec, May 25-29.

• page 4

Products everywhere
Get a few more details on some of the top exhibitors at the ODA Annual Spring Meeting before stopping by their booths.

• pages 8–14

See diversions, page 2
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Here in Toronto

Tourism Toronto desk

Ready to help! Get ideas about directions and sites you need to see, including information on how to get around the city.

Speaker handouts

Green initiative: As part of its commitment to keeping the annual spring meeting as green as possible, the Ontario Dental Association has asked speakers to upload course handouts as PDFs to www.ontariodieselengineeringmeeting.com.

Access to this dedicated meeting site is available until July 1st. Please note too, that not all speakers at the Ontario Dental Association Annual Spring Meeting have handouts.

Here in Toronto

Visit Tourism Toronto next to registration on the 6th Level of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre South Building. The staff is ready to help you figure out an adventure, whether it’s the self-guided free tour of Toronto Island or dancing the night away at the hottest club in town.

The Metro Toronto Convention Centre South Building is accessible by boat or by bike. There are plenty of ways to travel to the main island, Centre Island, including: a children’s amusement park, children’s garden, cafes, food vendors, canoe rentals and weekend bike rentals.

But the real pleasure is simply walking or biking around after having been in the car-free theme, one of the coolest things a visitor to the islands can do is take the self-guided Toronto Island Tree Tour, part of the Canadian Tree Tour program. You can download a sheet listing the tour’s 54 trees, or pick up a tour sheet at a tourism brochure display.

All the trees have identification plaques. But even better, the tour sheets include GPS coordinates for each tree. So, to make it interesting, you can pick out a few that you’d like to learn more about, consult your smartphone, and make a beeline from tree to tree on your own self-guided mini tour. Among the possible candidates: Kentucky coffee-tree, Swedish whitebeam, and the beautiful larch and Schubert cherry.

Tell us what you think!

Do you have general comments or criticism? Do you have general comments or criticism? Is there a particular topic you would like to see articles about in Dental Tribune? Let us know by emailing feedback@dental-tribune.com. We look forward to hearing from you. If you would like to make any changes to your subscription (name, address or to opt out), please send us an email at database@dental-tribune.com and we will be happy to include which publication you are referring to. Also, please note that subscription changes can take up to six weeks to process.