Exploring Toronto

One of the best features of the Ontario Dental Society’s Annual Spring Meeting is its location, the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, which is just steps away from some of the top choices among Toronto’s endless attractions.

The list of attractions is enticing: international cuisine, unique shopping venues, diverse cultural facilities and events, trails, parks, distinctive architecture and endless top-caliber entertainment. Following are some possibilities.

Step out for a bit
• Taste a peameal bacon sandwich (with honey mustard) and a butter tart at the 200-year-old St. Lawrence Market.
• Ride the 501 “Red Rocket” streetcar along Queen Street from The Beaches in the east to the west end, through the heart of downtown and passing through the eclectic neighbourhoods of Leslieville, Riverside, Queen West, West Queen West, Parkdale and Roncesvalles along the way.
• Take the ferry to the Toronto Islands for a day in the parks and on the beaches – a piece of calm outside the hustle and bustle of the city. Refreshing signs read “Please walk on the grass.” The islands are home to a community of about 800 people, who have the distinction of boasting Canada’s highest per capita population of artists. Even more appealing, the islands are considered to be the location of North America’s largest urban community that is car free.
• Catch live music at one of Toronto’s legendary music venues such as the Horseshoe Tavern (where the Rolling Stones have played many surprise concerts), The Rex (for live jazz) or the iconic Massey Hall.
• Wander the eclectic and bohemian Kensington Market for vintage finds, organic coffee, tacos, Jamaican patties, gourmet cheese shops, green grocers and Indian spices.
• Experience the highs and lows of Toronto – from the CN Tower’s Skypod observation deck at 447 meters (1,466 stories) up, down to the underground PATH system connecting downtown’s office towers with a 27-km network and more than 1,200 shops and restaurants.
• Stroll along the highest sidewalk at the CN Tower’s Edgewalk.
• Visit the Art Gallery of Ontario’s premier collections of Canadian art featuring the famous Group of Seven.
• Get lost in the crowds of Yonge-Dundas Square where the billboards and neon lights surround the swarms of people in Toronto’s most famous intersection.
• Absorb the Canadian game’s history and touch the actual Stanley Cup at the Hockey Hall of Fame.
• Shop at the Eaton Centre and for designer wear at Bloor-Yorkville.
• Eat your way around the world in Little Italy, Little Portugal, Greek town, Chinatown, Koreatown, and Little India, just to name a few.

(Source: Tourism Toronto and Toronto.com)

A stroll through the aisles of ASM18 in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre reveals a bounty of good deals, show specials and must have supplies at cash and carry prices. (Photo/Provided by the Metro Toronto Convention Centre)

Located just minutes from the downtown core, Toronto Islands are the city’s largest parkland. Toronto’s ferries can carry more than 4,000 passengers an hour to and from the islands. (Photos/Provided by City of Toronto)