

Honeymooners

Niagara Falls has been associated with honeymooners since the early 1800s when Napoleon's younger brother brought his bride up from New Orleans.

Today most of the 14 million people who show up annually are not on their honeymoons, but a sizeable number are.

Motels compete for the honeymoon trade by offering special packages (three nights for \$225, includes Love Settee, Color TV, three breakfasts and free champagne, for example). Most packages include a Honeymoon Suite and a three-hour sightseeing tour plus a genuine Honeymoon Certificate, suitable for framing. Last year 25,000 certificates were handed out. The bride also gets complimentary passes to a variety of tourist attractions. The groom does not.

Parks

The State of New York and the Province of Ontario set up separate park systems around the Niagara in the 1880s.

Today Ontario's Niagara Parks Commission holds and operates a chain of parks from Fort Erie to Fort Mississauga at Lake Ontario and a parkway to go with it. The whole contains some 3,000 acres of land, an eighteen-hole golf course, a school of gardening, museums, shops, restaurants, a game and wildlife refuge on Navy Island, Queen Victoria Park, the Oakes Garden Theatre and a floral clock.

In New York the Niagara Frontier States Park Commission maintains Goat Island and Prospect Park on the mainland, which extends along the rapids in the upper river, and parks at Devil's Hole and on Grand Island.



Clark Kent and Lois Lane in *Superman II*.

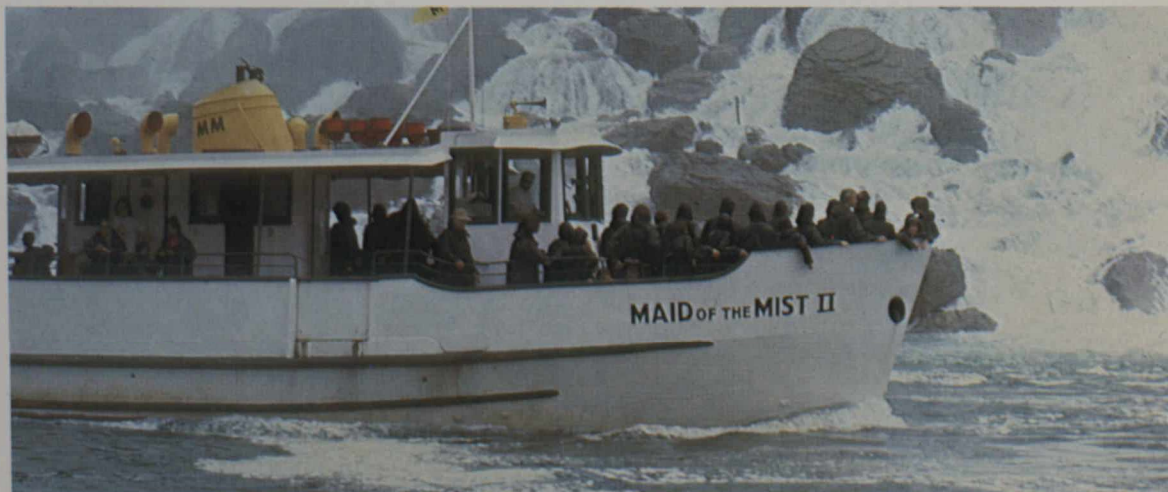
Light

The Falls were first illuminated electrically in 1879 by a thirty-six horsepower generator during the visit of the Marquis of Lorne, Canada's Governor-General, and Princess Louise. It produced 32,000 candlepower. Since 1976 the Falls have been lighted year round by twenty-two xenon lamps with an intensity of 4,220,000,000 candlepower.

The Falls are illuminated until midnight in summer and until 9:30 p.m. in winter.

Maids-of-the-Mist

One may ride past the American Falls and into the heart of the pool below the Horseshoe Falls on the *Maid-of-the-Mist* (any one of the four sturdy boats bearing that name) while wearing a hooded raincoat. There will be spray in one's face and a great roar in one's ears.



One of the *Maids-of-the-Mist*.