

Ontario is Canada's second-largest province in area, and its largest in population. Some 8 600 000 people live in its 1 068 582 square kilometres of territory. Most of this population is concentrated in the southwestern quarter of the province, where the land is almost entirely arable and the climate mild by Canadian standards. The remaining three-quarters of the province, stretching north and west around the Great Lakes and up to Hudson Bay, comprises the rugged, rocky terrain of the Canadian Shield.

Samuel de Champlain, a central figure in the founding of French Canada, was also the first European to explore what is now Ontario in 1612. He opened the way for French fur traders, missionaries and soldiers. After the fall of New France (1759) and the American War of Independence (1776), English-speaking settlers, principally United Empire Loyalists moving north from the newborn

United States, migrated into Ontario in great numbers. They established communities throughout the lower Great Lakes basin and the upper part of the St. Lawrence Valley, and quickly developed a presence on the Canadian political scene. In 1841 an act of the British Parliament united Upper Canada (as Ontario was then known) with Lower Canada (present-day Quebec). This united government was the first step towards the Confedera-

tion of Canadian provinces achieved in 1867. Ottawa, situated on the river of the same name flowing between Quebec and Ontario, became the national capital of Canada and the seat of the

Canadian Parliament. Since the First World War, Ontario's internal growth has been bolstered by the absorption of more than two million immigrants, principally from Western Europe, but also from the Orient and elsewhere. While the province has retained the essentially British character imparted to it by its first settlers, there are also some

600 000 French-speaking persons in Ontario, as well as substantial communities of Italians, Germans, Portuguese, West Indians, East Indians, Chinese, Japanese and Eastern Europeans.
Toronto, Canada's largest city with

some three million people, is a focal point for the cultural diversity of Ontario's population. It is also one of the main cultural centres of English-speaking Canada, producing much of the nation's television, film, theatre

and literature.
Located in Ontario are such nationally and internationally-recognized cultural institutions as the Royal Ontario Museum, the National Museum of Man, the National Gallery, the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the Canadian Opera Company, the National Ballet of Canada and the

the nation's manufactured goods. These include primary iron and steel,

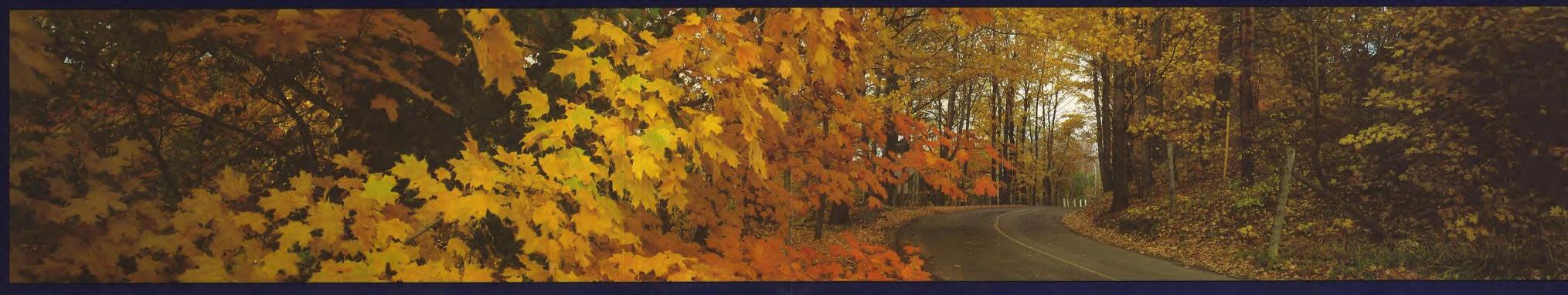
heavy machinery, automobiles, air-

Stratford Shakespearean Festival. Ontario is also Canada's industrial heartland, producing 50 per cent of

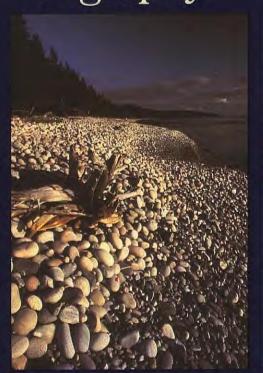
craft, petrochemicals, textiles and electrical and electronic equipment. Ontario Hydro, the province's electric power authority, produces 35 per cent of the province's electricity with Canadian-developed CANDU nuclear The Great Lakes basin provides a major agricultural region, including some of Canada's finest fruit and dairy

farms and many of its vineyards. The growing season in Southern Ontario

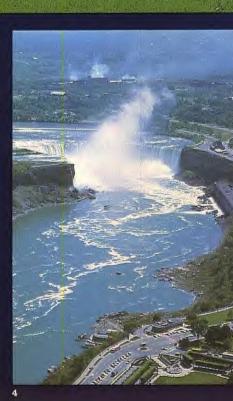
extends from early April to mid-

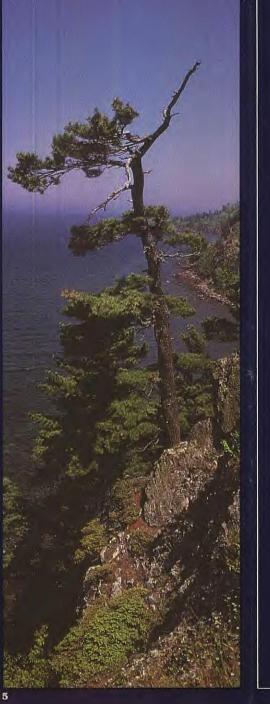


## Geography











1. Pebble Beach stretches along the rugged north shore of Lake Superior. the world's largest body of fresh water. Covering some 82 103 square kilometres and reaching depths of over 400 metres, the lake experiences winter storms rivalling those of the north Atlantic.

2. Ontario's arable lands support 80 000 farms producing an abundance of small grains, beef, dairy products, pork, vegetables, poultry, fruit and other field crops. **3.** The Great Lakes basin is linked to the sea by the mighty St. Lawrence River, which begins in the Thousand

Islands at the eastern end of Lake Ontario. Here the Ivy Lea Bridge links Ontario with New York State on the river's south shore. **4.** The Niagara River, flowing between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, abruptly plunges 48 metres over spectacular Niagara Falls, pouring some 180 000 tonnes of water per minute into the gorge below. The large structure at right centre is a hydro-

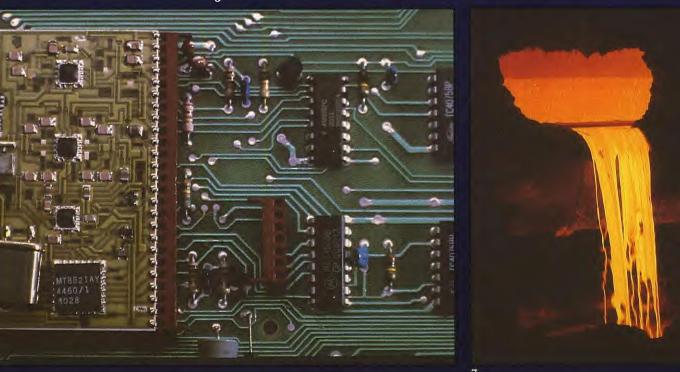
electric power station. 5. Craggy outcroppings dotted with pine, spruce and fir are mixed with patches of swampy muskeg throughout the area north of Lake Superior. Traversing this rugged wilderness was one of the major challenges faced by the builders of Canada's first transcontinental railway line. continental railway line.

## Economy





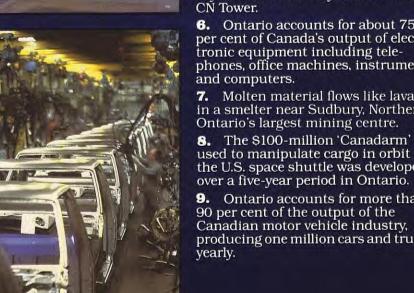












## 1. Ontario orchards, principally in the Niagara region, produce large quantities of grapes, apples, peaches and pears as well as smaller quantities of cherries and plums. 2. Centred in the city of Hamilton, Ontario's steel industry can produce up to 20 million tonnes of crude steel per year, or about 80 per cent of Canada's total output.

**3.** Some 16 million tonnes of prairie grain annually are transferred from rail cars to ships through these terminals at Thunder Bay on the shores of Lele Superior. of Lake Superior.

**4.** Lightweight aluminum cars, linear induction motors and noise-reducing radial trucks running on elevated guideways are features of a new transportation system for Cana-dian and export markets.

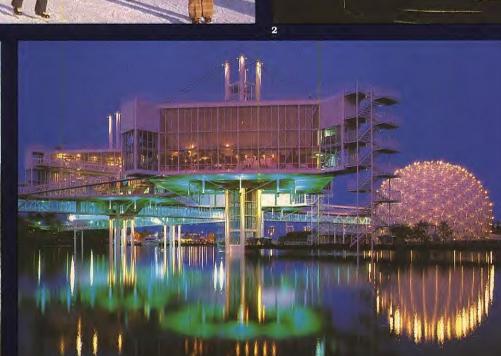
**5.** The *Dash 7*, an advanced, 50-passenger STOL aircraft produced in Ontario, cruises over the Toronto skyline, dominated by the 554-metre **6.** Ontario accounts for about 75 per cent of Canada's output of electronic equipment including telephones, office machines, instruments

7. Molten material flows like lava in a smelter near Sudbury, Northern Ontario's largest mining centre.

used to manipulate cargo in orbit on the U.S. space shuttle was developed over a five-year period in Ontario. **9.** Ontario accounts for more than 90 per cent of the output of the Canadian motor vehicle industry, producing one million cars and trucks

## Culture















- 1. Skaters of all ages enjoy 7.8 kilometres of frozen Rideau Canal cleared for their use during Ottawa winters. **2.** Ste. Marie Among the Hurons was built in 1639 as a central residence for French Jesuit missionaries in the Georgian Bay (Lake Huron) region. Its fortified facilities included Ontario's first school, first hospital and first
- **3.** The Peace Tower and the Parliament Buildings in Canada's capital city of Ottawa rise beside the Rideau
- **4.** Ontarians indulge their love of the outdoors in 130 provincial parks comprising thousands of square kilometres of scenic wilderness.
- **5.** The renowned Stratford Shake-spearean Festival lures nearly 500 000
- people annually to this garden setting on the banks of the Avon River. The Robarts Library is one of the most modern buildings on the campus of the University of Toronto, the largest of Ontario's 17 institutions
- 7. Ontario Place on Toronto's waterfront welcomes nearly three million visitors a year to its theatres, restaurants, playgrounds and marina.
- **8.** The recently-restored Victorian Gothic tower of St. Andrew's Church contrasts with the strikingly contemporary architecture of Roy Thomson Hall, the new home of the Toronto Symphony.
- **9.** A link with Ontario's pre-colonial heritage is preserved in the graceful form of the canoe—as popular with today's sportsmen as it once was with fur traders and voyageurs.



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