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A winter wonderland in Niagara

Jim Eadie - Eadier Solutions

Vacationing in Niagara Falls, Ontario in the summer time is a breath of fresh air for any tourist. Enjoying a gorgeous summer day on the Maid of the Mist, nibbling on delicious fudge samples from the Hershey Chocolate store, dining in the famous eateries, shopping and viewing the many sites Niagara Falls has to offer and lastly, relaxing in the luxurious hotels after a long day of touring Clifton Hill, what more could you ask for? Summer in Niagara is one of the most exhilarating times of the year, but what does the wintertime offer tourists?

“Niagara Falls in the wintertime is fabulous. It brings a new aspect to the Niagara experience, enjoying the excitement of the holiday season and the fabulous amenities offered during the winter as opposed to the summer. The summer is mainly a time for family vacations, but the winter gives us a new appreciation for the Falls,” states Belleville, Ontario resident Cameron Smith, who recently returned from a winter vacation at the Falls.

Winter in Niagara Falls brings added dimensions of beauty. Taking in the cool, crisp winter air while admiring the ice coated trees, brilliant light displays and cheaper hotel rates are all advantages that cannot be cherished in the middle of summer.

Many hotels in Niagara Falls, such as the Comfort Inn and Quality Inn, part of Hoco Limited, admit to a downturn in business towards the winter months. According to Margo, a reservation agent from the Comfort Inn on Clifton Hill, business declines in the fall after school begins. During the weekdays, many hotels are still booked solid, but this is mostly due to bus tours. The heavier decline begins more towards the winter months. The staff at the Comfort Inn on Clifton Hill encourages the positives to visiting the area in the heart of the winter.

“Winter in Niagara is cheaper and not as busy. During the summer it is extremely hard to drive around the city, traffic is cluttered. In the winter months, we have the Winter Festival of Lights, the streets are lit up, and there are parades which keep tourists entertained,” states Margo, regarding the advantages of a winter getaway in Niagara.

Other features in Niagara include Casino Niagara, a wide range of museums and amusement parks (Ripley's Believe It Or Not, Guinness Book of World Records, Criminals Hall of Fame, The Great Canadian Midway, Movieland, Marineland, Zooz, Dinosaur Park, FX Thrill Ride and more) and recently within the last year, the opening of The House of Comedy.

The House of Comedy runs a show every Friday night. This five star comedy club has showcased guests who have been on the Jimmy Kimmel show. Tony, an employee of The House of Comedy suggests a little winter comedy for everyone at the Falls. “Not only can you see the winter Falls, but you can also warm yourself up by laughing at the club.” The House of Comedy is located in the Americana Conference Resort and Spa which features Niagara's only indoor water park.

Niagara Falls in the winter is magical. A well deserved romantic getaway to take in the beauty the Falls have to offer with all the same wonderful opportunities for fun just in a different season.

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