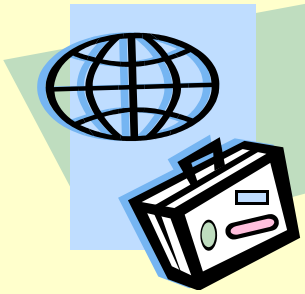




# What Travel Writers Say Newsletter

[www.whattravelwriterssay.com](http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com)

## Outward Bound: GoMedia 2010



I recently attended *GoMedia 2010* <http://mediacentre.canada.travel/gomedia> in late August at Toronto's Royal York Hotel. <http://www.fairmont.com/royalyork/>. The Canadian Tourism Commission <http://en-corporate.canada.travel/> sponsored the event which attracted print, electronic & video journalists from as far away as China, Australia and South Korea. We were treated to specialized tours of Toronto. When I was a kid, the Royal York was the largest building seen on Toronto's waterfront. Now, it is dwarfed by huge buildings all around it and the mammoth CN Tower. Nonetheless, it's still a great hotel with underground access to the subway <http://www3.ttc.ca/> and Union Station. <http://transit.toronto.on.ca/gotransit/2302.shtml>

I took two tours - **Cultural Mosaic of Neighbourhoods**: The word "Toronto" originates from the Huron word *toronton* meaning "meeting place." This remarkable city lives up to its origins as a meeting place and is heralded as one of the most multicultural cities in the

Please see Outward Bound, page 3

The journey not the  
arrival matters.

T. S. Eliot

## Enter our new "Toronto escape" draw!

A two-night stay (for two) courtesy of The Westin Harbour Castle with breakfast in the *Mizzen!* The Harbour Castle is a landmark waterfront hotel in vibrant downtown Toronto on Lake Ontario near major attractions including the Air Canada Centre, CN Tower, and Toronto's financial and theatre districts. This CAA/AAA Four Diamond Award hotel is less than 30 minutes from Lester B. Pearson International Airport. Once inside, marvel at the spacious marble lobby with floor to ceiling windows and a casual elegance throughout.

Enjoy the WestinWORKOUT® Gym, outdoor tennis court, indoor heated pool and whirlpool. Sleep in a beautifully appointed guest room. Enjoy a restful sleep in the signature Heavenly Bed®, and an invigorating morning shower in the Heavenly Bath®.

Take a few minutes to enjoy 48 hours! For each nomination, you receive one entry for the Nov. draw. Two nominations, two entries, up to five total. Submit your nomination for either best accommodations, tour, travel destination, cruise, restaurant, or other travel-related service. See <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indextravelforum.html> for ideas. For each, we need name, url, destination, phone and/or email contact. Send nominations to: [whattravelwriterssay@cogeco.net](mailto:whattravelwriterssay@cogeco.net).

## Featured Tips

Looking for cheap flights, accommodations, currency or even local temperature or subway information? For the latest data, we supply 768 links to every conceivable travel related question that you might have. Bookmark this helpful site to assist you for future travel: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indextips.html>

This month's sample tip: Are you interested in lifelong learning experiences? This site provides nearly 8,000 educational tours in all 50 U.S. states and more than 90 countries with Road Scholar, the not-for-profit leader in educational travel since 1975. Alongside local and renowned experts, experience in-depth and behind-the-scenes learning opportunities, from cultural tours and study cruises to walking, biking and more. <http://www.road scholar.org/>



Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Mark Twain

In addition to travel tips, our *What Travel Writers Say* website includes:

- Travel articles (457)
- Travel tips & links (768)
- Professional travel writers (90)
- Seniors' travel links (101)
- Current travel industry news (World-wide)
- Free newsletter sign up (25,134 members)
- Readers' Forum Travel Tips

## Life-long Learning

We all learn from, and correspondingly teach others as we travel through life. For those involved in education, our web site is a huge database containing lesson plans and an abundance of geographically related material that can be readily adapted to the classroom or for activities when travelling by car, boat, train or plane. If engaged in "Trivial Pursuit" contests, this is the place to go! See actual lesson plans at:

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/tipslessonplan.html>  
<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/tipslessonplan1.html>

Find world venue-related material at:

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/index.html>

or the tips/links section which offers material related to travel at:

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indextips.html>

Need a laugh? Go to:

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indexseniorhumour.html>

Want to translate text into one of 10 major languages? Go to

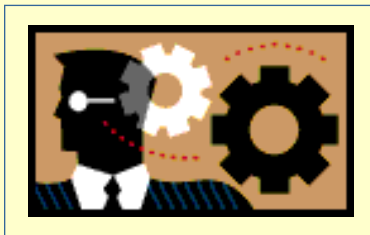
<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/index.html>



## Website of the month: bing vs. Google

<http://www.bing-vs-google.com/>

Which site is the best for searches, for example, on travel. This site shows the results for each search side by side so you can compare and contrast and decide which to use.



## Outward Bound: cont'd.

world are represented; just over 30 per cent of Toronto residents speak a language other than English or French and 50 per cent of Torontonians themselves are not Toronto-born. We explored Chinatown, Greektown, Little Italy and Little India. We tasted our way through colourful, thriving neighborhoods, sampling baklava (a Greek pastry) to Vietnamese Pho (a delicious noodle soup). Using the Toronto transit system or TTC, one easily traverses the city via subway, streetcar and bus into the heart and soul of these communities.

**Culture and Innovation in Toronto:** We visited the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, <http://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca/index.aspx> directly across from the ROM (Royal Ontario Museum <http://www.rom.on.ca/>), offering an intimate look at one of the world's oldest and most universal forms of art and material culture—ceramics.

The Art Gallery of Ontario <http://www.ago.net/> by Toronto-born architect Frank Gehry and the must-see Ontario College of Art and Design <http://www.ocad.ca/> were wonderful to observe. We continued onward to the Royal Ontario Museum to visit the controversial Michael Lee Chin Crystal, a new extension of the museum that juts out on to the streetscape, demanding your attention.

Along the way, we passed Osgoode Hall <http://www.osgoodehall.com/>, Canada's oldest law school, old-and-new City Hall [http://www.toronto.ca/city\\_hall/index.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/city_hall/index.htm) as well as Toronto's stunning Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts designed by architect <http://www.coc.ca/AboutTheCOC/FourSeasonsCentre.aspx> Jack Diamond. In addition to world-class education and research, the ivy-covered campus of the 175 year old University of Toronto provided an excellent photo-op where we could capture a full-length image of the CN Tower. <http://www.cntower.ca/>

Guide Kristine Williamson, representing Toronto Architectural Tours, was a terrific source of information and I highly recommend this Toronto Society of Architects tour. <http://www.torontosocietyofarchitects.ca/?q=node/431>

## Travel Fact of the day

Auckland is ranked 23rd on the UBS list of the world's richest cities. (Source: The Leisure Lounge)

More interesting travel facts are available at: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indexdidyouknow.html>



Roy Thompson Hall

When we get out of the glass bottle of our ego and when we escape like the squirrels in the cage of our personality and get into the forest again, we shall shiver with cold and fright. But things will happen to us so that we don't know ourselves. Cool, unlying life will rush in.  
D. H. Lawrence

## Industry News

For the latest travel industry news, visit: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indexnews.html>

Three WTWS writers blogged their "Break Free" experiences at Niagara Parks Commission's program. <http://www.niagaraparks.com/> Complete blogs by Pat Brennan, Ilona Kauremszky and Mike Keenan are at: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/wtwsblog2.html>  
Here are some snippets:

### Land, water, air - all neat ways to break free!

There's only one way that you can challenge the mighty fury of the Niagara River as it rips through the steep gorge below The Falls - and be laughing at the same time. You gotta ride in a Whirlpool Jet Boat! <http://www.whirlpooljet.com/>

### Niagara's Big Five... along the stunning Parkway

Africa has its "Big Five" - lion, elephant, rhino, leopard and buffalo, but I think Niagara enjoys a similar "Big Five" - the American and Canadian Falls, the Jet Boat, Whirlpool Aero Car, Butterfly Conservatory and Niagara Helicopter Tour. I sampled each, included in the Break-Free Niagara Parks promotional package available online for \$79.95.

### A Jet Boat Communion with Nature

Erin, our Jet Boat tour leader, describes the choice of seats: "The first three rows, we call 'tsunami;' the next three, 'oh my God;' and the rear rows are regarded as the safest." My second Jet Boat ride, I find myself in row 4 awaiting a religious experience. Those in front encounter more water, yet the farther it flies, the more of a punch it delivers.

### Riding a Wondrous Whirly-bird

Excited, I stand in the pre-board wait line at Niagara Helicopters Limited <http://www.niagarahelicopters.com/> on Victoria Ave. along the Niagara Parkway and across from the Spanish Aerocar make out two whirling-dervish [www.infoniagara.com/attractions/whirlpool\\_aerocar/](http://www.infoniagara.com/attractions/whirlpool_aerocar/)

objects reminding me of the butterflies encountered in the Conservatory. <http://www.niagaraparks.com/garden-trail/butterfly-conservatory.html>

### Celebrating Spain in Niagara

North of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls along the Niagara Parkway, I pull into the parking lot at the Whirlpool Spanish Aero Car attraction. Soon, ticket in hand I climb aboard the bright yellow and red car (Spanish colours) with a friendly French Canadian family from Quebec City. Their first time aboard, they all tote cameras like me.

### Tiny Tropical Treasures

It's a dramatic contrast to the wild kinetic thrill of a jet boat and helicopter, but another break-free option arrives on delicate wings in the Zen-like form of



Helicopter Ride

tranquility, personified by the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory. <http://www.niagaraparks.com/garden-trail/butterfly-conservatory.html>

### Breaking free from Toronto to Niagara

I'm psyched to bike the Niagara River Recreational Trail. This 56-km paved path winds through Early Canada. A fascinating way to explore the nooks and crannies of yesteryear... Blue sky overhead, I survey my map and note the first winery - Chateau des Charmes, just around the bend in St. David's on York Road... <http://www.chateaudescharmes.com/>

I made a few more winery stops for refreshing libations. The Riverview Cellars Estate is headed by an under-30 young female winemaker who hails from Newfoundland. Love that! <http://www.riverviewcellars.com/>

Down the road at Inniskillin Wines, the Vidal Ice wine hit the spot. <http://www.inniskillin.com/> By the time I got to the Reif Estate Winery, I admit I needed to wet my whistle...again. <http://www.reifwinery.com/>

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