



sfist

8 Hidden Gems That Will Move Canada To The Top Of Your Travel List

BY [SPONSOR IN ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT](#) ON [AUG 2, 2017 12:00 AM](#)

Presented by **CANADA**
KEEP EXPLORING



Photo: Travel Alberta/George Simhoni

From larger-than-life waterfalls, to natural hot springs, to lush rainforests, Canada has more to see than just igloos, plaid shirts, and moose (meese?). In fact, at this time of year you will likely only see the latter, because (surprise) Canada does have summer. And with Canada's unique geography, there is an Instagrammable spot in every corner of this big country, no matter the season.

So, want to evoke some serious Insta-envy? Break out of your routine camping trip and visit our neighbor to the North for the weekend — better yet, go for a week to explore the best of what Canada has to offer.

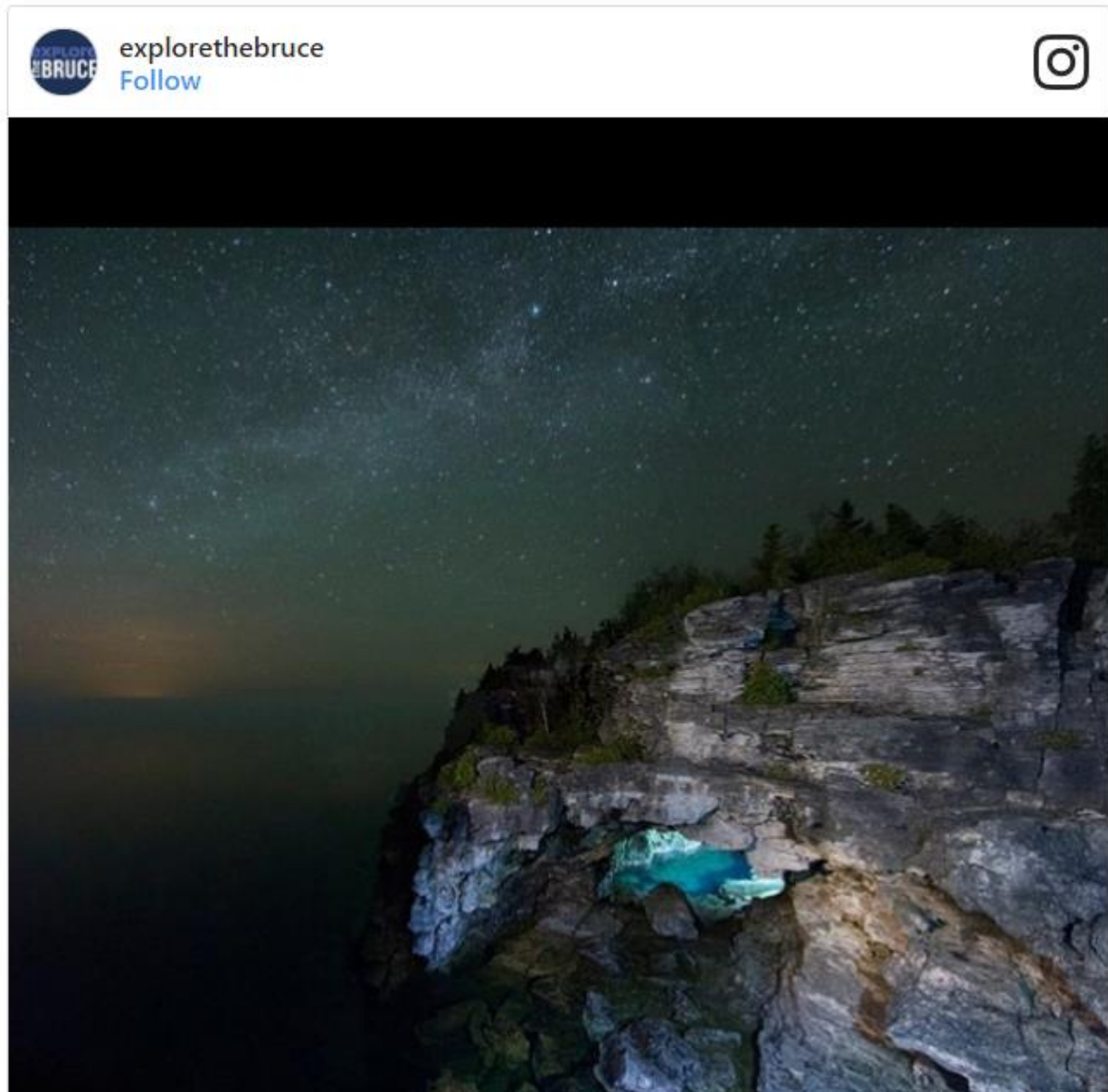
Here are some of our favorite spots. Pick a few of yours and start planning, eh?

Haida Gwaii, British Columbia



Rainforests, mountains, beach views, and even an abandoned ship; [Haida Gwaii](#) has it all. A remote archipelago located off the west coast of BC, this region has been home to the [Haida Nation](#) for the last 13,000 years. Hike Sleeping Beauty Mountain, pitch a tent along the sandy shoreline of [Agate Beach Campground](#) and then fall asleep to the sun disappearing into the ocean's horizon.

The Grotto, Bruce Peninsula, Ontario



Located along the Georgian Bay shoreline in Bruce Peninsula National Park in [Ontario](#), the Grotto is an oceanside cave with clear, azure waters that appear to glow from the pockets of sunlight above. Access it by [hiking](#) about a half an hour from Cyprus Lake and dive into the most refreshing water you will ever swim in.



quebecregion
Follow



Whether you're standing on the suspension bridge above or on the lookout point at its base, the [Montmorency Falls](#) in [Quebec](#) are as grand in real life as they look on Instagram. This wonder stands at 275 feet high (that's 65 feet higher than Niagara Falls!). Pro tip: Stop for [poutine](#) while you're in Montreal; it will change your life.

Hopewell Rocks, New Brunswick



The [Hopewell Rocks](#) sit on the coastline of the Bay of Fundy and boast some of the most interesting geography of the area. This Canadian attraction in [New Brunswick](#) is site to the world's highest tides, which can reach up to four stories high. Plan to paddle through the rocks at high tide, then hike through their nooks and crannies when the tide recedes.

Banff Hot Springs, Alberta



This is a major hot spot in [Banff, Alberta](#). Not only does swimming in the natural [hot springs](#) at the base of Sulphur Mountain feel amazing, it's also said that taking a dip offers healing properties. It's easy to imagine considering the springs' water is warmed in the earth's crust, bubbles to the surface, and then flows into the Upper Hot Springs pool after not seeing the light of day for hundreds of years. We think of it as ancient wisdom for your body.

Northern Lights in Churchill, Manitoba



It doesn't get much cooler than seeing the Northern Lights (aurora borealis) dance across the sky. Although it translates well into photos, this spectacular phenomenon needs to be experienced firsthand, and [Churchill, Manitoba](#) is one of the top places in the world to see them.

The Cabot Trail, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia



The Skyline Trail in the eastern province of [Nova Scotia](#) offers breathtaking views of the [Cabot Trail](#), the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the lush hillsides of the area. Pack a picnic and head up the two-hour trail to snap some photos from a viewing platform (like the one above). You won't regret it.

Dinosaur Provincial Park, Alberta



The vibes at [Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta](#) are definitely prehistoric. Journey north to this western Canada location and you'll stumble across fossils, hear coyotes howl at dusk, and maybe even see a prairie rattlesnake. Added bonus — the stars are epic at night.

These are just some of the natural wonders you can see in [Canada](#) (it's a big country, we can't cover them all). But it's clear that when it comes to Instagrammable moments, Canada has it going on. Why not take a trip up North and experience it for yourself?

This post is a sponsored collaboration between Destination Canada and Gothamist staff.