

Ship Times

Scan the QR Code to access ship times online or go to www.seaway-greatlakes.com/vessel-transit, then click on order-of-turn and choose Welland Lock 3.



Admission

Admission is by donation. Make a cash donation at the boxes in the lobby or visit Merritt's Mercantile Gift Shop with debit or credit.

Museum Hours

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily. Closed New Year's Day, Good Friday, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day. Open Late to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in July and August.

Contact

1932 Welland Canals Parkway, St. Catharines, ON L2R 7K6
905.984.8880 | www.stcatharinesmuseum.ca
museum@stcatharines.ca

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Do Not Touch

Artifacts are fragile and can be damaged permanently. Even the slightest contact can cause significant damage.

Thank you for helping us preserve these historic objects for future generations.

Restrooms and Baby Change Tables

Fully accessible restrooms, with change tables, are located in the lobby, near the information desk. A gender neutral restroom is located just inside the entrance to the Exhibition Galleries.

Coatroom

Hangers can be found in the coatroom near the Exhibition Galleries.

Wheelchair

A courtesy wheelchair is available on a first-come basis. Please inquire at the information desk.

Wi-fi

Free wi-fi is available, choose Skyway Wifi on your mobile device.

Bikes

A bike rack and repair station is located on the north-west side of the Museum. Bikes are not allowed in the building.

Dogs

Leashed dogs are welcome in the lobby area. Dogs are not allowed in the Exhibition Galleries. Identifiable service animals are welcome throughout the facility.

Programs and Events

Check with the information desk for information on programs scheduled while you are here. View our Calendar by scanning this QR Code.



Exhibitions

See inside for a museum map and current exhibitions.

To Do

Viewing Platform

The platform is perfectly situated to view ships as they transit Lock 3. Access the viewing platform by the black stairs outside or by taking the elevator in the lobby to BR and walking across the bridge to the platform.

Discovery Park

Discovery Park provides an added opportunity to soak up local history by viewing marine and architectural remnants.

Welland Canal Parkway Trail

This 42 km trail from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie is a scenic, paved route along the Canal. Maps and information may be found at the information desk in the lobby or by scanning this QR code.



Discovery Backpacks

Borrow a backpack from the information desk to help you discover more about the Welland Canal during your visit. Includes activity books intended for ages 4 - 7 and 7 - 12.

Wellness Backpacks

Our wellness backpacks are filled with helpful items for visitors looking for a sensory friendly experience. Inquire at the information desk.

Play Along Toy Tours

Pick up a toy bin from the information desk and bring some toys along as you explore the galleries. Perfect for families.

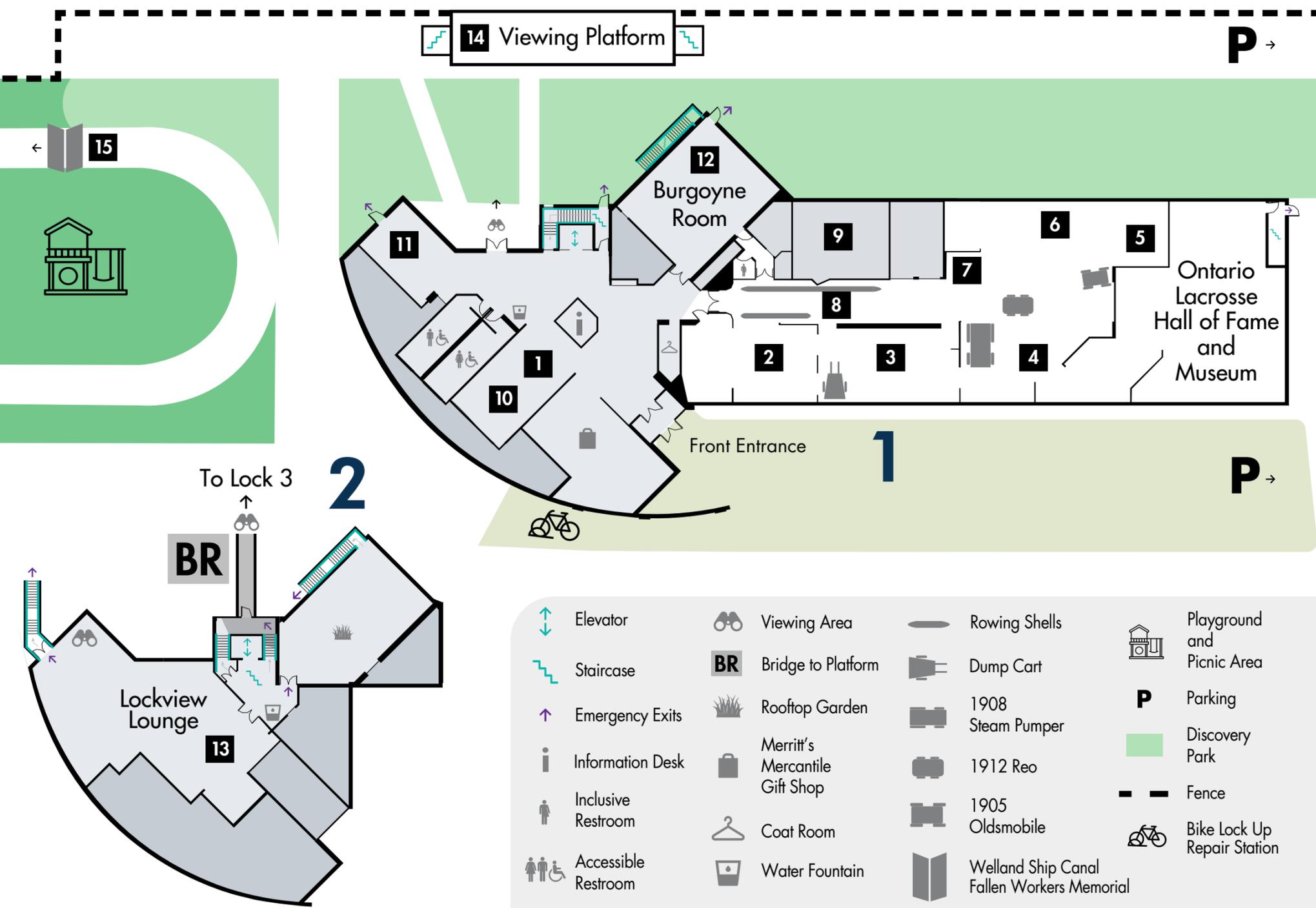
Virtual Experiences

Check out our online offerings and enhance your visit with blogs, podcasts, and our Youtube Channel.



Merritt's Mercantile Gift Shop

Visit our gift shop for a variety of gifts, souvenirs, books, Canadiana, exhibit memorabilia, beverages and light snacks.



Exhibitions and Experiences

Navigating the Exhibits

There is no right way to experience our exhibits, but we recommend viewing exhibitions in the numerical order provided in this guide.

- 1 The Welland Canals: Past & Present Film**
This introductory video of the Welland Canal can be viewed year-round in the Lobby Gallery, it runs every 10 minutes. It is also available for purchase in Merritt's Mercantile Gift Shop.
- 2 A Town Growing Into Note**
Permanent Exhibition | Exhibition Galleries | Allow 30 mins.
This gallery focuses on key elements of what makes St. Catharines and introduces you to the people who walked this land and shaped it into the place it is now.
- 3 The Historic Welland Canals**
Permanent Exhibition | W. H. Merritt Exhibition Gallery | Allow 60 mins.
Discover the rich history of the Welland Canals and learn the stories of the people who built them.
- 4 History at Work**
Permanent Exhibition | Isabella Frampton Hawken Exhibition Gallery | Allow 45 mins.
Discover the stories of the people who worked to build St. Catharines and the tools they used. Explore the different styles of transportation that shaped the city's industrial growth.
- 5 In Service**
Permanent Exhibition | James Grant Exhibition Gallery | Allow 45 mins.
View the centuries-long legacy of military service and those from St. Catharines who made the ultimate sacrifice.
- 6 Our Cultural Mosaic**
Permanent Exhibition | Stan Mikita Exhibition Gallery | Allow 45 mins.
Get nostalgic with this historical exploration of built heritage, community celebrations, performing arts and sport. Featuring architectural remnants, Stan Mikita's hockey stick, and Mr. Grape!
- 7 We Are Our People**
Permanent Exhibition | Exhibition Galleries | Allow 20 mins.
View artifacts and photographs which create a visual summary of the unfinished story of St. Catharines.
- 8 Pulling Their Weight**
Permanent Exhibition | Exhibition galleries | Allow 15 mins.
Look up to see the famous 1984 Olympic Gold medal-winning rowing shell, and learn about the world-famous Royal Canadian Henley Regatta.

Companion Guides

There are several ways to enhance your experience visiting the exhibitions. Watch for large font guides, QR codes with more information, and self-use family and children's activities and guides.

- 9 Honouring Indigenous Aid**
Temporary Exhibition | History Hall | Allow 30 mins.
This temporary exhibit pays tribute to the Indigenous Peoples who contributed to Irish Famine relief in 1846. Presented by Irish Heritage Trust, and the Niagara Irish Festival.
- 10 Last Stop: In Their Own Words**
Temporary Exhibition | Lobby Gallery | Allow 45 mins.
This exhibit challenges the traditional narratives of the local settlement of refugee Freedom Seekers in the 1850s.
- 11 The Canals Gallery**
Permanent Exhibition | Lobby | Allow 30 mins.
Learn about history, geography and engineering of the Welland Ship Canal, a vital 'link' of the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway.
- 12 You Are Here**
Temporary Exhibition | Lobby and Burgoyne Room | Allow 45 mins.
Maps are symbolic representations of selected characteristics of a place, drawn in two dimensions on a flat surface that help us envision what a place looks like from above and helps us navigate the world around us.
- 13 Waterworks**
Temporary Exhibition | Lockview Lounge | Allow 15 mins.
Enjoy a photo-essay, featuring photographs from the museum's collection, about the centrality of water to life in our city.
- 14 Lock 3 Viewing Platform and Discovery Park**
Year-Round Outdoors | Take the elevator to BR | Allow 20 mins.
Ship Schedule posted in lobby
Watch ships transit Lock 3 on the Welland Canal. Explore more of our built heritage throughout Discovery Park, where you will find anchors, pediments and more.
- 15 Welland Ship Canal Fallen Workers Memorial**
Year-Round Outdoors | Located at the North end of Lock 3 | Allow 20 mins.
This Memorial commemorates the 138 men who died building the Welland Ship Canal.