



Rideau Heritage Route XPERIENCES



ONTARIO
CANADA



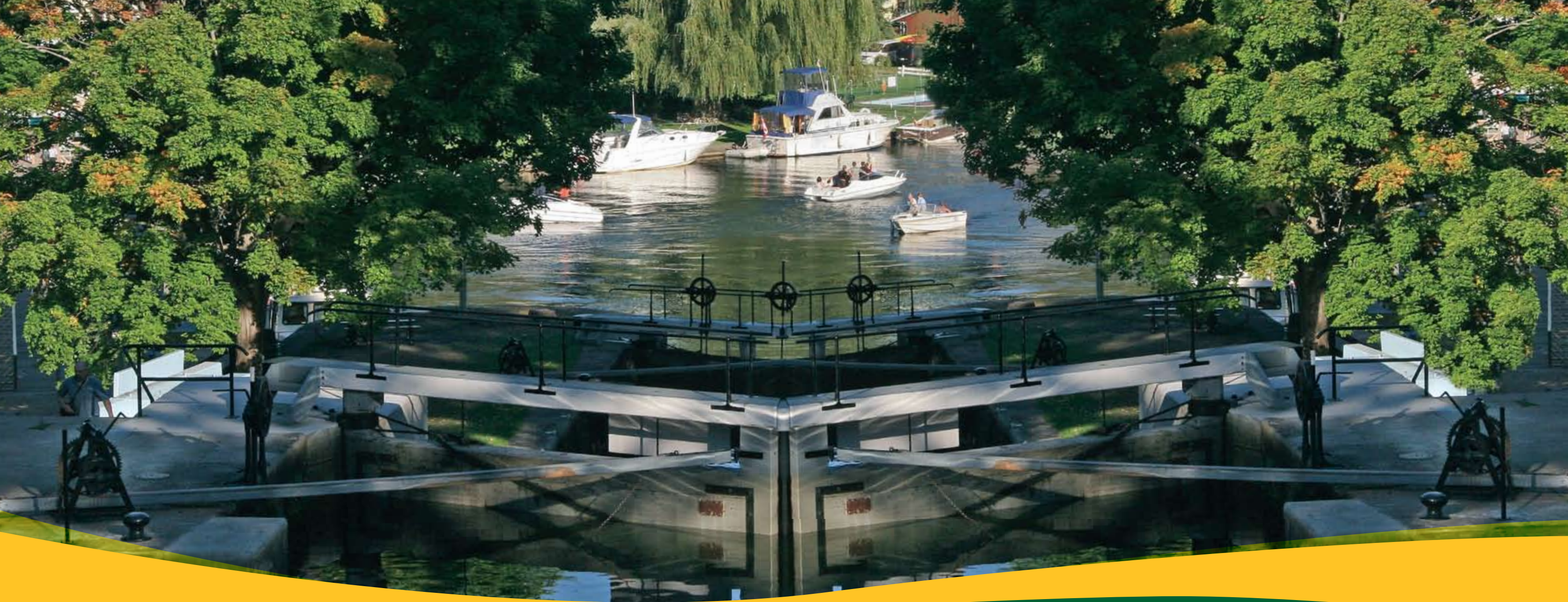
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture



The Rideau Canal
inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2007

Le canal Rideau
inscrit sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en 2007



126 Miles of Heritage Discovery



Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2007, the Rideau Canal is a beautiful system of lakes, rivers and canals winding 126 miles (202 kilometres) from Kingston at the head of Lake Ontario to

Ottawa, Canada's capital city—passing through the scenic countryside, historic towns and quaint villages of Eastern Ontario along the way. Completed in 1832, the Canal is

today maintained and operated by Parks Canada to preserve and protect its natural and historic features—and to provide a navigable waterway for boaters. The region also boasts a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve designation. The Frontenac Arch is the most biodiverse region of Canada. Whether they start on the ramparts of Fort Henry in Kingston, or under the spires of Parliament Hill in Ottawa, tours along the Rideau Heritage Route always lead to discovery, fascination and fun.

WHERE TO STAY ALONG THE ROUTE

SAM JAKES INN – A beautifully restored 4-star 1860s Heritage Country Inn across from the Rideau Canal in Merrickville
www.samjakesinn.com

CODE'S MILL INN – A new 62-suite eco-chic boutique hotel on the waterfront in Perth
www.codesmillinn.com

Ottawa & Kingston Accommodations
– There are a wide range of brand-name hotels in both cities—Starwood, Fairmont, Sheraton, Marriott, Novotel, Choice, Holiday Inn—in addition to unique historic Inns and quaint Bed & Breakfasts.

www.ottawatourism.ca
www.visitkingston.ca

Camping & Cottages
Looking for an outdoor camping or cottage experience? The Rideau boasts over 30 beautiful waterfront campgrounds, resorts and 4 Provincial Parks.
www.rideauheritageroute.ca

Boaters (power boats, canoes & kayaks) may camp overnight at or near all lockstations, except Ottawa locks. Lockstations provide washrooms, parking, first-aid, overnight mooring and picnicking.

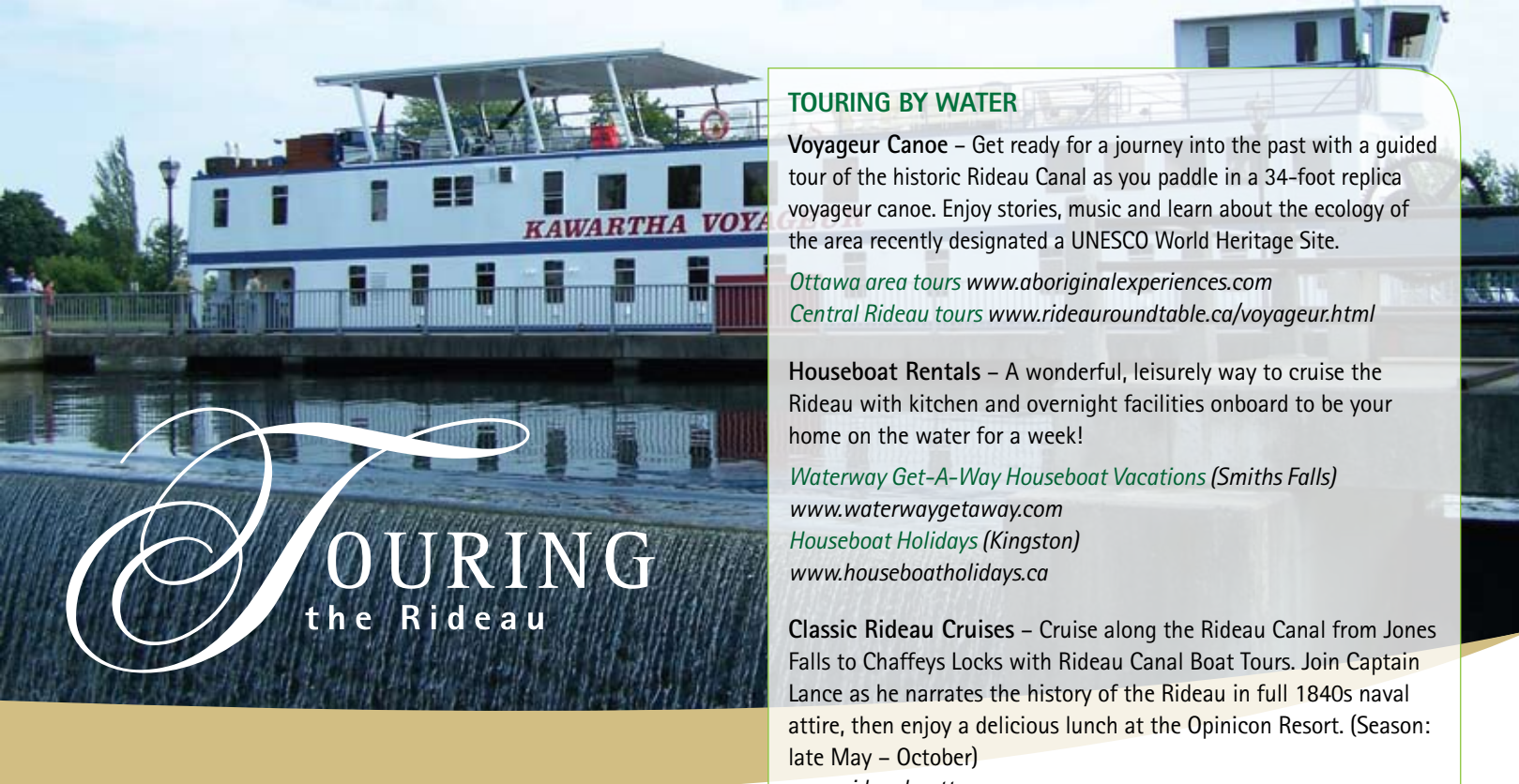
History

comes alive



COLOURS,

flavours & celebrations



Touring

the Rideau

TOURING BY WATER

Voyageur Canoe – Get ready for a journey into the past with a guided tour of the historic Rideau Canal as you paddle in a 34-foot replica voyageur canoe. Enjoy stories, music and learn about the ecology of the area recently designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Ottawa area tours www.aboriginalexperiences.com
 Central Rideau tours www.rideauroundtable.ca/voyageur.html

Houseboat Rentals – A wonderful, leisurely way to cruise the Rideau with kitchen and overnight facilities onboard to be your home on the water for a week!

Waterway Get-A-Way Houseboat Vacations (Smiths Falls)
www.waterwaygetaway.com
 Houseboat Holidays (Kingston)
www.houseboatholidays.ca

Classic Rideau Cruises – Cruise along the Rideau Canal from Jones Falls to Chaffey's Locks with Rideau Canal Boat Tours. Join Captain Lance as he narrates the history of the Rideau in full 1840s naval attire, then enjoy a delicious lunch at the Opinicon Resort. (Season: late May – October)
www.rideauboattours.com

Downtown Ottawa Cruise – Cruise the urban Ottawa portion of the Rideau Canal aboard Pauls Boat Lines
www.paulsboatcruises.com

Kingston Historic Harbour Cruise – Cruise Kingston's historic harbour aboard Kingston 1000 Islands Cruises
www.1000islandscruises.on.ca

Rideau Heritage Cruise – Relive that bygone era of genteel river cruising aboard the Rideau Explorer with Captain Andy on a full-day cruise including lunch. Choose from Spring Blooms, Rideau Summer or Fall Colour Cruises.
www.1000islandscruises.com/rideau

Paddling Adventures

Dows Lake – looking for a relaxing way to explore the Rideau Canal on your own? Why not...rent a canoe or kayak and paddle on Dow's Lake and paddle through the urban Ottawa at your own pace.
www.dowlake.com

Trailhead – For the more experienced paddler with 2 – 3 days to explore the Rideau Canal between Ottawa and Kingston. Rental of outdoor equipment, pickup and drop arrangements can be made
www.trailhead.ca

MKC in the City – Canoe or kayak lessons behind Parliament Hill available in Ottawa
www.owlrafting.com

Luxury B&B Paddling adventures – A luxurious way to paddle the Rideau is to rent a cottage or stay at a local B&B or Inn on the Rideau. www.rideauheritageroute.ca

Frontenac Outfitters (canoe/kayak rentals) – Rideau Canal Discovery Day Tour of the Central Rideau waterway from Jones Falls to Chaffey's Locks.
www.frontenac-outfitters.com/paddlingtours.cfm

TOURING BY LAND

Cycling Experiences – Explore the Rideau Canal by bicycle. You can venture along the 190 km of Ottawa's recreational path network, along Kingston's waterfront or choose one of the many scenic cycling loops along the Rideau countryside.
www.rideauheritageroute.ca

Ottawa RentABike www.rentabike.com
 Ahoy Rentals, Kingston www.ahoyrentals.com

Kingston Sightseeing – Hop aboard the Confederation Tour Trolley for a narrated historic tour of Kingston
www.kingstonchamber.on.ca/tourism

Ottawa Sightseeing – Explore the capital in any mode that you fancy. Traditional city bus tours in a coach or a double decker bus with Grayline of Ottawa www.grayline.ca or Lady Dive Tours www.ladydive.com or enjoy a chariot ride with Ottawa Rickshaws www.ottawarickshaws.ca or book a walking tour with a local guide.
 Around About Ottawa www.aroundaboutottawa.com
 Conference/Aide Tours www.conferenceaidetours.com

Haunted Walks – These 2-hour tours expose the region's darker past: from misbehaving citizens, to political scandals and mysterious deaths. Tours offered in Ottawa, Kingston and at Fort Henry www.hauntedwalk.com



ByWard Market Ottawa – Historic farmers market and chic Ottawa shopping district by day, dining, pubs and clubs by night.
www.byward-market.com

Kingston Market Square – Stroll through Canada's oldest public Market and the unique shops and eclectic restaurants in downtown Kingston. www.visitkingston.ca



Maple Syrup Experiences – The "Maple Capital of Ontario" is right here along the Rideau in Lanark County. Groups and individual travelers can sample and watch the product in the making during Feb/March. Visitors are also welcome year round for tours and delicious maple meals.

Fulton's Pancake House & Sugar Bush,
www.fultons.ca

Wheeler's Pancake House, Sugar Camp & Museum
www.wheelersmaple.com

National Arts Centre – Canada's premier bilingual (English and French) performing arts centre offering the National Arts Centre Orchestra, theatre, dance and variety performances as well as a dining facility offering Canadiana cuisine overlooking the Rideau Canal in the heart of urban Ottawa.
www.nac-cna.ca



Shopping/Restaurants – There is no better way to celebrate the Rideau's culture or embrace its diversity than through its many unique and exceptional dining experiences—from charming waterfront patios to restaurants featuring local produce. Well over 80 resident artists call the "Rideau" home, working from studios, displaying in their galleries & selling their original works.



Canadian Tulip Festival – Ottawa's popular annual May festival with millions of tulips and outdoor entertainment along the Rideau Canal and across the capital.
www.tulipfestival.ca

Fort Henry Sunset Ceremonies – Marvel at the precision and pageantry of the world famous Sunset Ceremonies, Wednesday evenings through July & August.
www.forthenry.com



Winterlude – During winter, the Ottawa portion of the Rideau Canal freezes to become the world's largest skating rink – and the setting for Winterlude. Three February weekends of fun, entertainment, ice sculptures and more.
www.winterlude.ca

Bytown Museum – Located between the Canal and Parliament Hill in Ottawa, the Museum focuses on the history of Ottawa during the building of the Rideau Canal through an audio tour in 6 languages, plus a specialized tour on the Rideau Canal designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
www.bytownmuseum.com



Parks Canada Heritage Theatre Series – "Ghosts & Echoes of the Rideau", Legends and folklore of the Rideau Canal performed in the historic former St. Brigid's Church, located in Ottawa's ByWard Market area (and built by the labourers who constructed the Canal) Saturday 4:00 PM in July & August
www.pc.gc.ca/rideau canal

Rideau Lockstation Tours – During the summer, visitors are welcome to speak with the "Lockmasters" as they open and close the gates to "lock" the boats through the hand-operated locks. Guided tours by costumed military guides available at Ottawa, Smiths Falls, Merrickville, Jones Falls, and Kingston Mills Locks.
www.pc.gc.ca/rideau canal



Rideau Canal Museum – Located in Smiths Falls, the Museum invites you to explore five floors of displays, artifacts and multi-media exhibits that trace the steps of Lieutenant-Colonel By as he struggled to build the Rideau Canal.
www.rideau-info.com/museum



5 DAY, 4 NIGHT SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1

KINGSTON – CANADA'S FIRST CAPITAL & SOUTHERN GATEWAY FOR THE RIDEAU

Confederation Tour Trolley (guided trolley tour)
 Historic Kingston walking tour (self guided audio tour)
 Fort Henry National Historic Site (guided tour & Sunset ceremony)
 Dinner and overnight in Kingston

DAY 2

JONES FALLS /KINGSTON MILLS LOCKS/ WESTPORT/ PERTH (DRIVE ALONG THE RIDEAU HERITAGE ROUTE)

Kingston Mills Locks (Rideau lockstation tour)
 Classic Rideau Cruise (Chaffey's Locks to Jones Falls)
 Voyageur Canoe program (Perth)
 Dinner at Fiddleheads (Historic Code's Mill, Perth)
 Overnight at Code's Mill Inn (Perth)

DAY 3

PERTH/SMITHS FALLS (DRIVE ALONG THE RIDEAU HERITAGE ROUTE)

Maple Sugar Bush visit (Wheeler's or Fulton's)
 Rideau Canal Museum (Smiths Falls)
 Merrickville artisan galleries & shops
 Blockhouse Museum (Merrickville)
 Dinner and overnight at Sam Jakes Inn (Local flavours menu with fresh local produce)

DAY 4

MERRICKVILLE/OTTAWA (DRIVE ALONG THE RIDEAU HERITAGE ROUTE)

Burritts Rapids (short hike around lockstation)
 Watson's Mill in Manotick
 Lunch at Le Café, National Arts Centre

Bytown Museum & Ottawa locks
 Summer Heritage Theatre (Ghosts & Echoes of the Rideau)
 Dinner in the ByWard Market with an overnight in Ottawa
 Sound and Light Show on Parliament Hill

DAY 5

OTTAWA – THE CULTURED YET COMFORTABLE CAPITAL – NORTHERN GATEWAY FOR THE RIDEAU

Parliament Hill Tour
 Ottawa city tour via a Rideau Canal Cruise (Pauls Boat Lines)
 Aboriginal Experiences (Turtle Island)
 Cycling along the Rideau Canal (RentABike)

3 DAY, 2 NIGHT SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1

OTTAWA

Bytown Museum & Ottawa locks
 ByWard Market
 Cycling along the Rideau Canal (RentABike) or Cruising (Pauls Boat Line)
 Overnight in Ottawa

DAY 2

MERRICKVILLE/SMITHS FALLS/PERTH/JONES FALLS
 Merrickville artisan galleries & shops
 Rideau Canal Museum (Smiths Falls)
 Historic Code's Mill, Perth
 Jones Falls (Rideau lockstation visit)
 Overnight in Kingston

DAY 3

KINGSTON

Confederation Tour Trolley (guided trolley tour)
 Historic Kingston walking tour (self guided audio tour)
 Fort Henry National Historic Site (guided tour & Sunset Ceremony)

For more itinerary suggestions or tour planning assistance contact the local destination marketing organizations
www.ottawatourism.ca, www.visitkingston.ca or www.rideauheritageroute.ca



DISTANCES

	FLIGHT (hrs)	DRIVE (hrs)
🇨🇦 Montreal	0.5	3
🇨🇦 Toronto	1	3-5 (3.5)
🇨🇦 Quebec City	1	5
🇨🇦 Vancouver	5	5 days
🇺🇸 Boston	1.25	7.5
🇺🇸 New York City	1.5	8
🇺🇸 Detroit	1.5	8.5
🇺🇸 Washington	1.5	9.5
🇺🇸 Chicago	2	13
🇬🇧 London	7	n/a



Direct flights are available to Toronto and Ottawa, with connecting flights to Kingston (from Toronto).

For coach/bus transportation information along the Rideau Corridor www.greyhound.ca

VIA Rail has stations in Ottawa, Smiths Falls and Kingston www.viarail.ca

