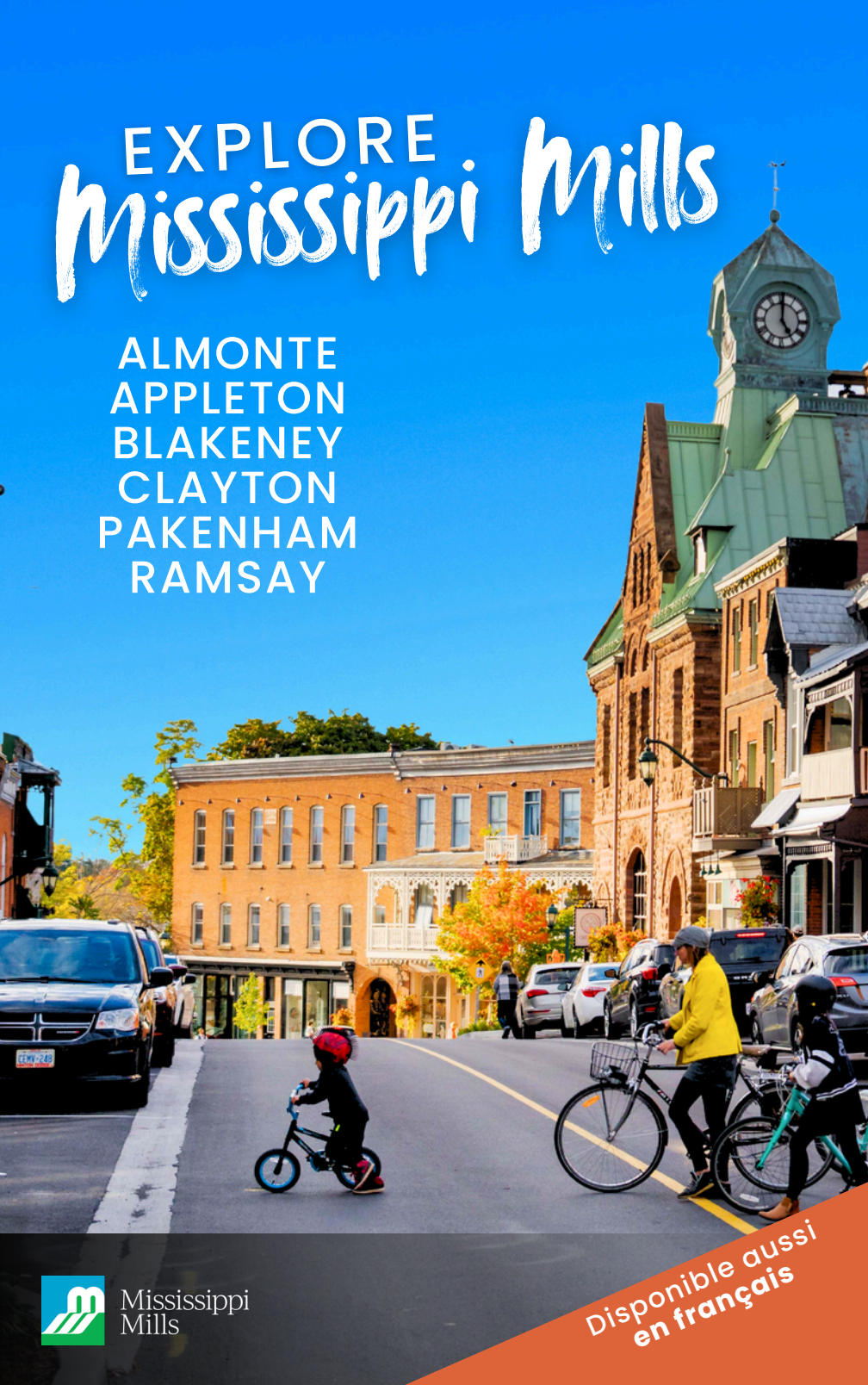


# EXPLORE Mississippi Mills

ALMONTE  
APPLETON  
BLAKENEY  
CLAYTON  
PAKENHAM  
RAMSAY



Mississippi  
Mills

Disponible aussi  
en français



Updated: April 2026. First published: April 2025.  
Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills.  
With files contributed from the community, with permission.

# Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this sacred land on which Mississippi Mills is now located has been a site of human activity for over 10,000 years and is rich in Indigenous history. This land is the ancestral and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Nation. We are grateful to the Algonquin ancestors who cared for the land and water in order that we might meet here today.

## Welcome to Mississippi Mills

Offering the best of both worlds – rural and urban – Mississippi Mills is a popular location for tourists and visitors of all ages. Waiting for you here is the perfect day trip destination featuring a vibrant artistic community, multiple museums and cultural hotspots, and a reputation for wildlife preservation and conservation. Appleton, Pakenham, Ramsay, Blakeney, and Clayton all boast their own physical and cultural assets, only minutes from the urban centre of Almonte.

Come and experience the history, maple syrup, skiing, hiking, art, antiques, museums, bridges, festivals, golf, shopping, waterfalls, markets, music, canoeing, food, murals, fishing, B&Bs, mills, cycling routes and friendly, interesting and unique people! Stay and play – you'll be glad you did!

**This guide is best  
experienced accompanied  
by a smartphone!**

Scan the QR codes  
throughout this guide to  
discover more information  
located on our website.



# MISSISSIPPI MILLS

# Top 10



1

Learn about our villages  
and the geography  
>>> Page 6



2

Discover  
something new  
at our museums  
>>> Page 14



3

Take a  
one-of-a-kind  
tour  
>>> Page 18



4

Enjoy great  
food  
>>> Page 20



5

Stay the night  
>>> Page 21

## Explore Mississippi Mills Guide Contest

Tell us a little about yourself and where you picked up this guide to be entered in a draw. You could win a Mississippi Mills prize valued at **\$125**.



# 6

Shop until you drop

>>> Page 22



# 7

Celebrate events like never before

>>> Page 26



# 8

Breathe in nature and get active

>>> Page 30



# 9

Experience winter wonderland

>>> Page 40



# 10

Come back again another time and do it all again





### *Pakenham*

Established in 1823, this village is home to the five-span bridge — one of a kind in North America.

- 1** St. Peter's Celestine Catholic Church
- 2** Pakenham Five-Span Bridge
- 3** Mount Pakenham
- 4** Cedar Hill School House

### *Blakeney*

A great village to explore the Mississippi River and nearby trails.

- 5** Blakeney Rapids
- 6** Mill of Kintail Conservation Area

### *Almonte*

- 7** Downtown Almonte



Take a picturesque drive or paddle down the river to see buildings stuck in time!

**8** The Old Mill Manor

**9** North Lanark Regional Museum

**10** Appleton Dam

**11** The Mississippi Golf Club

The waterways in this quaint hamlet makes it a popular spot for nature activities.

**12** Clayton General Store

**13** Clayton Taylor Park Boat Launch

LEARN MORE  
ABOUT OUR  
SETTLEMENT  
AREAS



# Almonte

## Did You Know?

Despite what your navigation app told you on your way here, it's pronounced "Almonte," with a silent "e."

This picturesque town came to be what it is today after an initial boom in the textile industry that lasted until the 1950s.

Today, as you stroll the downtown core, you'll notice the remnants of the textile industry; multiple stone structure mills converted to other uses such as restaurants and galleries, as well as a railway converted into a trail.

The town has since pivoted to becoming the centrepiece for art in the Ottawa Valley. There are a variety of unique galleries, hand-made goods stores, potteries, antique markets, painters guilds, theatre groups, and so much more.





Shawn De Salvo

LEARN MORE ABOUT  
**ALMONTE**

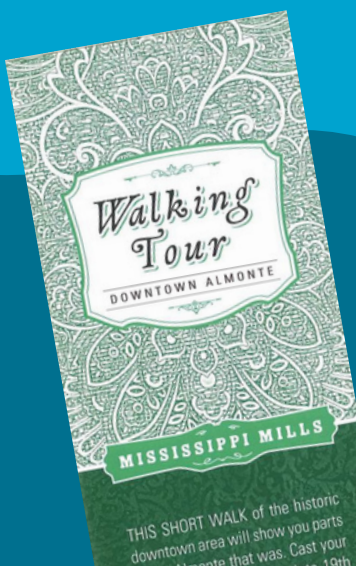
Explore this charming urban core on foot! Park your car at one of our many municipal parking lots and promenade along the many trails such as the **Riverwalk**, **Almonte Wellness Trail**, and the **Alameda** on the **Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT)**. Browse block after block of attractions such as **antique stores**, **fine dining**, and **cultural institutions**.

PARKING INFO

# Check it out

Learn more about the history of Almonte with the Downtown Almonte Walking Tour!

Available for pickup at the Almonte Old Town Hall.





# Appleton

Situated to the south-east of Almonte, Appleton is a quaint collection of homes that ideally look out towards the sparkling Mississippi River. Enjoy a picnic at the Appleton Village Park, or gather your family at the Old Mill Manor for a stay by the rapids.



# Blakeney

The hidden gem of Mississippi Mills! Once home to a sawmill, gristmill and a timber slide, today the Blakeney Rapids are top-of-list for those looking to explore the Mississippi River.



To the west of Almonte, you'll find Clayton, the home to the beautiful Clayton Lake and the Indian River. The charming village is a popular spot for fishing, boating, and hiking, while the bountiful hardwood forests make it a maple syrup centre for the region.

# Clayton



Ramsay Ward is a mix of farming lowlands along the Mississippi River and the more rugged borders of the Canadian Shield. Historically, the Mississippi and Indian Rivers played an important role in the development of the former Township of Ramsay.

# Ramsay





Pakenham offers year-round recreation for adventurers and relaxation seekers alike. In the winter, carve through the snow at **Mount Pakenham**, a beloved destination for skiers and snowboarders of all levels. Spring brings a sweet escape to **Fulton's Sugar Bush and Maple Shop**, where you can indulge in maple syrup treats and explore awakening nature trails. Summer invites outdoor enthusiasts to hike the serene paths of the **High Lonesome Nature Reserve** or tee off at **Pakenham Highlands Golf Club**, where lush fairways meet breathtaking views. As autumn paints the countryside in brilliant hues, these activities take on an added charm, ensuring every season in Pakenham is a celebration of nature and adventure!



**Step Back in Time**  
**The 1840s General Store and Bakery** has been serving the area for generations. Built in 1840, it still retains its historic charm with warm wood floors and original wooden counters. Nearby, the **Five-Span Bridge** (shown in the photo above) — built in 1901 — is recognized as the oldest five-arch stone bridge in Canada and remains one of Pakenham's most photographed landmarks.



Greg Cherry

## Stroll the Museum on the Street

While browsing the streets of Pakenham, take note of the four plaques situated throughout the village — these plaques offer insight into the history of one of the earliest settled parts of Mississippi Mills, including a devastating fire.

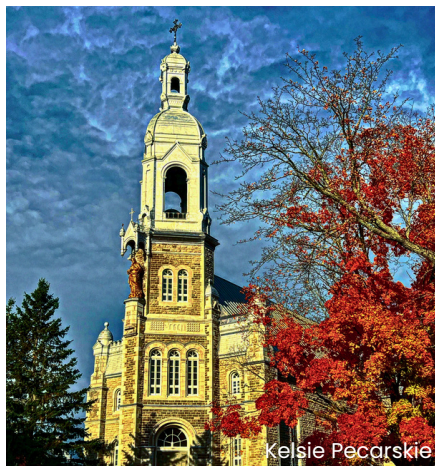


SCAN HERE FOR A  
MAP OF PLAQUES



## St. Peter Celestine Church

One of the **Seven Wonders of Lanark County**, this church is one of the most architecturally interesting and impressive churches in rural Canada. The church is widely known among connoisseurs of heritage architecture for its fine building — but in particular for its superb original interior décor — which survives, intact, from over a century ago.



Kelsie Pecarskie

Heather Brown



## Learn about the **GLAMorous** culture

**GLAM** is the acronym for cultural institutions such as **Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums** — of which Mississippi Mills has many to offer!

Embrace local heritage at the **North Lanark Regional Museum**, discover why Mississippi Mills was once known as the “Manchester of the North” at the **Mississippi Valley Textile Museum**, and take a walk through the lives of **Dr. R. Tait McKenzie** (sculptor, surgeon, and pioneer in preventive and rehabilitative medicine), **Ethel McKenzie** (poet), and **Dr. James Naismith** (inventor of basketball) at the historic **Mill of Kintail Museum**.

Collect stamps at all three museums in your Museum Passport for the chance to win an amazing prize! *Museum Passports are available at each museum.*



LEARN MORE  
ABOUT OUR  
**MUSEUMS**





## Experience the Power and Beauty of Art

The Municipality also has a wide selection of local galleries for your eyes to admire:

### General Fine Craft

63 Mill St., Almonte

### Morrow Gallery

83 Little Bridge St., Almonte

### Sarah Jaynes Art

46 Mill St., Almonte

### Sivarulrasa Gallery

34 Mill St., Almonte

VISIT THE  
GALLERIES'  
WEBSITES TO  
FIND EVENTS:



## An Art Tour for Every Season

Artists take many inspirations from their surroundings, especially from Mother Nature and her colourful seasons. In Mississippi Mills, those inspirations are on full display with our various art tours held throughout the year:

### Pakenham Maple Run Studio Tour

*First weekend in April*

### Art in the Attic

*Mother's Day weekend (May)*

### Crown & Pumpkin Studio Tour

*Thanksgiving weekend  
(October)*

### Christmas in the Valley Artisan Show

*First weekend in November*

# Public Art



Who said visiting out-of-town had to be expensive? On top of our museums that are generally pay-by-donation, there is lots more to see out in the open here in Mississippi Mills.

## **The Seven Gifts**

This installation pays tribute to the Seven Grandfather Teachings of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Peoples. Each stone supports a bronze totem animal representing one of the gifts. Interpretive signage and a commemorative plaque, as well as native plantings with Indigenous significance, completes the sacred space of healing and reflection.



## **The Lanark County Interval House Pebble Mosaic**

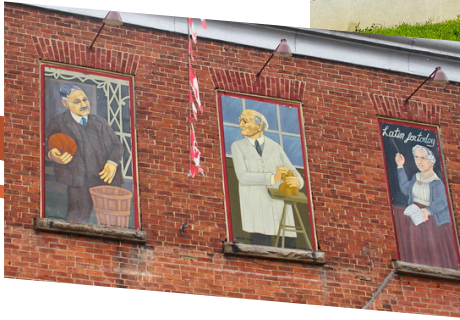
Start the Riverwalk trail with the Pebble Mosaic next to the Almonte Old Town Hall. This beautiful collection of intricately combined pebbles honour those affected by gender-based violence and imagines a world without violence. Be sure to check out its sister installations in Carleton Place and Smiths Falls, as well.

## Greet the Murals of Mill Street

You don't have to walk far to come face-to-face with a historical figure on Mill Street. In fact, the entire street is covered in murals, high and low! Take a stroll while you shop and see who you can spot – you might learn a new thing or two about them.



17



## Do You Ever Wonder?

Take a glimpse back at your childhood with the sculpture of Gloria Gopher from *Under the Umbrella Tree*, a CBC favourite TV show from the 1980s. Placed on the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail beside the Almonte Library, this sculpture honours the late show's creator, puppeteer Noreen Young, who called Almonte home.



## The Inventor of Basketball

In the heart of Almonte sits the beloved statue of James Naismith. Take a seat next to him and snap some selfies; you won't find anyone as photogenic as he is.



THERE'S MUCH MORE!  
FOR A FULL LIST OF  
PUBLIC ART IN  
MISSISSIPPI MILLS,  
**SCAN HERE**



# Mmm... Made in

## Take a Mouth-Watering Tour of Businesses in Mississippi Mills That Make Food Products!

Whether you're a coffee bean nerd, a craft beer connoisseur, or a sweet-tooth craving everything maple, we have the most creative businesses eager to give you an intimate tour of their craft.

### Craft Alcohol



Get the full brewing experience at our small and mid-sized breweries or see something different that includes using milk for alcohol...

**Base Camp Brewing Co.**  
453 #3 Ottawa St., Almonte

**Dairy Distillery**  
34 Industrial Dr., Almonte

**Cartwright Springs Brewery**  
239 Deer Run Rd., Pakenham

**Farmgate Cider**  
4547 Mohr's Rd., Arnprior

### Sweet and Savoury



A must see for foodies is the roasting process of coffee beans, the making of chocolate, and the secret behind low-fat doughnuts.

**Equator Coffee**  
451 Ottawa St., Almonte

**Hummingbird Chocolate Maker**  
476 Ottawa St., Almonte

**Healthy Food Technologies**  
25 Industrial Dr., Almonte

# Mississippi Mills

## Maple



As part of Lanark County, the Maple Syrup Capital of Ontario, we have lots to offer in terms of sweet, golden goodness. Take a tour, ride sleds, and more! *Open seasonally and by appointment.*

**Bellamy Mills Maple Products**  
286 Bellamy Mills Rd., Almonte

**Thompson's Sweet Retreat**  
1922 Clayton Rd., Clayton

**Fulton's Sugar Bush and Maple Shop**  
399 Sugar Bush Rd., Pakenham



Looking to take your food tour cross-county? Check out the Sip & Savour Trail by Lanark County! On top of all the amazingly tasty businesses we've mentioned, you'll discover places to feast your eyes on art, fine dine by striking sceneries, and explore specialty stores.

## Come wander.



DOWNLOAD THE TRAIL MAP



# Dining Options



## Breakfast



Start your day in Mississippi Mills with hearty diner classics, delicate crepes or fresh cinnamon rolls that melt in your mouth. Maple syrup, a local treasure, adds sweetness to every bite. Breakfast here is more than a meal — it's a warm welcome to this vibrant community.



## Lunch

Mississippi Mills offers a delicious variety for lunch — from food trucks and cafés to artisanal sandwiches made with local ingredients. Treat yourself to a refined meal paired with local craft beer or spirits and enjoy dining on one of the region's finest patios.



## Dinner

Dinner in Mississippi Mills is unforgettable, with options like pizza, steak, seafood and decadent desserts. Some spots offer live music and cozy patios, perfect for dining under the stars. End your evening with a show at the Almonte Old Town Hall for a complete night out.

# Stay Awhile

Ryan Donovan

Extend your stay at one of our accommodation options and experience all that Mississippi Mills has to offer. Choose from a selection of **heritage inns, bed and breakfasts, quaint cottages** and **self-serve apartments** — all ready and waiting for you! Whether you are here for a family vacation, shopping excursion, wedding, golfing or skiing getaway, extending your stay will create unforgettable memories.



## Friendly B&Bs in Friendly Mississippi Mills

Our reputation for friendliness extends even into your stay, ensuring you feel almost like you are at home. Throughout Mississippi Mills, you will find home-run bed and breakfasts and others on online accommodation services such as **Airbnb**, **Vrbo**, and **Expedia**.

## Waterfront Retreats

The Mississippi River and falls offer a stunning visual backdrop for your visit to our community! Stay at **The Monte** on the bank of the Mississippi River, mere steps away from the sparkly attractions downtown. For a countryside retreat, rent out the historic **Old Mill Manor** for yourself and up to 11 other guests — enjoy the ambiance of the Appleton Rapids as you rest, play, and celebrate.

FOR MORE  
DINING  
OPTIONS,  
VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE



FOR MORE STAY  
OPTIONS, VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE

# Shopping



People travel from all over the area to shop in Mississippi Mills, where they are guaranteed one-of-a-kind finds and a fun, country shopping experience. Our communities are home to some of the cutest little shops around, filled with unique and often handmade wares that you won't find anywhere else. Antiques, collectibles, unique clothing – it's all here.

Stroll through historic Almonte or Pakenham and delight in the old-style charm of the region. Once you've had your fill of the shops, stop for a bite to eat or a sweet treat and then get back at it. Make your visit an overnight one and explore everything our community has to offer!

## Almonte Charm

Shop in downtown Almonte and see for yourself why these charming streets have been featured in so many movies. Here, you'll find dozens of shops and specialty stores, all featuring items you simply won't find anywhere else! Choose from unique jewelry, books, fine art, quality fashions,



antiques, and collectibles for the perfect find.



Cathy Wood



*"Mill is the best kind of street. curving and mysterious. A street that has had years to find itself. A street that has sprung from dreams rather than schemes, slowly emerging brick by brick from the aspirations of the many rather than the stroke of some planner's pen."*

**- The late Stuart McLean,  
CBC Radio host of *The Vinyl Cafe***



Ben Hemmings



Cathy Wood



Shawn De Salvo

**FOR MORE  
SHOPPING  
IDEAS,  
VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE**





Shawn De Salvo

## Spend the Day in Pakenham

In Pakenham you'll be delighted by the charming old-fashioned feel to the community, and there is enough to do here to keep you busy for the entire day.

Stroll along Main Street and explore the quaint **1840s General Store and Bakery**, known for its fun variety of gifts, toys, and unique finds for all ages. Pick up a freshly made sandwich or baked treat and enjoy an impromptu picnic on the benches at the picturesque **Five-Span Bridge Park**.

Stop in to see **Simply Beautiful Bridals'** new location in the village – they offer an amazing selection of wedding dresses to suit every bride's taste, from timeless and elegant to funky and fashion-forward.

Down the street, **Keepers Coffee Bar's** shelves are stocked with an ever revolving selection of plants, vintage wares and artisanal products.



On MacFarlane Street, you will find **Paddy Mann** studio and shop. A well-known fashion artist, Paddy personally designs each piece of clothing for her clients, and her custom, made-to-measure garments are a true reflection of each client's unique personality. Drop by her studio to browse the shop or arrange a one-on-one appointment with Paddy to assess your clothing needs.

We mean it when we say the heart of our village has something for everyone! You won't want to miss local favourites **5 Span Feed & Seed** offering a variety of items for the farm, home, and cottage, or **Scheel Appliances** known for their amazing prices and even better customer service. Of course, every road trip needs an ice cream or cupcake stop, so don't pass by **Nicholson's Sundries** or **Scoops Ice Cream** to pick up a treat for now or to savour later!



### **A One-Stop Shop in Clayton**

The **Clayton General Store** opened its doors in the 1850s and has been in operation ever since, making it one of the longest continuously running general stores in Ontario. It is a true old-style general store near the shores of Clayton Lake. Gas, groceries, ice cream, hot dogs, local maple syrup and honey, a lending library, hunting & fishing licenses, live bait, a full-service post office, LCBO, hardware, and much more are offered at this indispensable community hub.

# SIGNATURE

# Events



Come and see for yourself why Mississippi Mills is known as the "**festival town**." Each year, we host a wide variety of fun festivals, events, and celebrations that showcase our distinctive heritage and our beautiful region.

## May

### Almonte Farmers' Market

*Every Saturday, May to October*

Our farmers have been gathering in downtown Almonte since the 1800s!

[almontefarmersmarket.com](http://almontefarmersmarket.com)

## June

### National Indigenous Peoples Day

*June 21*

Celebrate solstice with paddling, smudging, and renewed connections. All are welcome!

[www.mississippimills.ca/Indigenous](http://www.mississippimills.ca/Indigenous)

### Multicultural Potluck on Mill Street

*Late June*

Let dancing, songs, and bellies full of delicious food fill the streets! Savour the flavours of the world while building new connections.

## July

### Canada Day Celebrations

*June 30 and July 1*

We bring out the big stage for Canada Day here. Enjoy a large lineup of live music, kids activities and more! Be sure to catch the big parade in Pakenham.

[www.mississippimills.ca/CanadaDay](http://www.mississippimills.ca/CanadaDay)



## Almonte Celtfest

Early July

Join vendors, artists and musicians from all over the Ottawa Valley in celebrating everything Celtic!

[almonteceltfest.com](http://almonteceltfest.com)

## Almonte Craft Beer Fest

Late July

This region has an interesting selection of spirits; come try them all in one big gathering of enthusiasts!

[www.mississippimills.ca/CraftBeerFest](http://www.mississippimills.ca/CraftBeerFest)

## August

### Puppets Up! Festival

Early August, bi-annually

See puppeteers and street performers from around the world turn Almonte's historic main street into something incredible (next up! in 2026).

[puppetsup.com](http://puppetsup.com)

## North Lanark Highland Games

Late August

Drums, pipes, and good spirited competition. Come celebrate Scottish culture!

[almontehighlandgames.com](http://almontehighlandgames.com)

## September

### Fibrefest

Early September

Stock up for the winter at the vendor area and learn new things about yarn, textiles and more at their workshops.

[mvtm.ca/whats-on/fibrefest](http://mvtm.ca/whats-on/fibrefest)

## Almonte Fair

Early September

Dating back to 1858, this agricultural fair is everything you expect from a classic fair.

[almontefair.weebly.com](http://almontefair.weebly.com)

## December

### Light Up the Night!

Early December

Warm up your heart with this open-air concert of holiday cheer and fireworks.

[www.mississippimills.ca/LUTN](http://www.mississippimills.ca/LUTN)



Shawn De Salvo



FOR MORE INFO  
ON THESE EVENTS,  
SEARCH ON OUR  
EVENT CALENDAR

# *destination* **ALMONTE**

## Seasonal Night Markets

Experience walkable streets full of vendors like ye olden days, at night! Destination Almonte hosts a night market every season, each with a different seasonal flavour, if you will. Come for an evening of sidewalk sales, vendor pop-ups, street treats, and small-town fun.

### Spring Night Market

Easter treats, flowers, gardening, and more!

### Summer Night Market

Fashion, food trucks, music, and the warm night breeze.

### Fall Night Market

Pumpkins, apple cider, and all the fall vibes.

### Holiday Night Market

Jolly gifts, sweet cocoa, and holiday cheer.

Mill Street, Almonte. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For specific dates and details, visit:  
[www.DestinationAlmonte.com/Events](http://www.DestinationAlmonte.com/Events)





# RIDE GUIDE

Cycling Lanark County

Prepare for an adventure amidst the breathtaking landscapes and challenging trails of Lanark County. Choose from routes as short as 20 kilometres through quaint villages, and as long as 115 kilometres of backroad wonder.

Grab a copy of the new *Ride Guide* map at **Almonte Old Town Hall** or plan your trip online:

**LANARK  
COUNTY**

**LANARK  
COUNTY**  
Tourism Association



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



1

# Biking and Trails



2

Ben Hemmings



3

Wendy Lowry



4

Ben Hemmings

**1** Almonte Bicycle Works  
101 Bridge St., Almonte

**2** Biking on Mill Street,  
Almonte

Walking on the Ottawa  
**3** Valley Recreational Trail  
(OVRT), Pakenham

**4** Biking on Little Bridge  
Street, Almonte



## Rent a Bike from Us!

Mississippi Mills has a bike share program that lets visitors borrow a bike for a modest fee. Visit Almonte Old Town Hall to rent, or visit our website for more information.

As home to some of the most breathtaking environments in Eastern Ontario, we love to share Mississippi Mills' natural resources with visitors. Whether you're on two feet, two wheels, or training wheels, there's a picturesque trail waiting for you, no matter your skill level.

Bike routes include:

- The **Pioneer Loop** (18 km)
- The **Naismith Loop** (22 km)
- The **Textbook Tour** (42 km)
- The **Councillor's Tour** (11 km)
- The **Rapids Picnic Tour** (18 km)
- The **Museum Tour** (41 km)

Route information can be found on our Bike Share page (QR code above), or visit Almonte Old Town Hall for route maps.

For all your other biking needs, check out the **MM Bicycle Movement** website.



There's no shortage of trails, either. Trek from one end of the municipality to the other with the **Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail**, a former rail corridor. Spot rare seasonal birds and other wildlife at the trails of the **Mill of Kintail Conservation Area**. Take in the full beauty of the Mississippi River with the **Almonte Riverwalk**, spanning multiple bridges, falls and dams. Reflect on the sacrifices of our veterans as you stroll down **Veteran's Memorial Walkway**. Navigate your way through pine trees to reach the lake on **Kate's Lake Trail**.

FOR THESE TRAILS  
AND MORE, VISIT  
**OUR TRAILS PAGE**



# Beaches,

SPLASH PADS, DOCKS,  
AND MORE



Catherine Walsh

A visit to Mississippi Mills wouldn't be complete without exploring one (or more) of the rivers and lakes that make this community so unique. Situated along the shores of the Mississippi and Indian Rivers, and amidst three lakes – the Mississippi, Clayton, and White – a water-based focus has been woven into the fabric of our community.

## Picnic on the Beach

Mississippi Mills features two unsupervised beaches – the **Almonte Beach** on Water Street and the **Pakenham Beach** on Margaret Street. Pakenham beach conveniently provides a changeroom, while both beaches offer lots of space to spread out a blanket to fully enjoy a beach day with your family.



Check the  
**Southeast Public Health's**  
website for water monitoring:



Southeast  
Public Health





### Be Glad for the Splash Pad

Fun for kids of all ages, the **Splash Pad at Gemmill Park** makes a great alternative if the beaches are too busy or closed. The dumping buckets is a fan-favourite!

### Go Out for a Paddle

Launch your canoe or kayak and experience the beautiful plants and wildlife nature has to offer on our waterways. Boat launches are available at **Almonte Beach, Almonte Old Town Hall, Metcalfe Geoheritage Park, Appleton Bay Park, Clayton Taylor Park, Pakenham Five-Span Bridge Park**, and on Blakeney Road just before the rapids.

### Cast a Chance at Fishing

The lakes and rivers in Mississippi Mills are home to a variety of fish species just waiting to be catch-and-released, winter or summer! Reel in bass, walleye, northern pike, brown trout and more.

Teach yourself or your family how to fish with **Ontario's Family Fishing days**. Fish without a licence during these periods:

- Family Day weekend
- Mother's Day weekend
- Father's Day weekend
- Family Fishing Week

For all your fishing needs, including expert advice, visit **Young Tackle Supply** in the Heritage Court on Mill Street (Downtown Almonte).

Fishing licenses are also available at the **Clayton General Store**.



Find **Mississippi Valley Field Naturalist's** recommended kayak routes here

# Almonte W Sentier du bien-



Age-friendly North Lanark and Partners | Lanark-nord, ami des aînés



The **Almonte Wellness Trail** is an interactive, educational and multi-generational initiative providing outdoor space for the community with a wide range of activities.

This 3.5 kilometre route features public art for one to mentally refresh by taking a moment to breathe and reflect, as well as physical activity stations to get the

# Wellness Trail Belvédère d'Almonte

## Legend:

-  Start/End
-   Trail Features
-  Trail
-  Trail Plaque



blood pumping. The trail is designed to be safe and easy for use by all ages — bring your entire family out for an hour or two of sightseeing and fun exercise!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAIL AND EACH TRAIL FEATURE, VISIT **OUR WEBSITE**



# Heritage Walking Tours



There's no better way of getting to know a place than walking it. Time travel to the founding days of our villages by picking up a copy of our self-guided walking tours at Almonte Old Town Hall. We have one for each village, plus the trails of Almonte.

## **Pakenham**

The first settlers came to this area in 1823, to clear land and build shanties, potash works and mills. This set the stage, circa 1840, for the establishment of the village of Pakenham. This tour takes you back, providing a glimpse of its history.



## **Downtown Almonte**

This short walk of the historic downtown area will show you parts of the Almonte that was. Cast your mind back to the mid to late 19th century when the town — dubbed the “Manchester of Canada” — had quickly developed into a thriving centre of Canada’s textile industry.





## Clayton

The first settlers came to this area in the early 1820s. The village of Clayton grew around a grist mill and a saw mill. Later there were stores, hotels, blacksmiths, cobblers, a carding mill, a tannery, a cheese factory, and several other businesses. Take this tour and you'll notice the remnants of a once bustling village.

## Trails of Almonte

This walk combines Almonte's Riverwalk with a portion of the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail (OVRT) to make a loose circuit. Discover Almonte's history in the many interpretive panels that line the way — including its roots in the textile industry — and follow in the footsteps of the textile workers themselves along the Millworkers' Walk.



## Blakeney

Known previously as Norway Pine Falls, Snedden's Mills, and Rosebank, the village was named Blakeney in 1874. Walkabout and see why this "bay" area on the Mississippi River was quickly recognized as a centre for potential.

## Appleton

The first settlers came to Appleton in the 1820s and harnessed the natural falls of the Mississippi River to build a community. A sawmill and grist mill were built in 1824 and a blacksmith, a cobbler, a general store, a woollen mill and other businesses soon followed. This tour provides a glimpse of Appleton's history.

WALKING TOUR  
BROCHURES ARE  
AVAILABLE FOR  
PICKUP AT **ALMONTE  
OLD TOWN HALL**, OR  
**VIEW THEM ONLINE**





# Golfing,

## PARKS, AND OTHER RECREATION

There's something new to try for everyone of every age in Mississippi Mills. Whether you're a beginner or expert, our golf courses, bowling lawns, disc baskets and park areas are ready to welcome you with open arms.

### Par-tee with Your Friends

With a challenging landscape that varies from picturesque, rolling meadows to rocky outcrops, Mississippi Mills is a golfer's paradise. Choose between three excellent courses that will each challenge your skills on the links.

In Ramsay, you will find **The Scottish Glen** golf course, a family-friendly, nine-hole public course situated in scenic, rolling parkland, leading golfers through naturally wooded areas and green, open spaces.

In Appleton, you're invited to explore a hidden gem of a course, the **Mississippi Golf Club**, tucked away beside

the sparkling Mississippi River. Experience this immaculately groomed 18-hole semi-private golf club that gladly welcomes green fee players and tournaments.

In historic Pakenham, the **Pakenham Highlands Golf Club** features a 27-hole championship course, with three definitive 9-hole courses: Lake Course, Canyon Course and Island Course.

Be sure to check out each golf club's website for more information about tournaments, special events and golf-and-stay packages to combine your experience into a weekend or multi-day event.

## Basket Some Discs

Join the growing trend; try out disc golf today! **Gemmill Park** in Almonte is home to an 18-hole (basket) disc golf course that provides a variety of challenges in its wooded areas, open fields, elevated grounds, and overall course layout. Residents can borrow frisbee discs from the Mississippi Mills Public Library, and the **Almonte Disc Golf Club** hosts events and meetups for locals and visitors throughout the year.

## Learn About Rocks

Discover 2.5 billion years of geological history at the **Metcalf Geoheritage Park**. The park is Canada's first geoheritage park, and is situated beside the Mississippi River on Almonte Street. More than 20 samples of sedimentary rocks of Ordovician age from the Almonte area (490 to 440 million years old), along with older igneous and metamorphic rocks of Precambrian age (2.5 billion to 1 billion years old), can be seen in the park. Take a leisurely stroll through the park and appreciate the many types of rocks that make up the regional topography.

[metcalfegeoheritagepark.com](http://metcalfegeoheritagepark.com)



## Get the Ball Rolling

Turn your visit to Mississippi Mills into an opportunity to learn a new, beginner-friendly sport! The **Almonte Lawn Bowling Club** offers a fun and social way for everyone to get active in a welcoming environment. New to the facility, the club also now offers bocce — another easy-to-learn sport.

## Get Active at Gemmill Park

On top of the aforementioned disc golf course, **Gemmill Park** boasts an impressive list of amenities on its 15-acre property, including: a skateboard park, a splash pad, trails, basketball courts, baseball diamond, soccer field, playgrounds, water bottle filling stations, a natural amphitheatre, and more. Bring the family out for a picnic and enjoy some physical activity.



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# The Colder Months



Cathy Wood

**Don't skip out on us just because it's cold** — one could argue that winter and spring are actually the best times to visit Mississippi Mills!

## See Almonte Transform into Christmas Town

Visiting Almonte in December feels like visiting a town straight out of a Hallmark Christmas movie (in fact, many of them are filmed here). Complete your holiday shopping magically surrounded in vibrant Christmas lights and joyous decor. With the wide variety of artisan shops and specialty stores in the area, visitors are guaranteed to find the perfect gift for their friends, families and loved ones.



## Pick Your Own Christmas Tree

Take part in the wonderful tradition of going on a tree hunt and cutting your very own Christmas tree at **Cedar Hill Christmas Tree Farm!** Bring the family (including dogs) to the farm for a fun-filled day of sledding, sleigh rides, hot chocolate and warm fires. **(951 8th Concession S.)**



## Hit the Slopes

**Mount Pakenham** is your winter family fun centre for all ages, providing a good variety of safe outdoor fun and physical activity to visitors. The resort offers a full service activity centre with rental equipment available, ski & snowboard lessons for individuals and large groups, as well as a day lodge. **(577 Ski Hill Rd.)**



## Snowmobile Cross-County

Snowmobilers with permits are welcome to enjoy thrilling rides along the scenic Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail. This multi-use pathway transforms into a snowy paradise in winter, connecting the charming communities of Almonte and Pakenham with the rest of Lanark County and neighbouring Renfrew County. Thanks to the **BEAST** (Beautiful Eastern Association of Snowmobile Trails), which maintains the trails and promotes snowmobiling. Permits are available online from the BEAST: **[www.thebeast.ca](http://www.thebeast.ca)**

## Walk on Snow

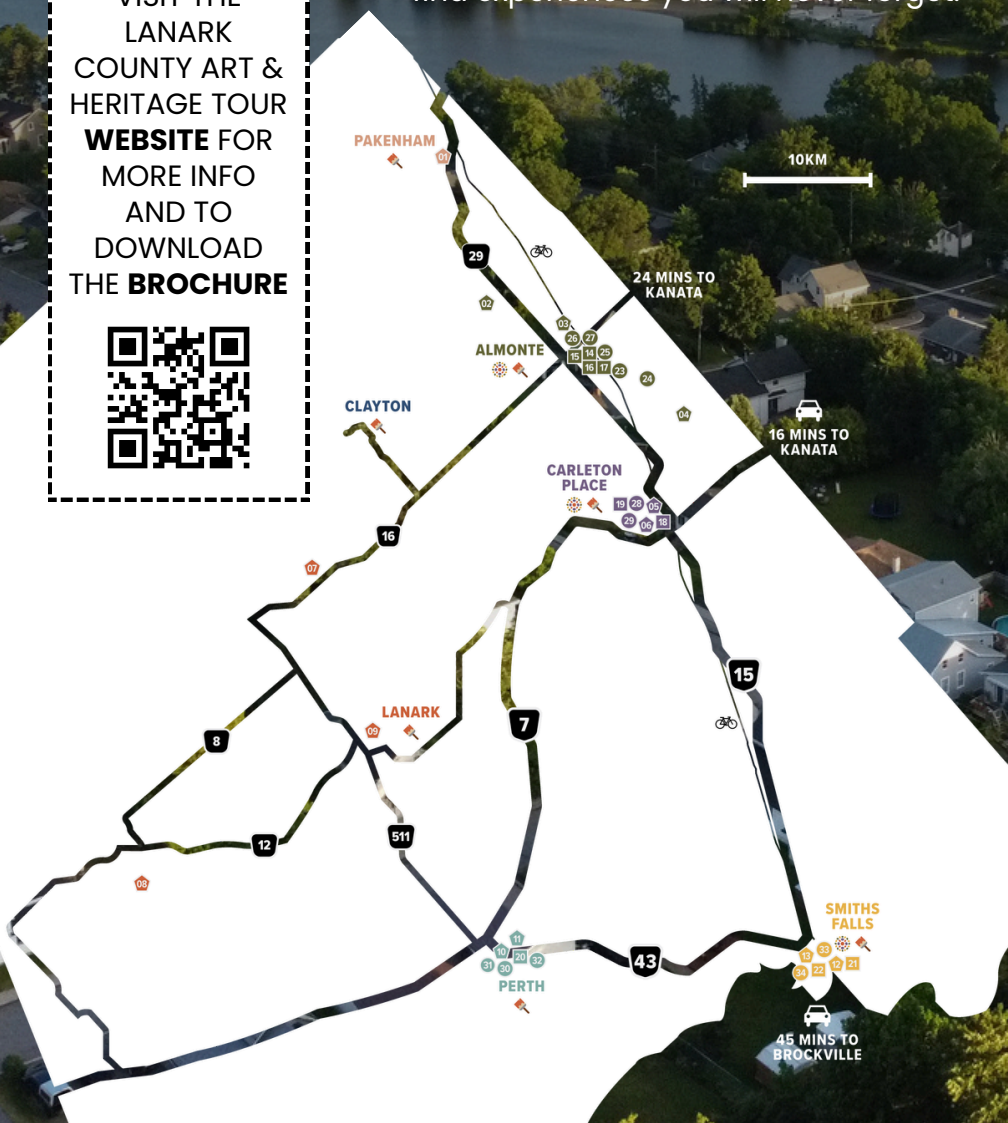
If you've never been snowshoeing before, the **Mill of Kintail** has the perfect loop waiting for you. Slip on your snowshoes and take a scenic walk on the grounds of the historic conservation area. The trails are gentle with a wealth of wildlife. Pause for a moment and you'll hear the forests come alive with the chirping of Black-Capped Chickadees and others who call the forest home. **(2854 Ramsay Concession 8)**

# Lanark County Art & Heritage Tour

## Explore the Artistic Spirit of Lanark County

Immerse yourself in the vibrant cultural tapestry of Lanark County with our specially curated Art & Heritage Tour. From museums with unique guided tours to striking outdoor art, you'll find experiences you will never forget.

VISIT THE  
LANARK  
COUNTY ART &  
HERITAGE TOUR  
**WEBSITE** FOR  
MORE INFO  
AND TO  
DOWNLOAD  
THE **BROCHURE**





ESCAPE TO

# Carleton Place

Short drive

whole new vibe



- Discover our breathtaking nature trails, scenic views, and iconic heritage downtown.
- Shop at locally-owned boutiques and uncover vintage treasures and markets.
- Try a food scene worth the drive, including cozy cafe fare, fresh-baked goodies, and destination dining.
- Play around at our annual festivals, events, and enjoy live music all year-round!

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100 minutes north-west of Cornwall  
120 minutes north of Kingston