

War on Whisky Launches in Durham Region

Pickering, ON, March 11, 2021 – Jump in your jalopy and embark on an authentic journey through Durham’s prohibition past, while filling up on some lively libations and tasty food served to you by modern bootleggers. Bring your personal tour to life by playing the accompanying audio podcasts that are available at www.waronwhisky.ca.

Pickering Museum Village, the Canadian Automotive Museum, Parkwood Estates and the Robert McLaughlin Gallery are partnering with Central Counties Tourism to bring the 1920s alive in Durham Region. Launching this April, the museums are offering unique tours, exhibits, escape rooms and drive-thru tours featuring the 1920s era. The museums are adding cultural tourism experiences to the existing War on Whisky: Drama in Durham self-guided driving tours that encourage locals to visit eight local breweries and wineries in the region under the theme of 1920s prohibition and bootlegging.

Due to the impact of Covid, the focus for the 2021 season will be on local tourism, encouraging people to explore the scandalous history of bootlegging by exploring the breweries and museums in their local community. The twelve participating businesses will also focus on Covid-safe practices, including physical distancing, wearing masks, and encouraging visits by social bubble, and small group experiences.

Roaring 1920s Drive-Thru Tour at Pickering Museum Village

Hop in your jalopy and journey back in time to the Roaring 1920s. Learn about Pickering’s toe-tapping music scene and how the dry days of prohibition led to bootlegging.

Dates: April 17 – May 23

Prohibition Escape Room at Pickering Museum Village

Rumour has it that a speakeasy is operating at the Brougham Hotel. Bring your detective team to see if you can uncover the whisky runners and find the moonshine before time runs out.

Dates: June 2 – August 27

Glad Rags and Giggle Juice Guided Tour at Pickering Museum Village

As you and your pandemic bubble crew (up to 9 people) walk through the Village, you’ll learn about Pickering’s lively 1920’s music scene, including local born recording artist Bert Harvey. Learn how the widely unpopular restrictions of Prohibition led to bootlegging.

Dates: April 21 – November 19

1920s Automotive Tour at the Canadian Automotive Museum

Join expert tour guides as they bring to life the museum’s collection of cars from the Roaring 20s. Learn about the infamous Oshawa-built Whisky Sixes preferred by rumrunners to the first Ford V-8s used by outlaws like Bonnie & Clyde. The tour will include everything from Bugattis to Buicks to tell this exciting era of the automobile both in Canada and abroad.

Dates: April 17 to May 23.

1920s AutoBarron Tour at Parkwood Estate

This tour will provide you with an overview of the entertaining spaces (main floor) of the Estate, as well as an introduction to the McLaughlin Family during the 1920's

Dates: April 17 – May 23

This initiative is being led by Pickering Museum Village, with the contribution and support of Central Counties Tourism and the Government of Canada.

To learn more visit: www.waronwhisky.ca

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As the gateway to the east GTA, Pickering (population 94,000) is strategically located where Toronto, York and Durham Regions meet. An award-winning municipality, Pickering is slated for significant economic and residential growth; offering an unparalleled quality of life for those who live, work, and play here. Its dynamic City Centre has been designated by the Province of Ontario as both an Urban Growth Centre and Mobility Hub, and continues to evolve as a preferred destination for creative learning, memorable events, and unique experiences at the heart of a vibrant, connected, and engaged community.

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