

Toronto blog

With relatives living in Mississauga, close to Toronto, it only took us nearly thirty years to go and visit them at home. We had always felt that the cost would be too high for us, however, once we looked into it and found that flights were possible for a reasonable price, we decided to go ahead.



We opted to travel in late March, as this suited our other plans for trips in 2018 and so following an overnight stay at London Gatwick airport we boarded our flight to Toronto Pearson Airport in the morning. On arrival we were met by our relatives, who had kindly offered to put us up for our stay.

On our first morning in Mississauga our relatives took us to the edge of the bay where we could get a shot across the bay of the Toronto skyline in the distance. This was our first glimpse at Toronto itself!!



The following day we visited an authentic Chinese restaurant in Toronto, this was a very interesting experience, Chris who is Chinese and married to Rachel's cousin needed to do the ordering for us and no-one in the restaurant spoke English. He asked Andrew if he was adventurous and on hearing that he was, proceeded to order dishes which included 'chickens feet'!!

The meal was lovely though and provided a chance to meet up with the entire Canadian wing of the family.



Following our meal we drove around some of the sights of Toronto and stopped off for a better view of the skyline.

Our next day included a visit to Niagara Falls, which I found stunning, Andrew himself was a little underwhelmed with the experience, they were not as grand as he had imagined, but we were certainly glad that we had had the opportunity to see them.





The next day we decided to explore Toronto on our own and took a train into the city centre. We actually walked over 25000 steps on this day, and visited the CN Tower, with it's glass floor and viewing platform, (sadly there was too much cloud to make visiting the highest platform worthwhile). It is hard to explain the sheer magnitude of the height of the tower from up close!!!

We also visited Ripleys Aquarium, as well as walking around the Chinatown district of Toronto. Compared with many Italian cities that we have visited, Toronto



is a massive city and the sights are not as easily accessible to each other. We also took a ferry across

to one of the islands, which we found very peaceful, many of the properties are apparently holiday homes and vacated at this time of year.





The next day we visited with our relatives an ancient Native people's village, this provided an opportunity to learn more about the fascinating culture of Toronto's First Nation people.



We also visited a Maple Syrup farm to see how the sap is harvested in the traditional way from within the trees and turned into the Maple Syrup that is so tasty.

One evening we decided to take our relatives out for a meal and they opted for an Afghan restaurant, which was very different, Andrew was looking forward to a nice glass of wine with his meal, but alas not in an Afghan restaurant. All in all Toronto and the other areas around are very multicultural, far more so than any other city we have currently visited, including London.



We are very much looking forward to our next visit, which we certainly won't be waiting as long for!!!

