



Chatham-Kent UNDERGROUND — RAILROAD —



Underground Railroad

- 1 Buxton National Historic Site & Museum
- 2 Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society
- 3 Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site

Chatham-Kent once proudly served as a premier destination for fugitive slaves seeking their freedom and a better life.

The Underground Railroad was a secret network of people who helped African Americans escape from enslavement in the American South to free Northern states or to Canada. It was the largest anti-slavery freedom movement in North America, having brought between 30,000 and 40,000 fugitive slaves to Canada.

Today, Buxton National Historic Site & Museum, the Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society and Uncle Tom's Cabin Historical Site all serve as windows into the past. Each site allows visitors to touch, feel, see, and hear the stories of those who took heroic journeys, following the North Star to freedom in Chatham-Kent.



For dates / locations, check out www.visitck.ca/undergroundrailroad

1

Buxton National Historic Site & Museum

21975 A.D. Shadd Road, North Buxton, ON
519.352.4799 | www.buxtonmuseum.com

The Elgin Settlement, founded by Reverend William King in 1849, was the largest Black settlement and was also classified as the most successful of the planned settlements in Ontario.

View the museum's many original artifacts including shackles and school books. Tour the 1850 log cabin and 1861 school. The museum is fortunate to be supported and staffed by people who have an ancestral tie with the community.



2

Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society

177 King Street East, Chatham ON
519.352.3565 | www.ckbhs.org

The Black Mecca Museum shares the story of Chatham's Black community beginning at the end of the 18th century until the present day. It features displays that contain a wealth of information, local artifacts and genealogical information on the achievements and struggles of Blacks in early Chatham.

While here, experience a guided walking tour of the surrounding area. Discover the streets and places where people like Mary Ann Shadd-Cary, Martin Delany, and John Brown once walked.



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3

Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site

29251 Uncle Tom's Road, Dresden, ON
519.683.2978 | www.uncletomscabin.org

Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site celebrates the accomplishments of abolitionist Josiah Henson through interpretive videos, exhibits, artifacts and tours reflecting the Black experience in Canada.

Discover and explore within the five-acre site and the Josiah Henson Interpretive Centre. Tour the restored period church, saw mill, and two cemeteries. Feel history come to life in the Harris House and the original Henson dwelling, known internationally as Uncle Tom's Cabin.

Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site is owned and operated by the Ontario Heritage Trust.



Nearby Sites in Windsor-Essex



Amherstburg Freedom Museum

277 King. St. Amherstburg, ON
519.736.5433 | 800.713.6336 | www.amherstburgfreedom.org

Presenting exhibits that share the stories of the Underground Railroad and the compassion and solidarity it took to make this network possible. Site includes the Nazrey A.M.E. Church, National Historic Site and stop on the Underground Railroad and the Taylor Log Cabin furnished 19th century home of a former slave.

The John Freeman Walls Historic Site & Underground Railroad Museum

859 Puce Road, Lakeshore, Ontario
519.727.6555 | www.undergroundrailroadmuseum.org

Meet descendants of the Underground Railroad as guides take you on an interactive trip back in time. The focal point of the visit is a log cabin built in 1846 by escaped slave John Freeman Walls and his wife Jane King Walls, who rest in the cemetery on the property. Call in advance to schedule a tour.

Sandwich First Baptist Church

3652 Peter Street, Windsor, Ontario
519.252.4917 | www.sandwichbaptistchurch.ca

Sandwich First Baptist Church, the last stop on the Underground Railroad. People fleeing slavery in America would pass through the Church en route to finding freedom and a new home. Join us for an exciting journey to learn of the remarkable history of Sandwich First and the Underground Railroad. Call in advance to schedule a tour.

Lake
Huron

CANADA

Toronto

USA

Detroit

Lake
St. Clair

Lake Erie



Chatham-Kent

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Getting here is easy...

Chatham-Kent is located in Southwestern Ontario on the beautiful shores of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair and is a short drive from five U.S. border crossings.

Chatham-Kent is accessible by car from Windsor/Detroit via the ON-401 E, Toronto via ON-401 W and ON-403 W, and from Port Huron via ON-40 S.

In association
with:



VisitCK.ca | 1.800.561.6125

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