



Ontario is the premier destination to witness the annual autumn spectacle of summer leaves changing to rich and vibrant shades of red, orange, and yellow. It's also harvest time - a perfect time to discover local flavours at farmers markets, orchards and pumpkin patches. Learn about great scenic lookouts, fall driving and hiking tours, and where leaves are changing across the province. The Fall Colour Progression Report is produced weekly and posted on [www.ontariotravel.net](http://www.ontariotravel.net) from early September to late October and is designed to help you discover the best of Ontario's ever-changing fall landscape.

**Thursday, October 10** – Peak colour is being reported in some Northern Ontario regions with some leaf fall due to recent winds. Other areas of the province are reporting a 50% change this week. Check back weekly for updates on where you can see this annual phenomenon in Ontario.

## Northern Ontario

### Thunder Bay Area

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 90-100% with 40-50% leaf fall due to recent winds

**Predominant Colours:** spectacular colours with bright yellow splashes of colour from the deciduous trees against the green conifer species; the larches are now turning into their fall colouration.

**Best way to view colours:** Hiking the trails in the area parks and conservation authority lands provide great opportunities to see the seasonal colour change. The leaf loss on trees increases the distance for viewing from some vantage points. Try a new 9.8km trail made by the [Nature Conservancy of Canada](#), accessible from Memory Road (Pine Bay). It's also accessible from Little Trout Bay where it connects to an existing [Lakehead Region Conservation Authority](#) trail.

### Sault Ste. Marie / Agawa Canyon

**Percentage of Colour Change:** past peak in Agawa Park with 20% leaf fall due to recent winds; 60% change North and East of Sault Ste. Marie along the highway with 20% leaf fall

**Predominant Colours:** orange, yellow and muted reds are present in the Algoma region with some trees still to change; yellow is the predominant colour near Sault Ste Marie; Highway 556 (Ranger Lake Road) on the way to Searchmont showed a lot of colour change this past weekend

**Best way to view colours:** Enjoy the beauty of the Algoma region in the fall by taking [the Agawa Canyon train tour](#). View the landscape that inspired the famous Group of Seven! Book early to avoid disappointment. And the [Elliot Lake Arts on the Trail](#) is always a great way to take in the fall colours.

### Northeastern Ontario

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 60-70%

**Predominant Colours:** lots of yellows and oranges with some bright reds in sections; some very small pockets of green are still visible

**Best way to view colours:** It's a great time of year to enjoy one of these [favourite fall hikes](#), this list of the [best fall road trips](#), or the various [guided trips in the region](#). Regional favourites include the Crack Trail and Chikanishing Trail at [Killarney Provincial Park](#) and [High Falls in North Bay](#).

# Fall Colour Progression Report

## Central Ontario

### **Muskoka**

#### **Percentage of Colour Change:**

Gravenhurst:	40 - 50% - half the trees have turned colour with reds and oranges
Bracebridge:	40 - 50% - half the trees have turned colour; orange is the most vibrant.
Huntsville/Lake of Bays:	80 - 90% - almost full colour; no leaf fall; dull reds and oranges
Bala:	50 - 60% - just over half of foliage has turned
Georgian Bay:	30 - 40% - pockets of colour expanding; green beginning to fade

**Best way to view colours:** Pick up a Muskoka Map from [Muskoka Tourism](#) and follow one of the six great driving tours. Or enjoy the views from one of these Fall lookouts: [Lions Lookout in Huntsville](#), [Huckleberry Rock near Port Carling](#) and the [Dorset Fire Tower in Dorset](#).

#### **Top roads to drive in the Fall:**

- Muskoka Rd 17 from Gravenhurst to Bracebridge, you could stop at Muskoka Beach for a gorgeous view of Lake Muskoka, sections of the road are like a canopy.
- Hwy 117 to Baysville and Dorset, stop and walk along the river in the park then to Dorset to the Lookout Tower.
- HWY 118 east Bracebridge to Hwy 35.
- Muskoka Rd 13 Severn Bridge to Torrance is a winding road, with lots of maple trees, stop and hike through the Torrance Barren.

### **Parry Sound Area:**

#### **Percentage of Colour Change:**

Parry Sound:	30 - 40% - pockets of colour expanding; green beginning to fade; some bright yellow, red and orange
McKellar:	30 - 40% - pockets of colour expanding; green beginning to fade; yellow, red and orange
Dunchurch:	30 - 40% - pockets of colour expanding; some bright colours of yellow, red and orange
Nobel:	30 - 40% - yellows, oranges and hints of reds are slowly appearing; still some green
Rosseau:	30 - 40% - slight increase in colour this week with orange and yellow emerging
Pointe Au Baril:	40 - 50% - mostly yellow and green with bright splashes of red and orange
Orrville:	30 - 40% - mostly yellow and green with splashes of red and orange
Carling:	40 - 50% - pockets of colour expanding; green fading; dull with some bright pockets

**Best way to view colours:** Enjoy the fall colours while cycling or hiking the many trails in the Parry Sound area; [Park To Park Trail](#), [Rotary Algonquin Regiment Waterfront Trail](#), [Twin Points Trail](#), [Lynx Loop Trail](#), [Balsam Trail](#), [Rose Point Trail](#), [Whitestone Lake Trail](#), [Clear Lake Trail](#) [Humphrey Nature Trails](#) or a [Rosseau Self Guided Walking Tour](#). Bike rentals and bike maps available at [Parry Sound Bikes](#). Take in the fall colours from the 96ft observation Tower at the [Museum on Tower Hill](#), enjoy a sightseeing tour aboard the [Island Queen Cruise](#) or plan a seaplane tour with [Georgian Bay Airways](#).

And enjoy the splendid beauty of the great Canadian wilderness on our spectacular golf courses; [Seguin Valley Golf Club](#), [Parry Sound Golf and Country Club](#) and [Deer Run Golf Course](#).

#### **Top roads to drive in the Fall:**

- Tally Ho Swords Road: This is a connector between the village of Orrville in the north and the village of Rosseau in the south – both in Seguin Township.
- Highway 141: A connector between the villages of Rosseau in Seguin Township and Windermere.
- Highway 124: This is a connector between Town of Parry Sound through, Wuabmik, McKellar and Dunchurch.

### **Grey County**

#### **Percentage of Colour Change:** 55%

**Predominant Colours:** green is fading, and pockets of colour are showing in the Blue Mountain and Owen Sound areas

**Best way to view colours:** Check out these [fall colour driving tours](#); part of the Apple Harvest Festival

- The [Beaver Valley Fall Driving Route](#) is a great introduction to the region's autumn beauty
- The [Blue Mountain Fall Driving Route](#) offers both colour and adventure as you explore the Blue Mountain and Scenic Caves Route
- The [Owen Sound to Wiarton Fall Driving Route](#), offers waterfalls, colourful scenic lookouts, jumping salmon and amazing food
- The [Southern Grey County Fall Driving tour](#), steeped in history, takes you past historic mill dams, longstanding breweries and organic orchards as you tour the countryside to take in the fall colours

# Fall Colour Progression Report

## Simcoe County

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 40-50%

**Predominant Colours:** green is fading; pockets of orange and yellow can be seen through the County

**Best way to view colours:** Hike one of the many trails at [Hardwood Ski and Bike](#). Enjoy the sights from the viewing platform at the top of the Lookout Trail at [Earl Rowe Provincial Park](#). Or tour one of many [hiking](#) or [cycling](#) or [driving](#) trails in [Ontario's Lake Country](#).

## Haliburton Highlands

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 50-60%

**Predominant Colours:** slight increase in colour showing this week with orange and yellow emerging

**Best way to view colours:** Explore [Buttermilk Falls](#) during peak colour season to see beautiful fall colours.

## Kawartha Lakes

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 40-50%

**Predominant Colours:** yellow and orange

**Best way to view colours:** See the changing colours while exploring Kawartha Lakes on their [Arts & Heritage Trail and Scenic Drives](#). Kirkfield Road #6 (north and south), Monck Road #45 and Road 121 from Kinmount to Fenelon Falls are great routes to drive this time of year.

## Eastern Ontario

### Prince Edward County

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 40-50%

**Predominant Colours:** yellows, oranges and red; still some green

**Best way to view colours:** Enjoy the colours in Wellington and Bloomfield along this sample driving route: Start your day of fall colour chasing off right with [breakfast](#) in one of Bloomfield's cafés or restaurants. Cyclists or walkers can hop on the [Millennium Trail](#) – a multi-use trail that runs through Prince Edward County – at Stanley Street in Bloomfield and head West for Wellington. Drivers can take Highway 33 west – with a detour south for a stop at [Beaver Meadow Conservation Area](#) for short hiking trails. Head back up to Highway 33 to get to Wellington and take in all the dreamy farm views along the way. Wander Wellington and be sure to stop at Wellington Beach for some waterfront fall colour. Be sure to check out the [wineries](#), [Breweries](#), [Cideries](#), [art galleries](#), [studios](#) and more in Bloomfield and Wellington and the surrounding areas. If you're spending Thanksgiving in Prince Edward County, check out these [fall events](#).

### Upper Ottawa Valley / Renfrew County

**Percentage of Colour Change:**

Madawaska & Bonnechere Valleys (Eganville, Foymount, Barry's Bay, Combermere): 40-50%

Ottawa River (Arnprior, Renfrew, Beachburg, Pembroke, Petawawa, Deep River): 30-40%

**Predominant Colours:** large pockets of red, orange and yellow in Madawaska & Bonnechere Valleys.

**Best way to view colours:** Wander through [Petawawa Terrace Provincial Nature Reserve](#); [walk, cycle or take a scenic drive through Jewellville](#). Enjoy the last days of fall motorcycling touring with a [ride through the Highlands](#).

### Ottawa Area

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 30-40%

**Predominant Colours:** orange, green and red; pockets of expanding colour are more evident

**Best way to view colours:** Once colours begin to change, visitors can visit [Rideau Canal](#), [Gatineau Park](#), Contance Bay / Dunrobin, Cork areas, [Cumberland](#), [Rockcliffe Park](#), and the [Dominion Arboretum](#).

## Southwestern Ontario

### Centre Wellington (Fergus and Elora)

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 40% with slight leaf fall due to recent winds

**Predominant Colours:** pockets of orange and yellow but still a significant amount of green

**Best way to view colours:** Enjoy the fall colours this Saturday at the Elora Farmer's Market and enjoy Pumpkin Day with pumpkin carving and many family activities.

### Leamington – Essex County

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 10-15%

**Predominant Colours:** mainly green with slight pockets of colour emerging

**Best way to view colours:** Take a ride along one of [these cycling trails](#).

# Fall Colour Progression Report

## Niagara Region

### Niagara Falls

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 10-15%

**Predominant Colours:** colour has advanced slightly with bright red and yellow on some trees and more subtle red and yellow on others

**Best way to view colours:** Take a drive along the Niagara Parkway from Niagara-on-the-Lake to Fort Erie, or along RR 81 from West St. Catharines to Stoney Creek.

## Toronto & Area

### High Park, Toronto

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 35%

**Predominant Colours:** some trees are still bright green while others have growing patches of yellow; one maple tree almost entirely orange and yellow and other trees have a few patches of orange and red

**Best way to view colours:** Park near the [High Park Nature Centre](#) and walk to OURSpace (located directly behind the Centre). OURSpace is open 24/7 and is free to the public. It features an accessible path, interpretive stops with accompanying signage, and our native savannah gardens. The space may need to be shared with High Park Nature Centre programs as we use this space as an outdoor classroom.

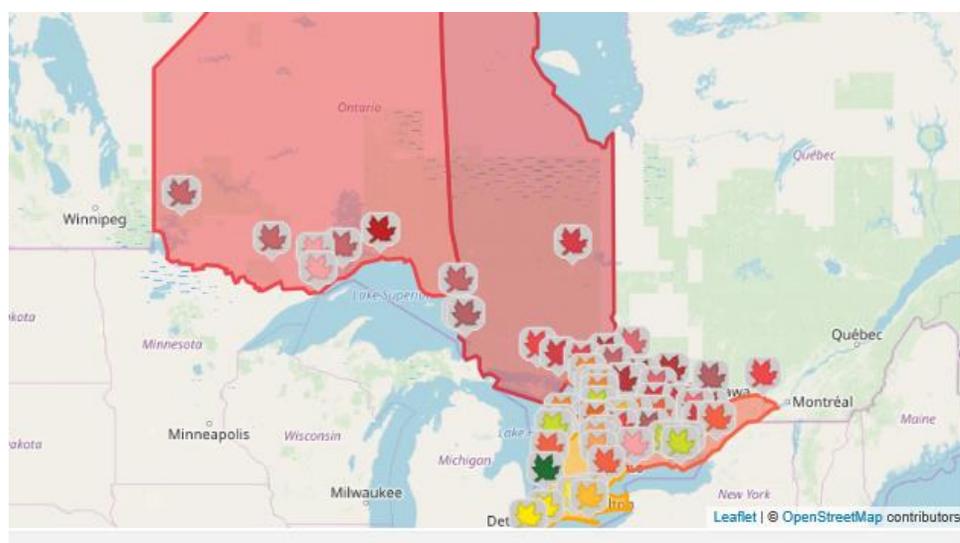
### Burlington/Hamilton – Royal Botanical Gardens

**Percentage of Colour Change:** 20% with a 5% leaf fall

**Predominant Colours:** green is still the predominant colour, however, pockets of reds, yellows and oranges continue to gradually appear

**Best way to view colours:** The Rock Garden at the [Royal Botanical Gardens](#) is showing some beautiful colour changing with the Japanese Maple but the most changes can be viewed in the Arboretum with Chestnut, Maples and Yellow Buckeye trees showing the earliest changes in colour. The walk through Cheery Hill provides a nice view.

## Ontario Provincial Parks



As of October 9: Algonquin Provincial Park is reporting a 100% colour change this week with a 30% leaf fall. Other Ontario Provincial Parks are reporting a 70-90% colour change. For a complete Ontario Parks report including the best locations in the park to view fall colours, please visit the official [Ontario Parks Fall Reporting](#) page.

### For more information, contact:

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