

## QUICK FACTS

# NIAGARAUSA

AMERICAN FALLS



CAVE OF THE WINDS



NIAGARA POWER PROJECT



FLIGHT OF FIVE LOCKS



- The birth of Niagara Falls can be traced back more than 12,000 years to the end of the last glacial period.
- Niagara Falls is comprised of three waterfalls: American Falls, Bridal Veil Falls and Horseshoe Falls.
- Despite myths to the contrary, Niagara Falls does not freeze in the winter. However, the flow of water was reduced to a mere trickle for a few hours on March 29, 1848 because of an ice jam upstream in the Niagara River.
- During periods of peak flow in the summer and fall, more than 700,000 gallons of water per second pour over Niagara Falls.
- 20 percent of fresh drinking water in the United States goes over the Falls.
- Energy from the Niagara River has been harnessed for hydroelectric power generation as far back as the mid-eighteenth century.
- Power generation facilities along the Niagara River supply more than one-quarter of all power used in New York State and Ontario.
- 50 to 75 percent of the water flowing along the Niagara River is diverted from going over the Falls to hydroelectric power generating stations.
- One of the oldest surviving United States flags is permanently displayed at Old Fort Niagara. It was captured by the British during the War of 1812.
- Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University features a world-class collection of contemporary art and *Freedom Crossing: The Underground Railroad in Greater Niagara* gallery.
- The historic village of Lewiston was the site of the first battle of the War of 1812 and the last stop for slaves escaping to freedom on the Underground Railroad.
- The original Flight of Five locks that were built in 1840 still exist along the Erie Canal in Lockport.
- Surrounded by water, Niagara USA is a fishing mecca offering exciting opportunities in and on Lake Ontario, Niagara River and Erie Canal.

For information, visit [www.Niagara-USA.com](http://www.Niagara-USA.com), or contact:  
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