



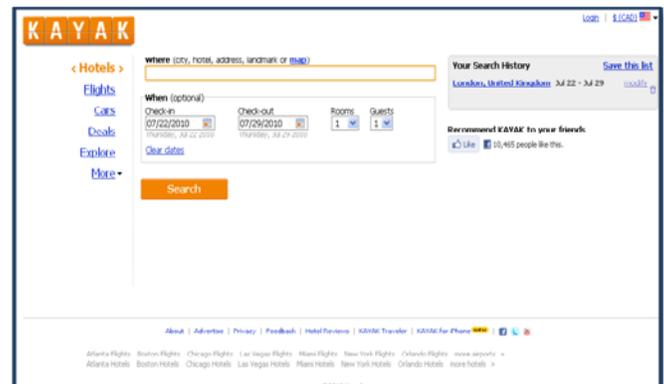
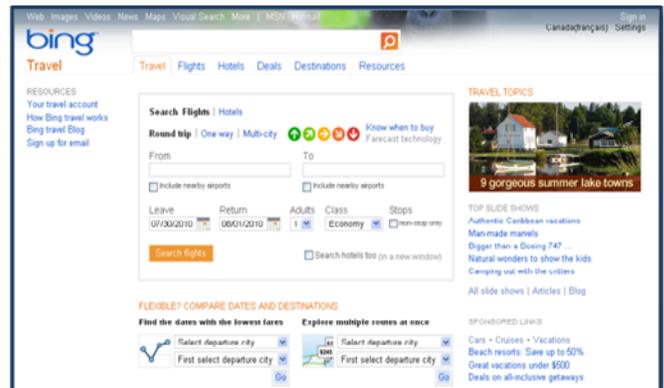
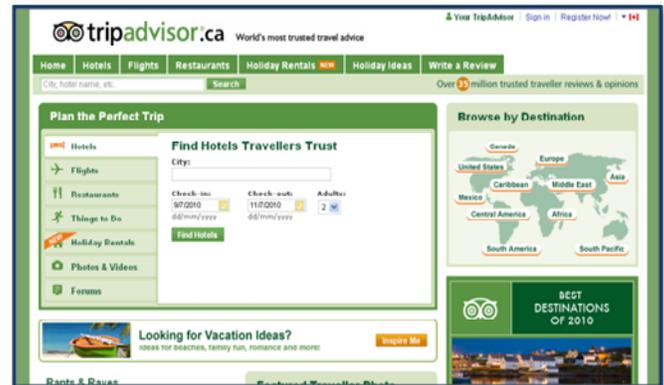
The Internet for the Traveller

www.library.elgin-county.on.ca

Whether you're travelling up the road or around the world, the Internet offers many useful tools to make travel more fun, less stressful and even cheaper!

In addition to the sites listed below, there's probably something useful no matter how, when or where you're travelling. From [Seat 61's](#) comprehensive guide to train travel around the world to [Sleeping in Airports](#) to more formal sites like [Eurolines](#), (for bus travel throughout Europe), and [TripHarbour.ca](#) for cruises, the information you need is out there.

- For deciding where to go or stay, no site offers more insight than [Tripadvisor.ca](#). The site collects reviews of hotels, restaurants, attractions and even local tour operators from fellow travellers and presents them in an easy-to-use and easy-to-sort format. For example, if you're travelling with your family, you can leave out the reviews by business travellers. You can also search for travel ideas by destination and activities.
- If you're travelling by plane, you may have noticed how quickly airline ticket prices change. Most airlines use complex formulas which are closely guarded secrets; however, [Farecast](#) part of Microsoft's Bing search engine will tell you if prices are heading up or down which gives you the choice to buy those tickets now or wait for a lower price. [Farecast](#) claims about 75% accuracy and an average savings of over \$50 on a typical round-trip.
- A good compliment to [Farecast](#) is [Kayak](#). Enter your destination and [Kayak](#) will search literally hundreds of travel sites to find prices and availability. [Kayak](#) is such a good starting point as its tools help refine your search. You can set flight departure and arrival times, price ranges, type of airplane, hotel locations and amenities and much more. **Tip: Be sure to change the currency in the top-right corner to Canadian dollars.**



This set of guides is a pilot project by the Elgin County, Oxford County and St. Thomas Public Libraries through funding provided by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture

Suggestions for another in the series? Got a favourite website? We'd love to hear from you at reference@elgin-county.on.ca

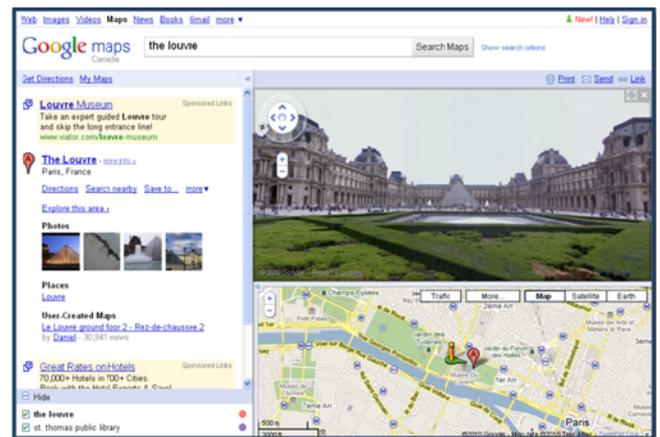


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- Once your trip is booked, you can stay organised with a simple and free service called [Triplt](#). Email your itineraries to your free account then [Triplt](#) assembles them all into an easy to read itinerary that you can print, or access online or via your smartphone.
- For more adventurous travellers, those on a budget or those who want to really sample local living, [Couchsurfing.org](#), [iStopover](#) and [HomeExchange](#) all connect travellers to accommodations and tips.
- If you're travelling by foot, car, bike or even public transportation, [Mapquest](#) and [Google Maps](#) both offer turn-by-turn directions, alternate routes and in major cities, traffic reports to help you arrive safely. Google Streetview – activated by dragging a yellow icon of a person onto the map - takes it to a new level, allowing you to see your route before you leave. You can see the view from different directions and click to move along your route; very useful for spotting landmarks and knowing what to look for en route to your destination.
- If you'd like to share your trip with the folks back home, [Everlater](#) lets you create an online travel journal. You can map out your trip and upload photos, videos and the story of each day. Because it's a web-based application, you can add content from any device that's connected to the Internet including an iPhone. You can connect with friends by email and share through networks like Facebook, but you still control who can see your information. Once the trip is over, you can even turn your journal into a hard cover book.



Finally, if you're flying, take a look at [SeatGuru](#) to select the best seat available for your flight and avoid getting stuck next to the washrooms. Try [Yapta](#) to keep an eye on ticket prices; you might be able to get money back if the price drops, even after you've bought the ticket!

Have a great trip!

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