

WHAT'S DOING IN

Toronto

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George Whiteside

Where to Stay

Part state of mind, part funky, high-tech arts center, the Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen Street West, (416) 531-5042, fax (416) 531-9493, www.thedrakehotel.ca, has been attracting film directors, video artists and adventurous travelers since it opened on Valentine's Day. The 19 guest rooms sometimes seem like the frosting on a cake that consists of three bars, a restaurant, cafe and performance space, all busy. Nonetheless, the rooms are comfortable and well priced, from \$99 to \$190, and feature such eccentric touches as artist-made sock puppets and ottomans whose coils are visible through the plastic upholstery, as well as flat-screen TV's, high-speed Internet and tasteful green-tiled bathrooms.

Vital Statistics

POPULATION (2001)

City	2,456,805
Metro Area	4,682,897

WEATHER IN AUGUST

High	76°
Low	59°
Days with rain	10

HOTEL

Room with tax	\$105.50
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DINNER FOR ONE

With tax and tip but not drinks	\$ 27.00
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TAXI

Upon entry	\$ 2.10
Each additional km.	\$ 0.95
From airport (flat rate)	\$ 34.50

CAR RENTAL FOR A DAY

Midsized car with unlimited mileage	\$46.00
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WEB SITE

www.city.toronto.ca

All figures except population and taxi fares are averages. All prices are in U.S. dollars.

Sources: Runzheimer International, Canada Census Bureau, Penn State Meteorology Department, local businesses