

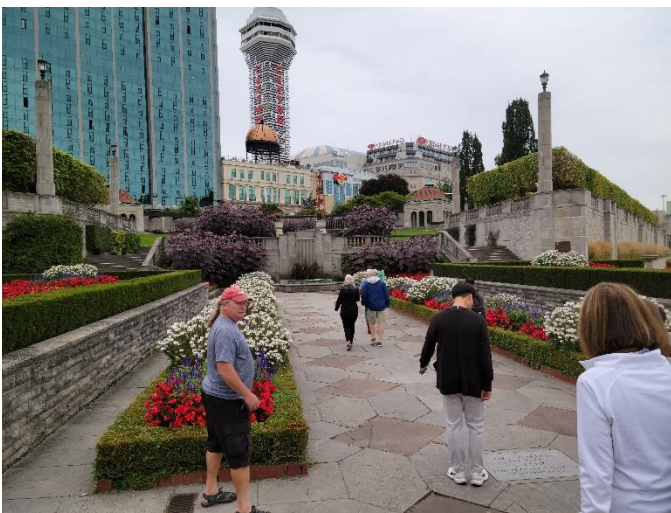
## September 11 – Niagara Falls NY

It was drizzly with a temperature around 70° for our [Journey Behind Niagara Falls](#) tour. With our previous experience crossing the border we left in plenty of time; however, we zoomed through customs which left us plenty of time to find parking and our meeting location. We did learn that at 7:00 AM in the morning, there are about a dozen spots next to Niagara River costing \$20 an hour and about ½ mile up the hill there are thousands of spots at \$15 a day. The best part was that we could enjoy the entire park with no other tourists. The [Canadian Park](#) is very well maintained with tons of flowers.



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Our tour guide's name was Rick. He was about our age and lived in Niagara Falls, Ontario for 57 years. As a child his dad took him to memorable events at the park so his personal experiences made him very knowledgeable about the area. This was the first summer for this particular walking tour. We started the tour with Rainbow Garden and Victoria Garden, with some inside information on the famous guests and history of the city, the gorge, the river, the falls and the stunts over the falls. Rick was a very good guide.



After a 45 minute walk, Rick took us to the front of the line for the 'Maid of the Mist' boat tour. We were up close and personal with the Horseshoe Falls. The water at the bottom of the falls is 180 feet deep.



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As we made our way to the Journey behind the falls, Rick not only talked about the history, but also about the same type of tours he gives in the afternoon and evening. In the evening his tour starts with a cheese and wine tasting, then the guests are allowed to change the illumination colors of the falls. So all in all, our opinion is that, staying on the Canadian side has some distinct advantages; the Canadian side is prettier and with more culinary choices, the area parks and hikes appear to be more plentiful, and we would take this evening walking tour. I did get the feeling that Rick was instrumental in creating the walking tours and he does not work every day so we left a great review so hopefully these walking tours will live on.



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