


 visit winnipeg

GIRLS WEEKEND OUT ITINERARY

HALF DAY

Start your day with breakfast at **Stella's Café and Bakery** on Portage Avenue at Osborne. This Winnipeg-owned and operated chain boasts some of the heartiest breakfasts around and prides itself on its house-made breads and focus on local ingredients. With two fried eggs, bacon, tomato and cheddar cheese on toasted multigrain bread, Stella's signature breakfast sandwich will keep you fueled for power shopping and sight-seeing.

Walk over to the nearby **Winnipeg Art Gallery** to peruse the largest collection of Inuit sculpture in the world. Nine galleries showcase WAG's own collections and visiting exhibitions. On the main floor, stop at the **Gallery Shop** for unique gifts like art books, prints, jewelry and objets d'art.

With gifts purchased, cross Osborne Street to Canada's historic department store, **The Bay**. Top up on your

favourite perfume or restock on name-brand makeup in the extensive cosmetics department. Check out the extensive women's clothing section for top brands and affordable labels like Vera Moda, Bench, Ralph Lauren, Edit by Jeanne Beker and Lady Dutch. Slip into some new shoes by Nine West, Clarks or Topshop, among other brands in stock.

With shopping bags full, hop in the car and head to **The Fyxx** on Broadway for a cappuccino and a double-dipped chocolate java biscotti. Or head directly to **Wasabi on Broadway** for a sushi and saki lunch. Order the mahalo roll. This generous roll pays homage to Hawaii with spicy steamed shrimp, red pepper and tempura crumbs, and slices of sweet and luscious slices of mango and pineapple topped with albacore tuna and finished with chili lime sauce.

FULL DAY

An afternoon of people watching, shopping and strolling the avenue awaits on **Academy Road**, one of the city's unique boutique shopping districts.

Head to **Cornelia Bean** to stock up on loose teas or a pound of locally roasted Black Pearl coffee.

Make your way to specialty food and wine store **G.J. Andrews** for a bottle of your favourite, hard-to-find Argentinean Malbec.

Inside **European Shoe Gallery** pick out a new pair of flats, stilettos or sandals at this specialty shop that stocks casual and formal shoes for men and women.

Head across the street to **Moulé** to find the latest urban fashions and accessories for men and women. This chic boutique also sells giftware, home decor, children's clothing and toys.

Get your nails done at **Tiber River Naturals** and load up on luxurious lotions before stopping by **In Ferno's Bistro** for a glass of wine and an order of duck confit crispy spring rolls to share.

Inside **Assiniboine Park**, one of North America's largest parks, have a late dinner at **Terrace 55** with its menu of inspired regional cuisine bolstered by a passionate focus on serving the finest ingredients.



FULL DAY 2

Dig into an omelette florentine with spinach, feta cheese and caramelized onions at **Promenade Cafe and Wine** in the heart of St. Boniface. Order a latte to go and walk over the **L'Esplanade Riel**, the impressive cable pedestrian bridge and one of two major landmarks dominating the downtown skyline looking west.

Here, you'll spot the new **Canadian Museum for Human Rights**, with its epic glass and stone facade and towering spire. Once over the Red River, turn left and head south, wandering along the riverside towards **The Forks National Historic Site** and market. Check out the buskers inside **The Forks Market** or in the fresh air under the canopy before putting on your shopping game face.

Head inside **Johnston Terminal** and into the basement to the **Antiques Mall** to peruse the massive collection of vintage jewellery, toys, books, art, furniture, kitchenware and clothing. One-of-a-kind gifts are its specialty.

Walk upstairs to the second floor and make a stop at **Kite and Kaboodle**, one of Winnipeg's best toy, hobby, games and book store.

One floor down, wander through **Artifacts Gallery** for unique gifts, home decor and jewelry.

Drive west on Portage Avenue to **Polo Park Mall** for some serious mall time. With more than 300 stores on site, there is a shop for everyone. **Sears** and **The Bay** anchor the mall at the south and north. Some of the newest additions to the mall roster include **Kiehls**, **Forever XXI** (the biggest location in Canada), **Coach**, and **Bath & Body Works**.

Book some girly time at **Clarion Hotel & Suites Urban Oasis Mineral Spa**. Wash your stresses away with a dip in the Dead Sea salt mineral pool, the only one in Manitoba. Follow up with an express pedicure and manicure.

Treat yourself to an intimate and memorable meal at **529 Wellington**, one of the toniest steakhouses in the city in the nearby **River Heights neighbourhood**. This circa 1912 Wellington Crescent mansion overlooking the Assiniboine River serves grilled-to-perfection steaks and fresh PEI lobster.

For nightlife, head to the **Exchange District** and indulge in a late-night glass of wine at **Sensi Wine Lounge**, a subdued apres-dinner spot. Or, check out **Opera UltraLounge** a block over on Main Street. This beautiful cocktail room has great buzz and epic people watching.