



Image Source: Taiwan Sotheby's International Realty.

by David Lu / translated by Lexie Fang

Some people say that New York is symbolic of prosperity and progress, Kyoto is synonymous with classics and traditions, and Singapore is representative of the best garden city. Yet, when mentioning Toronto, tourists usually have to discover and define the city by themselves rather than rely on an automatic stereotyped impression of the city. The multiple cultures and various characteristics of Toronto have always made it hard to decide what title it should have. However, most seem to agree that it has amazing charm.

As the economic and financial center of Canada, Toronto has the largest Stock Exchange of the country, Toronto Stock Exchange, and is also home to the headquarters of the Big Five (banks). What's more, Toronto has an excellent track record in finance. According to the latest Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI) released by the British Z/Yen Group and the China (Shenzhen) Comprehensive Development Institute in March 2020, Toronto ranks 23rd among 108 financial centers and 6th in North America. It is also worth noting that in terms of the business environment, Toronto is ranked 9th in the world, indicating its business environment holds a significant position as a global leader.

As for the city, Toronto is the first choice for immigrants in Canada. It welcomed nearly 118,000 immigrants in 2019, accounting for approximately 35% of the immigration to Canada that year, according to a statistical report by the local Canadian Immigration Newsletter (CIC News). This directly proves Toronto's charm and beauty. And on the basis of the latest "Global Liveability Ranking Report," released by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) in 2019, Toronto has been ranked 7th in the world and achieved a perfect score in the three categories of the stability, health care, and education. "Safe City Index 2019," another data released by EIU, has also pointed out that Toronto was selected as the 6th safest city in the world and the safest city in North America.

Toronto holds the honor of being the most multicultural city in the world as there are more than 100 different ethnicities among its residents. Additionally, approximately 50% of Toronto's population comes from abroad, meaning that half of its residents are immigrants. Although Toronto is such a multi-ethnic city, it has few problems of maintaining law and order. People return lost items to their owners, and there is no need to close windows or doors at night. The ethnic diversity is also reflected in the appearance of the city's various neighborhoods, such as Chinatown, Little Italy, Greece Town, Korea Town, and so on. All types of exotic cultural communities are flourishing in different areas around the city, celebrating the success of Toronto's multiculturalism.

It's a city with many appearances. Even among the large number of international cities, the diversity of Toronto is still one of the best. It has a combination of urban style and ethnic harmony. Nowadays technology makes every feel physically less distanced, but cultural gaps are more difficult to narrow. Toronto, however, has achieved this, becoming the world's model city which owns the harmony in diversity. Walking through the streets of Toronto, people with different skin colors can meet and know each other, and different cultures can be understood and interacted as well. Living in this city, you can experience new things and feel as if you are exploring the world. The more you accept and appreciate the world, the more you will love Toronto.

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Note: Big Five (banks) are the top five Canadian banks based on the volume of banking business, which are The Bank of Nova Scotia, Royal Bank of Canada, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, TD Bank Financial Group, and Bank of Montreal.