

My Passionate Eye

WRITTEN & PHOTOGRAPHED BY SYLVAIN CHAMPAGNE

As a photographer living in Southampton at the base of the west side of the Bruce Peninsula, I believe the Bruce to be a photographer's haven. Its turquoise pools of water, the ancient rugged shorelines with trails to explore at different levels, and the famous Grotto, one of the natural world's most spectacular phenomena, are why I treasure this area.

This long composite exposure photo I shot in May at Bruce Peninsula National Park makes it look surreal. Most of the photographs taken on that day truly made me feel like I was experiencing the Caribbean waters, but in reality, it was Georgian Bay.



▲ This lighthouse at Lion's Head was ruined by a storm in January.



▲ While walking the boardwalk in Southampton last summer, I saw a beautiful Egret flying right across my path. Chantry Island is in the distance.



▲ This beautiful Great Blue Heron was at Fairy Lake in Southampton. The lake is close to downtown and has a pleasant trail around it.

▼ The famous Grotto in Bruce Peninsula National Park is a hugely popular tourist attraction in the summer. The cave was carved from massive waves hammering the rock.

Editor's note: Before all national parks were closed because of COVID-19 concerns, Bruce Peninsula National Park was so popular with visitors that entrance had to be limited to a certain number of people at specific times. Check current access restrictions and requirements before trying to visit.

In April 2019 I went to take photographs in Bruce Peninsula National Park. There are so many tourists who visit that it's a challenge to photograph this beautiful landscape.

I'm a self-taught freelance photographer who has been influenced by many great photographers who led me to explore my artistic abilities. Working with some of the best videographers and photographers for the CBC, my passion for photography soon intensified. Over the years I've developed different techniques and styles as a landscape photographer and



▼ Bruce Peninsula National Park offers breathtaking picturesque sights.



▲ Cape Croker on the eastern shore of the Bruce Peninsula belongs to the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation.



▲ A limestone cave at Bruce Peninsula National Park, overlooking Georgian's Bay clear water.

always try my best to capture that best shot of the day through the eye of the lens.

Also a trained musician, I use my spiritual creativity as a photographer. My "passionate eye" perceives the beauty of nature, landscapes, and various other works which depict my artistry. The most challenging part of my job is getting better as a writer and photographer.

Much of my work has been showcased around the world and through social networking including Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Some of my work is featured in my hometown at the Southampton Art Gallery. I have also been featured as a guest artist at the Owen Sound Art Gallery, in *Mountain Life*, southern Georgian Bay's Escarpment

▼ The dramatic Grotto in Bruce Peninsula National Park has clear turquoise water and an underwater tunnel.



► This aerial shot of a hay field with Lion's Head on the horizon gives a different perspective of Escarpment lands.



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Another view of Bruce Peninsula National Park on Georgian Bay.



Southampton's boardwalk along Lake Huron is a natural and peaceful place. The sunsets here are some of the best in the world.



▲ Devil's Monument at Dyer's Bay is the largest flowerpot formation on the Bruce.



▲ Dyer's Bay, with its great hiking trails, is a photographer's paradise.

magazine, Postmedia Network and various galleries in Ontario. I've been involved in photography for over 27

years and have been owner of Champhoto1Studio in Southampton for the past five years.

If you are interested in a print of a particular image, contact me through Instagram, Facebook and

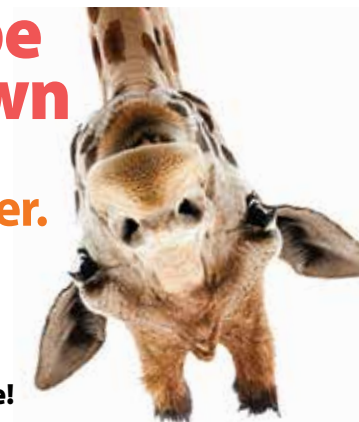
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