



Canadian Historical Places On The Air Award

The Canadian Historical Places On The Air award is an exciting initiative to inspire amateur radio operators to explore and share the stories of Canada's remarkable historical sites. Radio enthusiasts help bring Canadian history to life on the airwaves by activating or contacting stations at these landmarks, fostering community and curiosity.

Below is a comprehensive guide to participating in this unique program.

Eligible Locations

Any historical place in Canada is eligible for activation under the Canadian Historical Places On The Air program. If you wish to activate a site not currently on our official list, email ve9cf@outnaboot.ca before the event. We will review your suggestion and, if appropriate, add it to the list of qualifying locations. All locations must be accessible to the public in some capacity. Regardless of historical significance, Private residences and businesses are not eligible.

War Memorials And Other Significant Historical Sites

Honouring our war heroes and protecting their memory is a core tenet of this program. The Canadian Historical Sites On The Air (HSOTA) program recognizes the profound importance of preserving and respecting Canada's war memorials and significant historical landmarks while promoting amateur radio activity.

Respectful Activation Guidelines

Activators must not disrespect or desecrate any war memorial or significant historical site. To ensure proper reverence while maintaining the integrity of these sacred spaces, activators are permitted to qualify an activation within a 250-meter radius of any war memorial or designated historical site.

Canadian Historical Sites On The Air
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www.historyontheair.com



This buffer zone allows operators to:

- Conduct meaningful amateur radio operations
- Share Canada's rich heritage with the global amateur radio community
- Maintain appropriate respect for memorial sites and their significance
- Comply with local regulations and site management requirements

Equipment and Setup Requirements

Under no circumstances should any wires, ground spikes, or any other ham radio antenna or equipment be physically attached to any structure or property on a historical site. Activators must use self-supporting equipment at all times.

Approved setup methods include:

- Portable masts with guy wires and stakes placed outside memorial boundaries
- Magnetic loop antennas on portable stands
- End-fed antennas supported by telescoping poles
- Any antenna system that requires no permanent or temporary attachment to historical structures

Heritage Preservation Commitment

This approach aligns with Veterans Affairs Canada's commitment to keeping the memory of our service members' achievements and sacrifices alive for all Canadians, while supporting the HSOTA mission to explore and celebrate Canada's historical landmarks through amateur radio.

By following these guidelines, amateur radio operators can meaningfully participate in preserving Canadian heritage while enjoying portable operations in historically significant locations.



What Is Public Access?

A qualifying location is open to the public year-round or during specific seasons. This includes sites such as museums, parks, forts, historic buildings, and monuments that the public can visit, even if only during certain times of the year. Suppose a site is "closed for the season" or temporarily inaccessible due to maintenance or other reasons. In that case, it still qualifies as long as it is generally open to the public during part of the year. Your activation will count as long as you are within 250 meters of the historical landmark, even if the gates are locked or the visitor center is closed during your visit. This approach ensures greater flexibility for operators and recognizes the seasonal nature of many Canadian historical sites.

What Qualifies as a Successful Activation?

To achieve a successful activation, you must make at least one contact (QSO) while operating within a 250-meter radius of the historical landmark. You are not required to be physically inside the landmark or its buildings; proximity is key. This rule accommodates sites with limited access or where the landmark is not open to entry but can be approached closely. All activations must be conducted to respect the site, its regulations, and its visitors.

The History Buff Award

We proudly offer the History Buff Award for those who genuinely embrace the program's spirit. To earn this special certificate, simply activate any historical site in Canada five or more times. These activations can be at the same site or different locations, and there is no time limit for reaching the five activations. The History Buff Award recognizes your dedication to amateur radio and the celebration of Canadian history. Once you've reached five successful activations, you will automatically qualify for this special certificate, which will be sent to you in recognition of your achievement.



Log Submission Process

After activating, you must upload your logs to HamLog, our official platform. Once your logs are uploaded, use the award application feature within HamLog to send your activation details to the moderator for verification and award processing. This process ensures all activations are correctly recorded and credited toward the main and History Buff awards.

Activating Multiple Locations (2fers and Multi-Locations)

Operators are welcome to activate more than one historical place at a time, often called "2fers." While most historical places are stand-alone sites, there are exceptions where multiple landmarks are located nearby. In all cases, you must be within 100 meters of each historical site for your activation to count for that location. This allows you to maximize your time and effort, especially when visiting areas rich in historical significance.

Hunter Awards

Awards are not just for activators! Hunters—those who make contact with stations operating from historical places—are also eligible for recognition. Hunter awards are managed through HamLog and can be downloaded directly from the application. No account is required to access or claim your award, making it easy for everyone to participate and celebrate their achievements.



General Expectations

All participants are expected to respect the rules and regulations of the historical sites they visit. Please ensure that your radio operations do not interfere with the regular use of the site or inconvenience other visitors. Leave the area as you found it, and extend courtesy to staff and fellow guests. Remember, you are representing both the amateur radio and historical communities.

If you have questions, need clarification, or would like to suggest a new historical place for inclusion in the program, please contact ve9cf@outnaboot.ca before the event. We look forward to your participation and celebrating Canada's history together—one contact at a time!