

Woodbine

Location, Parking and Access

The course is located in north west of Toronto, not far from Lester Pearson airport.

Located on Rexdale Blvd, access is from the 427.

Bus 37A links the course with Islington subway station.

There is a massive car park with plenty of spaces, all on a tarmac surface. For the really lazy valet parking is available.

Course Layout



Woodbine is a simple oval track, Polytrack, with spurs on both the home and back straights. The circuit is about a mile in circumference.

There is a grass track outside the all weather track.

Woodbine stages both thoroughbred and standardbred (trotting) racing.

Admission

Admission to the course is free.

Overview

One of only seven thoroughbred racecourses in Canada, Woodbine is no doubt the jewel in the crown.

Indeed it is probably one of the best courses in the North American continent.

The main building houses a casino on the ground floor.

Inside there is a huge open area, festooned with hundreds of televisions showing not only the racing from Woodbine but from other courses throughout the US.

There is a bar area, which is enclosed and alcohol may not be removed from this area.



Outside there is a massive seating area offering unobstructed views of the course, although surprisingly most punters prefer to watch from inside, where there are banks of seats offering viewing from behind glass and protected from the elements.

It has to be said that, apart from the big meetings, crowds are not that large. Indeed most racegoers seemed to be using the course as a betting shop, betting on the away meetings.

Racing is generally of moderate standard, although there are some major Grade One races held in the autumn. Having said that the prize money on offer puts UK racing to shame.

Catering

Plenty of options both formal and informal.

Favourites has track viewing with both a la carte and set menus. The set menu costs \$32.95 lunch and \$36.50 dinner. There is a minimum food charge of \$23 a person if eating a la carte.

Champions bar has a \$5 entry charge. It has a sandwich buffet at \$11.95.

The Finish Line bar has a \$4 entry charge. A light menu is available in the bar.



The food court offers all the usual choices. Exceptionally good value is a roast beef roll. Costing \$4 a roll has about ten slices of prime roast beef with optional gravy and pickles.

Ancillaries

Bookmakers

Obviously there are no bookmakers at Woodbine where there is a tote (PMU) monopoly.

A full range of bets are available with the opportunity to bet with a human clerk or an automated terminal.

Racecard

The "racecard" costs \$2.50 but is more like the racecard available at greyhound tracks. There are no colours in the cards, just form lines for the last half dozen runs.

Toilets

More than enough.

Parade Ring

There are two parade rings. The summer ring is outside, effectively behind the stand. In the winter an internal barn is used. This is very compact and you see the horses in their saddling boxes.

Contact Details

	www.woodbineentertainment.com
	1 888 675 RACE

Fixtures

Thoroughbred

April: Fri, Sat and Sun afternoons

May: Fri, Sat and Sun afternoons and Wed eve

June – November: Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun afternoon and Wed eve

Standardbred (Trotting)

Jan – April and Oct – Dec: Mon, Thurs, Fri and Sat evenings

Inspection Dates

Date	Weather	Type
01/11/06	Slightly overcast	8 flat evening
11/10/07	Sunny	9 flat afternoon