Getting There: Surface Streets vs. the PATH

Every venue can be reached at street level. Five of them (marked **PATH** below) can also be reached almost entirely indoors through Toronto's PATH network — worth knowing for a late-October since the PATH and its retail operate on weekday business hours and will be fully open during the day.

PATH access from the Westin: the hotel itself is not inside the PATH. Exit the lobby, cross Queens Quay at Bay Street, and walk one short block north to 20 Bay Street (RBC WaterPark Place). An enclosed pedestrian bridge at the mezzanine level connects the building into the PATH: a bridge over Harbour Street leads into CIBC Square (81 Bay), and from there a second indoor bridge crosses Lake Shore Boulevard and the rail corridor into the Scotiabank Arena galleria and Union Station. From Union, PATH corridors continue north under Bay Street to Brookfield Place and the rest of the Financial District. Overhead PATH signage is color-coded and generally easy to follow, though first-timers should budget a few extra minutes.

Quick Reference

Venue	Type	Walk time	Group fit	Thursday hours
Ivy. Coffee Shop	Coffee shop	3–4 min	Coffee stop only — minimal seating	7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
20 Bay Food Court (RBC WaterPark Place)	Food court, multiple vendors	4–5 min	Good — ample seating	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Boxcar Social Harbourfront	Café / restaurant	7–8 min	Excellent — 200+ indoors; groups of 20+ can book	Opens 9:00 AM
Union Food Court (Union Station)	Food court, multiple vendors	10–12 min	Good — large seating areas with outlets	8:00 AM – 9:00 PM
Lazy Barista	Coffee shop	12–13 min	Good for 8–12 — spacious, tables and outlets	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Brookfield Place (The Brick Room + food vendors)	Café + atrium food options	13–14 min	Moderate — café is small; atrium seating helps	Bldg. 9–6; café 7–5
St. Lawrence Market	Public market / food hall	15–17 min	Moderate — many vendors; seating tight at lunch	9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Dineen Coffee Co.	Café	18–20 min	Moderate — roomy but popular	7:30 AM – 6:00 PM

Venue Details (Nearest to Farthest)

1. Ivy. Coffee Shop — *Coffee shop · 3–4 min · 0.2 km*

- **Address:** 109 Queens Quay W (directly across from the hotel, at Harbour Square Park)
- **Phone:** (437) 505-7626
- **Website:** ivycoffeeshop.com
- **Thursday hours:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Directions:** Surface only: exit the hotel, cross Queens Quay, and it is steps west along the north side. No PATH connection.
- **Seating & capacity:** Very limited — a handful of seats inside. Reviewers consistently describe it as grab-and-go.

Best used as a coffee pickup at the start of a walk rather than a sit-down destination.

2. 20 Bay Food Court — RBC WaterPark Place — *Food court with multiple vendors · PATH · 4–5 min · 0.3 km*

- **Address:** 20 Bay St., mezzanine level (this is also the PATH entry point nearest the hotel)
- **Phone:** (416) 865-8300 (WaterPark Place building management — the food court has no direct line)
- **Website:** No dedicated site; the building is managed by Oxford Properties
- **Thursday hours:** 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (weekdays only)
- **Directions:** Cross Queens Quay at Bay, walk one short block north; the food court is on the mezzanine connected to the PATH bridge.
- **Food & seating:** Tim Hortons and Starbucks anchor either end, with additional counters (Mediterranean, grab-and-go) between. Proper tables and chairs with a good-sized seating area, though it fills with the office lunch crowd from roughly noon to 1:30.

The closest true sit-down option, and a practical fallback in bad weather since it is essentially attached to the hotel's PATH route. Multiple price points and dietary options in one room.

3. Boxcar Social Harbourfront — *Café / restaurant (coffee by day, full menu and bar) · 7–8 min · 0.5 km*

- **Address:** 235 Queens Quay W (on the waterfront boardwalk at Harbourfront Centre)
- **Contact:** No public phone; groups of 20+ can book by emailing events@boxcarsocial.ca
- **Website:** boxcarsocial.ca/pages/harbourfront
- **Thursday hours:** Opens 9:00 AM; open late Thursdays
- **Directions:** Surface only: exit the hotel and walk west along Queens Quay (or the Martin Goodman Trail boardwalk for the lake view); it sits lakeside just past the Harbourfront Centre buildings. No PATH connection.
- **Seating & capacity:** Indoor capacity of more than 200, with long communal tables, high-tops, and a large lakefront patio. The one venue on this list that explicitly accommodates advance bookings for groups of 20 or more.

Scenic walk itself is the most scenic on the list. Coffee, pastries, and a lunch menu; opens at 9:00

4. Union Food Court — Union Station — *Large food court, multiple vendors · PATH · 10–12 min · 0.8 km*

- **Address:** 65 Front St. W, lower level of Union Station
- **Phone:** (416) 338-8000
- **Website:** torontounion.ca
- **Thursday hours:** 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM (also open weekends, unlike most Financial District food courts)
- **Directions:** PATH: continue north through CIBC Square across the indoor bridge over Lake Shore Boulevard into the Scotiabank Arena galleria, then follow the overhead “Union Station” signs down to the food court. Surface: straight north up Bay Street to Front, then west into the station.

- **Food & seating:** The largest and most varied option: Shake Shack, sushi, Indian, Jamaican patties, Mexican, and more, with extensive modern seating — most of it wired with charging outlets.

5. Lazy Barista — *Coffee shop · 12–13 min · 1.0 km*

- **Address:** 157 Queens Quay E (Waterfront Innovation Centre, near Sherbourne Common)
- **Phone:** No public phone listed
- **Website:** No standalone site; listed at waterfrontbia.com/listing/lazy-barista (also on Instagram)
- **Thursday hours:** 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- **Directions:** Surface only: exit the hotel and walk east along Queens Quay East, past the ferry terminal and Sugar Beach area; it sits at ground level in a modern office building. No PATH connection.
- **Seating & capacity:** Bright, high-ceilinged, and genuinely spacious for an independent café — plenty of tables plus seats with power outlets, indoors and out. Comfortable for a group of 8–12; 20 would strain it at busy times.

A calm alternative in the opposite direction from the Financial District crowds, with an easy flat walk along the east waterfront. Closes at 5:00 PM.

6. Brookfield Place — The Brick Room & atrium dining — *Café plus food vendors in a landmark atrium · PATH · 13–14 min · 0.9 km*

- **Address:** 181 Bay St. (between Front and Wellington)
- **Phone:** (416) 777-6480 (Brookfield Place); The Brick Room café has no public phone
- **Website:** No dedicated café site; Brookfield Place information via the building's management pages
- **Thursday hours:** The Brick Room: 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM; building retail generally 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM (weekdays only)
- **Directions:** PATH: follow the Union Station route, then continue north through the PATH under Bay Street following signs for Brookfield Place. Surface: north up Bay Street to number 181.
- **Seating & capacity:** The Brick Room is a well-regarded Australian-style specialty café but a small one — at busy times reviewers report no seats at all. The draw for a group is the Allen Lambert Galleria itself: the soaring Calatrava-designed atrium has public seating and several food vendors, and the Hockey Hall of Fame is at its south end.

Worth the walk for the architecture as much as the coffee — arguably the most memorable indoor space.Treat the café as the coffee source and the atrium as the seating.

7. St. Lawrence Market — *Historic public market with food vendors · 15–17 min · 1.2 km*

- **Address:** 93 Front St. E (South Market)
- **Phone:** (416) 392-7120
- **Website:** stlawrencemarket.com
- **Thursday hours:** 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM (closed Mondays)
- **Directions:** Surface only: north up Bay Street to Front, then east along Front past Union and Berczy Park to Front and Jarvis. No practical PATH route — the network ends well west of the market.
- **Food & seating:** Dozens of vendors across two levels — the famous peameal bacon sandwich, produce, cheese, baked goods — with tables scattered through the building. Seating is real but tight at the lunch peak; a group of 8–10 manages more easily than 20 sitting together.

The most “Toronto” destination on the list and a genuine experience for out-of-town attendees, at the cost of being the least predictable for group seating.

8. Dineen Coffee Co. — *Café in a restored 1897 building · 18–20 min · 1.4 km*

- **Address:** 140 Yonge St. (at Temperance St.)
- **Phone:** (416) 900-0949
- **Website:** dineencoffee.com
- **Thursday hours:** 7:30 AM – 6:00 PM
- **Directions:** Surface: north up Bay Street to Richmond, east one block to Yonge. Mostly-indoor option: take the PATH as far as the Bay Adelaide / Yonge-Richmond area of the Financial District, then finish the last block or two at street level.
- **Seating & capacity:** A grand heritage interior with banquette and table seating plus a seasonal patio. Roomy by café standards, but it is one of the city's most popular coffee stops, so a group of 20 sitting together is unlikely; 8–10 is realistic outside peak hours.

If you want a longer walk with a destination worth photographing at the end.