

BYWARD UNCOVERED:

How Commerce has Evolved in Ottawa's Market

Originating as a seller of local meat and produce, Ottawa's downtown market has faced the forces of tourism, shifting cultural dynamics, gentrification, and most recently, the global pandemic. Today, the market, over 100 years old, stands as a living testament to Ottawa's history, with its historic buildings and long-lasting business demographic existing alongside modern developments. By examining the evolution of businesses in Byward, we can uncover hidden narratives that reveal how economic, social, and cultural forces have shaped this iconic public space. The market's ability to preserve the traces of historical events while continually reinventing itself has made it a source of inspiration for both tourists and businesses. As we re-evaluate the hidden history of the Byward Market, we gain insight into the changing face of Ottawa, as well as the ongoing dialogue between tradition and progress in urban spaces.



IMAGE 1

- - - - - : Our visit trail
- Orange bar : Density and flow of pedestrians
- Yellow bar : Density of vehicle routes around Byward
- Wavy line : Higher public flow

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IMAGE 2

