

## Caledon, Ontario

# A Prime Gateway for Italian Food & Beverage Companies Expanding into North America

Imagine operating at the heart of one of North America's most dynamic food and beverage markets—just minutes from Toronto, the centre of Canada's economy.

Welcome to Caledon, Ontario: where Italy's world-renowned food heritage meets unmatched growth opportunity.

### Where Italian Food Excellence Meets Ontario Opportunity

Spanning 689 square kilometers in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Caledon offers a rare combination:

- A thriving business environment with space to start and grow
- World class talent with the skills to support food sector innovation
- Access to global transportation routes

This blend makes Caledon ideal for Italian food and beverage producers seeking to scale in North America while preserving the authenticity and quality of their brand.

### Ontario: North America's Food Processing Powerhouse

Ontario is one of the largest and most competitive food processing regions in North America, generating over \$47 billion in GDP and employing 1 in 10 Ontarians in the agri-food sector. With more than 200 agricultural commodities grown locally and processed within the GTA, the region boasts:

- A deep talent pool
- Proximity to fresh, high-quality ingredients
- Advanced logistics and distribution systems
- Immediate access to Canadian and U.S. markets

It's no wonder that global food giants like AB-InBev, Coca-Cola, Campbell's, Nestlé, Kraft, and Unilever have all established major processing operations in Ontario.

### Caledon: The Smart Choice for Italian Companies

As one of the fastest growing municipalities in the GTA, Caledon stands out with:

- Extensive shovel-ready industrial lands
- Some of the lowest development fees and property taxes in the region
- A growing base of food-industry leaders, including Mars, Sardo Foods, and Pepsico

Whether you're launching a North American headquarters, building a production facility, or establishing a distribution centre—Caledon delivers the infrastructure, affordability, and strategic access that Italian companies need to thrive.



## A Fresh Taste of Opportunity

# Why Italian Agri-Food Companies Should Invest in Caledon, Ontario

With Caledon's central location in Ontario's thriving agri-food cluster – and a strong Italian-Canadian population – Italian companies are perfectly positioned to find a fresh taste of opportunity in Caledon.

## 1. Italian Companies Can Lead in Bringing Made in Italy Products to Market

Ontario's food and beverage processing industry—Canada's largest—is valued at over \$60 billion annually, and the demand for authentic, value-added foods is only growing. Italian expertise in processing pasta, olive oil, cured meats, sauces, and fine cheeses is a perfect match.

Success stories such as:

- Ferrero Group's \$445 million expansion to produce Nutella Biscuits and Ferrero Rocher squares in Ontario
- Andriani Ltd.'s \$33.6 million investment to establish its first North American gluten-free pasta facility

With over 900,000 Ontarians of Italian descent, the market is hungry for tradition and authenticity. Local brands like Sardo Foods and Jesse Tree Fine Foods are already flourishing—new entrants have the opportunity to scale.

This also opens doors for Italian manufacturers of food processing equipment, containers, and packaging.

## 2. Italy's Specialty Crop Expertise is in High Demand

Ontario's agricultural diversity creates strong demand for specialty crops that Italian producers excel in—such as heirloom tomatoes, Calabrian peppers, Mediterranean herbs, and organic vegetables. With access to greenhouse technology and vertical farming solutions, Italian agricultural companies can grow premium produce year-round in Caledon.

This is a prime opportunity to differentiate through origin, quality, and authenticity in an increasingly health-conscious Canadian market.

## 3. Italian Agri-Tech Companies Can Power Ontario's Smart Farming Future

Ontario is rapidly adopting agri-food technologies—from AI and robotics to smart irrigation and precision crop management. Italian tech firms and agri-startups with innovations in sustainable agriculture, yield optimization, or livestock management can forge new partnerships, pilot programs, and long-term investments.

The province welcomes international R&D collaboration and offers a range of incentives for innovation and clean tech.

## Your Opportunity to Grow in North America Starts in Caledon

For Italian food and beverage companies, Caledon offers more than just a strategic location—it provides a launchpad for long-term success in the Canadian and North American markets. With a thriving food processing sector, rising demand for authentic and specialty products, and supportive government policies, Caledon is uniquely positioned to help your business thrive.

Join the growing list of Italian companies—like Ferrero and Andriani—that are already investing in Ontario's dynamic agri-food economy. Caledon's Economic Development team is here to offer white-glove, concierge-style support. From site selection and market insights to navigating permits and incentive programs, we are committed to supporting your business growth in Caledon.

## Let's Start the Conversation

Contact the Town of Caledon's Economic Development team today to explore how your company can grow, produce, and succeed in one of Canada's fastest-growing communities.

