

Looking for the ideal gift for Mother's Day in Toronto

Mother's Day is just around the corner – May 13th, 2018 - and it is a super celebration here in Canada, just as much as we celebrate in Brazil. If you had the chance to go to the malls and shops this week you probably noticed that the main theme of promotions and shop windows is Mother's Day – of course! When I first arrived in Toronto I was always curious to know how this date was celebrated here and if there was much difference compared to Brazil, in regard to what and how gifts were bought or delivered. I confess that by reading several Canadian blogs I found this practice very different here in Canada.

A recent survey - conducted between April 27th and May 1st of residents of the Toronto metropolitan area (GTA) - pointed out that 54% of respondents (3 out of 5 people) will wait until the weekend to buy something for their mothers. That's right, the Torontonians are not as wary as I imagined and will find a gift for moms the day before or even on Mother's Day. I already imagined that, because Canadians are much simpler and the gifts here are not so expensive - here the celebration involves "being together" and "somehow remembering moms." And there are lots of internet texts on ideas for Last-Minute Mother's Day Gifts, which involve simple souvenirs and ways to say "I love you" and "thank you" without spending much and without the stress of spending hours and hours looking for the ideal gift in the malls.

Other findings from the study that I found interesting include the following:

- 58 per cent of GTA residents, three in five, plan to purchase a gift for someone
- 67 per cent, seven in ten, of those planning to buy a gift will feel obligated to buy a gift
- 59 per cent, three in five, of those planning to buy a gift, have difficulty picking out a gift
- 43 per cent, two in five, of those planning to buy a gift, say buying a gift is a bit of a hassle
- Exactly half of GTA residents who are planning to buy a gift are likely to purchase a rose

These results say a lot about how Mother's Day is celebrated here: it involves being close to your mother, buying something simple and meaningful (not expensive gifts or spend hours and hours looking for something). And yes, mothers love to be reminded and love to be with their children on these dates, and a flower or any gesture of affection is more than enough. I speak from my own experience: here at my home we never buy expensive gifts (and rather we spend money on trips and trips), but I feel very happy when my husband remembers these special occasions and comes home with a flower, a chocolate or a card. So, the tip here is that you remember that moms love to be with their kids and love being pampered and even if you're in the rush there's always a place where you can buy some last-minute souvenir and celebrate this occasion with her.

Where to find last-minute gifts for moms at the GTA?

Rabba Fine Foods is a local market and convenience store that serves the daily grocery needs of more than 34 neighbourhoods in the central and western parts of the GTA. Open year round, 24 hours a day, Rabba offers everything you'd expect from your local market – fresh produce, deli counter, ready-to-eat items, bakery, dairy products and other essential supplies for home or work. A family-run business with roots extending back to 1967, Rabba is committed to serving its neighbours and friends in the GTA and meeting their ever-changing grocery and convenience needs. For more information on Rabba or any of its locations, visit <http://www.rabba.com/>.

I must say that in the first place I lived in Toronto there was a Rabba downstairs, literally steps from my door. It was great – and we love Rabba - because we did not have a car and always wanted something last-minute. Today there is also a Rabba close to home and whenever there is a holiday or the other supermarkets are closed we know you can count on Rabba. And this Mother's Day is no different: the place will be open 24 hours all weekend and will certainly meet needs of those who leave the Mother's Day gift for the last minute, including flowers. The site hopes to sell more than 1,000 roses this Mother's Day weekend. Bouquets cost between CAD\$9.99 (3 roses) and CAD\$22.99 (12 roses). There are also chocolates and other gifts for your mothers. Later today I will post ideas for last-minute gifts that you can buy if you are one of those 54% of people that will buy something for your mom during the Mother's Day weekend.

CONTEST: A little help with your Mother's Day shop

To help you buy flowers and some special gifts for your mother (chocolates or the ingredients to make a delicious lunch for her) the GabynoCanada blog in partnership with Rabba Fine Foods is raffling 3 gift cards worth CAD \$ 100 each for 3 lucky readers. To participate you must follow the 2 rules below:

1. Subscribe to our youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/gabynocanada>
2. Leave a comment in this post about what would you be buying to your mom if you get the card.

The gift cards will be drawn on Mother's Day, Sunday May 13th - and winners will be contacted via email. This is a sponsored post, however all comments and opinions are mine.