





INFORMATION:

Inns of Nova Scotia

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15 Night / 16 Day Itinerary

Welcome to Nova Scotia! Located in Eastern Canada and almost completely surrounded by ocean, the province of Nova Scotia is a place where you can feel your pace fall in sync with the rhythm of the sea, as the clean salt air breathes life into your day. Immerse yourself in culture that ranges from traditional to avant-garde, from bagpipes to world-class golf.

The **Inns of Nova Scotia** consist of country inns (with dinner service) and bed & breakfast inns located throughout this beautiful province. Many of our Inns offer oceanfront locations or other notable features. Each of our members provide unique luxury accommodations in properties that are historical in architecture, character or setting.

This 15 night/16 day itinerary provides you with an abundance of activities to choose from and places to dine while visiting our beautiful inns and touring around this truly authentic, charming province. Your itinerary at a glance:

Day 1: Halifax. This maritime capital city has so much to offer that we recommend two-nights to experience all its hidden treasures.

Day 2: Spend the day on foot exploring the Halifax waterfront and downtown.

Day 3: Travel along the South Shore to Peggy's Cove, Mahone Bay and Lunenburg.

Day 4: En route to the seafaring town of Shelburne enjoy beautiful sandy beaches and the town of Liverpool.

Day 5: Marvel the wonders of Kejimkujik National Park Seaside, the town of Barrington and the western tip of the southern shore to Yarmouth, and on to Digby

Day 6: Go Whale Watching, learn about the lobster fishery, visit a museum or an historic lighthouse or two.

Day 7: Discover historic Annapolis Royal or go whale watching while touring around the Bay of Fundy.

Day 8: Located in Nova Scotia's winery and agricultural region, Wolfville has a plethora of activities to discover.

Day 9: Walk the ocean floor and discover the Mi'kmaq culture within the Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark.

Day 10: Kayak the highest tides in the world before heading to the quaint town of Tatamagouche along the Northumberland Shore.

Day 11: Discover our Scottish history and adopt-a-lobster in the town of Pictou. Then toe-tap your way to majestic Cape Breton Island for a few days.

Day 12: Spend the day exploring Cape Breton Highlands National Park. Take in a hike on the Skyline Trail or safely view wildlife while on a boat tour.

Day 13: Visit the town of Sydney and experience French colonial life in the 1700's at the Fortress of Louisbourg before heading to Arichat.

Day 14: Take a guided driving & walking tour and discover the picturesque lighthouses of Isle Madame before visiting the charming town of Guysborough.

Day 15: Outdoor enthusiasts will love the tranquillity, peacefulness and vast array of coastal activities in Charlos Cove.

Day 16: Your last day in Nova Scotia! Head back to Halifax along the scenic Eastern Shore. Discover beaches, hiking trails and living museums too!

Contact any of our Inns for more information when planning your itinerary!

Day 1 – Downtown Halifax

Welcome to Halifax! A city that deftly blends the past with the present to produce a skyline dotted with elegant 18th- and 19th-century architecture alongside ultra-modern towers of glass and steel. The heart of Halifax is perfect for exploring on foot, with treelined streets, international restaurants, galleries, libraries and museums. Inviting sidewalk cafés beckon you to while away a few hours amid park-like, waterfront, and historic settings in the busy downtown, often with a backdrop of the bustling harbour, which entertains ship traffic from every corner of the globe.

Morning

Suggestions for exploring the sites in Downtown Halifax include:



The <u>Halifax Waterfront</u> is one of the most visited attractions in the province. With a sparkling water, working port as a backdrop, it's no wonder that the Halifax waterfront is home to a number of businesses and countless world-class events each year.

TOUR: Maritime Museum of the Atlantic (1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax) Generally recognized as having the world's finest collection of wooden

artifacts from the Titanic. Halifax was the closest major port to the 1912 sinking and all the recovered bodies were brought to Halifax, along with many pieces of wreckage. These fragments, including a near perfectly preserved deckchair and large pieces of oak carving, are featured as part of the museum's permanent exhibit.

At the "top" of the city you will find the <u>Halifax Citadel National Historic Site</u>, where the sounds of a modern, bustling port city are exchanged for the crack of rifle-fire and the skirl of bagpipes. The present Citadel was completed in 1856 and is the fourth in a series of British forts on this site. Today, the restored Citadel is a national landmark, commemorating Halifax's role as a key naval station in the British Empire and bringing history to life in Atlantic Canada's largest urban centre.



(**NOTE:** The "noonday" gun is fired every day from this site.)

Lunch



Head down to the waterfront for lunch:

Salty's Restaurant Pickford and Black

Afternoon

TOUR: <u>J.Farwell Sailing Co*</u> (Halifax Waterfront)

J Farwell Sailing offers many different tour options to meet everyone's needs. From Family Fun cruises, to the J Farwell Signature Afternoon Sail, to the Sunset Wine and Cheese Sail, and the Moonlite Cruise. Each one of their tours are specifically designed to meet their guests needs. They pride themselves on creating memories for their customers and delivering that one-off experience that only the J Farwell Sailing Co. can deliver.

NOTE: Advanced reservations recommended as tours are limited to 12 passengers.

Day 1 – Downtown Halifax

Other optional sites to explore in Downtown Halifax:

Visit the <u>Canadian Immigration Museum at Pier 21</u> (1055 Marginal Road, Halifax). Learn about the experiences of immigrants as they arrived in Canada, the vital role of immigration in the building of Canada and the contributions of immigrants to our country - all at one unique place. The Museum's main exhibition is dedicated to the years when Pier 21 was open as an immigration shed. Learn about the one million immigrants, refugees, war brides, evacuee children and displaced persons who came through this gateway between 1928 and 1971.

The Halifax <u>Seaport Farmer's Market</u> (Marginal Road, located next to Pier 21) is especially lively on the weekends but has storefronts that are open every day of the week. This is the oldest farmers' market in North America which moved into a new location a couple of years ago that now boasts nearly 140 vendors and a green roof with spectacular views of the Harbour. Saturday and Sundays are busy so the earlier you get there the better.

Take an immersive tour of the <u>Alexander Keith's Nova Scotia Brewery</u> (1496 Lower Water Street) as their staff lead you back in time to learn about the famous beer, the historic brewery and the challenges of life in Halifax in 1863. Tours are one hour long, contact for seasonal tour times.

Dinner



Upscale dining options for dinner:

Stories (Located in The Halliburton)
The Five Fisherman
Barrington Street Steak House & Oyster Bar
Hop Scotch Dinner Club
Lot Six Bar & Restaurant

Accommodations (A two-night stay in Halifax is recommended)

The Halliburton (5184 Morris Street, Halifax)

Off the beaten path, this charming, historic hotel is a clever collection of early nineteenth century townhouses. All rooms are unique in layout and size and there is an evident effort to marry contemporary creature comforts with the historic and warm ambiance. Add fine bath/bed linens, the best pillow top mattresses, and a thoughtful breakfast buffet and your stay at The Halliburton will be memorable. A discreet, naturally lit meeting space seats twenty. 'Stories', a Halifax best kept secret, is a favorite destination for those serious about food. Recommended annually in "Where to eat in Canada", this off-the-lobby restaurant offers signature seafood and game in intimate rooms.



The Pebble (1839 Armview Terrace, Halifax)



A stay at the Pebble will offer you a uniquely memorable experience of understated luxury combined with the warm charm of an engaging hostess. As the owner of The Pebble, Elizabeth O'Carroll learned much about hospitality from her family's business while growing up in Ireland and brought much of that Irish hospitality and aesthetic with her to Nova Scotia. Enjoy a view of the sailboats on the Northwest Arm from the terrace. Frette linens and Molton Brown Toiletries await every guest. Delicious full breakfast, free range and local food products when possible. The Pebble strive to create memories that will last forever.

Day 2 – Downtown Halifax

Morning



Take a stroll along <u>Spring Garden Road</u> for good shopping and good food! This is one of the most popular streets in Halifax.

Or stop by the new Halifax Central Library which continues to garner accolades. . . WIRED recently named it "one of the Top 10 most beautiful libraries on earth". Enjoy the views from "Halifax's Living Room" and roof-top patio with an espresso from <u>PAVIA Gallery-Espresso Bar & Cafe</u> (1st & 5th floor).

Located on Spring Garden Road, take a tour of the <u>Halifax Public Gardens</u>, a rare example of a formal Victorian garden.

Lunch

Head down to the waterfront for lunch.

The Bicycle Thief
Stubborn Goat Beer Garden Outdoor & Seasonal)



Afternoon

The <u>Art Gallery of Nova Scotia</u> (1723 Hollis Street) houses the Province's collection of art unique to Nova Scotia and offers a range of exhibitions and programming, including the Maud Lewis (folk-art) collection.

The <u>Halifax Distilling Company</u> (1668 Lower Water Street) is a mouth-watering new attraction in downtown Halifax. Building on the tradition of four generations, Nova Scotia's newest distillery uses a small-batch copper still to make a selection of fine spirits right on the Halifax Waterfront. Take a behind-the-scenes tour before enjoying the sensory experience of a taste (or two) of their spirits. The Halifax Distilling Co. also features a tasting bar, retail store and venue rental space for special events.

Dinner in Halifax



Upscale dining options:

Stories (Located in The Halliburton)

DaMaurizio Fine Dining

Press Gang Restaurant & Oyster Bar

Julep Kitchen & Cocktails

Accommodations (A two-night stay in Halifax is recommended)

The Halliburton (5184 Morris Street, Halifax)

The Pebble (1839 Armview Terrace, Halifax)

Day 3 - South Shore

Morning

Depart Halifax for Peggy's Cove via Lighthouse Route/Prospect Road/NS-333 W



Early morning is a perfect time to explore <u>Peggy's Cove</u>, where the famous lighthouse stands as an iconic beacon to those at sea. Take some time to stretch and walk about the village on your own. The tiny harbour below the lighthouse is a masterpiece of seasoned fish sheds and colourful fishing boats, making it one of the most photographed places in Canada.

Have a fresh brewed coffee, tea or latte at the <u>Sou'Wester Restaurant and Gift Company</u>. This restaurant began in 1967 as a small five table tearoom at

the side of a house at its present location. It has been expanded over the last four decades to a 180-seat restaurant offering traditional Maritime and seafood dishes, and a two-level gift shop with one of the Maritimes largest selections of gift ware.

Depart Peggy's Cove for Chester & Lunenburg via the Lighthouse Rte/Peggy's Cove Rd/NS-333W and NS Rte 3W

Early summer settlers travelled for many miles by sea to <u>Chester</u>, a captivating seaside hamlet, and their descendants are still sailing the pristine waters to unspoiled islands today. Founded by New Englanders in 1759, this prosperous looking town with its elegant frame houses has long been favoured by yachting enthusiasts. Chester Race Week (August) hosts the largest keel boat regatta in Eastern Canada. Charming restaurants, shops, art galleries, an art fair, free Sunday night concerts in the bandstand and a full line up of professional theatre make this a great place to drop anchor and find your magic.

En route to Lunenburg be sure to stop for several photo opportunities in Mahone Bay.

Mahone Bay, a treasure since 1745, is named one of Canada's best small-town downtown. The town's famous "three churches" stand side by side at the waterfront creating one of the region's most famous views and photo ops. Described by the New York Times as "pretty as a picture", the town bustles with activity during its popular festivals, such as the Great Scarecrow Festival, the Classic Boat Festival and the Father Christmas Festival. Art galleries, specialty shops such as Amos Pewter, Birdsall Pottery, The Mahone Bay Quilt Shop, Spruce Top Rugs, etc. are all within an easy stroll. Local favourite treat stops include The Biscuit Eater and JoAnne's Market.

Continue to Lunenburg via Lighthouse Route (NS Route 3 W)

The seafaring town of <u>Lunenburg</u>, where the colourful waterfront, narrow streets and captivating architecture radiate the flavour of the town's rum running and ship building heritage. Old Town Lunenburg is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site (one of three in the province!) and is home to Nova Scotia's famous racing schooner, Bluenose II, which is also featured on the Canadian ten-cent piece.



Lunch (Mahone Bay & Lunenburg area)

Rebecca's Restaurant (Mahone Bay)
The Biscuit Eater Cafe (Mahone Bay)

Salt Shaker Deli (Lunenburg)
Old Fish Factory (Lunenburg)

Day 3 - South Shore

Afternoon

TOUR: Lunenburg Walking Tour* (97 Kaulbach St, Lunenburg) (*Reservations recommended)

The Essential Lunenburg Walking Tour is a great way see the spectacular sites around every corner in Old Town Lunenburg. This hour-long tour is brimming with local history and 18th century and Victorian architecture. Along the way, guides make the sites come alive with cultural tidbits like superstitions, folklore, and local facts, and they weave it all together with lots of unique personal stories and visitor recommendations.

TOUR: Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic (68 Bluenose Dr, Lunenburg)

Your Lunenburg Walking Tour will conclude on the waterfront at the Museum. Explore an aspect of Lunenburg's history in the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, where you will hear and see the stories of strong men in Tall Ships and the impact the fishing industry has on Nova Scotia's economy.

Stop by for a tasting at <u>Ironworks Distillery</u>, a boutique distillery housed in an old ironworks building which now makes vodka from apples grown in the Annapolis Valley! They also make blueberry, raspberry and cranberry liqueurs from local berries and they make rum distilled straight from Crosby's molasses as well.

If time permits, take a side-trip (about 10 minutes from Lunenburg) to the village of Blue Rocks. Still a working fishing village with blue slate rocks on the edge of the ocean, it's a dream location as an artisan or photographer's muse. The fish shack sitting in the water is the one of the most photographed buildings in the county.

Dinner (Mahone Bay & Lunenburg area)

Oh My Cod! (Mahone Bay)
Mateus Bistro (Mahone Bay)

Grand Banker Bar & Grill (Lunenburg)
Lincoln Street Food (Lunenburg)
Beach Pea Kitchen & Bar (Lunenburg)

Accommodations

Alicion Inn (66 McDonald Street, Lunenburg)



Situated on a large corner of New Town just a 10-minute walk from the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage waterfront, this revival style mansion was built in 1911 as the family home of successful Lunenburg businessman, philanthropist, and federal politician, Senator William Duff. Bright, spacious, and well-appointed rooms offer contemporary comfort with a nod to the mansion's 100-year legacy. Enjoy king bed comfort with spa tubs, soft bathrobes, in-room tea and coffee and smart TVs with cable. Relax on the wrap-around veranda or practice your short game on our putting green, Alicion is a welcoming home for you in Lunenburg.

Day 4 - Shelburne

Morning

Depart Lunenburg to continue your journey to Shelburne along NS-103 W

For a scenic drive along the water, take Route 331 (continuation of the Lighthouse Route) to Crescent Beach, a beautiful 2 km stretch of beach in LaHave on the Lighthouse Route. This crescent shaped strip connects the mainland to the LaHave Islands. Nearby, you will find clamming and kayaking opportunities and birdwatching. This spot has seen eagles, gulls, and plovers! Plus there are numerous other beaches along the route to explore.

The town of <u>Liverpool</u> has long been known as the "Port of the Privateers" in recognition of when prohibition in the United States allowed Liverpool to become a rum running centre in the 1920's. Today, in addition to the traditional industries, Liverpool is renowned for its cultural and natural landscape and is the home to several international festivals, artisan galleries and cultural centres. Take a stroll along the waterfront or visit Fort Point Lighthouse.

Lunch

Paul's Café Bistro Restaurant (Liverpool)

Afternoon

Travel along Route 3 W or Hwy 103 W to the Loyalist Town of <u>Shelburne</u>. This small fishing community, nestled on the third finest natural harbour in the world, was once the fourth largest community in North America when, during the American Revolution in 1783, about 3000 United Empire Loyalists arrived in ships from New York City and the population quickly grew to more than 10,000. The population, which had grown so quickly, then decreased within twenty years to a few hundred as the Loyalists moved to other destinations.

Visit Shelburne's Waterfront Heritage District, which retains an aura of the 18th century. Learn first-hand how to make a Shelburne Dory – and what makes it different from a Lunenburg Dory – at The Dory Shop. Then take one out for a spin on the harbour! Make your way to the Shelburne County Museum that highlights the Loyalist connections in the area. Each September, Shelburne plays host of one of Canada's premier wind-driven events ... The Whirligig & Weathervane Festival is the first of its kind in North America and has been judged the "Best Community Event in Nova Scotia" and is a guaranteed "family-pleaser" event.

Dinner in Shelburne

The Emerald Light (Shelburne)

Accommodations

Cooper's Inn (36 Dock Street, Shelburne)

A registered, award-winning Heritage Property (c.1785), located in the Historic Waterfront District of Shelburne. Easy walking distance to museums, shops, galleries and restaurants offering fine dining. One elegant housekeeping suite comprising entire 3rd floor (2 queen beds), and 7 rooms (king, queen, twin): ensuite 3-piece (shower) or 4-piece bath, cable TV, hairdryer, robes, in-room coffee/tea; private entrances; Wi-Fi and a generous full breakfast. While there, take a moment to relax in their private peaceful garden to read a book, relax or plan your next adventure.



Day 5 – Yarmouth / Digby

Morning

Before departing for Yarmouth, consider heading to Kejimkujik National Park Seaside (30 mins East of Shelburne) if you did not get an opportunity to stop there en route from Lunenburg.



For ocean-lovers, the Kejimkujik National Park Seaside is a bounty of white sand beaches, turquoise waters, and abundant shorebirds and wildlife. Kejimkujik National Park Seaside is a wild and isolated 22 km² stretch of coastline west of Liverpool in the South Shore region with two scenic trails – Harbour Rock Trail (5.2 km return) and Port Joli Head Trail (8.7 km return). Hiking trails bring hikers to glacier-carved headlands, secluded rocky coves and broad sweeps of silver sand. Seals and shorebirds are frequently observed just off shore. Other features include interpretation panels, and picnic tables.

After a nice hike to the seaside, head towards Yarmouth via NS 103 W

Continue en route to Yarmouth via Route NS 103 W or the scenic route follow NS 3 West to Pubnico

Visit Birchtown, the first free black settlement in Canada with the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists. The Black Loyalist Heritage Centre honours the Black Loyalists and their ancestry. On site you can walk the Black Burial Grounds, visit St. Paul's Anglican Church, take a stroll along the Heritage Walking Trail and visit the Heritage Museum. For those who have descendants who escaped slavery in the 1780s and made their way to Nova Scotia, this is one of the best places to do your genealogical digging.

The <u>Municipality of Barrington</u> is known as The Lobster Capital of Canada! Here you will discover fantastic culinary experiences offering some of the freshest seafood around, outdoor adventure, beautiful white sand beaches, and majestic lighthouses, one of the best birding destinations in Eastern Canada and engaging museums. Uncover an area rich in historic charm and mysterious pasts. Barrington's inhabitants are mostly descendants of the first settlers from Chatham and Harwich of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, who emigrated to the area during the 1760's.



<u>Lumberjack AXEperience</u> (5 Petticoat Lane, Barrington) features 7-time World Champion logroller, Darren Hudson, who offers you the chance to be a lumberjack for the day. Learn skills like axe throwing, logrolling, tree climbing and competitive sawing alongside the picturesque Barrington River.

The <u>Barrington Woolen Mill Museum</u> offers daily demonstrations of spinning, dyeing, and weaving of wool – you can even give it a try yourself! Check out the mural that includes the very first piece of Nova Scotia Tartan, which celebrated 60 years in 2013.

This area is one of the best birding destinations in Eastern Canada. The <u>Cape Sable Island</u> area features an unparalleled diversity of birds, especially during spring and fall migration. Hawks, warblers, sea ducks, even falcons and owls are regulars, and numerous rare and accidental sightings make this location exceptional. The area is home to 4 Important Bird Areas, including Eastern Cape Sable Island, Bon Portage Island, Barrington Bay and Baccaro.

Follow Highway 103 W to Exit 31 to Le Village historique acadien de la Nouvelle Ecosse. Located on a beautiful 17-acre site overlooking Pubnico Harbour, Le Village (Historical Acadian Village of Nova Scotia) invites you to step back in time and discover a village depicting Acadian life, in the early 1900's. Enjoy an Acadian lunch by the shore and then learn what life was like for Acadian families in the early 1900s. On site programs introduce visitors to the daily lives of Acadians. Girls learn skills such as sewing, doing laundry, cooking, making butter and candles. Boys learn skills such as tying knots, trying their hand at woodworking, watching the construction of a wooden lobster trap, learning the proper way to stack wood and helping in and planting the garden.

Day 5 – Yarmouth / Digby

Make your way towards Yarmouth. If time permits, there are several attractions enroute such as the <u>Wedgeport Sport Tuna Fishing Museum</u>. A museum and interpretive centre, featuring mementos and pictures from the 1930s to the '70s of the Sport Tuna Fishing Capital of the World. Fishing exhibits, fish tank, touch tank, Acadian history, Wedgeport general history & videos and a nature trail.

Eglise Ste-Anne Church is the oldest Acadian parish on mainland Nova Scotia. Located in Ste Anne du Ruisseau. A municipally registered heritage property, the architecture and decor of Eglise Ste-Anne Church speaks eloquently of local faith and artisanship. In 1999, a painting of the annunciation was found in the church rectory's attic and is believed to have entered the collection of the church through its founder Father Sigogne in 1799. The Argyle Historical Baptist Church was built c. 1877, and is representative of rural Protestant Churches erected by the Planters. This particular location is significant, in that genealogical records and fieldstones in the accompanying graveyard date to 1762. It is rare to find so many fieldstones as intact as in this location. The Argyle Township Court House is the oldest standing courthouse in Canada (a National Historic Site), built in 1805 and restored in 1982. Includes cellblock, jail-keeper's quarters, furnished courtroom, grand jury room and judges' chambers. Guided tours are available.

Lunch

Rudder's Seafood Restaurant & Brew Pub (Yarmouth)
The Shanty Cafe (Yarmouth)

Afternoon



While in Yarmouth explore the <u>Town of Yarmouth</u>, the regional centre of South Western Nova Scotia. The port of Yarmouth, located in the heart of the world's largest lobster fishing grounds, is central to Yarmouth's history and development. With Canada's most lucrative fishing industry, Yarmouth and the Acadian Shores have a culture and economy historically tied to fishing and related industries. Walk along a number of the oldest streets in Yarmouth and see some of their finest examples of Heritage Properties. Many of these lovely homes are a testament to the golden age of sail. Or get a glimpse into Yarmouth's past with Yarmouth Walking Tours - each tour is a unique experience with stories told at beautifully selected locations throughout the Town of Yarmouth.

Yarmouth offers several museums and galleries to check out such as the <u>W. Laurence Sweeney Fisheries Museum</u>. This museum was created by Mr. Sweeney's son and daughters to tell the story of the men and women of W. Laurence Sweeney Fisheries Limited. The original Sweeney Fisheries buildings and wharfs were reassembled to create a scaled-down reproduction of the working waterfront of Yarmouth's past.

The <u>Yarmouth County Museum</u> is an award-winning museum with over 20,000 artifacts that document Yarmouth County's heritage in an historic former church. The museum also houses the 3rd largest ship portrait collection in Canada. The <u>Western Branch of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia</u> is the only satellite gallery in Canada. Its establishment helps fulfill the Gallery's mandate of making art more accessible across the province and bringing the visual arts and Nova Scotians together.

Take a drive out to <u>Cape Forchu Lightstation</u> (1856 Cape Forchu, Hwy #304, Yarmouth). Willem Dafoe, co-star of the critically lauded and Nova Scotia-shot movie, *The Lighthouse*, was filmed in the spring of 2018 on sets and locations around Yarmouth, including scenic Cape Forchu, Stretch your legs with a walk around The Leif Ericsson Park, a new development of walking paths, picnic sites, and benches with views, located at the southern tip of the site, surrounded by water and offering great photo opportunities. Along the way, find "hidden treasures" though select geo caches on site.



Day 5 – Yarmouth / Digby

Depart Yarmouth for Digby via NS 101 E

The Evangeline Trail parallels the Fundy coast, passing through some of North America's earliest European history and the delightful villages and orchards of the Annapolis Valley. It's a journey that spans 400 years of settlement, a journey that will take you past forts, farms and fishing villages, a journey rich in culture, diversity, charm and natural beauty.



Travel along Route 1 in the Clare region to experience first-hand the Acadian traditions! Imagine splicing rope for lobster traps with a fisherman, while smelling the ocean and feeling the salt breeze. Nova Scotia is one of the largest fisheries in Canada and the "Living Wharves" program is a hands-on opportunity to experience the tools and skills of our fishery and hear tall tales from real fishermen. The Living Wharves experience is seasonal (July to September) and offered in the afternoon around various regions near Yarmouth.

Rendez Vous de la Baie in Church Point on the campus of Université Sainte-Anne is where you can take a guided interpretive walk to discover the history and natural beauty of the Petit Bois. This tour takes you through the Université Sainte-Anne Campus, situated in the middle of a wooded environment along the majestic shores of Saint Mary's Bay. Observe local wildlife and plants. Learn about the biological studies of the duck and owl habitats. Or visit the Church next door to the Université Sainte-Anne Campus. This large, granite church is a prime example of early twentieth-century gothic architecture.

Dinner

Lazy Bear Brewing (Smith's Cove)
Tacocat (Smith's Cove)
Fundy Restaurant (Digby)
The Crow's Nest (Digby)

Accommodations

Harbourview Inn (25 Harbourview Road, Smith's Cove)

Harbourview Inn, a beautiful century-old B&B inn situated in the tranquil country setting of Smith's Cove. This Inn features 11 air-conditioned, non-smoking guest rooms and suites with private four-piece bath, telephone, radio, cable television, DVD player, Wi-Fi, coffeemaker along with a delicious full breakfast. They also feature three cottages (ranging from 2 to 4 bedrooms) with various bathroom configurations. Guests are welcome to take a refreshing dip in our outdoor swimming pool, enjoy a game of tennis or stroll along the beach, which is just a short walk down a country lane from the Inn.



Summer's Country Inn (16 Warwick Street, Digby)



Conveniently located in the heart of the seaside town of Digby, Summer's Country Inn is a restored 19th-century country inn with beautifully decorated rooms. Home to the famous scallops, the Country Inn is a short walk to the waterfront boardwalk and an array of shops, cafés, and restaurants. Plus the Inn is only a short drive to the Digby/Saint John ferry terminal. Their accommodations include 9 air-conditioned guest rooms with double or queen-sized beds, private baths, cable television, onsite parking and a full complimentary breakfast. They also offer two 1-bedroom housekeeping units near the waterfront, separate from the Inn.

Day 7 - Digby / Annapolis Royal

Morning

The <u>Bay of Fundy</u> is rich in natural history, particularly migrating shore birds, whales, shad and other marine life. In late July and early August, before flying non-stop to South America, over two million semipalmated sandpipers refuel on the mud shrimp exposed by the receding Fundy tides. The power of nature is evident all along the magnificent Fundy coast, with its world-famous tides and ever-changing landscape of rocky shores, fertile farmlands, salt marshes and broad sandy beaches. It's a naturalist's dream!

<u>Digby</u>, also known as "the scallop capital of the world", offers visitors a wide variety of interesting activities, dramatic natural attractions, and is close to the best whale watching in North America. Drive along the Digby Neck for whale watching tours. Long Island and Brier Islands lie just beyond this narrow strip of land as it casts out into the rich waters of the world-famous Bay of Fundy. (*Reservations recommended)

TOURS:

Petite Passage Whale Watch* (East Ferry)

For those who prefer a little more stability in their water-based vessels, Petite Passage offers two whale watching cruises daily aboard the "Passage Provider 04", a 14-m (45-ft) Cape Island style boat which can accommodate 45 passengers.



After your whale watching tour, depart Tiverton or East Ferry (Digby Neck) for Annapolis Royal via Route 217 E to NS 101 E

Lunch (Pre or post whale watching tour)

<u>The Schoolhouse Cafe</u> (Digby Neck, en route to East Ferry/Tiverton) <u>Petit Passage Café</u> (East Ferry)

Afternoon

Depart Digby for Annapolis Royal via NS 101 E



The historic town of Annapolis Royal is a beautiful community that was originally inhabited by a strong Mi'kmaq community before it became home in 1605 to some of North America's earliest European settlers. Stroll down St. George Street, one of the oldest streets in North America. In a beautiful setting overlooking a tidal river valley, the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens is a premiere Nova Scotia attraction showcasing gardening methods, designs and materials representing more than four hundred years of local history. Or step foot onto Canada's oldest National Historic Site and one of the most hotly contested pieces of land on the entire continent at Fort Anne National Historic Site.

Port-Royal was established in 1605 as the first European settlement north of Florida. The colony was constructed by French merchant and explorer, Pierre Dugua, Sieur de Mons, and his cartographer, Samuel de Champlain. Champlain declared that the site was "the most suitable and pleasant for a settlement that we had seen." They called the spot Port-Royal, in recognition of the French king. The Mi'kmaq people, who had lived in the region for thousands of years prior to the arrival of the colonists, welcomed the French and a friendship and alliance was formed.



<u>Garrison Grill</u> (Garrison House Inn, Annapolis Royal) <u>Founders House</u> (Highway 1, Annapolis Royal)

Accommodations

Garrison House Inn (350 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal)

The Garrison House Inn is a restored heritage property, circa 1854, offering an old-world experience with modern day comforts. It features 7 bright, airy bedrooms, all air conditioned, offering fine furnishings, cable 32" LCD Flat Screen TV and all with private ensuite bathrooms recently renovated with Italian tile. Their elegant 45 seat restaurant is known for serving the finest of cuisine using local and organic foods, thus supporting our regional agricultural and fishing industries. In summer and fall, guests may choose to dine al fresco style on the 22-seat, screened verandah overlooking the National Historic Site of Fort Anne, cooled by the sea breezes of the Annapolis Basin.



The Hillsdale House Inn (519 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal)



Hillsdale House Inn was built in 1859 by Susan Forbes Foster. She operated Hillsdale House as a first-rate inn, and for more than 150 years the inn has been accommodating visitors to Annapolis Royal. This 12 acre estate offers 13 well-appointed, individually decorated guestrooms combining a refreshing mix of Victorian charm, timeless hospitality and many of the comforts of modern lifestyle (such as private ensuite baths, cable TV, and internet access throughout). Their goal is to weave the intimacy of a bed & breakfast inn with the privacy and conveniences of a small hotel; the best of both worlds. Imagine relaxing after your full country breakfast in the Foster or Perkins Parlour, the covered or open veranda, or in their fine gardens.

Carlisle House Inn (548 St. George Street, Annapolis Royal)

Built in 1868 by Captain Barteaux, a French sea captain who immigrated to Annapolis Royal (formerly known as Port Royal), Carlisle House Inn boasts an elegance of yesteryear with the modern conveniences of a modern country inn. The Inn offers nine recently renovated guest rooms each with private ensuite baths, and a grand dinning room serving scrumptious breakfast and afternoon tea. Enjoy assorted sweets, cucumber sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and of course a selection of fine teas all served with white linens, antique teacups and silver place settings.



Day 8 - Wolfville / Windsor

Morning

Depart Annapolis Royal for Wolfville via NS 101 E



Spend the morning exploring the <u>Wolfville</u>/Grand Pré area, with its dykelands, orchards and vineyards, rolling across to the shores of the Bay of Fundy, inspiring everyone from poets of the past to some of today's finest chefs and vintners. The Wolfville area has some of the Valley's finest selection of locally grown fruits and vegetables in addition to homemade jams, fresh local honey, mouth-watering baked goods and more! <u>Noggins Corner Market</u>, <u>Hennigars Farm Market</u>, <u>Elderkins Farm Market & U-Pick</u>, <u>Stirlings</u> ... there are so many to choose from!

TOUR: Grand Pré National Historic Site (2205 Grand Pré Road, Grand Pré)

Located within the heart of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a visit to Grand Pré National Historic Site will immerse you in some of Nova Scotia's Acadian history and culture. Here you can also begin to see the impact the world's highest tides from the Bay of Fundy have on the landscape and agriculture in the region. Click for the Activity Schedule.

In Grand Pre, take in the amazing smells of unique herbs and fruits at <u>The Tangled Garden</u> – its therapeutic just walking thru the gardens! Sit in a charming little building in the midst of the garden, sipping tea or coffee from vintage china while the perfume of roses wafts around you.

Visit the charming little village of Hall's Harbour, home to the "Lobster in the Rough" dining experience hosted at Halls Harbour Lobster Pound & Restaurant. During the warm weather, locals and visitors alike flock to this tiny fishing village to select and have prepared in the on-site cook shack, a sample of the world-renowned Bay of Fundy lobster. The experience is heightened by devouring this delicacy while seated in the waterfront dining room, the prime stage for observing the highest tides in the world. At low tide the wharf is high and dry, and the fishing boats wait patiently on the harbour bottom until the tide rises as much as an inch a minute to the 40-foot-high tide mark on the wharf. The scene is set with some lobster traps, fishing boats, the scents of pine and sea wrack with a gang of hungry seagulls hanging around. Is there a better way to eat lobster?

Lunch

<u>Halls Harbour Lobster Pound & Restaurant</u> (Halls Harbour) <u>Luckett Vineyards</u> (Wolfville) *Seasonal

Afternoon

<u>Luckett Vineyards</u> overlooks and is influenced by the Bay of Fundy. After lunch, take a guided tour of the vineyard following by a tasting of their wines. Don't forget your photo-op in the Red Phone Box located in the middle of the vineyard!

Additional wineries in the area that you can tour and taste are: Benjamin Bridge, Blomidon Estate Winery, Domaine de Grand Pré, Gaspereau Vineyard, L'Acadie Vineyards, Lightfoot & Wolfville Vineyards, , Mercator Vineyards, Planter's Ridge, Saint Famille Wines, along with Avondale Sky Winery and Bent Ridge Winery located a little further outside of the Wolfville area.



<u>Foxhill Farm & Cheese House</u> (Port Williams) crafts over 20 varieties of cheese using milk from their own herd of Holstein cows. Their yogurt, gelato and fresh pasteurized non-homogenized milk packaged in glass bottles are so popular that they have become known as "The Annapolis Valley Dairy Store".

The <u>Annapolis Cider Company</u> opened on Main Street in May 2016. Their apples are grown in nearby orchards, pressed into juice just down the road, and fermented into cider at the cidery in downtown Wolfville. Stop by for a tour!

Day 8 – Wolfville / Windsor

Dinner

<u>Lightfoot & Wolfville Vineyards</u> (Wolfville) <u>Juniper Food & Wine</u> (Wolfville)

Bent Ridge Winery (Windsor) Spitfire Arms Pub (Windsor)



Accommodations

Tattingstone Inn (620 Main Street, Wolfville)



Offering casual elegance in an historic setting, the Tattingstone Inn (a Registered Heritage Property, Italianate Georgian, c. 1874) features 12 beautifully appointed rooms along with 2 luxury suites all surrounded by beautifully landscaped outdoor areas. We are a short stroll away from the downtown core where you will find unique shops and excellent casual and fine dining establishments as well as local pubs and cafes. Accommodations include air-conditioned rooms with either king, queen, 2 double beds or 2 queen beds, a private 4-piece bath (some with a Jacuzzi and/or electric fireplace), FibreOp television and wireless internet, telephone, mini fridge, coffee maker, and a beautiful complimentary gourmet breakfast is provided.

Clockmakers Inn (1399 King Street, Windsor)

A short 20-minute drive from Wolfville, The Clockmakers Inn is located in the town of Windsor on the scenic and historical Evangeline Trail. A beautifully restored Victorian inn (circa 1894) combines romantic historic accommodations with modern amenities. Offering 4 rooms & 4 H suites (King, Queen, Double, Twin), ensuite bath (3-pc or 4-pc), A/C, CBTV, phone, hairdryer; air jet tub, sitting area, fireplace & kitchen in suites as well as a full breakfast included. The Clockmakers Inn is a provincial Heritage Property featuring antique furnishings & period décor, a guest library, parlour sunroom, large porch and lush gardens.



Day 9 – Glooscap Trail / Parrsboro

Morning

Depart Wolfville for Burntcoat Head Park via Route NS 101E / NS 215E

The Glooscap Trail evokes images of ancient legends and mysteries born of nature's beauty. Come and explore this special place, where the majestic power of the world's highest tides at the Bay of Fundy has shaped a landscape of unforgettable splendour. The trail is a trajectory of excitement and adventure, where once-in-a-lifetime experiences wait just around the next bend. Legends from the Mi'kmaq culture tell the primeval story of the Maritime provinces through tales of the mighty Glooscap, who created Five Islands and controlled the great tides with his magic. And it's the tides that create experiences that are magically unique such as walking on the ocean floor at low tide or experiencing the thrill of whitewater rafting upriver on the tidal bore.

Twice each day the Bay of Fundy fills and empties its 160 billion tons of water creating the highest tides in the world. In 1975 The Guinness Book of World Records listed Burntcoat Head in the Minas Basin, Nova Scotia as the site of the greatest average tide of 47.5 feet with an extreme range of 53.6 feet.

SELF GUIDED TOUR: <u>Burntcoat Head Park</u> (627 Burntcoat Head Rd, Noel) Please refer to the tide schedule if you wish to walk the ocean floor at low tide.

TIDE SCHEDULE: https://www.burntcoatheadpark.ca/tides/



From the Historic Village of Maitland, to the Walton Lighthouse and the sweeping vistas around the Cheverie community, Highway 215 is rich in natural beauty and things to do.

TOUR: Tidal bore rafting is the only adventure of its kind in the world ... and its right here in Nova Scotia. An



incredible phenomenon seen in very few parts of the world, tidal bores are formed as tidal waters flow into outgoing rivers. Along with your expert guide, you will set out to experience the tidal bore – up-close and personal – on an unforgettable, exhilarating Zodiac adventure. A selection of local operators who offer tidal bore rafting: <u>Bára Whitewater Rafting</u>; <u>Fundy Tidal Bore Adventures</u>; <u>River Runners Tidal Bore Rafting</u>; <u>Shubie River Wranglers</u>; <u>Shubenacadie River Adventure Tours</u> and <u>Shubenacadie Tidal Bore Rafting Resort</u>.

NOTE: Tidal bore rafting tours are scheduled according to the rising tide, therefore departure times vary daily.

Depart towards Truro via Route 236 or Route 289 / NS 102

If time permits en route, make a stop in Truro to visit the Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre (65 Treaty Trail) to not only gaze at the 40-foot statue of Glooscap but to also learn about the Mi'kmaw - the Aboriginal group of Nova Scotia. The Centre also has a modern Visitor Information Centre and a Gift Shop with a First Nation focus. Located in the heart of Truro, take a leisurely walk or relax in Victoria Park. One of this town's greatest assets, its a natural woodland park of roughly 400 acres located in the centre of town. Lepper Brook, with its two sets of waterfalls, flows through a steep tree covered rocky gorge. Several walking trails follow along the brook allowing a close view of this unique setting.

Lunch

Masstown Market (Masstown)

Masstown Market is a thriving family business that began as a farm-gate operation in the spring of 1969 and has grown to become a local landmark thanks to their tradition of quality foods, great selection, and friendly service. Stop in their Lighthouse and "Catch of the Bay" Fresh Fish Market for yummy fish & chips. Then climb to the top of the lighthouse for a panoramic 360° view of the mouth of the Bay of Fundy.



Day 9 - Parrsboro (PM)

Afternoon

Travel from Masstown to Parrsboro via route NS 2 N

You are now entering the <u>Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark</u>. This Geopark stretches along the shore from Debert to Eatonville where 300 million years ago in the Coal Age, the super continent Pangea took shape. 200 million years ago in the Age of Dinosaurs, it began to rip apart, and the modern world was born. The Cliffs of Fundy is the home of the legendary Kluscap and steeped in his legends. The origin of the Five Islands, the Three Sisters, and the special significance of Partridge Island are but a few of these stories and places. The Mi'kmaq were the first geologists of the Geopark, selecting rocks for their points and tools,



and for ceremonial use in sweat lodges. The Cliffs of Fundy honours the ethical space of the Mi'kmaq people and their oral traditions of cultural geoheritage. Stop at the Cobquid Visitors Center in Economy to get your guide book for a self-guided tour of Cliffs of Fundy geosites.

Nestled on the shores of the Bay of Fundy, <u>That Dutchman's Cheese Farm</u>, is home to Canada's finest artisan cheeses. This family business opened in 1980 is a local, family favorite, offering a rustic, easy going atmosphere to learn about and sample award winning cheeses. Browse the gift shop for Dutch gifts & treats and explore the animal and nature park.

Rising majestically from the shores of the Bay of Fundy, <u>Five Islands Provincial Park</u> is one of Nova Scotia's premiere outdoor destinations. The park features 90 metre (300 ft.) sea cliffs overlooking the world's highest tides, a spectacular setting for camping, hiking, beachcombing, rock collecting and clam digging.



The <u>Fundy Geological Museum</u> in Parrsboro displays an ancient world and some of the oldest dinosaur bones in Canada. Meet some of the ancient creatures that lived here millions of years ago: the world's first reptiles, early dinosaurs, giant dragonflies, an ancestor of frogs and a sow bug-like creature as long as a baseball bat.

The <u>Fundy Ocean Research Centre (FORCE)</u> is Canada's lead research facility for tidal stream technology, created to better understand if this technology can play a safe, effective role in Canada's energy future. FORCE acts as a host to turbine developers, providing a permitted site, electrical infrastructure, an observation facility, and connection to the power grid.

At the end of your day's adventures enjoy a locally made craft beer on the patio (or in air-conditioned comfort) at <u>Two Islands Brewing</u>, conveniently located on Main Street in Parrsboro. In the evening, attend a performance at <u>Ship's Company Theatre</u>, a prime centre for the production and development of Canadian and Atlantic Canadian theatre for over 35 years.

Dinner



Fox Point Inn (Parrsboro) (Exclusive to Fox Point Inn guests)

Blackrock Bistro & Bar (Parrsboro)

Wild Caraway (Advocate Harbour)

Day 9 - Parrsboro (PM)

Accommodation

Fox Point Inn (490 Fox Point Road, Parrsboro)

Fox Point Inn integrates seamlessly into the Bay of Fundy's landscape it is a perfect refuge for anyone contemplating an escape from the buzzing city life for a weekend getaway, that much long-awaited vacation. This boutique inn offers 5 unique suites. The two master suites on the upper level east and west wing have access to the common deck from which the tides of the Bay of Fundy can be viewed. The main level dining room offers "made to order" breakfast while the main floor garden deck offers panoramic views of the property. All units have private entrances and bathrooms and each room provides privacy, but the house offers many splendid areas to gather and share stories of your adventures at the close of the day.



Gillespie House Inn (358 Main Street, Parrsboro)



Gillespie House Inn is a gracious Queen Anne Revival farmhouse, circa 1890, set amid 2.5 acres of lawns and colourful gardens in the vibrant art community of Parrsboro, located within walking distance to the town centre and the Fundy shore where you can discover miles of hiking trails, beaches and spectacular scenery. This 4½ star historic inn was built in 1890 by David Huntley family, merchants and ship builders. Accommodations include 7 rooms (one accessible groundfloor) with ensuite 4-piece baths. Enjoy a wholesome breakfast with fair-trade coffee. Off-street parking and wireless internet are provided. The Inn is pet-friendly, and dogs are located on the premises.

The Maple Inn (2358 Western Avenue, Parrsboro)

This elegant Victorian mansion built in 1893, once served as a regional hospital from 1947-1975, and is now an eight room boutique inn located in the seaside town of Parrsboro. Operated as The Maple Inn since the 1980s, each owner/operator has meticulously curated the property, maintained the building's historic integrity as best as possible, and lovingly and carefully updated it in order to meet the needs of today's traveler. Because of their dedication, the Maple Inn will continue to be a landmark destination for generations to come. Open May thru October (off-season, weather-permitting), all guest rooms include an ensuite bathroom, flat-screen television & wireless Internet access. A full breakfast, cooked to order, is included.



Day 10 - Joggins (AM)

Morning

Depart from Parrsboro towards Advocate Harbour and Joggins via Route 209

While visiting this area consider sea kayaking on the Bay of Fundy to the iconic Three Sisters rock formation and experience how the Fundy tides have carved the rock creating caves and pinnacle rocks. Or hike the coastal trails of Cape Chignecto and experience 600-foot cliffs, deep forest ravines and deserted driftwood beaches. Over 50 km of backcountry and day hiking trails await. Visit Cape D'Or Lighthouse, one of Nova Scotia's most scenic lighthouses and witness the power of the Fundy tides create rip tides and whirlpools.

TOUR: NovaShores Adventures (37 School Lane, Advocate Harbour) Kayak the Bay of Fundy with the highest tides in the world along the tallest cliffs on mainland Nova Scotia. Navigate your kayak through narrow archways and get rewarded by the majestic view of the legendary Three Sisters and numerous astounding geological features. Professional tour guides ensure your safety while you are entertained by stories about the rich geology and the great ship building of the past





Explore <u>Joggins Fossil Cliffs</u> on the Bay of Fundy, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. These magnificently exposed layers of rock reveal the world's most complete fossil record of life in the Coal Age when lush forests covered Joggins and much of the world's tropics, 300 million years ago. The swamp forests produced massive quantities of organic matter that, over millions of years, created the coal deposits for which this period of history is named. Embedded in 15 kilometres of accessible coastal cliffs, rare fossils reveal details of life in the Coal Age. Find your own fossil on the beach and learn about its history from the fossil experts on hand!

Or travel off the beaten path towards Springhill and visit the <u>Anne Murray Centre</u>. Experience the incredible life and times of Springhill's internationally acclaimed songstress Anne Murray. Step into the remarkable story of this Canadian icon and take an intimate look at her humble beginnings, flight to fame, and enduring contributions to the world of music.

Travel towards Tatamagouche via a detour to Amherst, or a more direct route via Oxford or Pugwash/Wallace.

Lunch

Frank & Gino's (Amherst)
Duncan's Pub (Amherst)
<u>The Chestnutt Café</u> (Pugwash)



Day 10 - Tatamagouche (PM)

Afternoon

Explore the <u>Village of Tatamagouche</u>. The vibrant community has a population of 600 and boasts art galleries, museums, craft shops, restaurants, cultural center & a marina. Tatamagouche (native Mi'kmaq word meaning "meeting of waters") is a unique area where the old and the new exist in harmony.



Creamery Square Heritage Centre is a museum complex combining the Sunrise Trail Museum, Brule Fossils, Anna Swan Museum, & North Shore Archives. The fossil collection is from one of the most important trackway sites in the world. Housed in Creamery Square Heritage Centre, the Giantess Anna Swan Museum is a fascinating collection of artifacts that tells the life story of the local giantess who grew to almost 8 feet (2.4 m) in height. Anna joined Barnum Circus at 16, married the "Kentucky Giant" Martin Van Burren Bates, and later became good friends with Queen Victoria.

The <u>Sutherland Steam Mill</u>, restored as it looked when it was built in 1894, is a prime example of a busy sawmill which could turn out four times as much lumber as a water powered one. The Sutherland family, makers of sleighs, carriages, windows and gingerbread trim for homes, operated the mill until 1958.

The <u>Tatamagouche Brewing Co.</u> is a family owned & operated organic craft brewery located in the heart of Tatamagouche. In 2014, they converted an old butcher shop into a community brewery where they make small batches of tasty, hand crafted beer.

The <u>Tatamagouche Road Train</u> allows citizens and visitors to travel the Trans Canada Trail from one end of the village to the other taking in wonderful places to visit, such as the Train Station Inn, Creamery Square, Farmers Market complex, Paterson's Wharf picnic area and up to the scenic Nelson Memorial Park. This train is the first of its kind in Canada. The train has been built to an established design consisting of a diesel, two-seat locomotive pulling a 28-seat open style coach and is fully licensed and insured. The train will run as a free mode of transport with donation boxes mounted on the train itself as a means of sustaining viability.

Dinner

<u>Train Station Inn</u> (Tatamagouche)

Accommodation

Train Station Inn (21 Station Road, Tatamagouche)

The Train Station Inn, circa 1887, situated on the Northumberland Shore, offers a unique country inn experience with its spacious cabooses and furnishings reflecting its railway past. Restored in the 1980s, each of the cabooses have been renovated into deluxe accommodations with railway memorabilia. Accommodations include nine suites with queen beds in private air-conditioned railway cars, with 3-piece baths (shower), cable television, mini-fridge and a coffeemaker. Their licensed 1928 railway dining car offers take-out breakfast and lunch with ample seating on our railway platform for al fresco



dining. The train station also houses an extensive gift shop that sits along the old railway bed which is now the beautiful Trans Canada Trail, perfect for cycling, walking, exploring & hiking.

Day 11 – Northumberland Shore (AM)

Morning

Depart Tatamagouche along the coast towards Pictou via Hwy/NS 6E or Antigonish via NS 6E/NS 104 E



En route to Cape Breton, consider a detour to visit <u>Sugar Moon Farm</u> in Earltown to savour their "all day maple brunch". Sugar Moon Farm is Nova Scotia's award-winning, year-round maple syrup farm and dining experience. Canadian Living Magazine recently declared their pancakes to be among the best in the country! At the Farm, you can learn about the history and craft of maple sugaring in the sugar camp and have a hearty breakfast before you set off on your travels for the day!

Head north and travel along part of the Northumberland Shore en route to Cape Breton Island. A meandering coastal drive that winds some 200 km with endless beaches out one window and idyllic countryside out the other. The region is well known for its warm gentle waters, fun-loving character and an abundance of big festivals and music-filled gatherings. No doubt it is this special combination of people and landscape that makes this a place that is also rich in finely skilled artists, artisans and craftspeople.



At the <u>Lismore Sheep Farm Wool Shop</u> in River John, guests to the farm can visit the sheep and explore the assortment of handcrafted products including woollen blankets and wooden knitting needles. Visit the <u>Seafoam Lavender Farm</u>, a small, family-owned/operated agricultural business, dedicated to producing superior-quality, direct-from-the-farm lavender products. Each product is individually made in small batches to ensure freshness.

There are several <u>artisans</u> located on the Northumberland shore. There may even be the chance for you to try your hand at fitting stained glass, carving wood to craft a face or hooking a rug.

Adopt-a-Lobster in Pictou at the <u>Northumberland Fisheries Museum & Hatchery.</u> The Lobster Stock Enhancement Research Project was established in response to the steady decline in lobster landings in Fishing Area 26A seen since the 1980s. This year-round project aims to promote the future health of lobster fishing by restocking the depleting resource. On site, you can see the 'lobster birthing tank' and examine live lobsters from infancy to 4-5 weeks old. After adopting your lobster, you can release it back into Pictou Harbour at the end of the dock.



After adopting your lobster, head next door to the <u>Hector Heritage Quay</u>, a living-history attraction that tells the story of 18th-century Scottish migration to the New World and the role of Ship Hector in making Pictou the "Birthplace of New Scotland". Travel back in time through the centre and then step on board the full-size replica of Ship Hector dockside.

Lunch

<u>Pictou Lodge</u> (Pictou)
<u>Gabrieau's Bistro</u> (Antigonish) *Tuesday-Friday for lunch only.



Day 11 - Cape Breton (PM)

Afternoon

Depart Pictou/Antigonish and continue towards Cape Breton via Hwy/NS 104 E

Scottish traditions and Gaelic folklore come alive along the Ceilidh Trail. Ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) is Gaelic for party or gathering, and if you listen closely you might hear the heart-stirring music of bagpipes and fiddles echoing through the glens of this beautiful corner of Cape Breton Island. Celtic music in North America was born here and if the musicians of Cape Breton can't get your toes tapping, you better check your pulse!



The <u>Celtic Music Interpretive Centre</u> (1547 Highway 19, Judique) was built to share the culture of Cape Breton with its visitors. Professional musicians are always on hand to talk about the traditional music of Cape Breton and give live demonstrations. Learn to play a tune on the fiddle or a step yourself!

Take Route 252 to NS 105 North heading towards Baddeck and then North River.



The charming village of Baddeck is located on the shoreline of the Bras d'Or Lake, where you will find the summer home of Alexander Graham Bell, who built two homes on his estate he called "Beinn Bhreagh", Scottish Gaelic for "Beautiful Mountain". The Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site, operated by Parks Canada, commemorates the genius and compassion of this renowned inventor. Exhibits show how he and his associates achieved Canada's first powered flight with their airplane Silver Dart, produced the world's fastest watercraft, advanced

recording technology, designed giant kites and, of course, invented the telephone. When you visit, inquire about the "white glove" tour to view some of Bell's unique creations.

Dinner

The Red Shoe Pub (Mabou)
Glenora Distillery (Glenville)
Chanterelle Country Inn & Cottages (North River)

Accommodations (Two nights Recommended)

Chanterelle Country Inn & Cottages (North River, Cape Breton Island)



The 100-acre estate of the Chanterelle Country Inn and Cottages is the place to "just be" on the Cabot Trail. Celebrating the beauty and the bounty of Cape Breton Island, it sits high on a brae overlooking the estuary of the North River as it flows into St. Ann's Harbour. Accommodations include nine rooms and three one-bedroom housekeeping cottages all with 4-piece baths. An eco-award-winning property, the inn is chemical and fragrance-free. Guest can relax with a good book from the extensive library, take the path to the gazebo and pedal boats on the harbour or go into the woods on one of the many nature trails. Buffet breakfast features organic, locally sourced food and

is included for Inn guests (available to cottage guests for an extra charge) with the licensed dining room serving a fresh Cape Breton menu each evening (reservations required).

Day 12 - Cabot Trail

Morning

Depart North River towards Cape Breton Highlands National Park via route NS-30



The <u>Cabot Trail</u> winds around the rocky splendour of Cape Breton's northern shore, ascending to the incredible plateaus of <u>Cape Breton Highlands National Park</u>. This magnificent highway is carved into the sides of mountains that rise high above the shimmering waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where eagles soar above you, seals splash below you and moose wander alongside. **NOTE:** An entry permit (purchased at the main gate) is required for use of any Park facility as well as the Cape Breton Highlands Links Golf Course.

TOUR: Keltic Express Zodiac Adventure* (101 Wharf Street, Ingonish) *Reservations recommended Discover the beauty of Northern Cape Breton Island and marine life near the coast. Explore sea caves along the rugged shores; learn the history of a light keeper's station; and experience the intrigue of being next to whales, dolphins, seals or even a leather back turtle! Marine birds such as northern gannets, bald eagles and puffins are spotted on nearly every trip. They offer four tours daily in season and reservations are recommended.

TIP: If time permits, visit Dingwall and Meat Cove for stunning views of the mountains from the shoreline.

Lunch

The Rusty Anchor Restaurant (Pleasant Bay)

Afternoon

Continue along the Cabot Trail towards Cheticamp via NS-30.

SELF GUIDED TOUR: Skyline Trail

(Located on the Cabot Trail at the top of French Mountain) Hike the Skyline Trail, a 6.5 km long return trail, where a dramatic headland cliff overlooks the rugged coast from the end of this level trail. You can enjoy an eagle's view of the Cabot Trail as it winds its way down the mountain – where vehicles look like toys. Watch for whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence from the viewing decks. Moose, bald eagles, bears and numerous boreal birds live in this habitat. Be sure to give moose a wide berth!



Learn how to rug hook in the Acadian village of Cheticamp at The Elizabeth LeFort Gallery & Museum at Les Trois Pignons - Dr. Elizabeth LeFort was the first person in the world to hook portraits in wool and is known internationally as "Canada's Artist in wool". Visit her gallery in Cheticamp to reveal photographs her portraits of John F. Kennedy, Jacquelyn Kennedy and Prince Charles and 20 of her actual works including "The Canadian Centennial" and "The Presidential History". These massive works of art will leave you spell-bound.

TOUR: Captain Zodiac Whale Cruises* (15407 Cabot Trail, Cheticamp) *Reservations recommended With Captain Zodiac chose one of two experience options: coastal snorkelling or whale watching. Snorkelling the rugged coastline includes sea caves and coves. These beautiful areas are only accessible by boat. The regular whale watching tours depart twice daily and last approximately 2 to 3 hours.

Travel back to North River via NS-30 towards Baddeck.

Accommodations & Dinner

Chanterelle Country Inn & Cottages (North River, Cape Breton Island)

Day 13 - Sydney & Louisbourg

Morning

Depart North River towards Sydney via NS-105 E

Take a slight detour en route to Sydney and visit the <u>Gaelic College of Arts & Crafts</u>. The college was founded in 1938 by Rev. A.W.R. MacKenzie as a school devoted to the study and preservation of the Gaelic language, Celtic arts & culture. The only institution of its kind in North America, students of all ages and ability travel here from around the world. The Great Hall of Clans provides clan descriptions alongside dressed wax models



Sydney was founded in 1785 and named in honour of Britain's Home Secretary at the time, Thomas Townsend, 1st Viscount Sydney; a few years later, Sydney, Australia would also be named after him. Sydney's original settlers included former soldiers and Loyalists escaping the chaos following the American Revolution. Take a leisurely walk along the harbourfront and be sure to get your photo taken beside the world's largest fiddle, built in recognition of Cape Breton's musical talent.

Craft lovers will definitely want to visit the <u>Cape Breton Centre for Craft and Design</u>, featuring a gallery of work by Cape Breton artisans in a variety of media, including textile, clay, glass and wood. If you want to satisfy your sweet tooth, stop by the <u>Cape Breton Fudge Company</u>, where you can enjoy delicious, homemade fudge while sipping a coffee and listening to local musicians in an intimate atmosphere.

Experience the stories and oral history regarding the people of the Community of Membertou through enactments and cultural presentations. Walk with a tour guide and/or Elder through the <u>Membertou Heritage Park</u> and learn about the unique history, heritage and culture through educational and interactive experiences. The Park honours the spirituality and the strength of the Membertou people telling the story of Membertou, educating and sharing the Mi'kmaq culture and assisting in the preservation of the Mi'kmaq heritage.

Just 30 minutes from Sydney is the <u>Cape Breton Miners' Museum</u>, where visitors can learn about the island's coal mining past, about life as a coal miner and take a fascinating tour through the Ocean Deep Colliery beneath the museum.

Lunch

<u>Flavor On The Water</u> (Offering three locations. 74 Esplanade location overlooks the water) <u>Governors Pub & Eatery</u> (Sydney)

Afternoon

Depart Sydney for the Fortress of Louisbourg via NS Route 22 S

TOUR: Fortress of Louisbourg (259 Park Service Road, Louisbourg) The Fortress of Louisbourg, is a glimpse into one of North America's busiest 18th century seaports. Founded by the French in 1713, it fell under siege twice to the British before being demolished in the 1760s. Pass through Louisbourg's stone archway today into streets, houses, shops, restaurants and barracks "inhabited" from July to September by authentically-clad animators living a typical day in the 1700s. Everything from soldiers' drills, music and dance, children's games, kitchen gardens and meal recipes dates back 300 years.



Depart Louisbourg via Route 22 N to NS 4 W then NS 206 towards Arichat

For over 140 years, the <u>St. Peter's Canal National Historic Site</u> has been home to a busy gateway between the Bras d'Or Lake and the Atlantic Ocean. Built on an isthmus, the 800-metre St. Peters Canal joins the Atlantic Ocean to the sparkling Bras d'Or Lake, meandering along Battery Park, which is popular for boating, fishing, picnicking and offers a great view of the lock.

Day 13 - Sydney & Louisbourg

Dinner

The Island Nest (Arichat)
The Groundswell Pub (Arichat)

Accommodations

The Clairestone Inn (2375 Highway 206, Arichat)

While exploring Cape Breton's South Coast, you will find the intimate service and modern amenities of a 17-room boutique hotel in a relaxing and tranquil atmosphere. Their spacious and bright guest rooms are equipped with a private ensuite, mini fridge, Keurig coffee station, complimentary Wi-Fi, and satellite tv. Take in ocean views from the covered front veranda or cozy up by the outdoor fire table. Enjoy activities like kayaking, cycling, hiking, and beach combing. Immerse yourself in their culture and the natural, wild beauty of this rural island. Located in the historic community of Arichat, a short walk takes you to the local cafe, pharmacy, restaurant, and convenience store.



Optional hot breakfast available daily in our newly renovated dining room.

Day 14 – Guysborough / Charlos Cove

Morning



Nova Scotia is home to the largest number of lighthouses in Canada, but none are more historic or picturesque than those of Isle Madame. This guided driving and walking tour shines a light on our history and geography. Ramble along coastal trails to lighthouses past and present; hear stories of the lightkeepers, shipwrecks, and John Paul Jones' visit to Arichat. Tours are available daily and cycling tours are available on Saturday. Tours are operated in support of the Isle Madame Lighthouse Preservation Society and reservations are required.

While visiting this quaint island be sure to check out the beautiful pottery at the White Turtle or V Pottery; try your hand at blacksmithing at the Le Noir Forge Museum; rent a kayak, SUP or bike with Groundswell; beachcomb the rocky shores all around the island or spend a day at Pondville Beach on the sandy beach backed by gentle dunes, a large lagoon and a salt marsh.

Depart Arichat towards Guysborough (mainland NS) via Route NS 320 W / NS 104 W / Route 344 S

Lunch

Miller's Seafood and Chop House (Port Hawksbury) Hart's of Boylston General Store (Boylston) Big G's Pizza and Restaurant (Guysborough)

Day 14 - Guysborough (PM)

In <u>Guysborough</u>, bond with new and old friends over great East Coast food and local craft beer. Guysborough is home to the oldest commercial brewery in Atlantic Canada, begun by Nicholas Denys in 1659. Get a tutored craft beer tasting at the <u>Authentic Seacoast Brewing Company</u> as they explain what makes a great craft pair and how to pair it with food offerings.

Visit the <u>Old Court House Museum</u> housed in the former Guysborough District Court House. The Museum has been preserved and restored by the Guysborough Historical Society and it retains the integrity of the original purpose of the public building. The Guysborough District Court House was constructed in 1842-43 in the British Bulldog architecture style. It is one of the few surviving examples of 19th century court houses in the province.

Explore the self-guided historic walking tour developed by the Guysborough Historical Society. The walking tour starts at the Old Court House Museum and the circular route takes you to DesBarres Manor. The Guysborough Historic Walking Tour takes approximately one hour. Download a <u>PDF map</u> of the walking tour.

Depart Guysborough towards Charlos Cove via Canso Route NS-16 S

Quiet shoreline roads lead you to pounding surf beaches and romantic seaside villages where the traditions and legends of the sea come alive. This rugged coastline is littered with glorious beaches that provide the perfect setting for outdoor adventure. With an abundance of hiking, birding, coastal activities and four seasons of fantastic surfing, the outdoor enthusiast will feel like they're in heaven.



Out of the Fog Museum in Half Island Cove is a definite must in this area. Don't let the size of this little museum fool you for inside this volunteer curated and operated museum lies a lot of heart. The Keepers of the Beacons Society maintain the museum. Its members are former lightkeepers and their families, fishermen and others with close ties to this once essential occupation. In addition to their great collection of artifacts, expect to hear a few great stories.

The <u>Canso Islands and Grassy Island Fort National Historic Sites of Canada</u> feature the ruins of 18th century fortifications and the remains of a colonial New England fishing station that are the reminders of a thriving community that was once the commercial heart of Nova Scotia. Free boat service to the island is available from the Visitor Centre on the mainland.

Accommodations & Dinner

SeaWind Landing Country Inn (Charlos Cove)

Located on 25 spectacular oceanfront acres, SeaWind Landing Country Inn is your destination of choice for a perfect sea-side getaway. The property is bordered on three sides by water and beachcombers will find plenty to see and do along the 1.6 km of shoreline surrounding the inn. Their 12 guest rooms are each equipped with private 4-piece bathrooms; some have second-floor balconies with panoramic ocean views. The rooms all have large flat screen televisions and free WiFi. Guest rooms are divided between two buildings; the Main Inn and Land's End. A large deck off the main inn overlooks the ocean and is the perfect place to relax before dinner or all afternoon



just gazing out to sea. As well, their sea-side dining room serves breakfast and dinner daily, with licensed dining open to the public.

Day 15 - Charlos Cove

Charlos Cove and the surrounding area is a great destination for history buffs, nature enthusiasts and culinary devotees alike. A vast physical and cultural history is well documented and lovingly curated at the many museums, historical sites and interpretive trails you will find nearby like the Acadian Resource Center in Larry's River.



Experience the moving and unique depiction of the local Acadian history at <u>Le Parc de nos Ancêtres</u> in Larry's River. The challenges of the past and the resilience and determination of the local Acadian people to survive and prosper is captured on stone along with bilingual interpretative panels. Beautifully done.

Seawind Landing have partnered with Dr. Stephen Flemming of NovaNature Adventures to offer our guests a hands-on suite of experiences to deepen their connection with this special area. Explore the wonderful life of the small, living on the edge, life in the night, and the relationships among wild things that are simply astonishing." (you can see details on our website - under packages, experiences)

Lunch

SeaWind Landing picnic basket (request the night before)

Val's Crafts and Delights, 1315 Union St, Canso

Afternoon

Take a picture-perfect gentle stroll along a very pretty stretch of coast in Black Duck Cove in Little Dover. Gravel paths or boardwalk make this an easy stroll. The <u>Queensport Road Hiking Trail</u> is an old road which leads to the remains of a WWII Air Force radar base, huge glacial erratics (rocks left from the ice age) and on a clear day, a spectacular view.

Sweeping sand beaches (unsupervised), boardwalks and interpretive panels make the <u>Tor Bay Provincial Park</u> a beautiful place for a picnic or quiet contemplation along the Eastern Shore. Quite often you will have the whole place to yourself. There you will discover a small picturesque picnic area on a rocky point looking out to the open Atlantic. Truly a hidden gem!

Accommodations & Dinner

SeaWind Landing Country Inn (Charlos Cove)

Day 16 - Eastern Shore

Morning

Depart Charlos Cove towards Halifax along the Eastern Shore via NS Route 7 W -

(allow 4 to 41/2 hours for drive to Halifax)

Pristine wilderness, historically-themed attractions, authentic fishing communities, and beaches stretching as far as the eye can see offer explorers an array of off-the-beaten-path adventures on Nova Scotia's <u>Eastern Shore</u>.

TOUR: Sherbrooke Village (42 Main Street, Sherbrooke)



Travel back in time when you visit Sherbrooke Village. This village depicts life between 1860 and 1910, when it was thriving with lumbering and shipbuilding. In the 1860s, timber, tall ships and gold brought prosperity to Sherbrooke's people. Today, you can explore this amazing village with its 25 original buildings, to experience life as it once was along the St. Mary's River.

Lunch

Bsherbrooke Village
Beanie's Bistro (Sherbrooke)
McDaniel's Tea Room & Restaurant (Sherbrooke Village, Sherbrooke)
Liscomb Lodge (Liscomb Mills)

Afternoon

Continue travelling along the Eastern Shore via NS 7 W towards Halifax.

Kayak with <u>Coastal Adventures</u> in Tangier to discover the unique biology, geology and human history of this coastal wilderness far from the city bustle. During your journey, explore the sheltered offshore islets and islands, and a fascinating world where the land meets the sea. Tour <u>Memory Lane Heritage Village</u> in Lake Charlotte to experience the only living history museum in North America that represents the fascinating era of the 1940s.



Surfs up on the Eastern Shore! If you enjoy the beach, be sure to stop by one of these beautiful beaches. <u>Clam Harbour Beach Provincial Park</u> is a long, natural sand beach that is most known for the annual Clam Harbour Sandcastle Competition which has taken place every August since 1978. <u>Martinique Beach Provincial Park</u> is Nova Scotia's longest sandy beach, where you can go from calm water lapping the shore to crashing surf that surfers dream of in a matter of hours. Or visit <u>Lawrencetown Beach Provincial Park</u>, a popular surfing spot with

surfers from around the world. Experience firsthand why Nova Scotia is called one of the top 3 cold water surfing destinations in the world. The team at <u>East Coast Surf School</u> will provide you with surfing lessons including a thorough explanation of the proper technique to paddle and stand up, as well as safety and ocean awareness education. *Time to head back to Halifax!*

Dinner & Airport Accommodations

Return your car hire to the rental depot at the <u>Halifax Stanfield International Airport</u>. Should you have an evening departure from Halifax, there are several dining options located within the airport. If you have an early morning flight, stay at one of several hotels located near the airport.



We trust you enjoyed your overnight accommodations with our beautiful, charming Inns of Nova Scotia.