

CANADA BY DESIGN

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Great Atlantic Canadian Experience Small Group Tour

2025

Small Group Tours

23 Days / 22 Nights Halifax to St. Johns

Priced at CAD \$11,909 per person

Prices are per person and include all taxes, child age 12 - 8 yrs. Child rates are based on two paying adults.

INTRODUCTION

Fresh salt air, sandy beaches, rocky coves, cosmopolitan cities, remote lighthouses, rich history, warm hospitality, rustic fishing villages, succulent seafood, unspoiled nature, varied activities, first-rate facilities and travel routes. All of these things and more make Canada's Maritime Provinces one of the world's most popular destinations. Beginning in Nova Scotia and traveling for 23 days through all the Atlantic provinces to Newfoundland & Labrador, this comprehensive tour features the best of "the Far East of the Western World". Travel from the northernmost tip of the island of Newfoundland to the most easterly point in North America through national parks – including Gros Morne, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Learn of ancient peoples – the Maritime Archaic, Vikings, and Basques – as you travel to coastal fishing communities to meet the friendly and hospitable people of today. Boat tours provide the opportunity to see whales, thousands of seabirds, and, depending on the time of the year, icebergs!

Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1	Halifax Arrival
DAY 2	Halifax, NS to Moncton, NB
DAY 3	Moncton to Saint John
DAY 4	St. Andrews-by-the-Sea

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DAY 5	Saint John, NB to Digby, NS
DAY 6	Digby to Halifax
DAY 7	South Shore Small Group Touring
DAY 8	Halifax, NS to Charlottetown Small Group Touring
DAY 9	Prince Edward Island Small Group Touring
DAY 10	Charlottetown, PEI to Baddeck Small Group Touring
DAY 11	Cabot Trail Small Group Touring
DAY 12	Baddeck to Port aux Basques, NL
DAY 13	Port aux Basques to Port au Choix
DAY 14	Port au Choix to L'Anse au Clair
DAY 15	L'Anse au Clair to St. Anthony
DAY 16	St. Anthony to Cow Head
DAY 17	Gros Morne National Park
DAY 18	Cow Head to Gander
DAY 19	Gander to Clarenville
DAY 20	Bonavista & Trinity Touring
DAY 21	Clarenville to St. John's
DAY 22	St. John's Area Touring
DAY 23	St. John's Departure



MAP

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DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrive Halifax, NS

Arrive in Halifax and check in to your accommodations in the downtown core. You're going to love this vibrant, cosmopolitan centre on the Atlantic Ocean! Meet your tour director or driver/guide and fellow travelers this evening at a meet & greet.

Day 2 Halifax to Moncton, NB

Explore the Bay of Fundy and the world's highest tides as you meander its colorful coastline to New Brunswick. En route, explore the Joggins Fossil Cliffs, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where you will see exposed layers of rock revealing the world's most complete fossil record of life in the "Coal Age" of 300 million years ago. After crossing into New Brunswick, an unforgettable culinary experience awaits as you enjoy a scrumptious lobster dinner on a lobster boat. Continue to Moncton and check into your downtown hotel for the night. (Continental breakfast, lunch & dinner are included today)

Day 3 Moncton to Saint John, NB

Experience a true natural wonder this morning at Hopewell Rocks on the Bay of Fundy. Marvel at the massive flower-pot shaped formations sculpted by the highest tides on the planet. Travel through Fundy National Park to Canada's first incorporated city, Saint John, on the southern New Brunswick coast. Check into your Saint John accommodations for a two-night stay. (Breakfast & lunch is included today)

Day 4 St. Andrews by-the-Sea

Venture to picturesque St. Andrews by-the Sea where the quaint charm of this coastal town is sure to captivate. After a Whale Watching Boat Tour, the afternoon is yours to experience the friendly people, beautiful architecture and rich marine life of this seaside gem at your own pace. (Breakfast & Lunch is included today)

Day 5 Saint John to Digby, NS

Ferry back to Nova Scotia this morning and arrive in Digby, the scallop capital of the world. Here, fresh sea air and passionate Acadian culture combine to form an enchanting and historically rich town. Check into the Digby Pines Golf Resort & Spa overlooking the Annapolis Basin on the Bay of Fundy. (Breakfast & dinner is included today)

Day 6 Digby to Halifax

Travel the lush Annapolis Valley where the French Acadians of Grand Pre made their first settlement in the early 1600's. Learn about this landscape's designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as fact and fiction blend to reveal the romance of the Land of Evangeline. Visit a local winery for a tour and tasting before returning to Halifax for a two-night stay. (Breakfast is included today)

Day 7 South Shore Touring

Discover rustic charm at the renowned fishing village Peggy's Cove where you will enjoy breakfast overlooking one of the most photographed lighthouses in the world. Travel the south shore and on to the UNESCO World Heritage Town of Lunenburg, renowned for her fleets of Grand Banks' fishing schooners. Take a walking tour to fully experience one of the most remarkably preserved colonial settlements in the New World and visit the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic to learn about the town's famous seafaring heritage. (Breakfast is included today)

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Day 8 Halifax to Charlottetown

Learn about the Mi'kmaq people at Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre before crossing Confederation Bridge – the world's longest continuous multi-span bridge – to Prince Edward Island. Check into your Charlottetown accommodations for a two-night stay and enjoy a theatre performance by professional Canadian actors at the Confederation Centre of the Arts (a substitution may be necessary due to the theatre schedule). (Continental breakfast is included today)

Day 9 Prince Edward Island

Enjoy a free morning in Charlottetown, Canada's birthplace, or join a complimentary walking tour of the city. This afternoon, tour the scenic north shore of the island. Drive by red cliffs, white beaches, gently sloping sand dunes and green fields of Prince Edward Island National Park. You'll even have a chance to visit Green Gables Heritage Place, the alluring inspiration of Lucy Maud Montgomery's classic books. Experience true Maritime hospitality this evening at a traditional hall-style lobster supper. (Breakfast & dinner are included today)

Day 10 Charlottetown, PEI to Baddeck

Ferry over the Northumberland Strait back to Nova Scotia and proceed to Cape Breton Island, the Scotland of North America, via the Canso Causeway. See the beautiful Bras d'Or Lake from the water as you board a unique sightseeing boat tour. Spend the next two nights in the charming village of Baddeck. (Breakfast & dinner are included today)

Day 11 Cabot Trail Touring

Experience one of the most stunningly picturesque drives in North America today as you tour the Cabot Trail which winds around the rocky splendor of Cape Breton's northern shore, ascending to the incredible plateaus of Cape Breton Highlands National Park. Look-offs offer unforgettable vistas of Cape Breton's rugged coastline so be sure to have your camera on hand. Also, visit Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site to learn of the many accomplishments of this genius who made his home on the island. (Breakfast, boxed lunch & dinner are included today)

Day 12 Baddeck, NS to Port aux Basques, NL

Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site awaits today and words cannot do justice to this reconstruction depicting one fifth of the settlement of 1744 New France. At North Sydney, board the Marine Atlantic ferry for a relaxing overnight crossing to Port aux Basques, your port of entry on the island of Newfoundland. (Breakfast & dinner are included today)

Day 13 Port aux Basques to Port au Choix, NL

Drive through the Codroy Valley and through Gros Morne National Park (which will be enjoyed later in your tour) to the fishing community of Port au Choix to learn of ancient cultures. The Port au Choix Peninsula juts slightly into the Gulf of St. Lawrence on Newfoundland's northwest coast and people have lived here for 5,500 years. (Breakfast, lunch & dinner are included today)

Day 14 Port au Choix to L'Anse au Clair, NL

Board the ferry from St. Barbe to cross the Strait of Belle Isle to Labrador. Continue to Red Bay National Historic Site, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where the Basques had a whaling station in the 16th century. This mystical place takes the essence of Labrador coastal living and transposes it onto a tapestry of rich culture and history. Spend the night in Labrador. (Breakfast & dinner are included today)

Day 15 L'Anse au Clair to St. Anthony, NL

Return to Newfoundland and travel to L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site, the first cultural discovery in the world to receive recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Hear of the Vikings who walked here over a thousand years ago before continuing on to your St. Anthony accommodations for the night. (Breakfast & dinner are included today)

Day 16 St. Anthony to Cow Head, NL

Enjoy a morning whale watching boat tour in St. Anthony before traveling to Cow Head in Gros Morne National Park for a two-night stay. (Breakfast & dinner are included today) *June and early July are the best time to see Titanic-size icebergs!*

Day 17 Gros Morne Local Touring

Discover why Gros Morne National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is truly one of the highlights of your trip with a scenic boat tour on Bonne Bay; be on the look-out for the bald eagles that frequent the deep waters of the fjord. Also visit the Tablelands; this mountain of flat-topped rock of a kind usually found only deep in the earth's mantle is an awe-inspiring sight. Today will be an unforgettable experience; some say the scenery that Gros Morne offers is unequalled in Eastern Canada. (Breakfast, boxed lunch & dinner are included today)

Western Brook Pond Cruise Option: *Passengers may request on booking to take a scenic boat tour on Western Brook Pond and visit the Broom Point Fishing Premises in lieu of the scenic boat tour on Bonne Bay and visit to the Tablelands. While some may consider the boat tour on Western Brook Pond to be a superior outing, please note that there is a 45-minute walk (3 km/2 miles) from the parking lot to the dock and a 45-minute walk back. **This option must be requested on booking.***

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Day 18 Cow Head to Gander, NL

Have your camera ready as your time in Gros Morne National Park draws to a close. Travel through Central Newfoundland on to Gander, famous as the basis of the hit Broadway Musical, Come From Away; learn about the hospitality and generosity of the local residents during the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks when 38 airplanes unexpectedly landed there. Also visit the North Atlantic Aviation Museum which hosts a variety of artifacts and displays chronicling Gander's role in the development of transatlantic aviation. (Breakfast is included today)

Day 19 Gander to Clarenville

A scenic drive along the rocky coast of Notre Dame Bay leads to the beautiful outport of Twillingate where you will visit Long Point Lighthouse and the Prime Berth Fishery & Heritage Centre. Keep your camera close at hand for wildlife as you drive through Terra Nova National Park and on to Clarenville, your home for the next two nights. (Breakfast, lunch & dinner are included today)

Day 20 Bonavista & Trinity Touring

Today you will experience two quaint, historic towns. First, visit Bonavista, where John Cabot first arrived in North America in 1497. Learn about the hard life of the light keepers at Cape Bonavista Lighthouse Provincial Historic Site before continuing on to charming Trinity. Stroll the lanes and explore the many historic buildings preserved from the 18th century. (Breakfast, lunch & dinner are included today)

Day 21 Clarenville to St. John's, NL

Continue to the intriguing old seaport of St. John's, your home for the next two nights. North America's oldest city and Newfoundland's capital boasts a stunning location in the granite cliffs and slopes of the Avalon Peninsula. Enjoy a city tour featuring the Victorian architecture of the downtown area, the busy modern waterfront, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Confederation Building, and the panoramic view from Signal Hill. (Breakfast & dinner are included today)

Day 22 St. John's Area Touring

This morning, visit Bay Bulls for one of the highlights of your trip, a boat tour in the Witless Bay Ecological Reserve to search for puffins and other seabirds. Next is a visit to the most easterly point in North America, Cape Spear Lighthouse National Historic Site. The afternoon is yours to explore St. John's at your leisure. (Breakfast is included today)

Day 23 Depart St. John's

Arrangements end upon check-out from your hotel. (Breakfast is included today)

**INCLUDED****Highlights Include:**

- 22 nights' accommodation
- 44 meals including 2 lobster dinners
- Meet & Greet
- Joggins Fossil Cliffs – UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Lobster Dinner Cruise on Shediac Bay
- Hopewell Rocks on the Bay of Fundy
- Fundy National Park

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- Saint John City Tour including Reversing Falls
- St. Andrews by-the-Sea Day Trip
- Ferry from New Brunswick to Nova Scotia
- Annapolis Valley including Winery Tour & Tasting
- Landscape of Grand Pre – UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Peggy's Cove
- Walking Tour of Lunenburg – UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic
- Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre
- Confederation Bridge to Prince Edward Island
- Anne of Green Gables Heritage Place
- Prince Edward Island National Park
- Ferry from Prince Edward Island to Nova Scotia
- Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site
- World Famous Cabot Trail
- Cape Breton Highlands National Park
- Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site
- Ferry from Nova Scotia to Newfoundland & Labrador
- Port au Choix National Historic Site
- Strait of Belle Isle ferry to/from Labrador
- Red Bay – UNESCO World Heritage Site
- L'Anse aux Meadows – UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Gros Morne National Park– UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Choice of Bonne Bay or Western Brook Pond Boat Tour
- North Atlantic Aviation Museum
- Twillingate
- Prime Berth Fishery & Heritage Centre
- Terra Nova National Park
- Cape Bonavista Lighthouse Provincial Historic Site
- Trinity
- Guided tour of St. John's
- Cape Spear National Historic Site
- Boat Tour on Witless Bay Ecological Reserve (Puffins)
- 2 Whale Watching Boat Tours
- Sightseeing Boat Tour

Not Included:

- Gratuities

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DATES & PRICING

Regular Group Departures | Departs from Halifax
(Tour Code: ATLGAE) Jun 17; Jul 8, 22; Aug 5, 26
Small Group Departures | Departs from Halifax
(Tour Code: ATLGAEs) Jun 3; Jul 1, 29; Aug 19

DATE	DOUBLE	SINGLE	TRIPLE	CHILD
Moderate Grade				
Regular Group Departures	-	-	-	-
17 Jun 25 - 02 Sep 25	\$11,909	\$14,695	\$11,106	\$5,955
Small Group Departures	-	-	-	-
03 Jun 25 - 19 Aug 25	\$13,841	\$16,933	\$13,038	\$6,921

Pricing in CAD\$. Prices are per person and include all taxes, child age 12 - 8 yrs. Child rates are based on two paying adults.