Halifax, Bay of Fundy & Lunenburg

# Nova-Scotia Cultural-Walking Adventure





6 Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe."

— Travel + Leisure

# Province of the Unexpected

In Nova Scotia, we keep imagining there's a National Geographic adventure travel cameraman nearby. Every moment is so beautiful, it's hard to believe that no one is getting it on film. Consider the natural history. This is the place of 45-foot tides in the Bay of Fundy, great gatherings of whales, tumbled coastlines and successions of migrating birds. Less predictably, this maritime province is a melting pot that never quite melted. The French Acadians you may know about, and the English—but what about the Greeks, the Gaels and the Germans? They're all here and they're all mad for festivals. The fishing villages are jigsaw puzzle-perfect...and absolutely authentic. Our walks range from candlelit tours of some of the oldest towns in North America, to spectacular coastal footpaths and woodland trails where the native Mi'kmaq (or Micmac) made their home for thousands of years. Atlantic currents make Nova Scotia travel milder than you may have realized and its northern latitudes make for extra-long summer days perfect for enjoying.

## DAY 1

### HALIFAX / PEGGY'S COVE

- Explore Halifax
- Visit Peggy's Cove

You begin your journey in the vibrant city of Halifax, one of the first English settlements in Canada, and the second largest natural harbor in the world. Your guide shares with you personal stories and historical anecdotes of the people and events that have shaped this city, wind your way from the landmark Citadel, through Grand Parade, the Old South End and along the waterfront.

Leaving Halifax, you make a short scenic drive over to Peggy's Cove. Known for it's iconic lighthouse, you and your guide will walk the beautiful coastline taking in the scenery and wildlife followed by dinner. Then, a short drive ends in Lunenburg, a fantastic little fishing village dating to 1754.

Overnight: Lunenburg

Meals: D

DAY 2

### LUNENBURG

- Experience Lunenburg on a guided cultural and architectural walk
- Walk the spectacular trails of Ovens Natural Park, OR
- Sea kayak by the caves or "ovens" for an up-close view from the water

Lunenburg is one of only two Urban UNESCO sites in North America and all 48 of its blocks are part of UNESCO. One reason is the unique and quirky look of the architecture that owes its origins to the many shipbuilders who lived in Lunenburg and applied their skills to their homes. The result is that each house has its own carefully chosen pastel color. While the colorful wooden buildings and street signs are photogenic, that's not all that Lunenburg offers on a morning walk. The history offers a fascinating backdrop to the scenery. The French Acadian settlers were the first Europeans to make their home in Nova Scotia. Then, for the next hundred years, the British and French feuded over the area until the Acadians were ultimately expelled from Nova Scotia. This morning's walk begins at the hilltop site of the Victorian-era Lunenburg Academy that overlooks the town and ends back in town, with its rich collection of art galleries and shops. Explore on your own, or stick with your guide to meet some of the local potters and pewtersmiths, and see their craft.

After lunch in town, you can decide how you want to spend the afternoon: on land or sea. If you choose by land, follow your guide on an unforgettable eco-adventure walking along the trails of Ovens Natural Park to view the famous sea caves or "ovens" for which the park was named. Experience the fascinating gold rush history, unique geology and diverse coastal environment as you enjoy the beautiful sea cliff trail and visit to Tucker's Tunnel, the overlook at Indian Cave, and spectacular Cannon Cave, where you will be able to hear the resounding boom created as the waves enter the cavern. Choose by sea and you launch for a beautiful paddle across the front of the caves for an up-close view from the water. Your expert kayaking guide will show you all you need to know as you glide through protected waters surrounded by a variety of sea birds and creatures.

Overnight: Lunenburg

Meals: B, D

### DAY 3

# LAHAVE VALLEY / LUNENBURG HARBOR

- Cross the LaHave River on one of the last remaining cable ferries in Nova Scotia
- Enjoy beachcombing along the Green Bay coastline
- Sail a 48-foot wooden ketch to spot porpoises and seals

Following the coastline in Nova Scotia means looping around headlands that jut into the sea, and then inland as you trace the edge of scenic estuaries. Occasionally, there is a way around that, and you experience it firsthand this morning as you come to the winding LaHave River. Here, the LaHave Ferry is one of the last remaining cable ferries in Nova Scotia. On a five minute crossing, you get a perfect 360-degree view of life on the river. Just after the crossing, three of the most beautiful beaches in Nova Scotia overlook the LaHave Islands, just offshore. Enjoy the coastal scenery, beachcombing and the salt air along the Green Bay coastline.

After a lunch of local specialties hand selected by your guide, who is also one of Canada's most famous chefs, an easygoing afternoon is highlighted by a sail on the Eastern Star, a classic 48-foot wooden ketch. Sails unfurled, you'll taste the salt air and get a wonderful feel for life on the sea. The route offers the chance to spot lighthouses and to take in a view of Lunenburg's historic waterfront. You're also likely to spot porpoises and seals along the way.

Dinner is on your own this evening. It's a terrific opportunity to try seaside favorites like lobster, a food so common here that it was "junk food" for the poor until the mid-19th century.

Overnight: Lunenburg

Meals: B, L

### DAY 4

### **KEJIMKUJIK NATIONAL PARK**

- Walk along woodland trails in Kejimkujik National Park
- Beachside lobster roll picnic
- Visit Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens

After breakfast, head inland to Kejimkujik National Park. Covering 381 square kilometers of island lakes and forests, and located in the heart of south-central Nova Scotia, Kejimkujik is a world away from coastal Nova Scotia. For thousands of years, the native Mi'kmaq First Nations canoed along these connecting waterways, and set up hunting and fishing camps along the shores. Join your guide on one of our favorite woodland trails and pass wetlands and lakes that offer wonderful birding opportunities. After an afternoon relaxing on Merrymakedge Beach or swimming in the warm waters of Kejimkujik Lake and a picnic lunch, you'll make a short drive to Annapolis Royal.

After checking into your inn, located in historic Annapolis Royal, you will have the chance to visit Annapolis Royal's world-class gardens overlooking a tidal river valley. The gardens represent more than four hundred years of local history.

After dinner, if you'd like, join your guide for a candlelit walk through the oldest 17th century cemetery in Canada.

Overnight: Annapolis Royal

Meals: B, L

## DAY 5

### DIGBY NECK / BRIER ISLAND

- Whale-watching adventure to see humpback, minke, fin and right whales
- A seaside afternoon walk offers excellent birding opportunities

The Digby Neck is a narrow peninsula separating St. Mary's Bay from the Bay of Fundy. Known for its rugged coastline, it also has high ridges, spongy bogs and expansive ocean views. A short ferry ride brings you to an exhilarating whale watching excursion in the Bay's rich feeding grounds. Every summer many different varieties of whales come to the Bay of Fundy to mate, play and feast on the bountiful supply of food, and we have a great vantage point from which to see them.

After lunch, another short ferry ride leads to Brier Island, where your guide leads you on a favorite coastal path through scenic stretches of volcanic rock with veins of semi-precious stones like jasper and amethyst. Explore the bogs to view the rare flora of the island, including orchids and other colorful wildflowers. The peninsula is a major stop on the Atlantic Flyway - the major migration route for many species of birds - so you have a unique opportunity to do some excellent birding. You're in for a real small-town experience too. There are only 22 homes on the entire island, and your visit ends at the island's general store and homemade ice cream parlor.

**Overnight:** Annapolis Royal

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

# ANNAPOLIS ROYAL / HALIFAX

- Explore the local shops and art galleries, OR
- Stroll through Port Royal
- Departure

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast you will have time to explore the historic town with its unique shops and art galleries before returning to Halifax. Or, along the way, you may to choose a visit to Port Royal, which includes a walk through one of the earliest European settlements established on the continent. A small party of French explorers established Port Royal in 1605, two years before the settlement of Jamestown, Virginia, three years before the founding of Quebec, and fifteen years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts. In 1917 the port became Canada's first National Historic Park.

Meals: B

# **Tour Hotels**



### Smuggler's Cove Inn

Smuggler's Cove Inn is a privately owned historic inn located in the heart of Lunenburg. The spacious rooms offer views of Lunenburg's waterfront or town views surrounded by colorful historic buildings. **OVERNIGHT:** Lunenburg **| NIGHTS:** 3



### **Queen Anne Inn**

In the heart of Annapolis Royal, this elegant inn was built in 1865 as a wedding gift for a wealthy merchant's son. The grand staircase leads to gracious guestrooms delightfully furnished with antiques, paintings and beautiful bathrooms.

OVERNIGHT: Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia | NIGHTS: 2

# Tour Dates & Prices

To see the full list of dates and prices for this tour, go to our website by clicking <u>here</u>.

Want to travel with just your group on a date of your choosing? Visit <u>CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE</u> to learn more about Private Journeys.

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# **Trip Essentials**

TRIP LENGTH	6 Days, 5 Nights
START	Lobby of Prince George Hotel, Halifax, NS, Canada
END	Lobby of Prince George Hotel, Halifax, NS, Canada
TERRAIN	Easy to moderate on good trails, always with mini-van support.

# What's Included

- All breakfasts, 3 lunches and 3 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

# Above & Beyond Benefits

- Perfect Pairings Dinners
- Invisible Check-In
- Wine on Us
- Privileged Access Events

READY TO BOOK? CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

# Or give us a call

1-800-200-3887 Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST moreinfo@classicjourneys.com

#### AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to <u>a whole suite of Ambassador</u> <u>benefits</u> you can use immediately and as often as you like.

#### ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled pubic) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

# THE Classic Journeys Difference



#### HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.

At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

President & Founder



# You can expect the highest standards:



#### Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



#### Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



# Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



#### Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



#### Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



#### Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

# You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in Nova Scotia...

- Strolling in historic Annapolis Royal and Lunenburg
- Walking the spectacular lakes and forests of Kejimkujik National Park
- Spotting humpback, minke or right whales on a boating excursion

- Sleeping in historic properties, including a Victorian mansion in Annapolis Royal
- Connecting with local culture through Renaissance man and expert local guide, Michael, who is also one of Canada's most famous chefs

"The hotels were good choices in giving us a feel for the area and its history." -Andrew B., Cottonwood, AZ,