





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 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? 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 made their home for thousands of years. Atlantic currents make Nova Scotia milder than you may have realized and its northern latitudes make for perfect extra-long summer days.

# The Classic Journeys Difference

- → ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- → LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- → PREMIERE HOTELS
- → FOODIE FOCUSED
- → HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- → MORE IS INCLUDED

### What's Included

- All breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 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

A special dinner prepared by one of our favorite chefs with a procession of wines tailored to each course.

#### → INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

#### → WINE ON US

In many regions, we uncork wonderful local wines at every dinner, compliments of Classic Journeys.

#### → PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

#### Terrain

Easy to moderate on good trails, always with mini-van support.

DAY 1 »

### Halifax / 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.

You venture for a short scenic drive over to Peggy's Cove. Known for it's iconic lighthouse, you and your guide will trek along the beautiful coastline taking in the scenery and wildlife. The perfect introduction to your week.

You return to Halifax and step back in time as you stroll the quaint streets and explore the colorful history of Halifax. Your guide shares with you personal stories and historical anecdotes of the people and events that have shaped this city, You wind your way from the landmark Citadel, through Grand Parade, the Old South End and along the waterfront to Historic Properties.

MEALS: D

OVERNIGHT: HALIFAX

DAY 2 »

### Hall's Harbour / Port Royal Historic Site

The French Acadian settlers were the first Europeans to make their home in Nova Scotia. Then, for the next hundred years, the British and the French feuded over the area until the Acadians were ultimately expelled from Nova Scotia. This morning, a scenic walk atop Nova Scotia's famous dikes brings us to Grand Pré National Historic Site, a significant center of Acadian activity. While your guide recounts the tragedy and triumphant survival of the Acadian's pioneer life, you explore the memorial church, visit the 19th-century blacksmith and walk through the 14 acres of landscaped grounds with beautiful flower beds, ponds and old French willows. After exploring Acadian culture, you make your way to our guide's favorite local winery for a tasting of their award-winning wines and vistas over the Minas Basin. Then it's off to Halls Harbour for a lobster lunch. You have the opportunity to experience a location where the world's highest tides come and go every six hours and lobsters are landed on a small community wharf and brought directly to the customers at this most famous lobster Pound.

You then travel to the Queen Ann Inn, in the charming town of Annapolis Royal, Canada's birthplace. Its history spans nearly four centuries, and fascinating remnants of history abound in over 150 historic sites and heritage buildings.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: ANNAPOLIS ROYAL

DAY 3 »

### **Annapolis Royal**

The Digby Neck—a narrow peninsula separating St. Mary's Bay from the Bay of Fundy—is one of the most recognizable geographical landmarks in Nova Scotia. Known for its rugged coastline, it also has high ridges, spongy bogs and expansive ocean views. Two short ferry rides bring us to Brier Island where it's all aboard for an exhilarating whale watching excursion in the Bay of Fundy. The rich feeding grounds make the Bay of Fundy one of the world's most accessible sites for viewing marine mammals and one of the marine wonders of the world. Every summer many different varieties of whales (Humpback, Minke, Fin and North Atlantic Right 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, you follow one of our favorite coastal trails where you view the spectacularly rugged scenery of this wild island. This area of the island is made up of volcanic rock with large veins of semiprecious stones like Jasper, Agate and Amethyst. On foot, you explore the Brier Island bogs to view the rare flora of the island, including the delicate orchids and other colorful wildflowers. As the peninsula is located along the Atlantic Flyway—a major migration route for many species of seabirds, shorebird and waterfowl—you have a unique opportunity to do some excellent birding. You also have a chance to catch a glimpse of the resident seals and other marine life that inhabit the island's craggy shores.

In the late afternoon, you return to Annapolis Royal for dinner and rest after an exhilarating day. After dinner, if you'd like, join our guide for a candlelight walk through the oldest 17th-century cemetery in Canada, where you learn all about the famous residents and their role in the town's history.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: ANNAPOLIS ROYAL

DAY4 »

### Kejimkujik / Lunenburg

After breakfast, you cross the street from your inn and visit Annapolis Royal's beautiful Historic Gardens overlooking a tidal river valley.

Late morning, you turn east and 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 Indians 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, or spend the afternoon relaxing on Merrymakedge Beach or swimming in the warm waters of Kejimkujik Lake.

Midday, you enjoy a picnic lunch just steps from beautiful Mill Falls. A short drive then brings you to the charming town of Lunenburg, the first British Colonial settlement in Nova Scotia outside of Halifax. Today this quaint fishing village is a UNESCO World Heritage Site where the streets of Old Town still follow the original town plan of 1754. Lunenburg has a host of exceptional restaurants. Dinner is on your own this evening so you can sample a variety of regional specialties from the sea and some of Lunenburg's traditional recipes like Solomon Gundy and Lunenburg Pudding.

MEALS: B, L OVERNIGHT: LUNENBURG

DAY 5 »

### Lunenburg

After breakfast, join us for a fascinating walk through charming Lunenburg. Along the way, we learn about the beautiful architecture and history of this colorful village. Our walk culminates at the hilltop site of the Lunenburg Academy, a masterpiece for its wooden structure and Victorian design.

For an easygoing afternoon, we'll board the Eastern Star, a classic 48-foot wood ketch. Sails unfurled, you'll taste the salt air and get a wonderful feel for life on the sea. Our route gives us a chance to spot lighthouses and to take in a view of Lunenburg's historic waterfront. We're also likely to spot porpoises and seals along the way.

Back on shore, an afternoon walk takes us Blue Rocks, so named because of the rugged slate rock that takes on a blue hue in the afternoon light. As we walk, our guide shares the unique history of these tiny seafaring villages and the thousands of shipwrecks that have taken place off of their rugged shores.

MEALS: B, D OVERNIGHT: LUNENBURG

DAY 6 »

# Mahone Bay / Halifax

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast we make our way back to Halifax. A pause at Mahone Bay, a working arts and crafts center, offers a final opportunity to view some of the local artisans at work creating masterpieces of pewter and pottery.

Midday, we part company in Halifax.

MEALS: B

### **Tour Hotels**





#### Smuggler's Cove Inn

Located in the heart of Lunenburg, the Smuggler's Cove Inn combines historic surroundings with modern amenities. This quaint property was founded in 2002 and offers comfortable rooms along with charming hospitality for a memorable stay in Nova Scotia.

NIGHTS: 3 nights

#### 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.

# Arrival & Departure

#### → ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: Lobby of Prince George Hotel

START CITY: Halifax, Nova Scotia

START TIME: 1:00 PM

→ DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: Lobby of Prince George Hotel

END CITY: Halifax
END TIME: 2:00 PM