



Randonnée Tours

Nova Scotia Mainland Drive & Stroll 7 days

Summary

Length

7 days/6 nights

Dates

Start any date between May 15 and October 15

Level

Drives: 100 to 170 km daily (63 to 110 miles)

Walks: typically 2 to 4 hours each, with a selection of at least 2 walks daily

Most walks are on footpaths, with occasional climbs; others are on rocky terrain or sandy beaches. In addition, short strolls are offered on most days

Discover the unexpected in Canada's Atlantic playground. Nova Scotia combines European hospitality of quality inns and superb food with Canadian natural wonders. Enjoy peaceful coves, winking lighthouses, rugged headlands and authentic fishing villages. Be enthralled by the rise and fall of the famous Bay of Fundy tides. Discover unique history and heritage, unwind on perfect white sand beaches and find an excellent souvenir in the craft and antique shops. We're betting that a favourite memory will be the warmth and friendliness of the Maritimers you'll meet.

Itinerary



Day 1

Arrive in Nova Scotia and make your way to the vibrant capital of Nova Scotia - **Halifax**, a city that offers a wonderful mix of both past and pre-

sent. Today you have time to explore your immediate surroundings. Walk among the graves of those who perished with the Titanic, explore the park-like waterfront, bustling harbour, or quiet tree-lined streets. Experience the pageantry of 19th century military life at the Halifax Citadel, one of the largest British fortresses in North America. Be sure to save some time to discover the quaint shops and boutiques as well as restaurants that offer an eclectic gourmet cuisine.

Day 2

Head out to the Sambro Peninsula to get your first taste of the rugged shoreline of Nova Scotia's South Shore. Stop at the York Redoubt National Historic Site to take in the view of the entrance to Halifax's Harbour (the second largest natural harbour in the world), and to explore the tunnels and fortifications that mark the site. Visit one of Halifax's favourite summertime getaways at Crystal Crescent Beach - three secluded coves with turquoise-blue water and fine

white-sand beaches provide the perfect location to either relax at the beach or hike along the many trails and boardwalks that skirt in and out among the forest, beaches and coves.

Day 3

Leave Halifax en route to the UNESCO World Heritage site of **Lunenburg**. On the way you will stop off at Peggy's Cove - synonymous with the rocky shoreline of Nova Scotia, the lunar landscape and lighthouse are a sight to behold. Pass through numerous small fishing villages and scenic resort towns - Chester and Mahone Bay are but two of the quaint villages that line the South Shore, which are the hallmark of Nova Scotia. Exceptional shops, galleries and picturesque views, along with the many opportunities to stroll along the shoreline and into secluded forests will ensure that you have a full day today.

Day 4

Start your day with an exploration of the exquisitely preserved town of Lunenburg - founded 250 years ago by German, Swiss and French settlers. The traditional home of the tall ships in Nova Scotia, this active fishing port has retained the distinctive style and flair of these early settlers. Participate in an exclusive cultural excursion with a traditional craftsman or join in on a sea kayaking trip along the shoreline. Visits to some of the local natural wonders, such as Blue Rocks and the Ovens Natural Park, will also be high on your list.



How to get there?

It is possible to reach Nova Scotia by both air and sea.

There is scheduled air service to Halifax from all major Canadian cities, & from all major US cities with non-stop flights to Nova Scotia from Boston, Newark, Toronto, Ottawa & Montreal.

Ferry services link Nova Scotia and Maine. A high speed catamaran operates between Bar Harbor, Maine and Yarmouth, NS, and an overnight luxury cruise can be taken between Portland, Maine (less than 2 hours north of Boston) and Yarmouth

A ferry also operates between St. John, NB and Digby, NS.

Itinerary

Day 5

Leave Lunenburg to travel north across the sparsely populated mainland of Nova Scotia to the shores of the Bay of Fundy. Along the way you will pass through towering deciduous forests (particularly lovely in the fall) and quiet pastoral settings. Stop in at the Ross Farm Living Museum, which is an active 1800's farm - heritage animals and heirloom gardens, along with traditional craftspeople make this settlement come alive. Make a bee-line for the shores of the Bay of Fundy, where you can see for yourself the height of the Fundy tides at Hall's Harbour. Arrive at the end of the day in the beautiful university town of **Wolfville**, your home for the next two nights.



Day 6

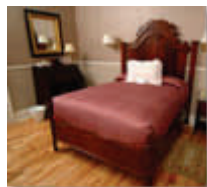
Take the time to explore this town, as it is home to some of Nova Scotia's finest restaurants and has an array of unique shops and boutiques. Travel north to explore Cape Blomidon and Cape Split - the power (and sound) of the Fundy tides will enthral you. On your return to Wolfville you will have the opportunity to visit the Grand Pré National Historic Site, which memorializes the tragic expulsion of the Acadians from the Maritimes in 1755. No doubt the words of Longfellow's epic poem Evangeline will whisper to you.

Day 7

Today is your day of departure. Take a last stroll around Wolfville to pick up that final memorable souvenir before you head for home - or off on your next adventure.

Accommodation

Classic



Waverley Inn

Halifax

Located in the downtown area of Halifax, the uniquely decorated guest rooms feature such gracious amenities as canopy beds, oversized jacuzzi bath



Lunenburg Arms

Lunenburg

In the centre of this historic village, with views of the harbour, this inn has rooms with plush duvets, and bathrobes. *Rissers* restaurant offers fabulous seafood and live jazz on some evenings, fluffy terry-ropes, and beautiful Victorian period antiques.



Randonnée Tours

The price includes:

- 6 nights hotels
- All breakfasts and 1 dinner
- Detailed route instructions and map
- Area Manager available throughout the tour
- PLEASE NOTE THAT CAR RENTAL IS NOT INCLUDED

Accommodation

Classic



Victoria's Historic Inn

Wolfville

Experience the relaxation and tranquility waiting for you at this 5-star historic inn. All rooms have down duvets and plush bathrobes.

B & B



Pepperberry B&B

Halifax

This beautiful 1915 heritage home boasts an acre of park-like grounds, yet is only minutes from downtown Halifax. Enjoy plush bathrobes, down duvets and gourmet breakfasts, and a large film library.



Maplebird House

Lunenburg

This is a beautifully restored heritage building, circa 1826 with a large garden with swimming pool, patio & verandah overlooking Lunenburg harbour. Relax with piano in front of a log burning woodstove.



Harwood House B&B

Wolfville

Conveniently located adjacent to Acadia University and walking distance to superb dining and shops, this 4-star heritage building has been carefully renovated with tastefully decorated rooms. Gourmet breakfasts are served in the elegant dining room.