



# Randonnée Tours

## Nova Scotia South Shore Cycling 6 days

### Summary

#### Length

6 days/5 nights, with 5 days cycling

#### Dates

Start any date between June 15 and October 15

#### Level

55 km daily average (35 miles)

This is moderate cycling, encountering a few challenging hills most days. Extra km possible on most days

*"We loved this vacation... Randonnée did a great job setting up these wonderful accommodations and scenic rides" and "this trip exceeded our expectations."*

- P & M Metzger

Discover the unexpected in Canada's Atlantic playground. Nova Scotia combines European hospitality of quality inns and superb food with Canadian natural wonders. Pedal past peaceful coves, winking lighthouses, rugged headlands and authentic fishing villages. Relax each night in historic inns or cozy B&Bs. Discover unique history and heritage, relax on perfect white sand beaches and find an excellent souvenir among the craft and antique shops. But we're betting that a favourite memory will be the warmth and friendliness of the Maritimers you'll meet.

### Itinerary



#### Day 1

Arrival in **Peggy's Cove**. Our Area Manager will give you the bikes and a briefing for your South Shore experience.

If you have

time, take the opportunity to explore the famous site of Peggy's Cove and the numerous inlets and coves in the area. Synonymous with the rugged shoreline of Nova Scotia, the lunar landscape of Peggy's Cove is a sight to behold. Be sure to mail a postcard from the only Canadian post office located in a lighthouse.

#### Day 2

Depart Peggy's Cove on your way to Hubbards. Stop for a brief visit at the poignant memorial to Swissair Flight 111. Cycle along the winding road leaving the rugged and barren sea-carved landscape behind for the lush, green inlets that you'll discover at the head of St. Margaret's Bay. Explore the quiet roads between Hubbards and Queensland, visiting the sandy beaches along the way.

#### Day 3

Leave **Hubbards** to pedal around the ruggedly beautiful coastline of the Aspotogan Peninsula. Pass through picturesque fishing

villages like Northwest Cove and Aspotogan. At Bayswater look for the Peggy's Cove light across the head of the bay. The route along

the western side of the Aspotogan Peninsula provides magnificent views of the Tancook Islands. Not far along you will arrive at the charming summer resort of **Chester** with a stunning harbour filled with pleasure yachts.



#### Day 4

Begin your day by exploring this classical Nova Scotian village that has been a New England-like boating resort since the mid-1800's. Wind your way along the coast of Mahone Bay to the beautiful town of that name. Along the way pass by the mysterious Oak Island (which has inspired two centuries of treasure hunters, including American President Franklin D. Roosevelt). At Mahone Bay explore the studios, galleries and unique shops that line the narrow streets of the village, and to view one of the most photographed scenes in Nova Scotia - the three waterfront churches. From here continue on to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Lunenburg, which will be your base for the next two nights.



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## How to get there?

Your tour starts in Peggy's Cove, about 42 km/26 miles south-west of Halifax.

Peggy's Cove is a charming fishing village, renowned for its famous lighthouse on the wave-worn granite headland. 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.

## Itinerary

### Day 5

Enjoy a full day in the **Lunenburg** area. Take the opportunity to explore one of Nova Scotia's oldest communities and certainly one of its most colourful. Visit the booming sea caves at the Ovens Natural Park, or cycle around the scenic Lunenburg and Riverport Peninsula's. If you want a day off your bike, take a walking tour of the old town (be sure to watch for the "Lunenburg bump"! ) and then hop on a boat to go whale-watching or try your hand at sea-kayaking.

### Day 6

Take a final stroll or ride through the village of **Lunenburg** before heading off on your next adventure.

## Accommodation

### Classic



#### Oceanstone Inn, Peggy's Cove

This lodge on the Atlantic ocean has comfortable guest rooms - some in cottages, libraries with fireplaces; and an on-site massage studio. Enjoy the organic gardens, or stroll on the beach. Expect the freshest ingredients at the *Rhubarb Grill* (son Paul is the chef here) which has been nominated as one of the top restaurants in Nova Scotia.



#### Hubbards Cove Inn, Hubbards

Hubbards Cove Inn & Seaside Cottages is a wonderful 4 star accommodation and a very relaxing place to stay by the sea.



#### Mecklenburgh Inn, Chester

This historic inn is located in the heart of Chester with a commanding view of the ocean two blocks away. All rooms have down duvets, Frette linens, locally-made quilts and most have water views.

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## ***The price includes:***

- 5 nights hotels
- All breakfasts and 1 dinner
- Detailed route instructions and map
- Use of a top quality 21-speed hybrid bike complete with handlebar bag, pump, and all the necessary accessories for changing flats. We recommend that you bring your own helmet for safety and hygiene reasons
- Luggage transfers
- All necessary transfers during the tour
- Area Manager available throughout the tour

## Accommodation

### Classic



#### **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.

### B & B



#### **Oceanstone Inn,** Peggy's Cove

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#### **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.