

Newfoundland

Halifax & Sydney, NS (Day 1): After a quick look at Halifax we will move up the northeast coast of Nova Scotia for our overnight. We will experience the Beggars Banquet, as we step back in time to an 18th century French fortress town on the edge of the “New World.” This dining experience enables guests to don bonnets and tricorne hats to enjoy a historically-themed evening complete with 18th century entertainment.

Louisbourg: In April 1745, Pepperell established a base at Canso, where he met with Warren in early May to plan a land and sea operation. The first siege of Louisbourg began on 11 May 1745. Pepperell had captured strategic points near the fortress, and Warren's ships blockaded the harbor.



Gros Morne National Park (Days 2-3) After a 7-hour ferry ride from Nova Scotia, we overnight in Port Aux Basques, gateway to the Viking Trail. The next day we start with a guided boat tour of Bonne Bay where you will see geological wonders, rich cultural history and the diversity of this fascinating bay, situated in the heart of Gros Morne National Park, a “UNESCO” World Heritage Site. During the tour, one has the opportunity to view and photograph eagles, moose, whales, seabirds and much more in this incredible setting. You may partake in an age-old tradition known as a “screech in” featuring live traditional music, a Cod fish and a Sou’wester before our overnight in Shallow Bay.

Gander & Twillingate (Days 4-5) This morning we tour Woody Point where we spend more time in Gros Morne viewing the famous Tableland Mountains, which inspired the area’s nickname, the “Galapagos of Plate Tectonics.” The next day we leave the Viking Trail and transit through the central Newfoundland logging town of Grand Falls-Windsor. Here we will look out over the Exploits River to perhaps catch a glimpse of the Atlantic Salmon. We then travel to Gander, the crossroads of the world for a two night stay.

Gander & Twillingate (continued)

The next morning we will start our excursion on the “Road to the Isles” before travelling across “Tickles and Runs” to spend time on beautiful Twillingate Island. This is one of Newfoundland's oldest and most interesting fishing communities. Here we will enjoy a boat tour of Twillingate Harbour, visit the Prime Gate Fishing Museum and get to know some of the hardy locals.

Bonavista (Day 6) On to Terra Nova National Park to view the vistas of Newman Sound then the historic village of Trinity, one of the oldest communities in North America, the gem of the Island. Then its out to Cape Bonavista for a chance to walk the cliffs and enjoy the spectacular coastal scenery before spending the night in simple accommodations in the village of Bonavista, the landfall of John Cabot in 1497. Here we visit the Ryan Premises and have an opportunity to learn about inshore fishing techniques which have allowed this town to thrive for hundreds of years.

St. John’s (Days 7-8) Today we travel to the Avalon Peninsula to the town of Bay Bulls. From here we take a boat trip to the Witless Bay Ecological Reserve where we view thousands of Atlantic Puffins, Murres and other seabirds that nest here in the summer. Witless Bay is also home to many Humpback, Minke, and Fin whales in the summer months so whale sightings are a definite possibility. In the afternoon we visit Cape Spear National Historic Park, the most easterly point of land in North America before heading into St. John’s, the capital of Newfoundland and Labrador. The next morning we will tour historic St. John’s, the oldest city in North America. This trip includes a visit to Cabot Tower and Signal Hill where we can view the famous “Narrows” and admire the architecture of old St. John’s. This afternoon is left free followed by the evening’s farewell dinner.

