

Great Explorations



Trip Dates

2012

June 18-23
June 25-June 30
August 13-18

2013

June 17-22
June 24-June 29
August 12-17

Self-guided and custom trips also available and can start any day. Call or email for details.

Trip Size

8-16 participants

Total Days:

6 days/ 5 nights

Arrive/Depart:

Peggy's Cove / Lunenburg

Activity Level:

Moderate
55 km (35 miles) daily average
van supported

Extra km possible

Nova Scotia, Biking Nova Scotia South Shore

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. 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 Nova Scotians you'll meet.

Only Great Explorations:

- Small groups, extraordinary guides, and authentic experiences.
- Order off the menu at restaurants you won't find in guidebooks.
- Distinctive, charming hotels too small for larger groups.
- We design and operate our own trips so there are only good surprises.

Itinerary



Getting there :

Peggy's Cove: Your tour starts in Peggy's Cove, about 42 km/26 miles south-west of Halifax. There is scheduled air service to Halifax from all major Canadian and 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 and Yarmouth.

DAY 1:

Peggy's Cove - Our guides will meet you on arrival, fit bikes and introduce you to the region. There will be time 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.

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Terrain:

Encountering a few challenging hills most days

Cost

Land Cost (current year):

CAD \$1950/ US\$1950
Includes 5B/2L/4D

Single Supplement:

CAD \$440/US \$440

Bike Rental:

CAD \$140/US \$140

DAY 2:

Hubbards - 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:

Chester - 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:

Mahone Bay - 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.

DAY 5:

Lunenburg - 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

Accommodations



Oceanstone Inn, Peggy's Cove

On the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, this gracious lodge has comfortable guest rooms - some in cottages - libraries with fireplaces, and on site massage studio. Enjoy the lush organic gardens, stroll on the beach, or row in the protected harbour. Expect the freshest ingredients at the *Rhubarb Grill*, nominated as one of Nova Scotia's top restaurants.



Surfside Inn, Hubbards

This 4-star oceanfront Inn on the golden sands of Queensland Beach is a restored heritage building providing all modern amenities. Originally built by a sea captain in the late 1800s, this Country Inn maintains all its Victorian elegance...and antiques. All rooms have whirlpool baths and most have ocean or lake views.

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Mecklenburgh Inn, Chester

This historic Inn is located on a hill in the heart of Chester with a commanding view of the ocean two blocks away. Shipwrights constructed the Inn over 100 years ago and the finishes, including wide pine flooring, have been restored to their original state. All rooms have down duvets, Frette linens, locally made quilts and most have water views.



Lunenburg Arms, Lunenburg

In the centre of this historic village, with views of the harbour, this boutique style hotel was converted from a former tavern and boarding house. Rooms are furnished with king beds and plush duvets – some have Jacuzzis and some feature incredible harbour views. *Rissers* restaurant offers fabulous seafood and live jazz on some evenings.



What's Included in the Cost of Your Trip?

- services of one or more experienced Great Explorations guides and support vehicle
- 5 nights lodging
- all breakfasts, 2 lunches, and all dinners but 1
- entrance fees for selected historical sites and museums
- detailed map and route instructions
- all baggage transportation
- all transportation from initial meeting point to final drop-off (see arrive/depart cities)

Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 5% must be charged on trips in Canada.

Please note: Final itinerary is subject to revision; any changes made are done so in an attempt to provide the best possible trip given route conditions and available services. Due to the nature of our business and exchange rates, prices are subject to change. All prices quoted are U.S. dollars but we gladly accept payment in Canadian dollars also. Due to cancellations and waiting lists, trip availability fluctuates daily. If you have any questions or would like to confirm space on this trip before making your reservation, please contact us at info@great-explorations.com or by telephone at **604.730.1247**

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