



Evangeline Trail

Experience the Phenomenal Bay of Fundy

From the seaport of Yarmouth, the tides of Fundy rise until they reach a high of up to 16.5 metres (54 feet) at the headwaters of the Bay of Fundy's Minas Basin. The Evangeline Trail parallels the Fundy coast, passing through some of North America's earliest European history and the delightful villages and orchards of the Annapolis Valley. It's a journey that spans 400 years of settlement, a journey that will take you past forts, farms and fishing villages, a journey rich in culture, diversity, charm and natural beauty.

Phenomenal Fundy is also rich in natural history, particularly migrating shore birds, whales, shad and other marine life. In late July and early August, before flying non-stop to South America, over two million semipalmated sandpipers refuel on the mud shrimp exposed by the receding Fundy tides. The power of nature is evident all along the magnificent Fundy coast, with its world-famous tides and ever-changing landscape of rocky shores, fertile farmlands, salt marshes and broad sandy beaches. It's a naturalist's dream!

Visitor Information Centres

Annapolis Royal K3, 532-5454
Bear River K3, 467-3200
Belliveau Cove L1, 837-7100
Berwick J5, 538-9229
Bridgetown J3, 665-5150
Digby K2, 245-5714
Digby K2, 245-2201
Hantsport J6, 684-9302
Kentville J5, 678-7170
Kingston/Greenwood J4, 765-6678
Middleton J4, 825-4100
Tiverton L1, 839-2853
Weymouth L2, 837-4715
Windsor J6, 798-2690
Wolfville H5/6, 542-7000
Yarmouth N1, 742-6639
Yarmouth N1, 742-5033

Most Visitor Information Centres are open mid-May to mid-October (subject to change). Call the above numbers or 1-800-565-0000.

Provincial Visitor Information Centre

www.evangelinetrail.com
www.aboutyarmouth.com

Whale watching off Brier Island at the end of Digby Neck.





Top: Yarmouth Seafest Celebrations

Above: Yarmouth Light, at Cape Forchu

Travel through the picturesque Acadian fishing villages that dot the coast of St. Mary's Bay. Visit Digby, home port to the world's largest scallop fleet. Take a side trip on Digby Neck for some of Nova Scotia's best birding and whale watching.

At Port Royal, explore the reconstructed French Habitation, site of the first permanent European settlement in Canada. Be sure to visit Fort Anne at nearby Annapolis Royal, and walk among the heritage plantings of the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens. At the Tidal Power project, see the world's highest tides harnessed for electricity.

Journey on through the patchwork quilt of fields, dykes, orchards and vineyards of the Annapolis Valley, Atlantic Canada's richest agricultural region, with its magnificent Victorian homes of 19th-century merchants and sea captains. Visit Grand Pré National Historic Site of Canada, which commemorates Acadian history and culture. And for stirring vistas of the Annapolis Valley, Minas Basin and Fundy's record tides, hike the trails of Blomidon. This is the land immortalized in Longfellow's epic poem *Evangeline: A Tale of Acadie*.

Follow Route 1, the Evangeline Trail, cross-province through historic Hantsport and Windsor, on to Mount Uniacke, site of Uniacke House Museum. Discover the soothing, pastoral charms of this 18th-century estate while strolling its extensive nature and hiking trails.

1 **Yarmouth** was settled in 1761, and the town's proximity to the ports of New England and lucrative trade with the West Indies brought a prosperity that can still be seen in the town's splendid architecture. Yarmouth today has the salty romance of a working seaport.

Yarmouth's great shipping heritage is reflected in the exhibits of the Yarmouth County Museum, which includes one of Canada's largest collections of ship paintings, as well as exhibits on the early Acadian and English settlements of the area (see p. 193).

Another of Yarmouth's delightful surprises is the Firefighters' Museum. Dedicated to the history of firefighting and firefighters in the province, the museum's extensive collection includes several horse-drawn pumpers, steam pumpers and historic firefighting equipment from the 19th and early 20th centuries (see p. 193).

The town's waterfront park is a great place to enjoy views of the harbour. Nearby, the Killam Bros. Shipping Office Museum offers a look at coastal shipping businesses of the type that were prevalent along this coast in the 1800s and the Sweeney Museum gives visitors the feeling of a working fishing dock (see p. 193). Yarmouth is also home to the Yarmouth Arts Centre (Th' YARC), which offers a variety of entertainment in its 350-seat theatre on Parade Street (see p. 196).

Yarmouth has been a major point of arrival for visitors to Nova Scotia since its early days when the docks bustled with traffic from "the Boston States." Today this tradition continues with two marinas and a car ferry: a high-speed catamaran, *The Cat*, to and from Bar Harbor.

? Stop at the Nova Scotia Visitor Information Centre, 228 Main Street (up the hill from the ferry terminal), for information and travel literature about Nova Scotia. An excellent brochure describes a self-guided walking tour of 26 historic buildings and heritage sites, including the Collins Heritage Conservation District.

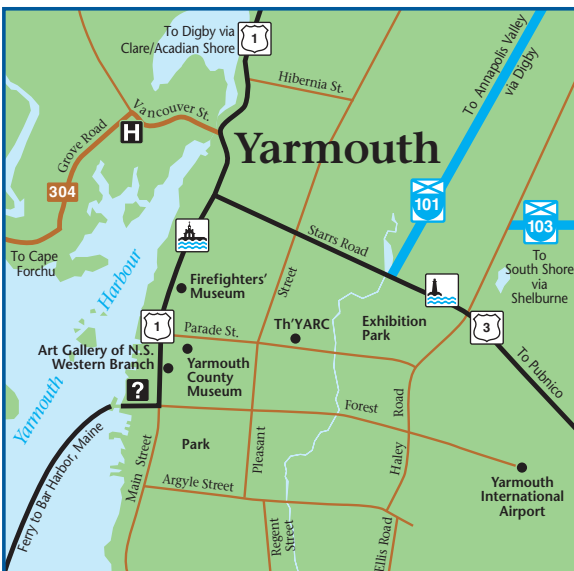
304 One of Yarmouth's most scenic drives leads to the magnificent lighthouse at Cape Forchu; turn onto Vancouver Street, Route 304, to **Overton** and **Cape Forchu**. The original Yarmouth Light, built in 1839, was replaced by the current towering structure in the early 1960s. The lighthouse features picnic facilities, a gift shop, and an interesting interpretive centre that highlights the region's colourful seafaring history, and the park-like grounds offer impressive ocean views in every direction (see p. 193). Walking trails around the cape provide superb photographic and bird-watching opportunities.

A few kilometres beyond Yarmouth on the Evangeline Trail lies the tiny picturesque fishing village of **Sandford**, whose scenic harbour is spanned by the world's smallest wooden lift-bridge.

340 **203** Near **Deerfield**, off Route 340, Ellenwood Lake Provincial Park is an attractive oasis of green with camping and picnic facilities and a supervised swimming area. Route 203 traverses a wilderness region of woods, lakes and rivers, passing through Kemptville, East Kemptville, Upper Ohio, Middle Ohio, and Lower Ohio, and joins the Lighthouse Route near Shelburne.

1 The Port Maitland Beach Provincial Park has a picnic area by a lovely beach.

The Municipality of **Clare**, part of the **Acadian Shore**, hugs Baie Ste-Marie midway between Yarmouth and Digby. Route 1

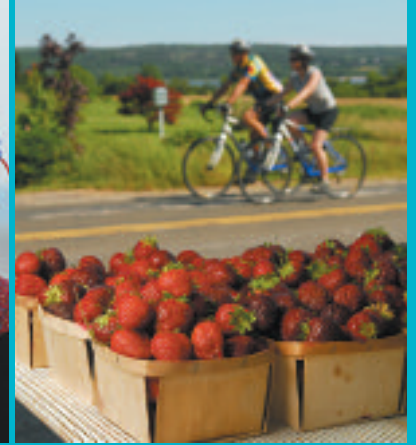




Waterways of Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site.



Performers on the Acadian shore.



Spring harvest in the valley.



Don't Miss!

Approx. touring distances along scenic route:

- Yarmouth–Church Point 62 km
- Church Point–Digby 37 km
- Digby–Brier Island 75 km
- Digby–Annapolis Royal 27 km
- Annapolis Royal–Kentville 100 km
- Kentville–Wolfville 10 km
- Wolfville–Halifax 95 km

Port-Royal and Fort Anne
Visit two National Historic Sites—celebrate 400 years of history.

Bear River First Nations Heritage & Cultural Centre
Share in Mi'kmaq traditions and knowledge.

Oaklawn Farm Zoo
Encounter exotic animals and endangered species.

L'Acadie en Fête
Celebrate our French heritage along the Acadian Shore.

Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site
Commune with nature among pristine lakes, rivers and forests.

Whale Watching
Meet these gentle giants of the sea in the waters off Digby Neck.

Fall Harvest Festivals
Cheer on the Pumpkin Regatta, sample a Ciderfest or Winefest, celebrate the bounty of the Valley.

North Hills Museum
Appreciate the fine collections of 18th century antiques.

Seafest
Taste the sea! Yarmouth offers great seafood & festivities in July.



passes through twelve picturesque French-speaking villages between Beaver River and St. Bernard. The bilingual inhabitants along this shore are descendants of the first European settlers, who came from France in the early 1600s. This Acadian culture is evident at festivals and in restaurants throughout the district during the summer months.

This is a region of handmade quilts, smoked fish and *Stella Maris*, the tri-coloured Acadian flag with a single star that proudly flies from many homes and public buildings. The architecture of Clare's older homes reflects the New England post-Deportation influence. The Acadians built magnificent churches and every visitor should make time to stop in at least one of these celebrated edifices.

One of the region's most popular sand beaches can be found by taking a turn off Route 1 in **Mavillette**, to Mavillette Beach Provincial Park. Mavillette Beach, a lovely 2-km (1.2-mi.) expanse of sand and dunes, provides interpretive panels, guided tours, and a bird-watching platform on the marsh.

In the village of **St. Alphonse**, l'Église St. Alphonse is one of the most charming of the Acadian churches along this shore. Inside the church, the walls are covered with extensive murals and, in one corner, a trickle of springwater flows across a grotto of "stones" that are actually carved from wood.

Further along the Evangeline Trail, Smugglers Cove Provincial Park affords a splendid place for a picnic lunch, with inspiring views of the coastal cliffs and St. Mary's Bay. A small path leads down to a pebble beach and a natural cave. Interpretive panels and guided tours tell about the rum-running past.

Meteghan, settled in 1785, is the Acadian Shore's busiest port, home to scallop dragners, trawlers, herring seiners, and cod and lobster boats. Ask for directions to the nearby Bangor Sawmill Museum, a restored water-powered sawmill (see p. 193).

In **Saulnierville**, visit historic Église Sacré Coeur (c. 1880), local craft studios, and the wharf, then enjoy a challenging round of golf at Comeauville.

One of the finest and most celebrated of the Acadian churches is St. Mary's Church at **Pointe de l'Église** (Church Point). An engineering marvel, St. Mary's was constructed between 1903 and 1905 in the form of a cross 58 m (190 ft.) long and 41 m (135 ft.) wide. The spire rises an impressive 56 m (185 ft.) above the surrounding countryside. From May to mid-October, a



Top: St. Mary's Church at Pointe de l'Église (Church Point).

Centre: Acadian Festival in Clare.

Bottom: Balancing Rock, Tiverton.

bilingual guide is available for tours of the church and its small museum (see p. 193).

St. Mary's Church is located on the campus of Université Sainte-Anne, a centre of Acadian culture and Nova Scotia's only French-language university. The university is also the site of the oldest Acadian festival in the Atlantic Provinces, Festival Acadien de Clare, held here during the second week of July.

The village of **Grosses Coques** is named for the large clams found there, which are said to be the largest on the eastern seaboard. Just past the Grosses Coques River Bridge, a left turn leads to Major Point Beach, where a cairn and small chapel have been erected to mark the site of the first Acadian cemetery of the region. This is the starting point for an interpretive seaside walking trail, a 5-km (3-mi.) loop trail along the rocky shore and past freshwater wetlands to the well-protected harbour at **Belliveau Cove** (L'Anse-des-Belliveau). This former lumbering and shipbuilding community features a picturesque lighthouse and wharf, a park with guided tours, and a beach that is a popular clamming location when the tide is out.

At **St. Bernard**, an awe-inspiring granite church which seats 1,000, was constructed between 1910 and 1942 by local residents. Guided tours are available, and classical music concerts are held here (see p. 196).

Weymouth, settled in 1783 by United Empire Loyalists, is a quiet town on the Sissiboo River with its roots in lumbering. The Weymouth Historical Society has restored St. Thomas Anglican Church for use as a museum and cultural centre (see p. 193). New France—The Electric City interpretive centre tells the story of the first community in the area to have dynamo-powered lights (see p. 193). Sissiboo Landing is a new five-culture interpretive centre, next to a 1-km Storybook Trail with look-off areas and gazebos. Outdoor enthusiasts can explore the area by canoe or kayak on a wilderness excursion.

101 At **Gilbert's Cove**, there is a restored lighthouse which provides picnic facilities and excellent views of the bay in every direction (see p. 193). Another place to enjoy the beauty of the area's seashore is Savary Park, a provincial picnic park on the left near **Plympton**. This is a fine beach-combing area, and groves of white birches and evergreens overlooking a tidal pool make it a pleasant setting.



303 **Digby** was founded in 1783 by Loyalists from the New England colonies led by Admiral Robert Digby. The town overlooks the magnificent Annapolis Basin and the Digby Gut, which opens out into the Bay of Fundy. Digby is home port of one of North America's largest scallop fleets, harvesters of the world-famous Digby scallop. For a great view of the colourful scallop-draggers go to Digby's floating marina, which rises and falls almost 9 metres (3 storeys) every few hours. The stairs are steep at low tide! This historic waterfront is lined with shops, cafés, and restaurants, and in summer there is live entertainment at the bandstand next to the marina. Visitors can stroll past the fishing boats tied up to the fishermen's wharf, take a harbour cruise, wander through the marina, or observe an active boatyard.

At the end of the boardwalk a restored 28-m (92-ft) scallop dragger, the *Lady Vanessa*, has been made into a private museum highlighting the local fishery and scallop-dragging (see p. 197). Along the street, one block from the municipal **?** visitor information centre, visitors can enjoy a wealth of history on the area and on the scallop industry at the Admiral Digby Museum. The museum also has an extensive genealogy research facility. (See p. 193.) Two blocks uphill from the museum, the Trinity Anglican Church highlights the town's shipbuilding heritage. Built in 1878, the church is thought to be the only one in Canada built entirely by shipwrights. Their unique handiwork shows in the laminated arches, braces and handwrought ironwork common to sailing ships built a century ago.

On the way to enjoy a round of golf at a classic Stanley Thompson-designed golf course, turn on Lighthouse Road for a side trip to Point Prim Lighthouse, on the Bay of Fundy. This rocky shore is an excellent vantage point for viewing splendid sunsets.

North on Route 303, there is a **?** visitor information centre near the terminal of the MV *Princess of Acadia* ferry, which carries vehicles between Digby and Saint John, New Brunswick.

217 Digby is the gateway to one of Nova Scotia's most spectacular natural regions. The **Digby Neck and Islands Scenic Drive**, Route 217, follows the narrow ribbon of land between the waters of the Bay of Fundy and St. Mary's Bay, along Digby Neck to Long Island and Brier Island.

The Bay of Fundy's great tides have created a rich ecosystem that supports an abundance of wildlife, including great numbers of whales and seabirds. The area has become famous for its

whale- and seabird-watching tours, and the land is an environmental treasure that offers spectacular panoramas of rocky headlands and tide-carved coastline. The road winds through timeless small fishing villages such as **Sandy Cove**, **Mink Cove** and **Little River**. Sandy Cove is a particularly charming village with a boat-filled bay, several historic buildings, and cliffs with volcanic ancestry. A right turn in Sandy Cove offers a short, scenic drive across the peninsula to a bay where a fishing weir can be seen just offshore. The weir takes advantage of the extraordinary high tides to trap fish as the tide goes out.

Long and **Brier Islands**, off the end of Digby Neck, are reached by short ferry crossings. Both ferries operate hourly, 24 hours a day, year-round (car \$4 round trip, pedestrians free, STC).

There are numerous whale-watching cruises available on both islands from June to September (see Tour Operators section). Sightings of finback, minke, and humpback whales and Atlantic white-sided dolphins are common. You may also see endangered North Atlantic right whales. The islands are located on the Atlantic Flyway, a major migration route for many species of sea birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl, and in the spring and fall birdwatchers flock from all over North America and Europe. Both islands have restaurants, accommodations, gas stations and convenience stores.

The first ferry leaves **East Ferry** on the half-hour for **Tiverton** on Long Island. Tiverton, settled in 1785, is an unspoiled fishing village that is home to several whale-watching tours. Boar's Head lighthouse is a great place to gaze out over the Bay of Fundy. The Islands Museum and **?** visitor information centre is located in the village (see p. 194). It provides

local information and displays on island life, including the voyage of Joshua Slocum, the first person to sail around the world alone. Halfway along Long Island, a well-marked hiking trail with magnificent views along the spectacular rugged shoreline leads to the much-photographed "Balancing Rock," a large column of basalt rock that balances delicately at the edge of the shore.

At the other end of the island is **Freeport**, founded in 1784. Freeport is a fishing village blessed with natural beauty. Wildflowers are profuse, there are shorebirds in the cove, and there are many areas for hiking. A breathtaking look-off over the Bay of Fundy is a great place to watch the whales from the shore. Whalewatching tours, deep-sea fishing cruises, and fine seafood dining are available in Freeport.

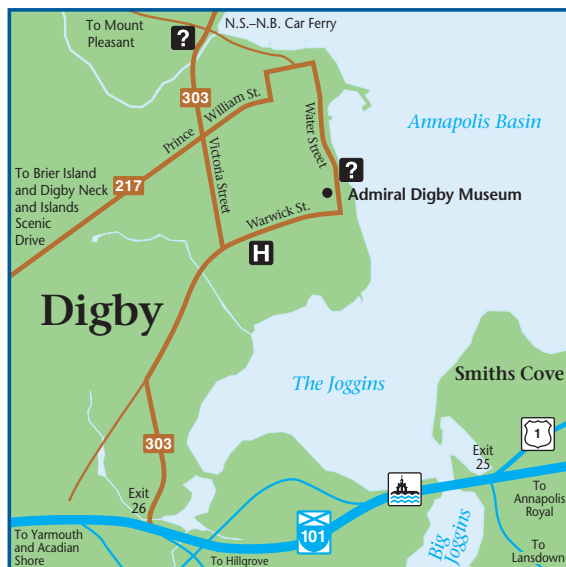
Another ferry crosses on the hour from Freeport to Westport, on Brier Island.

Just 6.5 km (4 mi.) long and 2.5 km (1.5 mi.) wide, **Brier Island** is renowned as a sensitive ecological treasure, with rare wild orchids among the profusion of wildflowers on the island. Brier Island is a paradise for hikers and walkers, with easy-to-moderate trails that lead along the island's shore to places like Seal Cove, where you can sit and watch a seal colony. Walkers can also enjoy a visit to the island's lighthouses: the Western Light and the Northern Light. **Westport**, the only village on the island, is a major fishing port and a busy tourist centre with several whale-watching cruises.

1 The Evangeline Trail continues to **Smith's Cove**, a favourite resort area with excellent accommodations. The Smith's Cove Historical Museum is located in the centre of the village, in the Old Meeting House (1834) and Temperance Hall (see p. 194).

A scenic 6-km (4-mi.) detour off the Evangeline Trail, at Highway 101, Exit 24, leads to **Bear River**, "The Switzerland of Nova Scotia." The village is best known for its many outstanding artists and craftspeople, with their attractive shops and studios. The village's unique architecture features a European flavour; numerous buildings were built on wooden stilts to keep above the dramatic high tides.

The Bear River Heritage Museum offers a look at the community's shipbuilding and trading history and, at the Bear River First Nations' Heritage and Cultural Centre, the traditions of the Mi'kmaq are shared through a variety of media. Visitors can tour a winery at Bear River Vineyards. Bear





**Bear River First Nations
Heritage and Cultural Centre.**



Port-Royal National Historic Site

River is also home to the award-winning Solar Aquatics Treatment Facility, which has attracted international interest among environmentalists. The **?** Visitor Information and Interpretive Centre is located in a windmill at the Waterfront Picnic Park. (See pp. 194, 197.)

1 Continuing on Route 1 from Smith's Cove, the Evangeline Trail passes through **Cornwallis**, where the military museum is worth a visit (see p.194). Just off the Evangeline Trail at **Clementsport**, the old church of St. Edward, consecrated in 1797, is now a museum (see p. 194). Surrounded by its historic cemetery, the church is situated on a high hill. From the tower there is a magnificent panorama of the Annapolis Basin.

Visitors with children may want to stop and enjoy Upper Clements Park in **Upper**

Clements, where they'll find fun for kids of all ages. This is a bright, modern 10-hectare (25-acre) park, where the theme is Nova Scotia's heritage and music. In addition to exciting rides and activities, there are several historic buildings that house displays, entertainment, handcrafts, food outlets and other attractions (see p. 197). Across the highway, the Upper Clements Wildlife Park offers forested trails that allow visitors a closeup look at some of Nova Scotia's native animals (see p. 197).

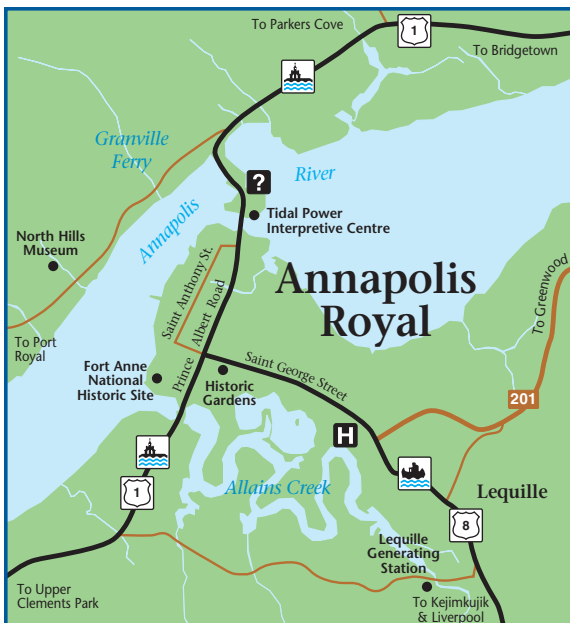
8 The 115-km (71-mi.) long **Kejimkujik Scenic Drive** crosses southwestern Nova Scotia, following Route 8 from Annapolis Royal through the peaceful rural countryside of Nova Scotia's interior to Liverpool, on the other side of the province. Leaving Annapolis Royal the drive climbs the slope of South Mountain to the attractive village of **Lequille**. On the left between Lequille and **South Milford** is Mickey Hill Pocket Wilderness, a picnic park on Lamb's Lake with a 1-km (0.5-mi) walking trail that follows the forested banks of Ten Mile River, crossing a stream via a swinging bridge that children will enjoy.

Maitland Bridge is at the entrance to Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site of Canada, a renowned 381-km² (147-sq.-mi.) wilderness preserve (see Outdoors section).

1 **Annapolis Royal** offers a captivating blend of heritage and charm that has made it a favourite stopping place along the Evangeline Trail. The town contains over 150 heritage buildings, including the oldest wooden house in Canada, the deGannes-Cosby House, built in 1708. Two other houses of great historic value in the town are the Adams-Ritchie House (1712), and the Runciman House (1817).

Today, Annapolis Royal is a town of gracious large homes, colourful gardens and broad tree-lined streets. The town is also known for its unique shops, fine inns, artists' studios and galleries, and golf course.

At the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens visitors can enjoy 4 hectares (10 acres) of beautiful, tranquil gardens, including several theme gardens, collections, and displays spread along more than 1.5 km (1 mi.) of winding pathways, most of which are



wheelchair-accessible. The marshland adjacent to the garden is a popular birdwatching area that can be accessed by paths along the top of the dykes (see p. 197).

Fort Anne National Historic Site overlooks the mouths of the Annapolis and Allain rivers. The fort features well-preserved earthwork fortifications, a museum in the officers' quarters and a gunpowder magazine. Built in 1708, the magazine is the oldest building in any Canadian National Historic Site (see p. 194). Vibrant colours and lively vignettes in the Fort Anne Heritage Tapestry illustrate four centuries of the history of the site and area. The present fort is the fifth built on this location, and its park-like ambiance makes it a good place to stroll and contemplate what life was like for the young soldiers who defended it. In summer months, an entertaining candlelight graveyard tour is offered by the local Historical Society on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

After visiting Fort Anne, take time for a walk along lower St. George Street, the oldest town street in Canada. Here you will find the O'Dell Inn Museum (c. 1869), open daily during the summer (see p. 194).

201 Along this stretch of the Annapolis Valley, Route 1, the Evangeline Trail, follows the north side of the river while Route 201 follows the south side. **Tupperville**, 16 km (10 mi.) east of Annapolis Royal on Route 201, is the location of the Tupperville School Museum, a country school over 100 years old (see p. 194).

1 In Annapolis Royal on Route 1, you'll find the Annapolis Tidal Power Project, the first of its kind in North America. The facility generates hydroelectric power from the force of the Fundy tides at the Annapolis River Causeway (see p. 197). A **2** visitor information centre is also located at this site.

To reach **Port Royal**, follow the Evangeline Trail (Route 1) to Granville Ferry then turn left. At **Granville Ferry** the North Hills Museum, in a beautifully restored late 18th-century home, houses the lifetime collection of celebrated antique dealer Robert Patterson. The collection includes an exceptional array of fine Georgian furniture, ceramics, glass, silver and period paintings (see p. 194).

Continuing on, you come to Port-Royal National Historic Site. One of the most historically important sites in North America, Port Royal offers a fascinating insight into early European settlement of the new world. A colony and fur-trading post built in 1605 by Sieur de Monts, the Port Royal Habitation was the earliest European settlement

in North America north of Florida. The present Habitation is a reconstruction based on detailed drawings made by Samuel de Champlain. Inside the Habitation, costumed interpreters bring to life the hard daily existence of these early adventurers in the New World (see p. 194).

OFF TRAIL ▶ A short drive from Port Royal leads to **Delap's Cove**, where excellent hiking trails lead along the rocky splendour of the Bay of Fundy shore to a lovely 13-m (43-ft.) waterfall. The road then traces the magnificent tide-carved coastline, passing through several picturesque fishing villages along the way, including **Parker's Cove**, **Young's Cove**, and **Hampton**.

1 From Granville Ferry, the Evangeline Trail continues through the **Annapolis Valley**. Known as "Canada's first breadbasket," this historic fertile valley has been farmed for over 300 years. Today, the orchards and rolling farmlands comprise one of the most celebrated apple-growing regions in the world. Graced with attractive towns and villages and threaded with gently winding rivers, the valley extends from Digby to Windsor—an area 160 km (100 mi.) long and from 8 to 24 km (5 to 15 mi.) wide. The valley is sheltered on both sides from heavy winds and the Bay of Fundy fog by the North and South mountains. Sunshine and rich red soil combine to produce excellent fruit, and a trip through the country during apple blossom time (late May or early June) is memorable.

Bridgetown was once the busy head of navigation on the Annapolis River where the produce of the valley was gathered to be shipped to the rest of the world. Today, Bridgetown has an abundance of small-town charm with colourful shops, accommodations and numerous services. Walking tours of heritage homes and the Historic Cyprus Walk highlight Bridgetown's rich history. The James House, built in 1835 by the merchant Richard James, is now a museum, tea room and local gallery (see p. 195). Jubilee Park on Granville Street (Route 1) has picnic tables, a bandstand, a play area, a boat ramp and wharf on the Annapolis River, and a **2** visitor information centre. There is a beautiful golf course nearby.

From the centre of Bridgetown, a road to the north off Route 1 leads across North Mountain to the Bay of Fundy, 10 km (6 mi.) away. Valleyview Provincial Park, situated on the brow of North Mountain, offers picnic and camping facilities and provides a panoramic view of the valley.

Experience the lush beauty of the Evangeline Trail

"We're at the cusp of such an exciting time as we're just starting to be recognized as a wine region. We're getting focused now. When visitors come to our province, they're coming for all the things we're known for: our fish, our lobster, our famous Digby scallops, our Atlantic salmon. And the wine that we produce here, grown in the same soil, on the cusp of where our seafood comes from, is such a perfect reflection and complement to our food. We've got a nice mineral character to our wine—a nice, dry, crisp acidity that just grabs hold of the delicate flavour of seafood and pulls it out. It's really magical when you have one of those food-and-wine pairings that just connects. And the wine that we produce here, grown in the soil at the edge of where our seafood comes from, that's what people can expect when they visit."

– Amy Savoury

Sommelier

Visit novascotia.com to watch videos of this and other exciting Nova Scotia experiences.





Upper Clements Park, Clementsport.



Oaklawn Farm Zoo



Part of the scallop fleet at Digby Wharf.

1 The Evangeline Trail continues to **Lawrencetown**, where the Annapolis Valley Agricultural Exhibition is held each August. The Centre of Geographic Sciences has an international reputation in surveying, mapping, and computer sciences. A little further along at Brickton, a road on the left climbs North Mountain to **Mount Hanley**, then continues to **Port George** on the Fundy shore, where Cottage Cove Provincial Park offers picnic facilities and, at low tide, tidal pools to explore.

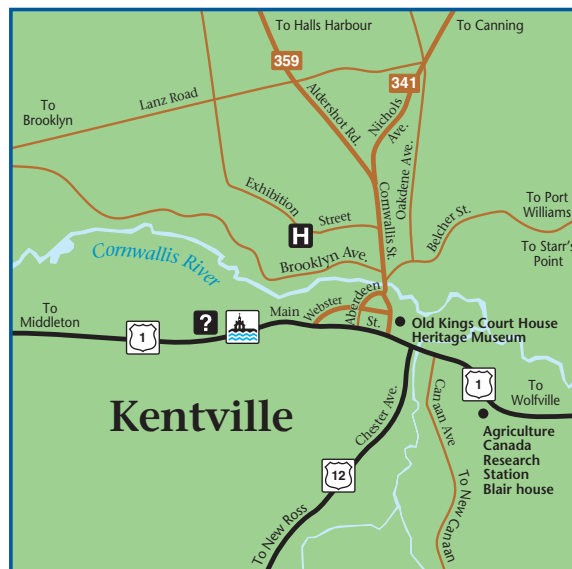
1 **2** **Middleton**, known as the “Heart of the Valley”, is a small town with a big past. Historic buildings dating back to the 17th century, shops, and activity parks can all be found on the tree-lined streets. The oldest consolidated school in Canada and the railway station are now museums that make learning fun (see p. 195). Next to Town Hall, watch the interesting workings of North America’s first water-run town clock. The newly restored Old Holy Trinity Church (c. 1789), one of only five remaining Loyalist churches in North America, is an excellent example of Colonial church architecture (see p. 195). Riverside Park provides opportunities for canoeing, kayaking, fishing or just relaxing on the riverbank. At dusk throughout the summer months, birdwatchers can enjoy the aerial acrobatics of hundreds of chimney swifts flying in formation.

A side trip on Route 362 leads from Middleton across North Mountain to the seaside village of Margaretsville. **Margaretsville** is a photographer’s paradise, featuring a lighthouse, old fishing shacks, a waterfall, and spectacular sunsets over long stretches of pebble beach. In an old fish shack near the village wharf, a co-operative studio gallery displays the work of artists from the area, and visitors are able to watch an artist at work. Fundy Folk, in East

Margaretsville, hosts some unique live musical and theatrical events.

10 From Middleton, Route 10 offers a scenic cross-province tour to the LaHave River Valley and Bridgewater on the Lighthouse Route. In **New Albany**, about 20 minutes from Middleton, the Albany Community Church is an example of the transition between early 19th-century meeting houses and late 19th-century churches. Further down the road, the Loyalist Cemetery has tombstones dating back to 1774, and the Pine Grove Cemetery is one of the most picturesque in the province.

1 **2** **Kingston** is a quiet, friendly country village in one of the most fertile and abundant regions of the Annapolis Valley. Scenic country roads wind past well-tended orchards and farms, where apples, blueberries, strawberries, and a host of vegetable crops are grown. Numerous U-pick farms and orchards offer a great way to enjoy the outdoors and take along some of the valley’s delicious produce.



On the second Saturday of July, Kingston is the site of Nova Scotia’s largest steer barbecue, boasting the best beef you’ll ever taste.


North of Kingston is the coastal village of **Morden**, location of the French Cross honouring Acadians who perished there after the Deportation of 1755.

201 Off Route 1 on Route 201, the village of **Greenwood**, settled by Planters and Loyalists, is now a bustling commercial centre with the largest enclosed mall west of Halifax. Adjacent to the village are 14 Wing Greenwood Air Base, a golf course open to the public, and Greenwood Military Aviation Museum, which presents the fascinating history of the base’s role in the growth of Canadian Aviation. (See p. 195.)

1 **Aylesford** is the home of a golf course and one of Nova Scotia’s most popular attractions, Oaklawn Farm Zoo. This modern zoological park features hundreds of exotic and domestic animals, including jaguars, tigers, zebras, llamas, a pride of lions, and comical and noisy troupes of monkeys. There is also a petting zoo that is a favourite with the younger set (see p. 197).


Off Route 1, **2** **Berwick**, known as the “Apple Capital of Nova Scotia”, combines small-town friendliness with the bustle of a busy commercial centre. The Apple Capital Museum displays the history of the apple industry. The town’s beautiful parks, Rainforth and Centennial, are great spots for families or sports-lovers. The town is surrounded by hundreds of acres of orchards on the valley floor and on the gentle mountain slopes.

360 For a picturesque side trip, take Route 360 north to **Harbourville** and enjoy the delightful fishing village, with a restaurant, gift shop, cabins, and a lobster pound.

 Continuing on Route 1, the Evangeline Trail enters Kentville. The largest community in the Annapolis Valley, **Kentville** retains lots of home-town charm, with pubs, colourful shops and galleries. The Kings County Museum on Cornwallis Street focuses on the social and natural history of Kings County and contains an extensive collection of genealogical records (see p. 195). Centre-Stage Theatre has been entertaining audiences for over 20 years (see p. 197).

One of the town's most popular places for enjoying the outdoors is the Kentville Trail System, which follows the Cornwallis River from the bird sanctuary at the western edge of town to the ravine on the east side. Nearby is the Kentville Agricultural Research Station which includes Blair House, an on-site museum devoted to the history of both the agricultural centre and the Valley apple industry (see p. 195). In June the spectacular display of rhododendrons is well worth a visit.

Every spring, at the end of May, Kentville is the centre of the Apple Blossom Festival, which is celebrated throughout the valley. The Festival marks the appearance of the Valley's famous apple blossoms, which herald the start of another growing season. Another popular Kentville celebration takes place in October, when the often-humorous lawn displays known as "Pumpkin People" appear in profusion, adding a bright note to an already colourful fall tour of the area.

 From the centre of Kentville, Route 12 travels across the province to Chester Basin on the Lighthouse Route. The Ross Farm Living Museum of Agriculture is located at New Ross on Route 12 (see p. 139).

359 North of Kentville, Route 359 leads through Centreville over North Mountain to Hall's Harbour. Over 400 Bald Eagles spend winters in Kings County, and can be viewed daily in communities such as **Sheffield Mills**, just east of **Centreville**. In Centreville, visit Eagle Crest Golf Course and the Charles MacDonald House, a museum dedicated to the achievements of one of the region's most colourful residents. Charles Macdonald was an artist, ship's carpenter, avid socialist and businessman. The house and the sculptures on the grounds are unique in that they are all made of concrete (see p. 195).

Hall's Harbour is a lovely natural harbour and picturesque fishing village on the upper Bay of Fundy. A favourite with naturalists who come to walk the beach, birdwatch and kayak, the harbour is also popular with valley residents seeking cool breezes on hot summer days. The village has accommoda-



Top: Deep Roots Music Festival, Wolfville.

Centre: Farmers' markets are a Saturday morning ritual in many communities from spring to late fall.

Bottom: Hall's Harbour at low tide.

tions, several artists' studios, hiking trails, a walking trail and a restaurant/lobster pound.

Just beyond Hall's Harbour, a side road leads to four colourful and highly unusual small cottages built of concrete in the 1920s by Charles Macdonald.

 The Evangeline Trail continues. **New Minas** is the major shopping area of the Valley, with two malls and numerous shops, restaurants and service businesses. The Lockhart and Ryan Memorial Community Park, at the northeast end of town, features ball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts, a picnic area and a playground. New Minas is popular with golfers who enjoy the attractive and challenging 18-hole golf course.

358 Side trips off the Evangeline Trail lead to some of the area's most fascinating "off-the-beaten-path" attractions and scenery. One of the region's outstanding scenic drives is described in the *Orchards and Tides* brochure under the Port Williams–Blomidon–Lookoff Loop. Tides, dykeland, farms and great beaches abound on this route. At **Greenwich** turn left on Route 358 to **Port Williams**, where a sixth-generation family farm produces a variety of artisan cheeses (see p. 197). Acadian Dyke Drive winds along the coast via Starr's Point, **Kingsport** and **Pereau** to Blomidon and The Look-off. This verdant farmland was claimed from the sea by means of dykes, which were built by the Acadians and later extended by the New England Planters.

Take time at **Starr's Point** to visit the impressive Prescott House Museum, an elegant Georgian-style house built in 1814 by Charles Ramage Prescott and now superbly furnished with period antiques (see p. 195). Prescott was a businessman and horticulturist who introduced many new varieties of apples into Nova Scotia, and the lovely grounds and gardens around the house reflect his love of nature and gardening.

This road continues, offering tantalizing views of the Minas Basin and the dramatic headland of Cape Blomidon, until it reaches Blomidon Provincial Park. The park is renowned for its spectacular scenery and for the hiking trails that lead along the towering seacliffs of Blomidon, offering unforgettable views of the **Minas Basin**. The ebb and flow of the world-famous 15-m (50-ft.) tides move over fourteen billion tons of seawater twice daily. The trails also lead to beaches where rockhounds hunt for agates and amethysts.

A short distance back, Stewart Mountain Road leads across to Route 358. To the right lies **Scots Bay**, an attractive seaside village





Winery experiences in the region:

Bear River Vineyards, Bear River
(see p. 197)

Blomidon Estate Winery, Canning
(see p. 197)

Gaspereau Vineyards, Gaspereau
(see p. 198)

Grand Pré Wines, Grand Pré
(see p. 198)

Sainte Famille Wines, Falmouth
(see p. 198)

whose long crescent beach is another rockhound's paradise, and where the water is often warm enough for swimming. This promontory is part of the phenomena which cause the world-famous high tides in the Minas Basin.

Returning along Route 358, be sure to spend some time enjoying the breathtaking view of the Annapolis Valley and Minas Basin from **The Lookoff**, one of the Evangeline Trail's most popular attractions. Situated 200 m (600 ft.) above the floor of the valley, The Lookoff provides a panoramic view of the valley's rolling farmlands, orchards and woods to the majestic shore of the Minas Basin.

The lovely village of **Canning** was once a major port for the region. Large wooden sailing ships, built along the banks of this now-lazy river, were used to ship apples and potatoes to large cities at the turn of the century.

Back on the Evangeline Trail, **Wolfville** is a charming university town, with stately trees and beautiful heritage homes. Wolfville has a flavour of historic elegance that is evidenced by the town's rich architecture. Downtown Wolfville is home to an array of colourful shops, and some of Nova Scotia's finest restaurants. The Waterfront Park features interpretive panels, a gazebo, and a tidal gauge.

Dominating the centre of town is Acadia University, one of Canada's top undergraduate schools, with schools of music, divinity and other disciplines as well as faculties in arts and sciences. The Environmental Sciences Research Centre has a six-acre native botanical garden, greenhouses, and a gene bank of Atlantic Region flora.

Randall House on Main Street, built in 1815, is operated as a museum by the Wolfville Historical Society. It features displays and collections that reflect the history of the New England Planters and the Loyalists who settled the area (see p. 195). A self-guided walking tour of Wolfville's heritage homes is available at the visitor information centre in Willow Park on Main Street.

The Robie Tufts Nature Centre on Front Street offers an interpretive display on Wolfville's Chimney Swifts, the aerobic birds that fly in spectacular formation as they return to their nests each evening just before dark.

At the end of Front Street, by the harbour, there are dykes which were built in the 1600s by the Acadians. This spot offers superb views of

the dykelands, the Bay of Fundy, and the dramatic beauty of Cape Blomidon.

Off Pleasant Street is Reservoir Park, a 30-acre park with two ponds, a perimeter trail, a picnic area and spectacular views of Minas Basin and Cape Blomidon. It can be reached by a walking trail from downtown.

A popular sunny-day activity in early summer is taking a cool and relaxing ride down the Gaspereau River in an inner tube. Follow Gaspereau Avenue 2 km (1.5 mi.) out of town to the river, where local operators rent tubes.

At Grand-Pré National Historic Site, a graceful stone church stands as a memorial to the Acadians who were forcefully exiled from their homes and farms during the Deportation from 1755 to 1763. The church is built on the site of one of the original Acadian villages, and contains an interesting exhibit about the Deportation (see p. 195). The site also features a statue of Evangeline, the fictional heroine of Longfellow's immortal epic poem, whose perseverance during the hardships of the Deportation came to represent the indomitable spirit of the Acadians. The church grounds are peaceful and lovely, with attractive formal gardens, ancient French willows, an Acadian well, and a blacksmith's shop.

Continue along the Evangeline Trail through **Avonport** to **Hantsport**. Situated on the Avon River, Hantsport has a rich tradition of shipping and shipbuilding. Due to the mighty Minas Basin tides, it has one of the few natural dry docks in the world. Artifacts of Hantsport's seafaring past are on display in the Marine Memorial Room, located in Churchill House (see p. 196). Churchill House was built in 1860 by Ezra Churchill, owner of the Churchill & Sons Shipyards. Guided tours are available throughout the summer. "The Captain", a woodcarving gracing the corner of Main and William streets, is further testimony to Hantsport's heritage. On the grounds of the Baptist Church is a memorial to William Hall, the first Black man and the first Nova Scotian to receive the Victoria Cross, the highest award given by the British military for bravery and gallantry.

Near Hantsport, fossils of plants, fish, and amphibians can be seen at Blue Beach.

The Robert Pope Foundation Gallery displays a haunting series of paintings.

At **Falmouth**, visitors can play a round of golf on a first-class 18-hole course at Avon Valley Golf Club. The Sainte Famille Cemetery is a pre-Deportation Acadian burial site.

Windsor is a bustling town with a number of interesting attractions. Lovers of Canada's favourite sport will be delighted to find that the "Little Town of Big Firsts" is the birthplace of hockey. The game was first played around 1800 by students of Kings-



Edgehill School, the first independent school in the British Commonwealth. While Long Pond, on the Dill property, is considered to be the actual heritage site, the Windsor Hockey Heritage Centre downtown has displays on the origins of hockey and unique articles from the game's early years (see p. 198).

Next door to the hockey centre is Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia (see p. 198). The theatre's wide variety of stage productions by and for young people have toured around the world.


The West Hants Historical Museum and Genealogy Centre (see p. 102) focuses on the cultural history of one of Nova Scotia's oldest communities. The Centre houses an extensive library and archives.

Thomas Chandler Haliburton, the first widely-recognized writer of humour in North America, was born and lived in Windsor. His fast-talking, wise-cracking creation, Sam Slick, known for such sayings as "the early bird gets the worm" and "quick as a wink", lends his name to an annual festival. His home, "Clifton" (see p. 196), is now a provincial museum furnished in period antiques.

Another favorite son, and an official Goodwill Ambassador for the province, is Howard Dill, who developed a world-famous variety of pumpkin, the "Dill Atlantic Giant", some of which have grown to over 657 kg (1,446 lb.). These gargantuan gourds are showcased at several autumn events.


Shand House Museum is a Victorian home featuring the latest innovations in household conveniences and styles at the turn of the century (see p. 196). The displays and collections reflect Windsor's history as a major shipping port.

The blockhouse at Fort Edward National Historic Site is the oldest such structure in North America. An interpretive display provides details of the fort's history (see p. 196).


Downtown, visitors can enjoy the waterfront, shops, services, Victoria Park and the old homes that line Windsor's tree-shaded streets, and a  visitor information centre. Nature lovers will enjoy the three walking trails and Shell Environmental Park.

North America's oldest agricultural fair, the Hants County Exhibition, has been held in Windsor for more than 230 years.

Windsor Playland Park, featuring a thrilling waterslide, is located adjacent to the Exhibition Grounds.

 From Windsor, Route 14, right, leads cross-province to Chester on the Light-house Route, 57 km (36 mi.) away. Route 14 follows the course of the Avon River to **Windsor Forks**, an agricultural area also known for magnificent fall foliage. Martock, a popular ski area, offers rides on the ski lifts in the fall to view the exuberant colours. At **Vaughan**, a side road leads to Ross Farm Living Museum of Agriculture at New Ross (see p. 372).

Windsor is at the junction of the Evangeline and Glooscap trails. The Glooscap Trail (see next section) follows Route 14, left, at **Garlands Crossing**. Tidal View Farm, at Newport, offers an excellent vantage point for watching the tidal bore.

 Between Windsor and Mount Uniacke on Route 1, the gypsum underlying much of this area can be seen as dramatic white cliffs along the St. Croix River.

Near **Newport Corner** on Route 215 there is a nine-hole golf course.

Mount Uniacke was named for the summer residence of Richard John Uniacke, who became Attorney General of Nova Scotia in 1797. His large colonial-style country home, Uniacke House, built in 1813, is now a provincial museum (see p. 196). The museum boasts an outstanding collection of original furnishings and is considered one of Canada's most interesting examples of colonial architecture. The Church of the Holy Spirit, built in 1845, is an architectural gem. Mount Uniacke is a naturalist's dream with many kilometres of excellent walking trails leading through woodlands, wetlands, and meadows. There is an abundance of lakes that are headwaters for rivers flowing to the ocean and to Minas Basin, and opportunities for fishing, canoeing, cross-country skiing and golfing.

The Evangeline Trail continues on Route 1 through the suburban areas of Upper, Middle, and Lower Sackville, and ends in Bedford in the Halifax metropolitan area.



Top: Grand Pré National Historic Site.

Bottom: Finding the perfect pumpkin at the Dill farm in Windsor.





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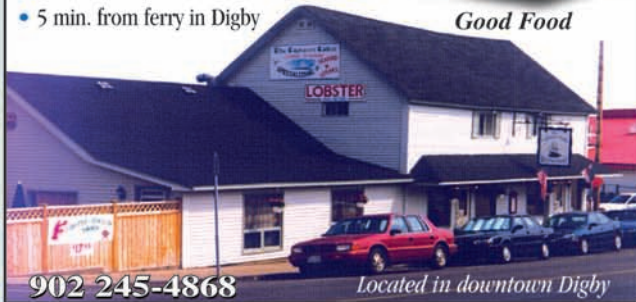
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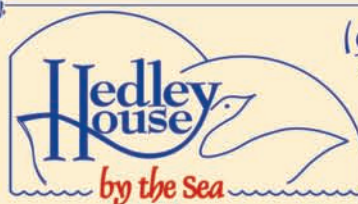
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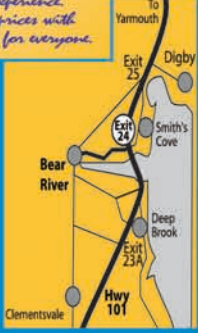
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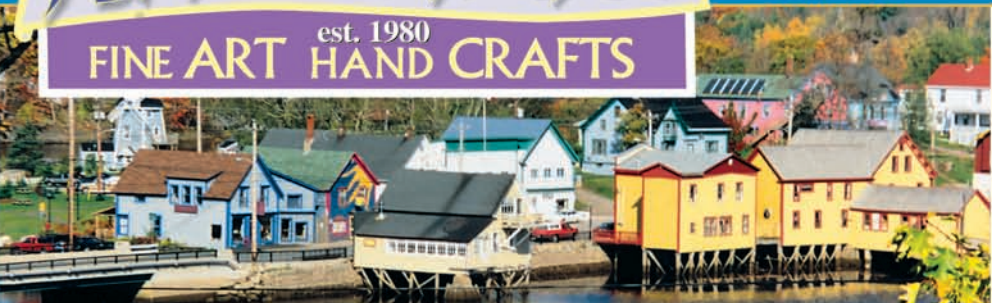
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Towns of Nova Scotia – Profiles and Ratings by Richard Rogers

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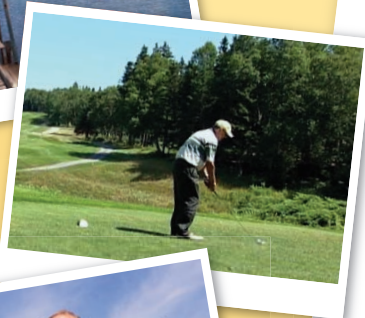
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KINGS COUNTY, NOVA SCOTIA



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The Old Orchard Inn is a full service hotel which offers leisure facilities, spa service and fine dining to its guests. Seated on a hillside overlooking Cape Blomidon, the Old Orchard Inn is surrounded by Nova Scotia's natural beauty and wonder. The hotel's convenient location is just minutes from many of the historical, cultural and natural attractions found here.

TOLL FREE 1-800-561-8090
www.oldorchardinn.com

Exit 11, Highway 101
153 Greenwich Road South
Wolfville, Nova Scotia



Marketplace Evangeline Trail

Migrations...

Safe behind the dykes that protect us from the world's highest tides, we welcome many migrations.

The Apple Blossom Festival brings the blooms of May, while the Chimney Swifts overnight on their way to nest up North. Tourists flock to enjoy music and attractions and stay for our many choices of fine dining, accommodations and boutique shopping. Acadians celebrate ancestral heritage at nearby Grand Pré. Waves of summer shore birds feed here at low tide on their way to South America. Acadia University students return and turn up the Fall energy, as friends from the city come to celebrate the harvest. Explore the Evangeline Trail from Wolfville. ***There's room for you too in the migration.***

Wolfville

Wonderful Welcoming

www.wolfville.info 1.877.999.7117



In Wolfville
Luxury Bed & Breakfast

- New ownership and newly decorated
- Luxurious rooms all with en-suite baths
- Full gourmet breakfast
- Beautiful gardens, veranda, and hot tub

Owned and Operated by Acadia Alumni
1-888-542-0400 www.inwolfville.ns.ca

Wolfville Events


WINTER
Holiday Celebrations
Winter Carnival

SPRING
Apple Blossom Festival

SUMMER
Mud Creek Days

FALL
Deep Roots Music Festival
Valley Pumpkin Fest

YEAR-ROUND
Saturday Farmers' Market



**OVERNIGHT GOURMET
DINNER PACKAGES
FROM \$149/COUPLE**

BLOMIDON INN
www.blomidoninn.net 1 800 565 2291

Tangled Garden



Savor our homemade herb ice cream while you leisurely stroll through our gardens and wildflower labyrinth. Browse in our art gallery or peek in the kitchen where our delicious herb jellies, jams, vinegars and sauces are made daily. Described as a must stop in "The Garden Lovers Guide To Canada". Garden admission \$2.



TAKE EXIT 10 OFF HWY #101 TO GRAND PRÉ
DAILY 10AM-6PM. 902 542 9811
WWW.TANGLEDGARDEN.NS.CA



MAKE GRAND PRÉ WINERY YOUR NEXT STOP

Stroll among our lush vineyards. Discover Domaine de Grand Pré with a taste testing tour. Indulge your taste buds with our finest Swiss cuisine at our restaurant Le Caveau or shop in our gift boutique. Come for an hour or stay for the day.

Grand Pré Winery is 3km from Wolfville or a one-hour drive from Halifax. Learn more at grandprewines.com or by calling 1-866-GPWINES.

DOMAINE DE GRAND PRÉ
The official wine of stolen moments.
GRANDPREWINES.COM



Artisans at Work
L'artisan à l'oeuvre

Atlantic ECONOMUSÉE Network
For your FREE guide, contact us at (506) 854-2933 www.economusee-atl.com

Canada

BLOMIDON INN GARDENS



Open Daily, May 1 - Oct 31
8:00am - Dusk



BLOMIDON INN HOUSE OF GIFTS

Open Daily, May 1 - Dec 23
9:30am - 6 pm

In addition to gracious accommodations and award winning dining, Wolfville's Blomidon Inn offers stunning gardens and superb gift shopping!

BLOMIDON INN

www.theblomidoninn.net

1 800 565 2291