

HALIFAX

2023 OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE



DISCOVER
HALIFAX

DISCOVERHALIFAXNS.COM



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Halifax is located on Mi'kmaq territory, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. The people of the Mi'kmaq Nation have lived on this territory for millennia, and we acknowledge them as the past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

Kjipuktuk na etek Mi'kmaq maqmikewmuow, wo'kmawaq sa'qewe'ki'k wikultipnik. Na wla Inu'k telui'tujik Mi'kmaq, sa'q wikultipnik wla maqmikek. Pituimtlnaqn te'sipunq~k tetuji sa'q. Na nikel' tel nmiu'kik wejkwa'tekemk, nikel', aq elmi'knikewaq, nekmoq na nuji anko'tmi'tij wla wsitqamu.

A NOTE FROM MAYOR MIKE SAVAGE

I always look forward to welcoming visitors to our beautiful port city and the many special places that stretch out from our vibrant downtown to coastal villages, ocean beaches, verdant farmland, and unspoiled wilderness escapes.

We are so excited to see visitors from near and far enjoy the opportunity to discover the beauty and variety of the entire Halifax region. Our municipality offers visitors an experience as broad and diverse as a traveller's imagination. Whether you are looking to take in live music, sample craft beer, enjoy farm to table dining, surf North Atlantic swells, or quietly connect with pristine coastal wilderness, memories are waiting to be made.

So, make a plan to come see us soon.
You'll be glad you did.



Mike Savage



Sackville Street



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contributors



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Raeesa is a multi-talented arts professional with a B.A. in English and a graduate degree in Journalism. She excels in media and communications, storytelling, audience development, fundraising, and social media. She has experience as an actress, singer, and pianist and is the leader of the Prismatic Arts Festival. Raeesa would like to acknowledge that she was born and raised on the traditional land of Stoney Nakoda land and now resides on Mi'kma'ki in Kijpuktuk.



Abady Alzharani (he/him)

Abady is an artist, entrepreneur, and dance educator in Halifax, Nova Scotia, committed to creating safer and supportive spaces where people from all walks of life feel celebrated and equipped to achieve their goals through dance. He is the founder and director of House of Eights Dance Studio, a drop-in dance studio in Halifax for adults to dance, make friends, and feel empowered in a safe and judgment-free space. Abady grew up between the Philippines and Saudi Arabia, but now calls Halifax home.



Riaz Oozeer (he/him)

Riaz is a Mauritius-born lifestyle and documentary photographer now based in Halifax. He believes that the most meaningful images are those that capture special moments in the everyday. His ability to capture these moments and tell their stories shines through in his photography, no matter the subject.



Laura Oakley (she/her)

Laura Oakley is a freelance food and travel writer based in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has contributed to a number of local and national magazines and websites. Laura has a degree in Journalism from the University of King's College and travels the province extensively as senior feature writer for Curated Magazine, an editorial publication dedicated to covering all things food and drink related in Nova Scotia.



Janna Wilton (she/her)

Janna Wilton is a watercolour artist from Halifax, Nova Scotia. The majority of her inspiration over the years has come from the landmarks and architecture found in our beautiful city. She counts it a privilege to capture the nostalgia associated with different spaces and places, and hopes her art brings a light to the place we call home.



Brad Dykema (he/him)

Brad is a freelance writer, fitness enthusiast, and armchair urbanist. He and his wife have lived car-free for the past 20+ years in central Toronto, Vancouver, Amsterdam, and now Halifax, where they live with their two kids. Here, they enjoy aimlessly exploring as far as their feet will take them, with the odd bus ride or CarShare trip thrown in.

About THIS GUIDE

The Official Halifax Visitor Guide is produced by Discover Halifax. Every effort has been made to make this publication as accurate as possible. Discover Halifax will assume no responsibility for errors, changes, or omissions. The information found in this guide has been produced with the help of numerous local partners, including **Build Nova Scotia; Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission; Downtown Halifax Business Commission; North End Business Association; The Coast; Farmers' Markets of Nova Scotia; Halifax Partnership; Halifax Regional Municipality; Halifax ReTales; Halifax Trails; NSITEN; Nova Scotia Communities, Culture & Heritage; Tourism Nova Scotia; TripAdvisor**; and many more.

KEEP IN MIND

Life can be unpredictable. We encourage you to call ahead or check online before visiting any business listed in our guide to ensure they are open and accepting visitors.

Created BY LOCALS

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Discover MORE!

Discover more publications by Discover Halifax, including regional maps, an urban walking map, and the Halifax Kids' Guide.
www.discoverhalifaxns.com/plan





Welcome to **HALIFAX**

Halifax is the capital city of Nova Scotia. It is located on the east coast of Canada on the Atlantic Ocean. The region is known formally as the Halifax Regional Municipality (or HRM) and is made up of more than 200 communities across nine unique regions. Influenced by the land, sea, history, and people, Halifax has a distinct character and charm you won't find anywhere else.

From Hubbards to Ecum Secum and every community in between, the Halifax region is diverse, bold, beautiful, and home to some of the friendliest people in the world. No matter who you are or where you are coming from, Halifax welcomes you.

Kjipuktuk is the Mi'kmaq way of saying Great Harbour.



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[d/ @discoverhalifaxns](https://www.instagram.com/discoverhalifaxns/)

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DISCOVERHALIFAXNS.COM

DISCOVER HALIFAX

Since 2002, Discover Halifax's goal has been to promote the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) as a destination of choice for leisure and business travellers. We are a non-profit, aiming to maximize economic and social benefits resulting from the tourism industry for the benefit of the people who live, visit, and invest in our region. We showcase the best of our region to the world and, alongside our industry partners, we seek to shape the future of tourism through good planning, investment, and design.



Halifax Citadel
National Historic Site

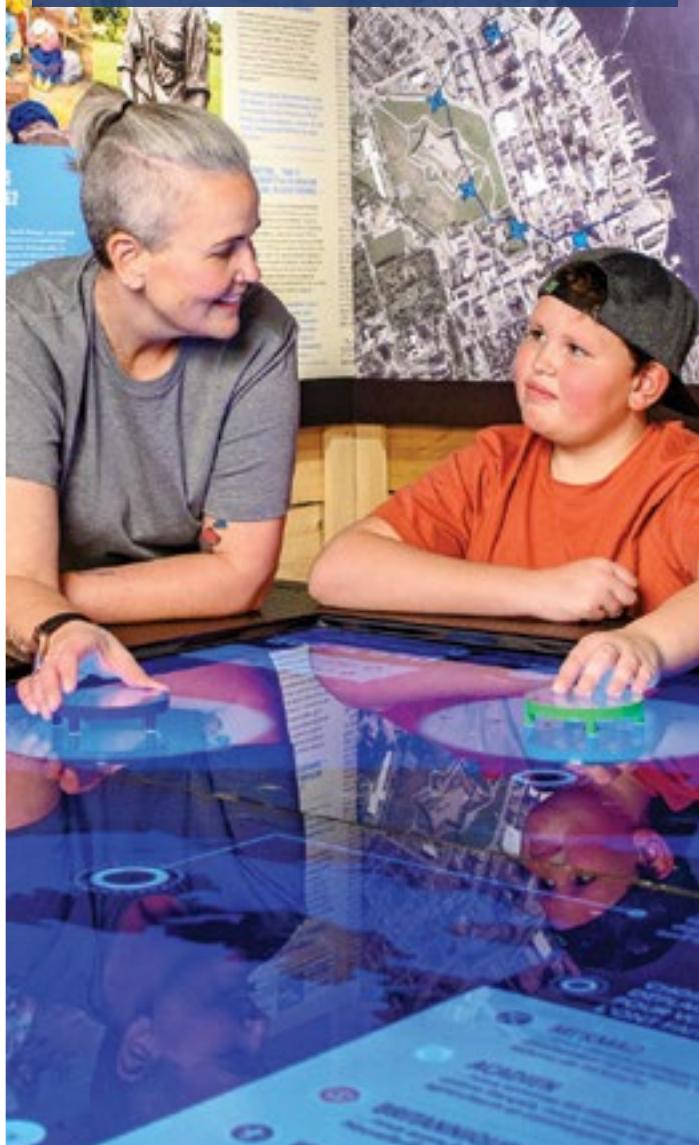
Lieu historique national de la
Citadelle-d'Halifax

Travel through history

Immerse yourself in our new signature exhibit!
902-426-5080 parks.canada.ca/halifaxcitadel

Voyagez dans le temps

Plongez dans l'histoire et découvrez notre
nouvelle exposition distinctive!
902-426-5080 parcs.canada.ca/citadellehalifax



Parks
Canada

Canada

A REASON TO VISIT FOR EVERY SEASON



BEACHES

July - September



LOBSTER

November - May



SURF

September - May

The waves are biggest from September until early spring, but the summer months (June-September) offer ideal conditions for beginner surfers thanks to warmer waters and smaller waves.



OYSTERS

September - April



LEAF-WATCHING

October

The brightest leaves typically show their colours around Nova Scotia during October, but this can change depending on the weather. The Musquodoboit Valley is one of the best places in the region to see stunning fall colours.



Getting to Halifax

BY AIR ✈️

Vancouver, BC to Halifax	6 hours
Calgary, AB to Halifax	5 hours
Edmonton, AB to Halifax	4.5 hours
Winnipeg, MB to Halifax	4 hours
Windsor, ON to Halifax	3 hours
Kitchener-Waterloo, ON to Halifax	2.5 hours
Hamilton, ON to Halifax	2.5 hours
London, ON to Halifax	2.5 hours
Goose Bay, NL to Halifax	2 hours
Ottawa, ON to Halifax	2 hours
Toronto, ON to Halifax	2 hours
St. John's, NL to Halifax	2 hours
Gander, NL to Halifax	2 hours
Deer Lake, NL to Halifax	2 hours
Montreal, QC to Halifax	1.5 hours
Quebec City, QC to Halifax	1.5 hours

Direct US flights include Boston, New York (Newark), Philadelphia, Washington DC, Orlando, Tampa, and Fort Lauderdale.

BY CAR 🚗

St. John's, NL to Halifax	22 hours*
Sydney, NS to Halifax	4.5 hours
Saint John, NB to Halifax	4 hours
Charlottetown, PE to Halifax	3.5 hours
Yarmouth, NS to Halifax	3.25 hours
Moncton, NB to Halifax	2.5 hours

BY TRAIN (Viarail.ca) 🚂

Quebec, QC to Halifax	24 hours
Montreal, QC to Halifax	22 hours
Moncton, NB to Halifax	4 hours

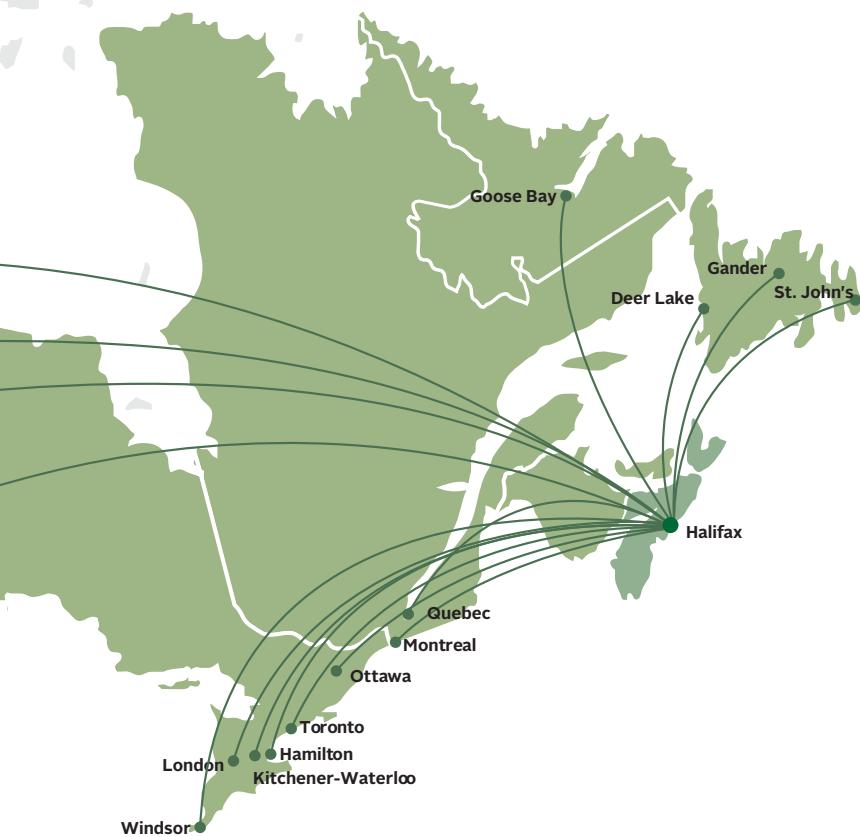
BY BUS 🚌

Maritime Bus provides passenger service across most of the Maritimes and Quebec, all of which can connect you to Halifax. maritimebus.com

*via ferry marineatlantic.ca

Buckle up for your Halifax Adventure

Whether you're travelling by land, air, sea, or rail, we'll help you navigate our airport, public transit, bridges, and ferries.



THE AIRPORT

Halifax Stanfield International Airport

Halifax Stanfield is Halifax's award-winning international airport, located approximately 30 minutes from downtown Halifax. halifaxstanfield.ca

Getting from the Airport to Downtown Halifax

BY CAR

Taxis and airport car services are available curbside in the Arrivals area. To travel from the airport to downtown Halifax you can expect to pay roughly \$60-\$70.

Vehicle rentals are located on the lower level of the Airport Parkade.

Uber ride sharing is also available from the airport and can be booked using the Uber app.

Turo car sharing is now available from the airport and can be booked using the Turo app.

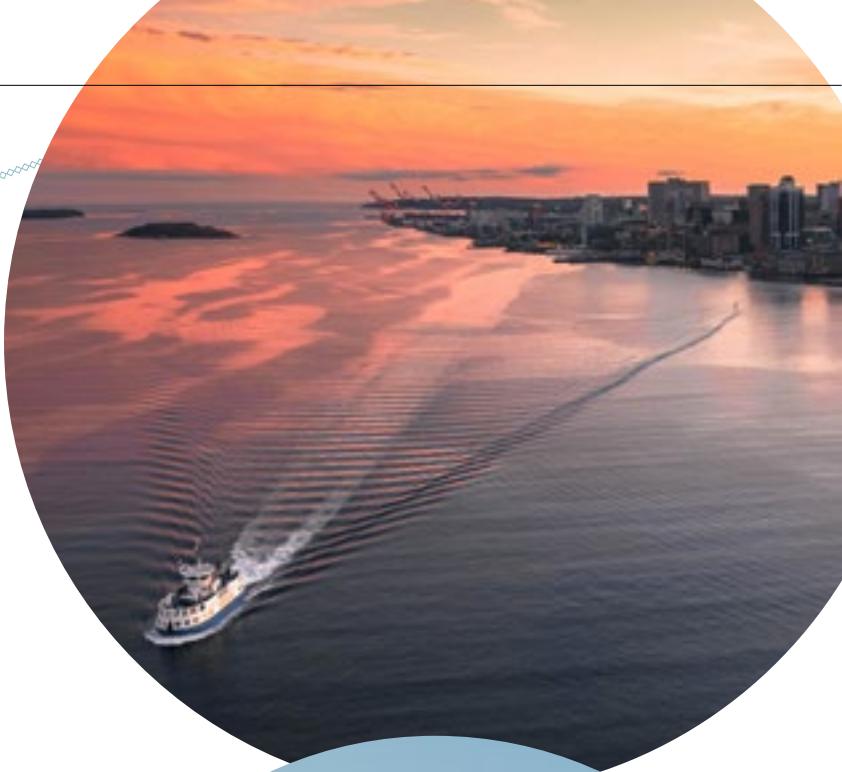
BY BUS

Halifax Transit offers a limited-stop Express Route linking downtown Halifax to Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

HALIFAX WEATHER

MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
High	-1°C	0°C	3°C	9°C	15°C	20°C	23°C	23°C	19°C	13°C	7°C	2°C
Low	-9°C	-9°C	-6°C	-2°C	3°C	8°C	12°C	12°C	8°C	3°C	-1°C	-7°C
Avg Precipitation (mm)	131	114	140	114	103	93	89	94	103	139	152	143

Please note that these are averages and temperatures can vary day-to-day. The temperature can also vary according to the ocean breeze.



Getting Around

FERRIES & BRIDGES

To get across the Halifax Harbour, you have two options: take the ferry or drive across one of two bridges. You can also opt to drive around, through Bedford if you have extra time, but crossing the harbour is the fastest route.



FERRIES

Fare: \$2.75 one way. Ask for a free transfer for a return trip.

Experience 360-degree views of the Halifax Harbour on the harbour ferry. At just \$2.75, the 15-minute journey between the Halifax waterfront and Dartmouth is the most affordable harbour cruise around. It's an experience you won't want to miss while in Halifax.

Halifax Transit offers two ferry services: the **Alderney Ferry** service crosses from downtown Halifax to Alderney Landing in downtown Dartmouth, and the **Woodside Ferry** service crosses from Halifax to Woodside.

Ferry service is accessible and integrated with the bus service, which means that you can use a transfer to board both ferries and buses. Transfers are valid for up to 90 minutes. Kids 12 and under ride free on all Halifax Transit services, including the ferry.

NOTE: The ferry terminal only takes exact change or Halifax Transit bus tickets.

Learn more about the ferry service at halifax.ca/transit.



BRIDGES

Toll: \$1.25 one way

There are two toll bridges across the Halifax Harbour: the **Angus L. Macdonald Bridge** (closer to downtown Halifax) and the **A. Murray MacKay Bridge** (closer to the Bedford Basin). There are toll plazas on the Dartmouth side of each bridge and users pay for the bridge going in both directions. The bridge toll is based on the number of axles on your vehicle. Most passenger vehicles and light trucks pay \$1 if using a MACPASS, and \$1.25 if paying with cash.

NOTE: The cash lanes accept the following coins only: quarters, \$1 coins, and \$2 coins. The baskets will not accept dimes, nickels, or pennies, and there is no credit card or Interac tap at the toll booths.



CYCLISTS & PEDESTRIANS CROSSING

There are dedicated sidewalk and bicycle lanes on the **Macdonald Bridge**. Both lanes are open 24 hours, 7 days per week, and there is no toll to use them.



Learn more about the **Halifax Harbour Bridges** at hdbc.ca



Georges Island
National Historic Site

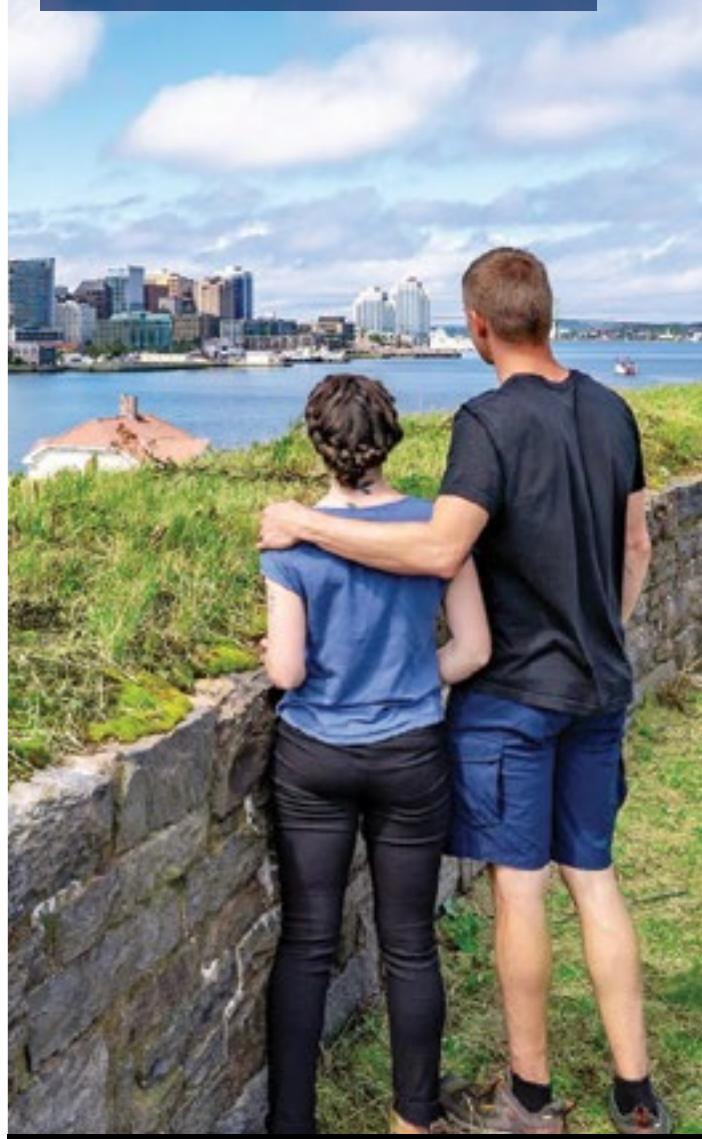
Lieu historique national de
l'Île-Georges

Memories to Share

In the centre of Halifax Harbour!
902-426-5080 parks.canada.ca/georges

Des souvenirs à partager

Au centre du port d'Halifax!
902-426-5080 parcs.canada.ca/georges



Parks
Canada



Parcs
Canada

Canada

Paqsimkwajk

Five Mile Lake
at the boggy place stretching out

Pakwok

Pockwock Lake
shallow

Nipmane'katik

Beaver Bank
meaning uncertain

Kwipew

Upper Sackville
possibly "head of the tide"

Maqepejk

Second Lake
large round little lake

Alusulue'katik

Lower Sackville
at the measles place

Kwipek

Bedford
meaning uncertain

Kitpusisek

Mill Cove
at the eagle's nest

Asoqmapsiajik

Bedford Basin
at the rocky crossing

Kuowa'qmiktuk

Camp Hill
at the pine grove

We'kwaltijk

Northwest Arm
end of the bay;
ending without
a river coming in

CHAIN OF LAKES PORTAGE

Klujjiewpe'jk

Lake Williams
lake of the cross

Milpe'jk

Salmon River
Long Lake
many coves

Tqoskwe'jk

Wisdom Mill Lake

twin girls

Asoqmasukwita'mk

Porcupine Lake

to walk across the water

Pu'tijk

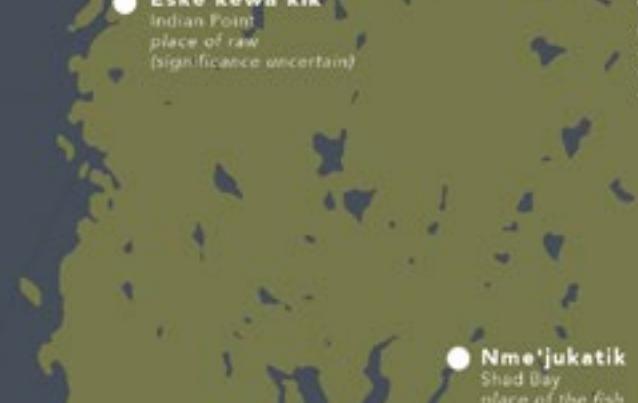
Lake Major
sitting down place

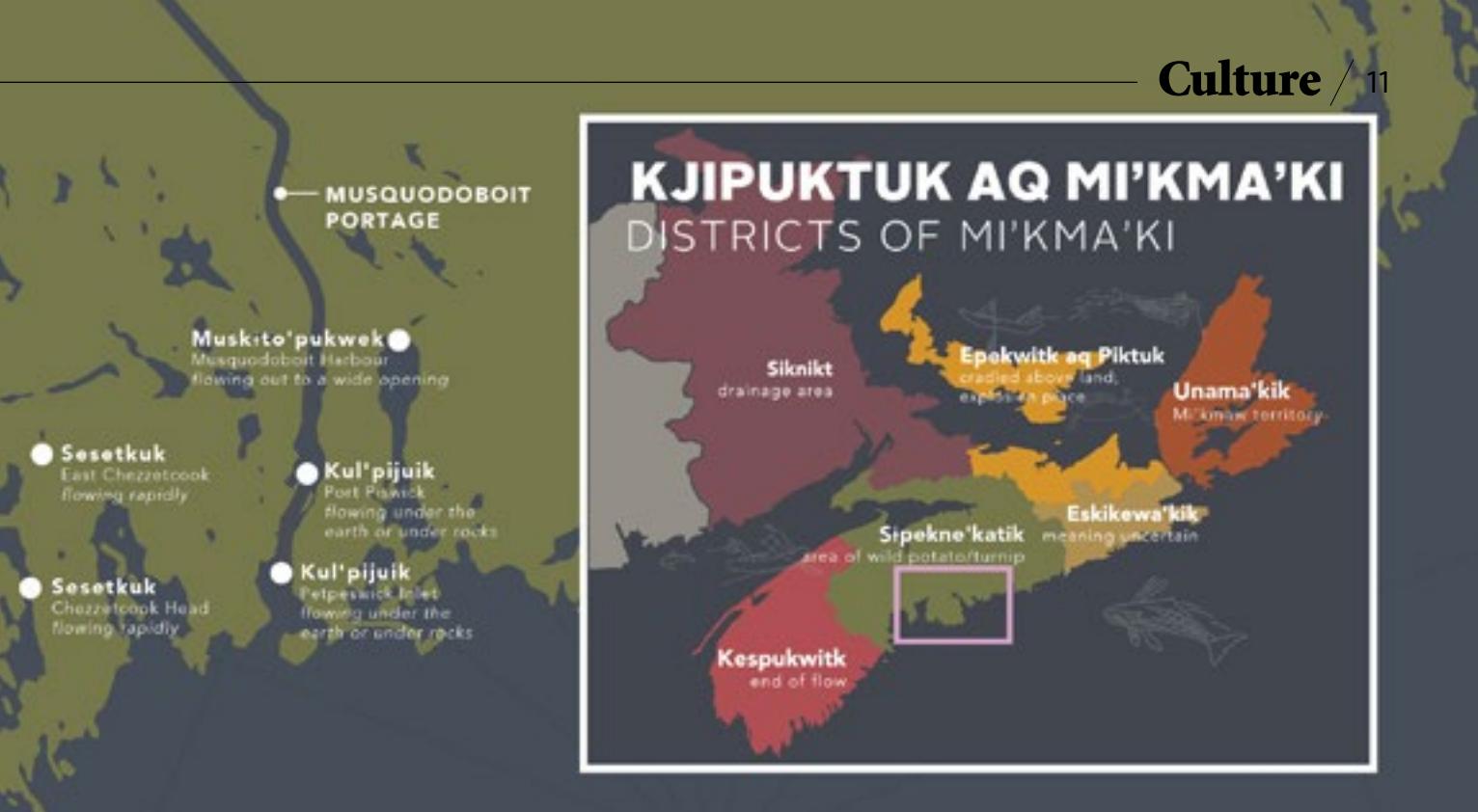
Malklipoqt

St. Margaret's Bay
Ingram River Reserve

Eskelkewa'kik

Indian Point
piece of raw
(significance uncertain)





What's in a Name?

Exploring local place names and meanings of the Mi'kmaq people

The Mi'kmaq (*meeg-maw*) are the Indigenous people of the Maritime region in Canada, which encompasses present-day Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, parts of the Gaspé Peninsula, Québec, and Maine. This area is known as Mi'kma'ki (*meeg-maw-gi*). Archaeological findings have shown evidence of Mi'kmaw presence in and around the area for thousands of years. They have a rich cultural heritage and a deep spiritual connection to the land.

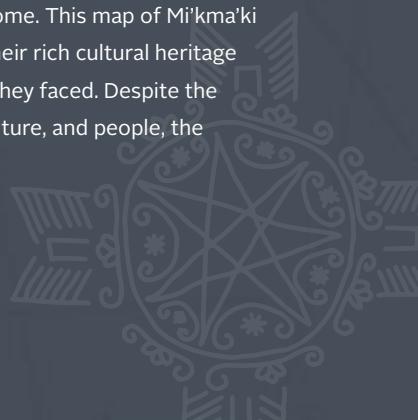
Parks Canada worked closely with Mi'kmaq and other local groups to create this map that showcases not only the landscape of the region but also preserves its cultural significance through the translation of important place names. These names reflect hunting grounds, landmarks, fishing spots, and natural elements significant to the Mi'kmaq and indicative of their deep connection to the environment.

Historically, the Mi'kmaq lived in wigwams, portable dome-shaped structures made from bent saplings and covered in birch bark or animal hides. They were nomadic, following

the seasons and their food sources, and were known for their exceptional hunting and fishing skills, as well as their handmade baskets, clothing, and tools.

The arrival of European settlers in the 1600s brought immense hardships to the Mi'kmaq. Diseases decimated their population, and the settlers claimed their lands and resources. Over the years, the Mi'kmaq were subjected to further oppression, including the ban of their language and culture in schools. This devastating policy of suppression lasted for many years and had a dramatic impact on the preservation of the Mi'kmaq language and culture.

Despite these challenges, the Mi'kmaq have persevered, and their legacy continues to shape the region and enrich the lives of all those who call it home. This map of Mi'kma'ki serves as a powerful symbol of their rich cultural heritage and a reminder of the hardships they faced. Despite the suppression of their language, culture, and people, the legacy of the Mi'kmaq lives on.





Indigenous Dancers,
Membertou, Cape
Breton

Will you be visiting in July? Don't miss the *North American Indigenous Games*, July 15-23. This multi-sport event brings together Indigenous athletes from across Turtle Island (North America) to compete and celebrate their cultural heritage.

North American **INDIGENOUS GAMES 2023**

HALIFAX • NOVA SCOTIA



JULY 15-23, 2023



This Is What I Wish You Knew

Museum of Natural History in partnership with the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre

This Is What I Wish You Knew is a tile exposition that explores Indigenous self-identity. Fifty members of Halifax's urban Indigenous community carved and painted their personal stories onto fourteen rectangular clay tiles. Visitors can enjoy the beauty of the tiles while listening as the artists reveal how their personal journeys are reflected in these works of art. *This Is What I Wish You Knew* is a must-see exhibit for anyone looking to learn more about the Indigenous community in Halifax and the impact of Canada's Residential School System.

Explore

INDIGENOUS IMPACT

Mi'kmaw and Indigenous Culture in Kjipuktuk

Deepen your understanding of Mi'kmaw and Indigenous culture and explore the unique perspectives and experiences of Indigenous artists from across Turtle Island through personal stories, artifacts, and artwork at these local exhibits.



Ta'n me'j Tel-keknuo'l'tiek: How Unique We Still Are

Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

The Mi'kmaq have enduring connections to their ancestral lands and waters, here in Mi'kma'ki. *Ta'n me'j Tel-keknuo'l'tiek: How Unique We Still Are*, is a continuing exhibit that shares diverse individual experiences from Elders and knowledge keepers in the Mi'kmaw community. Presented in Mi'kmaw, English, and French, significant themes highlight Mi'kmaw one-word concepts and Treaty Education. Community boatbuilding, archived and contemporary canoes, featured objects, images, and powerful, symbolic artwork convey cultural expressions that relate past, present, and future in this place. *Ta'n me'j Tel-keknuo'l'tiek* offers visitors, especially non-Indigenous Canadians, opportunities to learn about the truths that must precede reconciliation.

Fortress Halifax: A City Shaped by Conflict

Halifax Citadel National Historic Site

Fortress Halifax is the newest exhibit at the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site, covering seven rooms and providing visitors with an overview of Halifax's history in one place. The history of Halifax and its fortress is both rich and turbulent, and can't be told by just one person. With paintings, maps, and stories from various perspectives like the British, French, Mi'kmaw, Black Loyalists, Acadians, and more, *Fortress Halifax* lets you explore the history of the city and the land it was built on.

Ta'n a'sikatikl sipu'l | Confluence

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Ta'n a'sikatikl sipu'l | Confluence celebrates the power of water and its ability to connect us all. This exhibit delves into the themes of connection and exchange, featuring works by contemporary Mi'kmaw artists, including paintings, sculptures, and textiles, as well as historic artifacts from the gallery's collection. With seven guiding topics, including Awareness, Reflection, Sustainability & Treaty, Community, Memory & Remembering, Gathering & Knowledge, and Sharing, *Ta'n a'sikatikl sipu'l | Confluence* aims to build meaningful relationships between visitors and the artwork. Visitors will gain a deeper understanding of the many perspectives and experiences of generations of Indigenous artists.

First Timer's Guide TO HALIFAX

When you crack open a new book, the place to begin your adventure is obvious. But what about when you visit a new city? In Halifax, there are a few must-do experiences that belong on the first page of your adventure. These are classics for a reason, among both locals and visitors, because they collectively define the culture of our city. They're a captivating place to begin!



Halifax Citadel National Historic Site

Venture up Citadel Hill for the noon gun - Downtown Halifax is essentially built into the side of a steep hill, and overlooking it all is the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site. This star-shaped fortress overlooks the city, and once protected a young Halifax from attack by land and sea.

At 12pm listen for the daily cannon-fire, known locally as the "noon gun". This ritual has signaled the noon hour every day* since 1857.

*Except for Christmas Day.

Noteworthy Events

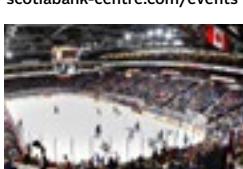
YEAR - ROUND



Neptune Theatre
neptunetheatre.com

Scotiabank Centre

scotiabank-centre.com/events



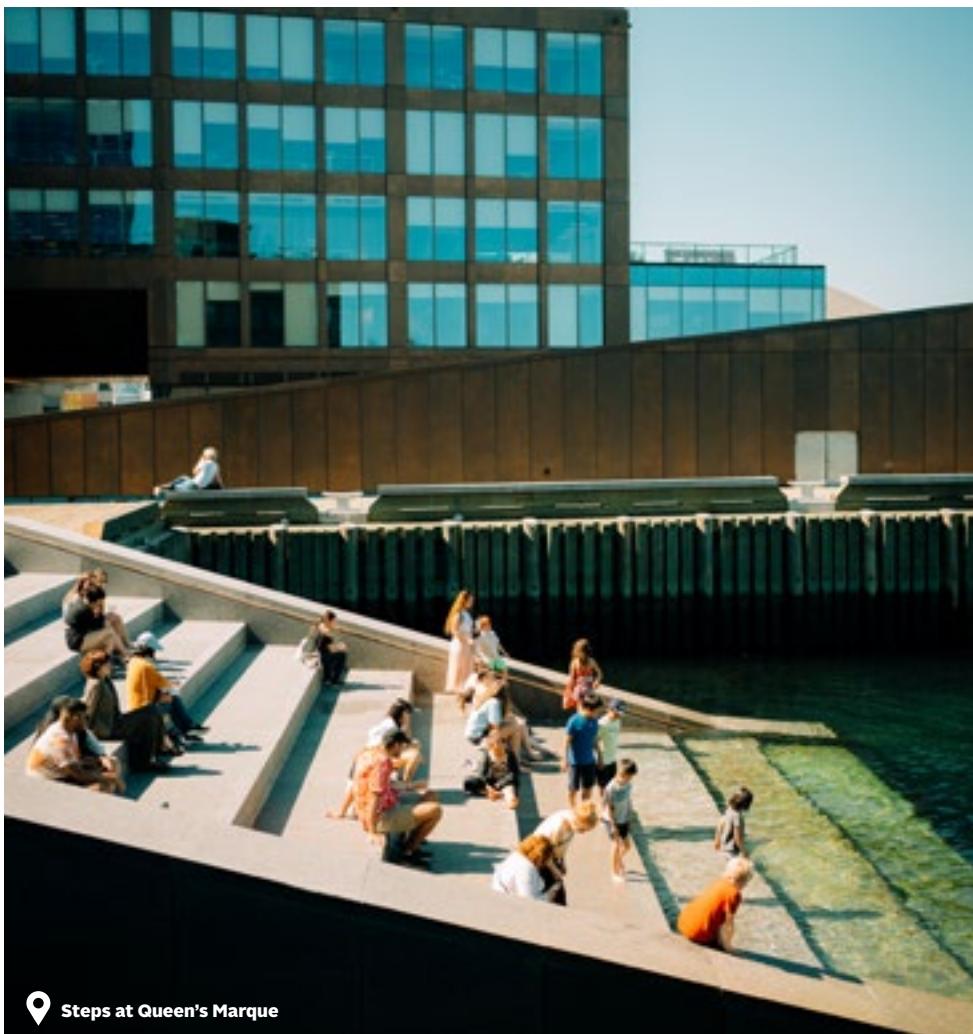
SPRING / MAY-JUNE

Blue Nose Marathon

bluenosemarathon.com



Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo
(Jun-Jul)
nstattoo.ca



Halifax Boardwalk

A popular tourist destination offering scenic views, dining options, and cultural attractions.

Walk the Halifax waterfront - As a historic port city, Halifax has always been tightly connected to its waterfront. But where it was once industrial and gritty, it's now vibrant, bustling, and inviting. An urban wanderers' dream, the boardwalk is a four kilometre (2.5 mile) long harbourside adventure of shopping, beer gardens, museums, restaurants, tours, playgrounds, and public art. Don't rush this iconic experience; plan to stop often for views, treats, and entertainment.

SUMMER / JULY-AUGUST



Halifax Jazz Festival
halifaxjazzfestival.ca

Halifax Pride Festival
halifaxpride.com



Halifax Busker Festival
buskers.ca

Clam Harbour Beach Sandcastle Competition
halifax.ca/parks-recreation/events



HFX Wanderers FC Premier League Soccer
hfxwanderersfc.canpl.ca



Walk Spring Garden Road up to the Halifax Public Gardens

Public Gardens - The Halifax Public Gardens is a beautiful and peaceful 16-acre Victorian-era public gardens formally established in 1867. It features carefully manicured lawns, colourful floral displays, and mature trees, along with a historic bandstand, duck pond, fountains, and a system of winding paths through it all. To get there from Barrington Street, walk up Spring Garden Road, a pedestrian-friendly shopping district. Along the way grab a coffee or gelato at **Pane e Circo**, or stop for a pint at **Stillwell Beergarden** during the summer months.



Stillwell Beergarden

Known for beer and ambiance in equal measure. Order from their delicious menu or try one of the fun soft ice cream flavours from the onsite Dairy Bar.

Continued on next page

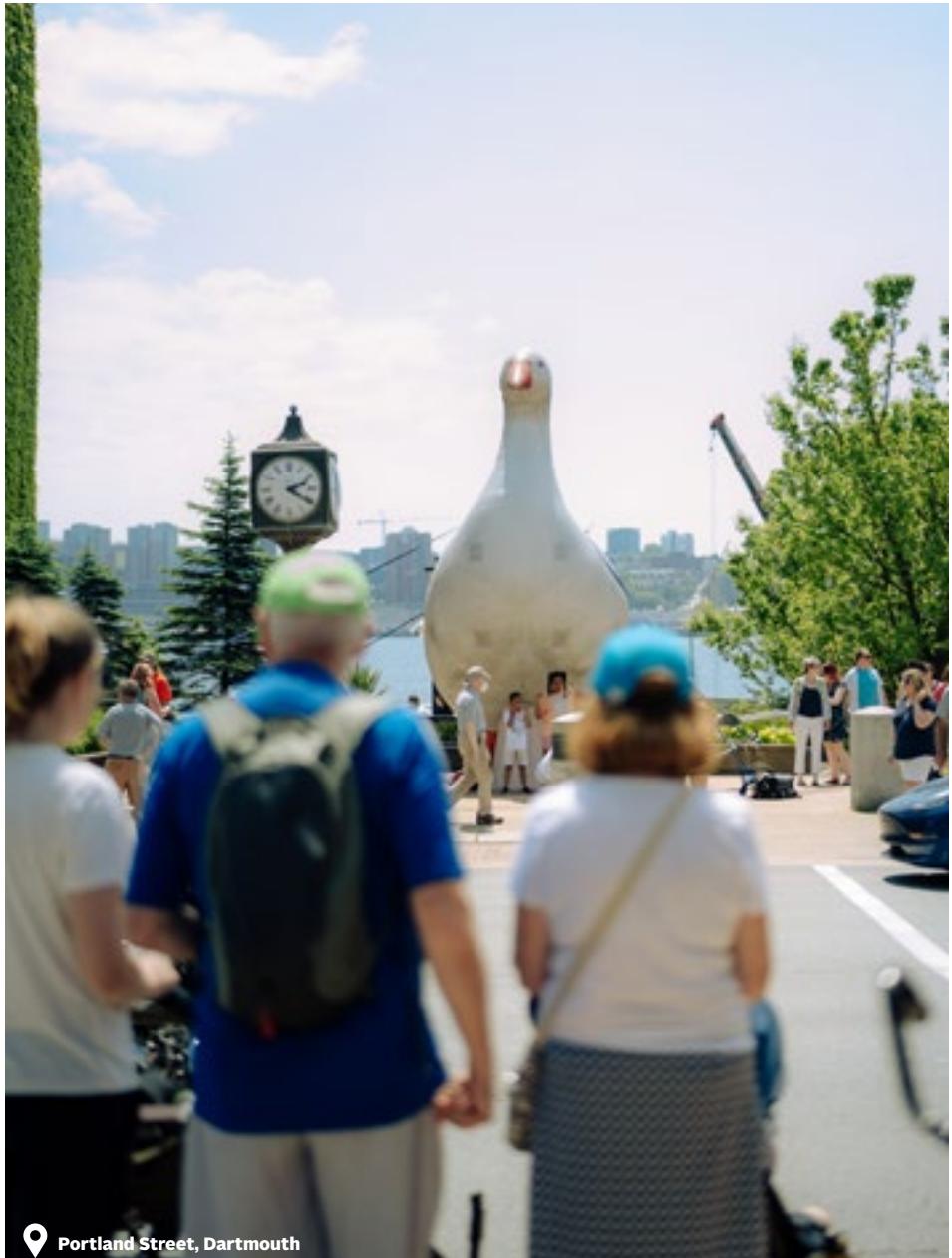


Ride the ferry and explore downtown Dartmouth

Dartmouth - On the Halifax waterfront there are several harbour tours available, but the easiest way onto the water is the **Alderney Ferry**, which runs between the Halifax waterfront and downtown Dartmouth. Operated by Halifax Transit, the ferry service is the oldest saltwater ferry in North America. All you'll need is \$2.75 for the fare*, and ask for a transfer for your return trip**. Once you've crossed the harbour, explore the shops, cafés, and public art around downtown Dartmouth.

*Kids 12 and under ride free on all Halifax Transit routes.

**Transfers are valid for up to 90 minutes.



Portland Street, Dartmouth

FALL / SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

Noteworthy Events

FIN Atlantic International Film Festival
finfestival.ca



Nocturne
nocturnehalifax.ca



Halifax Mooseheads Hockey
halifaxmooseheads.ca



Hal-Con
hal-con.ca





Tony's Famous Donair

Tony's Famous Donair
Located at the corner of Robie and Cunard Streets, locals often refer to the intersection as Tony's Corner.

Try a Donair - The humble and affordable donair is the official food of Halifax. Popular among locals as a late-night snack, this messy meal with Greek origins consists of a pita filled with spit-roasted shaved beef, tomatoes, onions, and—importantly—a sweet and garlicky donair sauce. You can pick up a donair at plenty of places across the city, including **Tony's Famous Donairs & Pizza** on Robie Street, **Randy's Pizza & Donair** on Agricola Street, and **King of Donair** on Quinpool Road.

Relax on an Argyle Street patio

- There are wonderful places to eat all over Halifax, but if one street is the entertainment epicentre, it has to be Argyle. A three-block long, pedestrian-first experience (closed to car traffic during summers), Argyle is home to live theatre, bistros, pubs, restaurants, bars, and more, with patios that spill out into the street during the summer months. It's a great place to stop and sample a pint or two of Halifax's local craft beer.



Argyle Street

Economy Shoe Shop

Known for their nachos, this restaurant is a local favourite.

WINTER / DECEMBER - MARCH



Evergreen Festival
EvergreenFestNS.com



Dine Around
DineAroundHFX.ca



Halifax Thunderbirds Lacrosse
halifaxthunderbirds.com



SaltWire Holiday Parade of Lights
saltwire.com/holiday-parade-lights



Downtown Dartmouth Ice Festival
downtowndartmouth.ca

10 REASONS TO VISIT HALIFAX IN 2023

If you know Halifax, you know that there are hundreds of reasons to visit, but if you're looking for an excuse to plan a trip, we've made it easy with a list of 10 great reasons to experience Halifax this year.



DINE AROUND

FEBRUARY 1-28, 2023

Halifax is home to a rich culinary scene, specializing in fresh seafood and locally sourced ingredients. Dining options range from casual lobster shacks to upscale culinary destinations, and local breweries and cideries add to the city's vibrant food culture.

Every year, throughout the month of February, local restaurants participate in **Dine Around**, a month-long foodie festival, offering specially curated menus at unbeatable prices.



NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES 2023 (NAIG)

JULY 15-23, 2023

Cheer on Indigenous athletes from across Turtle Island as they compete in the 10th **North American Indigenous Games!** The Games will host competitions in 16 sports at 21 venues across Kijpuktuk (Halifax), Punamu'kwati'jk (Dartmouth), and Millbrook First Nation.



EAST COAST MUSIC AWARDS (ECMAs)

MAY 3-7, 2023

Get your live music fix at the 35th anniversary of the **East Coast Music Awards** this spring in Halifax. With hundreds of musicians playing at venues and events across the city over five days, the ECMA is the perfect opportunity to take in as much live music as possible in Halifax.



RELAXING RURAL RETREATS

Slow down and breathe in that fresh ocean air. Spend a day kayaking along white sand beaches on the Eastern Shore, or stop for a seafood lunch at a local café as you cruise along the Lighthouse Route. You'll find there are plenty of ways to enjoy a relaxing getaway in Halifax's rural communities.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS COMEDY FESTIVAL

AUGUST 11-13, 2023

Laugh 'til you cry at the biggest outdoor comedy event Halifax has ever seen. Get ready for a comedy weekend unlike any other, featuring top comedians, including **Jerry Seinfeld**, performing live at the Garrison Grounds.



CFL TOUCHDOWN ATLANTIC

JULY 29, 2023

The East Coast's biggest celebration of football returns to Halifax as the **Saskatchewan Roughriders** take on the **Toronto Argonauts**. The 2023 edition of the game will be held in Halifax, where **Saint Mary's University's Huskies Stadium** will be expanded to welcome over 10,000 fans!



CLAM HARBOUR BEACH SANDCASTLE COMPETITION

AUGUST 13, 2023

Be part of a Nova Scotian summer tradition at the 43rd annual **Clam Harbour Beach Sandcastle Competition**. Rain or shine, this annual event attracts more than 10,000 people every year to Nova Scotia's beautiful Eastern Shore.



HALIFAX'S PERFORMING ARTS SCENE

One of the best things about Halifax is that no matter the time of year, there's always live entertainment happening somewhere in the city. Whatever you're looking for, this city is ready to put on a show.



NOVA SCOTIA'S CIDER SCENE

Nova Scotia is home to a growing cider scene, with local cideries producing a range of traditional and innovative cider styles. Nova Scotian apples are nurtured by the world's most powerful tides from the Bay of Fundy. The cooling effects of the nearby ocean paired with plenty of sunshine in the Annapolis Valley create a long growing season, generating the crisp acidity our ciders are known for.



NEW WATERFRONT DINING EXPERIENCES

Discover the latest additions to the waterfront culinary scene. The new **Queen's Marque District** has become an incredible culinary destination, featuring dining experiences from around the world. Whether you'd like a Parisian coffee with a waterfront view, Italian street food lunch, or cocktails in a lively Latin bar, this is the perfect time to explore Halifax's vibrant new culinary hot spot.

Halifax WATERFRONT HIGHLIGHTS

The Halifax waterfront will always be at the top of the list of places to love in Halifax. There is a magnetic pull that draws both visitors and locals to the heart of the city, where the waterfront buzzes with energy.

TOUR THE HARBOUR ☀️



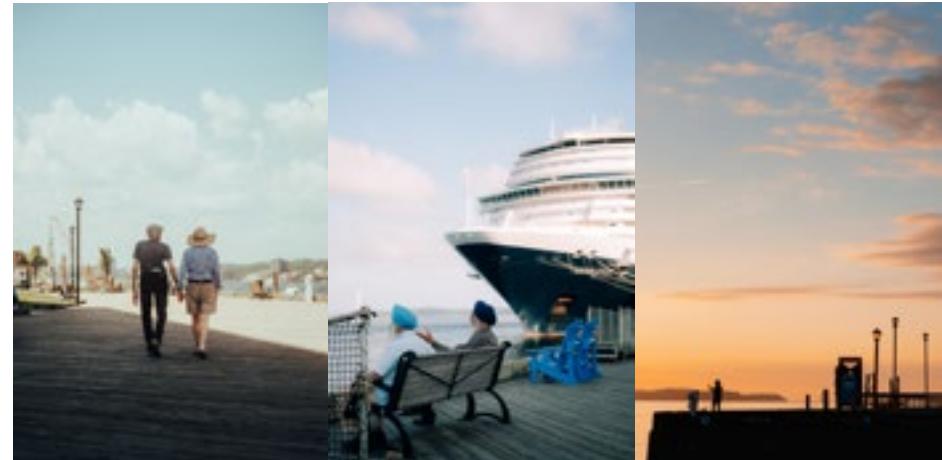
Let an experienced guide show you the Halifax Harbour. Enjoy a range of tours from culinary cruises to family-friendly fun with [Ambassatours](#), or take a luxury pontoon boat tour with [City Harbour Cruises](#). [Halifax Harbour Tours](#) offers an all-electric, environmentally friendly tour aboard a 1930s-style harbour launch, while [J Farwell Sailing Co.](#) offers curated sailing tours and yacht charters. If you're in the mood for speed, [Sea Halifax](#) offers Halifax's first jet-boat tour.



CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: SEA-DOO, CYCLE, OR SEGWAY



Try something new with a Sea-Doo or kayak rental from [The Harbour Watercraft Tours & Adventure](#), or discover the harbour from dry land with a rental from [Segway Nova Scotia](#) or [I Heart Bikes](#). All of these companies also offer guided tours, so it's up to you to choose your own adventure.



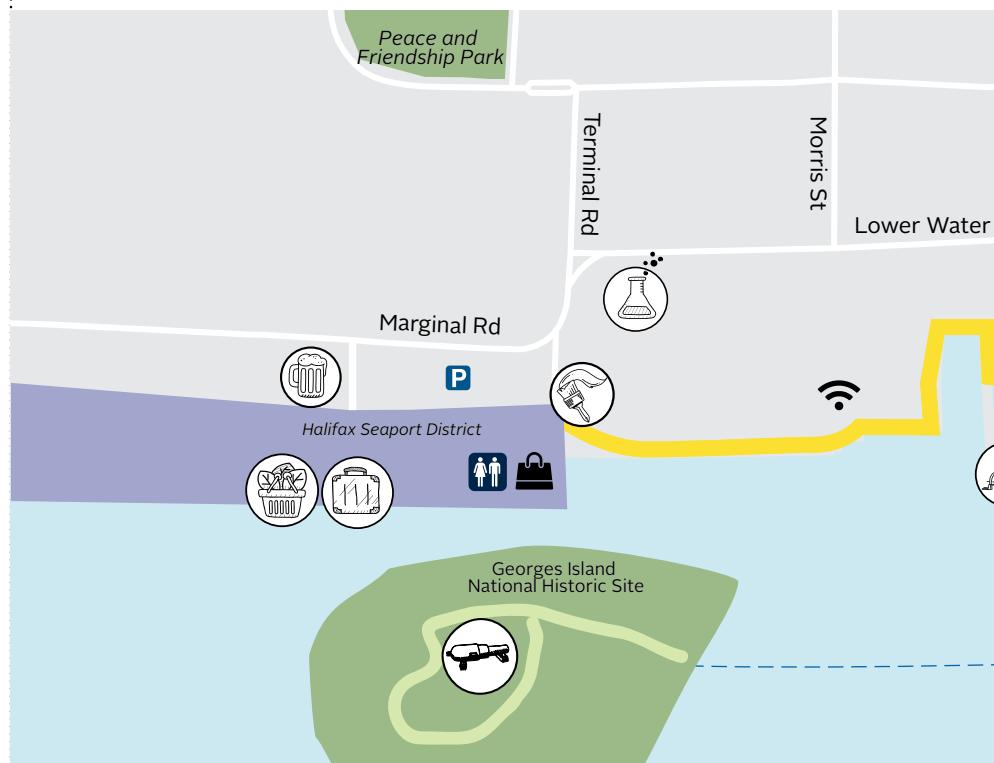
HAVE A DRINK BY THE OCEAN

Cool drinks, sea breezes, live music, and waterfront views. There are plenty of places to find all this and more on the Halifax waterfront, including [The BG \(Beer Garden\)](#), [Salt Yard Social](#), [Cable Wharf Kitchen & Patio](#), or [Garrison Brewing Company](#).



RELAX ON A PATIO ☀️

There is nothing better than a bite and a seat on a sunny patio with harbour views. Check out [The Bicycle Thief](#), [Stone's Throw](#), [Sea Smoke](#), [The Lower Deck](#), [Pickford & Black](#), or [Waterfront Warehouse](#) for your oceanside dining fix.



Explore the WATERFRONT DISTRICTS

HALIFAX SEAPORT DISTRICT

The Halifax Seaport District is a vibrant arts and cultural district at the south end of the Halifax waterfront. From Piers 19 to 23, you'll find artisans and retailers, cruise terminals, cafés and galleries, a museum, a university, and the oldest continuously operating farmers' market in North America.

BISHOP'S LANDING DISTRICT

Bishop's Landing is a historic residential and commercial area comprised of a restored heritage building, contemporary townhouses, and upscale shops and restaurants.



LEGEND

	CANADIAN MUSEUM OF IMMIGRATION AT PIER 21		FERRY TERMINAL
	CASINO NOVA SCOTIA		HMCS SACKVILLE
	CSS ACADEIA		MARITIME MUSEUM OF THE ATLANTIC
	DISCOVERY CENTRE		PUBLIC ART
	"DRUNKEN LAMPPOSTS"		SUBMARINE PLAYGROUND
			THE WAVE
	FREE PUBLIC WI-FI	Across the Halifax waterfront.	
	HALIFAX HARBOURWALK		
	PARKS & GREEN SPACE		
	PUBLIC WASHROOMS		
	PARKING		
	SEASONAL		
	SHOPPING AREAS		
	WATERFRONT DISTRICTS		

This content was produced in partnership with Build Nova Scotia.



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@mywaterfrontns
#MyWaterfrontNS

FARMERS' MARKETS

Meet the local makers, creators, and farmers at the **Halifax Brewery Farmers' Market** and the **Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market**.

VISIT GEORGES ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ☀

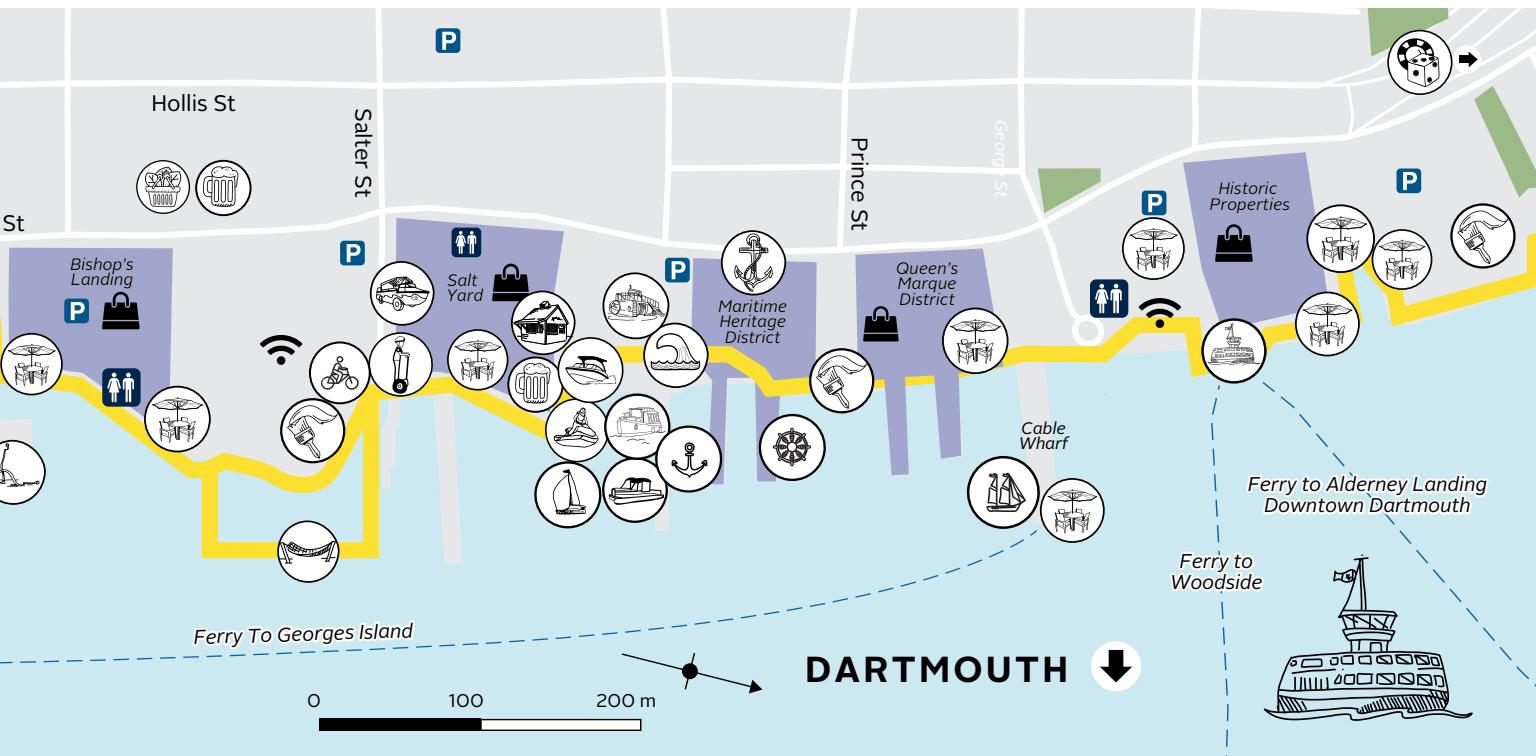
Travel by ferry from the **Cable Wharf** to explore the small historic island at the centre of the harbour.

SWING IN A HAMMOCK

The iconic orange hammocks along the Salter boardwalk are the perfect place to sit back, relax, and watch the ships pass by.

HALIFAX MARINA ☀

Arrive by recreational private boats to the Halifax waterfront and enjoy free daytime berthing. Overnight rates available. Contact the **Halifax Marina** for details.



SALT YARD & FOUNDATION WHARF

Nestled between Salter and Sackville Streets, **Salt Yard** (with a building icon) is a haven of food and retail kiosks, public art, pop-up events, and live music.

MARITIME HERITAGE DISTRICT

The area around the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic is a historic harbour district complete with **CSS Acadia** (with a ship icon) and **HMCS Sackville** (with a ship icon) vessels docked in the harbour, waiting to be explored.

QUEEN'S MARQUE DISTRICT

This new waterfront district was created with nods to the stories and traditions of Nova Scotia's past. Sample fresh seafood, sip cocktails refreshed by salt air, and browse specialty shops in the heart of Halifax's culinary and retail scene.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES

This collection of historic warehouses is the site of hundreds of years of Halifax history dating back to the late 1700s. Today, Historic Properties is a National Heritage Site, complete with unique shops, dining and entertainment.

Halifax Experience Pass

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best attractions, museums & tours!



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experiencepass.ca
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on the
**Halifax
Waterfront**
#MyWaterfrontNS

Let us show you around **TOURS**

When you're travelling it can be fun to get off the beaten path to pursue a niche interest or specific passion that lights you up. But it can also be intimidating to explore without a guide. This is when a tour is the perfect idea. Take a local tour led by experienced guides and explore what interests you most.

Murphy's Camping on the Ocean



Learn Local Lore

Halifax Citadel Ghost Tours

Experience an evening journey into the ghost stories, unexplained tales, and haunted history of the Halifax Citadel.

Halifax Citadel National Historic Site

pc.gc.ca/halifaxcitadel



Ambassatours

Find Family Fun

Halifax Harbour Hopper Tour

See Halifax by land and sea on the famous amphibious Harbour Hopper Tour.

Ambassatours Gray Line
harbourhopper.com



Harbour Hopper Tour

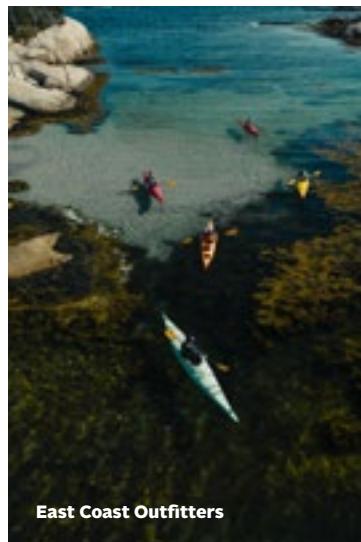
Have a Coastal Adventure

Island Explorer Sea Kayaking Tours

Explore protected bays, secluded beaches, and the rugged coastline of the Prospect area before stopping on a pristine coastal island to relax and stretch your legs.

East Coast Outfitters

eastcoastoutfitters.com



East Coast Outfitters

Peggy's Cove Rock Walk

Hike the coastal barrens and learn about the unique vegetation and wildlife that call this stark environment home.

Great Earth Expeditions

greatearthexpeditions.com

A Boat, Beer, and a Bonfire

Take a sunset boat tour, followed by a bonfire and a brew from Sober Island Brewing Company.

Sober Island Boat Tours

soberislandboattour.com

100 Islands in 100 Minutes

Discover the natural beauty of a little known expanse of protected islands on Nova Scotia's Eastern Shore on this 2-hour private boating excursion.

Murphy's Camping on the Ocean

murphyscamping.ca

Explore the Harbour

The Sunset Sea-Doo Tour

The 2 hour sunset tour offers a relaxing experience with unobstructed views of a breathtaking Halifax sunset, just inches above water.

Harbour Watercraft Tours & Adventures

theharbourwatercraft.com

Sunset Wine and Cheese Yacht Sailing

Sample local wine and cheese paired with stunning ocean views aboard a luxurious 45 foot sailing yacht.

J Farwell Sailing Tours

jfsailingtours.com

It's Better on the Water

A collage of four images illustrating waterfront activities. Top left: A sailboat on the water with a city skyline in the background. Top right: A group of people on a boat toasting with cups. Bottom left: A green and blue boat with passengers on the water. Bottom right: A dark banner with white text.

Boat Cruises & Sightseeing Tours

See them all and book tickets:

ambassatours.com

902 420-1015

on the
Halifax
Waterfront
#MyWaterfrontNS

Sustainable **CLOTHING SHOPS**

Shop locally and sustainably in Halifax

These local clothing shops prioritize eco-friendly practices, ethical production standards, timeless design, and high-quality essentials that never go out of style. Find the perfect piece for yourself or someone else at one of these incredible boutiques.

Another Shop Boutique

Downtown Halifax

MEYVN Sustainable Apparel

North End Halifax

PHIT'Cetera Lifestyle Wear

Bedford-Sackville

Sattva Boutique

North End Halifax

Slowly Slowly

North End Halifax

Thief&Bandit

Downtown Halifax

Vaughan's General Store

North End Halifax



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FOOD
FLICKS
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 CINEPLEX

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FITNESS



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DEPARTURE LOUNGE
HALIFAX STANFIELD AIRPORT

LIQUID
ASSETS

NOVA SCOTIA
WINE SPIRITS BEER CIDER

LQA.COM



Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21
Musée canadien de l'immigration du Quai 21

Discover Canada's Immigration Story

at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21



Witness the challenges and triumphs
experienced by newcomers to Canada in
the past and present.



www.pier21.ca

Canada



Shop **FARM-TO-TABLE**

With a community that has grown increasingly devoted to shopping local, Halifax has an incredible range of crafters, growers, makers, bakers, and farmers. The local food scene is growing by the season.

If you're looking to experience the Halifax region like a local, finding the closest farmers' market is a fantastic place to start.

YEAR-ROUND FARMERS' MARKETS

Alderney Landing Farmers' Market
Saturdays | Year-Round

Halifax Brewery Farmers' Market
Saturdays | Year-Round

Halifax Forum Farmers' Market
Saturdays | Year-Round

Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market
Saturdays & Sundays | Year-Round

Musquodoboit Farmers' Market
Sundays | Year-Round



Halifax Brewery Farmers' Market

EAT LOCAL



LOCAL SOURCE MARKET

A neighbourhood market in Halifax's North End specializing in farm fresh produce, baked goods, and artisan cheeses.



LUKE'S SMALL GOODS

A local deli on Agricola Street offering handmade baked goods, preserves, and charcuterie.

SEASONAL FARMERS' MARKETS

Hubbards Farmers' Market
Saturdays | May-Oct

Novalea Farmers' Market
Saturdays | May-Oct

Spryfield Farmers' Market
Sundays | Jun-Dec

Tantallon Village Farmers' Market
Tuesdays | Jun-Oct

Fairview Clayton Park Farmers' Market
Thursdays | Jun-Oct

Annapolis Valley Produce
Thu-Sun | Jun-Oct



Alderney Landing Farmers' Market



Hubbards Farmers' Market

More places

TO SHOP FOR LOCAL FOOD

Afishionado Fishmongers
Bedford-Sackville

Arthur's Urban Market
Downtown Halifax

Lemonade General Store
North End Halifax

Local Source Market
North End Halifax

Luke's Small Goods
North End Halifax

Lupin Dining & Pantry
Eastern Shore

Noggins Corner Farm Markets
Multiple Locations

Osprey's Roost Butchery & Provisions
West End Halifax

Ratinaud
North End Halifax

Real Fake Meats
North End Halifax

Springhouse Market
North End Halifax

The Tare Shop
Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

Uprooted Market & Café
Eastern Shore

Vegetorium Farm Market
Airport Area

The Warehouse Market
North End Halifax



THE TARE SHOP

This package-free bulk store and café offers an impressive array of eco-friendly food and home goods from their downtown Dartmouth location.



RATINAUD

A French deli offering a selection of high-quality Nova Scotian charcuterie ingredients, prepared in traditional French cuisine style.

5 PLACES TO GET YOUR LOBSTER FIX

1

Truffle Lobster Roll

Tom's Lobster Shack

Peggy's Cove Coastal Region

Tom's Lobster Shack is known for its huge and delicious lobster rolls. Upgrade your experience with their truffled version, featuring garlic butter, herbs, truffle aioli, and a lemon twist.

2

Lobster Eggs Benny

The Canteen

Dartmouth - Cole Harbour

Try the decadent lobster eggs benny on a house-made buttermilk biscuit. Available only during the popular Saturday brunch!

3

Lobster Poutine

Evan's Fresh Seafoods

Dartmouth - Cole Harbour

Indulge in poutine with a twist on the waterfront, with breathtaking views of the harbour. The lobster poutine combines succulent creamed lobster with crispy hand-cut fries and melted cheese, creating a unique and delicious experience.

4

Lobster Taco

Dave's Lobster

Downtown Halifax

This delectable lobster taco can be found at the Salt Yard in a waterfront kiosk. This unique twist on the classic lobster roll features a delicious fusion of cold lobster meat tossed with zesty mayo, lime, cilantro, and chili, all nestled in a soft-shell tortilla and topped with a side of crisp coleslaw.

5

Lobster Sushi Roll

Dharma Sushi

Downtown Halifax

This unique sushi roll brings together the best of both worlds, fusing the traditional flavours of sushi with the decadence of lobster. Fresh lobster meat is paired with crisp cucumber, a pop of flavour from fish roe, and creamy mayo for a taste explosion in every bite.

Get your LOBSTER FIX

WRITTEN BY: LAURA OAKLEY

Halifax has earned a reputation as a top culinary destination for seafood lovers, particularly for its irresistible lobster. As the largest city on the East Coast, Halifax is home to a diverse array of mouth-watering lobster dishes crafted by renowned local chefs and innovative tourism operators. Whether you're a seasoned lobster connoisseur on a culinary quest or simply seeking to indulge in this iconic seafood, let us take you on a journey through the rich history and cultural significance of the Atlantic lobster. From its traditional cooking techniques to its coveted status as an export, this vibrant red crustacean is a must-try for all seafood enthusiasts.

THE ATLANTIC LOBSTER

The Atlantic lobster, scientifically known as *Homarus americanus*, is a species exclusive to the northwest Atlantic Ocean. Its presence in Halifax is made possible by the seasonal migration patterns of lobsters towards shallow waters for mating and egg-laying. As a result, the lobster fishing season in Atlantic Canada typically peaks twice a year, in the spring and winter, providing us with the freshest and most flavourful lobster.

INDIGENOUS ROOTS

For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples have lived in harmony with the lands and waters near the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Mi'kmaq, for example, relied on the abundant spring lobster population, fishing with spears and hooks.



AFFORDABLE STAPLE

Prior to the mid-1800s, lobsters were in such plentiful supply that they were considered a cheap food source, even served in prisons. However, with the growth of coastal towns, lobster quickly became a staple, leading to the establishment of over 700 lobster canneries in Atlantic Canada by the early 1900s. Overfishing led to regulations in 1873-74, limiting the number of lobsters harvested each season and ultimately conserving the supply for future generations to enjoy as a sought-after delicacy.

GLOBAL DELICACY

The ability to transport live lobsters transformed the lobster industry and increased its value in the marketplace. By the mid-1800s, fishermen in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had already begun shipping live lobsters to the U.S., setting the stage for the modern lobster industry. Today, lobster is a highly sought-after delicacy, reserved for special occasions and enjoyed in first-rate restaurants. The legacy of



these early lobster exports continues to shape the way we harvest, process, and savour this iconic seafood delicacy.

THE NOVA SCOTIA LOBSTER SUPPER

The early methods of consuming lobsters, be it at home or in restaurants, are not well documented. However, the lobster cracker and pick have become staple tools for extracting the maximum amount of juicy meat. **The Shore Club** in Hubbards has been serving classic Nova Scotia lobster suppers since 1936 and continues to uphold this beloved tradition. This style of lobster supper can be found across Nova Scotia and PEI and typically features a whole steamed or boiled lobster served with melted butter for dipping, accompanied by potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, and butter. Start with a bowl of steamed mussels or chowder, and finish with a generous serving of home-style dessert, like a traditional blueberry grunt, for a truly satisfying East Coast culinary experience.

THE ULTIMATE LOBSTER EXPERIENCE

Halifax is renowned for its sumptuous lobster cuisine, where chefs elevate the delicacy with their expertly crafted dishes. From classic lobster rolls and chowders to unique creations like lobster poutine, eggs benedict, and pasta, the region is a haven for seafood lovers. Throughout the province, there are numerous regional specialties that showcase the versatility of this sought-after crustacean. Enjoy a decadent lobster meal at a fine dining establishment, a casual beer garden on the waterfront, or a community hall dinner. In Halifax, there's no limit to the lobster possibilities.

SHOULD YOU EAT THE TOMALLEY?

The tomalley, also known as the lobster liver, is safe to eat but some people choose not to consume it due to its texture or potential accumulation of impurities. Whether or not you choose to eat it is a personal preference.



ALEXANDER KEITH'S BREWERY TOUR



Take an unforgettable tour of Alexander Keith's Original Brewery built in 1820. Experience real Nova Scotia good times with songs, stories and – of course – *Our fine Variety of Beers*.

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Book Online with us @ keiths.ca

Visit us: 1496 Lower Water Street Halifax

Steps from the waterfront.

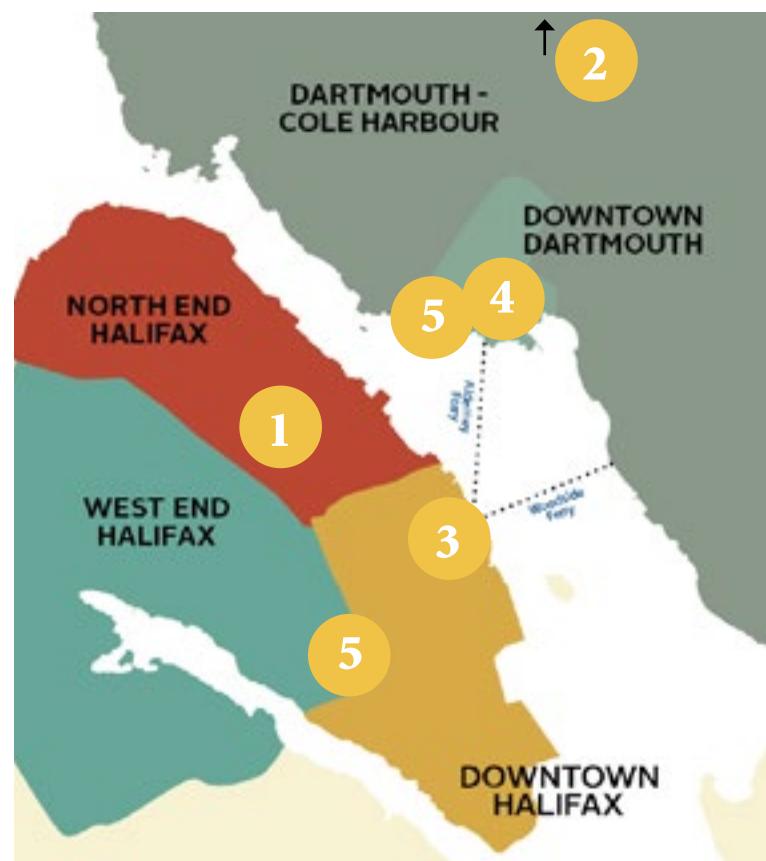
ENJOY RESPONSIBLY. *TM/MC Keith's Brewery.

5 JUICY FACTS ABOUT NOVA SCOTIAN CIDER

- 1 Cider is produced by fermenting the juice of apples. However, if the alcohol by volume (ABV) exceeds 8.5%, it is categorized as apple wine.
- 2 To be a member of the Nova Scotia Cider Association you must produce ciders made from 100% Nova Scotia apples! This is a great resource for choosing cideries to visit.
- 3 You can drink cider made on-site in a former iconic railway hotel that operated from 1930 to 1973, in the heart of Kentville, at a cidery called **Maritime Express**. The original stone walls are beautiful!
- 4 There is a **Cider Route** you can follow throughout the province. It is self-guided and includes stops in the Annapolis Valley, the South Shore region, and Halifax.
- 5 Perry is hard cider made from pears instead of apples. It is also prevalent at cideries throughout Nova Scotia because we grow excellent pear varieties.

Your Cider Crawl Awaits

A TASTE OF HALIFAX'S GROWING CIDER SCENE



WRITTEN BY: LAURA OAKLEY

The Annapolis Valley, also known as “the Valley” by locals, is one of Canada’s five main apple-growing areas and is located just over an hour from downtown Halifax. It is the oldest apple-growing region in Canada, and possibly in North America, with the apple trees first planted in Mi’kma’ki by early French settlers as early as 1633.

The expansion of apple cultivation in Canada was driven by the demand for alcohol on the frontier, where apples became a valuable agricultural crop. The Hudson’s Bay Company played a crucial role in the growth of apple farming by planting apple trees in areas with suitable climates at each of its forts across the country. The cooling effects of the Bay of Fundy and a long growing season with lots of sunshine create the perfect terroir and growing conditions for top-notch apples in the Annapolis Valley.

This results in a diverse collection of apple varieties, and a range of cider styles from classic dry ciders to seasonal releases, incorporating local strawberries and beyond. The Nova Scotia Cider Association boasts a membership of 17 cideries, and attributes the success of the cider industry to the high-quality apples produced in the region and the skill of the cider makers.

Prior to the commercial production of hard cider in Nova Scotia, small-batch craft ciders were available at farm market stores throughout the Annapolis Valley. The start of Nova Scotia’s modern cider-making industry can be credited to Hanspeter Stutz and Germain Bergeron. Stutz introduced Stutz Cider in 2002, and Bergeron founded **Bulwark Cider** in 2011 with winemaker Dominic Rivard. Bulwark Cider marked its 10-year anniversary in the fall of 2021, with Bergeron still leading the company.



Cider production made its debut in Halifax in 2017 with the launch of **Chain Yard Cider**. This North End facility offers a unique experience, serving as a cidery, retail store, taproom, and restaurant all in one. That same year, **Lake City Cider** opened their taproom in downtown

Dartmouth, followed by **Bulwark Cider’s** Halifax expansion in 2020 with the opening of a taproom and food service on Dresden Row. Currently, Halifax and Dartmouth are home to a varied selection of cider makers of different sizes, all producing cider on their premises.

The demand for alcohol-free options in bars and restaurants has resulted in an increase in non-alcoholic craft ciders. **Bulwark Cider** offers a delicious alcohol-free cider that is crafted using a process that removes the alcohol after fermentation, resulting in a flavour that is similar to traditional hard cider. This cider, with an ABV of 0.5%, is readily available in liquor stores and retail outlets such as **Bishop’s Cellar, Arthur’s Urban Market, Harvest Wines, and Pete’s Fine Foods** in Halifax. It can also be found on the menu at several bars and restaurants in the city.

Whether you’re unable to visit the historic Annapolis Valley or are simply exploring the Halifax cider scene, ordering flights at local cideries and taprooms is a great way to sample the best hard ciders from across the province. A flight allows you to taste and compare a variety of ciders from different producers and regions, showcasing the diverse styles and flavours available in Nova Scotia.

1

Chain Yard Urban Cidery & Taproom

North End Halifax

2

Chill Street Craft Beverage Co.

Airport Area

3

Bulwark Cider House

Downtown Halifax

4

Lake City Cider

Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

5

Noggins Corner Farm Markets

Multiple locations throughout the region

Local Businesses That Make You Feel Good



even more to eat & drink

For dinner, **Kofuku** in the North End is the place to be. They make all their delicious Japanese and Thai cuisine from scratch. If you're downtown and looking for something casual for dinner, try **902 Catering** just off of Spring Garden Road - you haven't lived until you've tried Syrian shawarma or fried chicken. For a fancier night, try **Gio**. Don't let any hotel restaurant stigma fool you, the food and cocktails at Gio are some of the best in the city.

economy, but it also fosters a sense of community and pride. Today, I am proud to be one of many local business owners who are adding to the exciting experiences that make Halifax one of the best places to live and visit in Canada.

These are a few of the amazing local businesses in Halifax that not only provide quality products and services, but also create a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, making you feel good about supporting them.



MEET THE AUTHOR Abady Alzharani (he/him)

Follow **@houseofeights** on Instagram to learn more about House of Eights Dance Studio and check out Abady's choreography.

eat & drink

There is no better way to experience a city than through its food. Start your day at one of my favourite Halifax cafés: stop by **Bird's Nest Café** for a panini and a mocha latte with chocolate ganache, made in-house. If you're in the North End, check out **Suda Table**, a café that offers delicious Asian snacks like egg tarts and dumplings. If you're a brunch fan, try **Bliss Caffeine Bar** in Halifax's South End. Their focaccia and donuts are what dreams are made of.

If you're downtown for lunch, stop by **Verano** for a taste of Halifax's best Latin food. In the North End try a sandwich from the **Osney**, or head over to **La Rozzi Bistro** in Bedford for delicious Filipino comfort food (fried chicken and spaghetti is the combo you never knew you needed).

Speaking of cocktails... **Dear Friend** in downtown Dartmouth is an award-winning cocktail bar that I always recommend visiting. I love their Filipino-inspired cocktails with flavours like ube and pandan. For the boba fans, check out **Swee Tea House** in downtown Halifax for delicious bubble tea made with fresh fruit.

After a night out, you must try a poutine from **Willy's**. Pro tip: order it with stuffing and Halifax's famous donair sauce.

ASK A LOCAL There's no better way to experience a place than by living like a local. Discover cool coffee shops, live music venues, and secret beaches with tips from locals who make Halifax an amazing place to live and visit. Each of these Haligonians are passionate about this place, and have a story to tell. Get to know them and experience Halifax like a local.



move and groove

I love getting lost in a new city. Head across the harbour to Dartmouth, then walk east along the Trans Canada Trail. Just a short walk from the **Alderney Landing Ferry Terminal** you'll find Dartmouth Cove, a hidden gem walk where you can enjoy stunning murals on one side, and waterfront views of the Halifax Harbour on the other.

Head back through downtown Dartmouth to Sullivan's Pond to meet local celebrities: the Dartmouth geese. If you're lucky, you'll catch them crossing the road.

Back in Halifax, drop in for a dance class at my studio, **House of Eights Dance Studio**. You'll make new friends and learn from some of Halifax's best instructors; we offer classes for beginners and advanced dancers. Whether you're an adult beginner or a seasoned professional, everyone is welcome. We are committed to providing a safe, professional, and fun space for dancers to develop, create, and inspire. We are always happy to see new students!

Take your dance moves from the studio to the club. Halifax has lively nightlife, including amazing drag shows. Follow one of the many talented local drag artists hosting shows all over the city, like **Anna Mona-Pia, Zara Matrix, and Mya Foxx**.

Alderney Ferry



Sullivan's Pond



@novapixells

Mya Foxx @myafoxx_hfx



MEET THE AUTHOR Riaz Oozeer(he/him)

Follow [@onmycoffeebreaks](#) to check out Riaz's coffee adventures, and [@riazoozeer](#) to see Halifax through Riaz's eyes.

I have two simple passions: coffee and photography. I worked as a barista for many years before becoming a full-time photographer, and in many ways, these passions have become closely intertwined.

For me, a good cup of coffee every day is a must. Like many of us, my day starts with a coffee brewed at home, but I've grown to love my tradition of getting out of the house to a local café for my second cup of the day.

Getting to that second coffee is a milestone in my day. It means that I've earned it after a good photo walk and a morning's work. Stopping in at my neighbourhood café gives me time to take a moment and enjoy.

....it's just about finding the one that fits your vibe.

Throughout the years of walking the streets of Halifax, I've developed a few favourite local coffee shops. Compared to other major cities that have a bunch of very similar coffee shops all in one place, I find that Halifax offers something rather different. Every coffee shop has its own charm. They are all quite different from each other and it's just about finding the one that fits your vibe.

Here are just a few of my favourites. They all have stellar coffee and wonderful staff, but each has something that makes them special. Don't be afraid to scout out your own favourites though. The coffee scene in Halifax is ever growing with local roasters and a wide variety of shops to choose from.



Halifax's Coffee Scene

Weird Harbour Espresso Bar

Downtown Halifax

Weird Harbour was my first coffee experience when I moved to Halifax. That day, my partner and I walked from **Point Pleasant Park** in the South End, all the way to the North End of Halifax. It's a long walk but we were so excited to explore our new home. Three years later, we continue to regularly take long walks across the city, and **Weird Harbour** is still a favourite spot for a quick refuel.

One of the many great things about Weird Harbour is the opportunity to sit and sip your coffee - in my case an oat cortado – right in the heart of downtown Halifax. You can watch the activity of Barrington Street through the large windows. In the winter, it's a cozy spot to warm up with a seat by the window and people-watch, and in the summertime, you can sit on the bench outside and enjoy being part of the city. Weird Harbour is small and it isn't the kind of coffee shop where you linger and lounge around, but it's a great little spot for a quick break on a walk to stop and take in the energy of downtown Halifax. Sitting outside on a summer day with an iced drink after a long walk around the city is priceless.

Apartment 3 Espresso Bar

Downtown Halifax

Apartment 3 recently opened their second location in downtown Halifax, and it has already become one of my go-to cafés. This spot is one of the best places in the city for a late-in-the-day coffee.

I like to work during low-light hours, and I love stopping in at Apartment 3 for a quick coffee before heading out to take photos in the evening. Most coffee shops in Halifax close early, and until recently I had been looking for a great place for a late-in-the-day pick me up. The new Apartment 3 location is just off Spring Garden Road, which is the perfect place for a sunset photo walk.

If you're a coffee-after-workout type, check out **Queensberry Rules Boxing Studio**, a cool boxing gym that shares the space with Apartment 3.



📍 Apartment 3 Espresso Bar

*Extend your **coffee break***

Discover the growing coffee scene across the Halifax region.

**Better Vibe
Coffee Co.**
Eastern Shore

.....

**Selby's Bunker
Coffee & Gifts**

Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

.....

**Train Station
Bike & Bean**

Peggy's Cove
Coastal Region

Café GoodLuck

Dartmouth - Cole Harbour

Besides the delicious food and cozy vibe, coffee geeks (like me) will love **Café GoodLuck** for the specialty coffee. The baristas are incredible, and they offer what I think is the highest-calibre coffee program in the city. My go-to oat cortado is not an easy drink to perfect, and I have never been disappointed at Café GoodLuck. If you aren't an espresso-lover, the filter coffee is great too. Café GoodLuck has freshly baked goodies on the menu daily, as well as a little food market for pantry staples.

For a perfect Sunday morning, head to Café GoodLuck and order the breakfast sandwich with a filter coffee. You'll be fueled up for a heavenly walk down Portland Street to check out the **Alderney Landing Farmers' Market**.



📍 Café GoodLuck

Halifax's Underground Arts Scene

MEET THE AUTHOR Raeesa Lalani (she/her)

Check out Raeesa's work as Artistic Director at **The Prismatic Arts Festival** in Halifax this fall.



When you think of the Halifax arts scene, you may think of some of those recognizable names you see on those shiny marquee signs. The shows that will light up your life and delight your senses. For the record: They. Are. Awesome. But I want to take you on a journey to discover some entertainers you may not have heard of, hidden deep within the city. Because believe me, there is some special work happening in this town that people should know about.

Let's start with year-round programming. No matter the day, month, or year, **The Bus Stop Theatre**, should be at the top of your entertainment checklist. This multi-use performance venue nestled in the North End of Halifax is the heart of the local indie theatre and arts scene. Seriously, this theatre is booked like 360 days a year, with work being created and presented by local talent from around the city.

If you're looking to experience the world of art and delight your visual senses, there are numerous curated galleries sprinkled around the city, including contemporary art galleries like **Studio 21** or **The Prow Gallery**.

If meeting local artists and seeing the creation process is your preference, stop by artist co-operatives **Hermes Gallery**, **Eyelevel**, or **Art 1274 Hollis**.



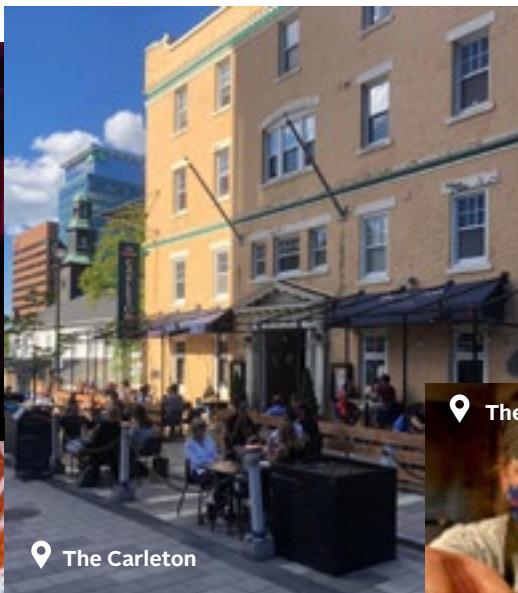
**THE
PROW
GALLERY**

Your East Coast Art Destination



The Seahorse Tavern

Charlie Benoit



The Carleton



The Local



The Marquee

If live music is your entertainment flavour, stop by **The Carleton**, an iconic sound house in the centre of the city, or meander over to the North End's single-structure late night favourite, **The Local**, **The Marquee**, and **The Seahorse Tavern**.

If you find yourself visiting Halifax in the fall, you'll need no reminder that this is a university town. There are seven universities and three college campuses in Halifax, so if you happen to be around the city's South End, head to the **Dalhousie** quad for an impromptu hype concert, or set your sights on the hidden gem that is the **Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery**'s permanent collection.



Also gracing Halifax stages in the fall, the **Prismatic Arts Festival**. Established in 2008, this boutique-style, multidisciplinary festival takes place around downtown Halifax, bringing some of the best professional Indigenous artists and artists of colour from across the country to the mainstage. You will experience sounds, languages, cultures, and an artistry that will linger in your mind and heart long after the curtain drops.

The last piece of advice I have is to take a walk around the city and check out those posters on telephone poles. It's old school, but that's what we do here- grass roots marketing. Stop just for a moment and look; you might find a show that catches your eye.



Studio 21

Live Music in Halifax

Experience a live music scene you'll never forget. As the birthplace of talented artists like **Sloan**, **Joel Plaskett**, **Wintersleep**, and many more, Halifax is a city with a rich musical history and culture. Drop in for a live show and find out for yourself.

1

Bearly's House of Blues & Ribs

Downtown Halifax

2

The Carleton

Downtown Halifax

3

Durtty Nelly's Irish Pub

Downtown Halifax

4

Gus' Pub & Grill

North End Halifax

5

The Lower Deck

Downtown Halifax

6

The Marquee Ballroom & Seahorse Tavern (2037 Gottingen)

North End Halifax

7

The Old Triangle Irish Alehouse

Downtown Halifax

8

Pacifico

Downtown Halifax





ART GALLERY OF NOVA SCOTIA

Atlantic Canada's premier art gallery and home to Maud Lewis' painted house.

agns.ca @ArtGalleryNS

1723 Hollis Street Halifax Nova Scotia



SYMPHONY NOVA SCOTIA 2023/24

CELEBRATION
POSSIBILITY
RENEWAL
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HOPE
VITALITY
CONTINUITY
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SWELL
SURPRISE
FUN

*Championing symphonic music
in Nova Scotia for 40 years.*

Visit: symphonynovascotia.ca

Wildflowers of NOVA SCOTIA

Three seasons of incredible blooms.

With a varied landscape ranging from coastal shorelines to rolling hills, Halifax is home to a wide variety of plant species, each with its own unique beauty and ecological importance. Whether you're an avid botanist or simply an admirer of nature, be sure to keep an eye out for some of these magnificent wildflowers during your visit to Nova Scotia.

ILLUSTRATION BY JANNA WILTON

Mayflower

Epigaea repens

Bloom time: April/May

Also known as Trailing Arbutus, Mayflowers bloom as soon as the snow melts - often before the month of May. The small pink and white flowers bloom close to the ground, usually amid the dead leaves and last remaining snow of winter. The Mayflower is the provincial flower of Nova Scotia and can be seen on the Nova Scotian Coat of Arms.

Wild Strawberry

Fragaria vesca

Bloom time: April/May/June

The Nova Scotia Wild Strawberry produces sweet, red strawberries in the summer, and has lobed leaves that turn red in the fall. It is commonly found growing in wooded areas and along stream banks, and is a popular choice for naturalizing, foraged by wildlife and people alike. It is also valued for its delicate flavour and is often used in jams, jellies, and baked goods.

Coltsfoot

Tussilago farfara

Bloom time: April/May

Coltsfoot is an early spring bloomer. Its little yellow flowers resemble small dandelions and can be found along roadsides, on sunny sidewalks, and in rocky fields. The stem of the coltsfoot is thick and hairy, just like the leg of a colt (young horse).

Forget-Me-Not

Myosotis sylvatica

Bloom time: April/May

The Forget-Me-Not is a small, delicate plant with bright blue flowers that blooms in the spring and early summer. According to a well-known legend, a knight was strolling by a river with his lady companion when she tripped and plunged into the river. As he reached out to save her, he dropped all of the flowers he had picked for her, except for one blue flower. He declared that the flower would always remind him of her and named it "Forget-Me-Not."

Lady Slipper

Cypripedium

Bloom time: May/June

Lady Slipper is a small, herbaceous, perennial orchid. This is a rare plant that is not to be picked as it will not regenerate without allowing its blossom to cycle through. It is considered an endangered species. The most likely location to observe the rare Ram's Head Lady Slipper in the Halifax region is in the northern Musquodoboit Valley, where gypsum outcrops are plentiful.

Lupin

Lupinus polyphyllus

Bloom time: June/July

During the month of June, the Lupin can be seen in colourful masses along the roadways of Nova Scotia. It is a popular ornamental plant and is often used in cottage gardens, wildflower meadows, and for naturalizing. The plant is also a valuable source of nectar for pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, making it a great choice for a wildlife-friendly garden.

Mayflower

Epigaea repens





Coltsfoot

Tussilago farfara



Lady Slipper

Cypripedium



Forget Me Not

Myosotis sylvatica



Lupin

Lupinus polyphyllus

Wild Strawberry

Fragaria vesca



Salt and Sand **ITINERARIES**

Nova Scotia is home to more than 13,000 kilometres of stunning coastline, packed with beaches of every kind. Whether you're in the mood for a relaxing retreat in the Peggy's Cove Coastal Region, or a laid-back adventure along the rugged Eastern Shore, we've got beaches to suit every taste.

Set aside your bucket list for a while and take some time to wander. Discover the Atlantic coast, get a taste of East Coast hospitality, and experience awe with these relaxing salt and sand itineraries.



LAWRENCETOWN BEACH



LAWRENCETOWN BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK

East Lawrencetown | Eastern Shore

From downtown Halifax: 35 min

Salty ocean breezes, endless sunshine, and unspoiled views greet visitors at Lawrencetown Beach Provincial Park. Set out for a hike along the **Atlantic View Trail**, a breathtaking 10-kilometre coastal greenway featuring salt marshes, headland bluffs, beaches, and woodland. Turn around and head back to the beach to reward yourself with a post-hike dip in the refreshing waters. Stop in at the **MacDonald House**, a historic building overlooking the ocean to browse local art and peruse vintage goods at **Fancy Lucky Vintage**. Enjoy a bite to eat at **Lawrencetown Beach Café** as you watch surfers ride the swells below.

PSYCHE COVE BEACH



PSYCHE COVE BEACH, TAYLOR HEAD PROVINCIAL PARK

Spry Bay | Eastern Shore **From downtown Halifax:** 90 min

Discover enchanting vistas, marshes, and wave-swept boulder shores as you journey through the scenic trails of the coastal forest at Taylor Head Provincial Park in Spry Bay. Cool off from your hike with a refreshing dip in the clear turquoise waters of Psyche Cove Beach. Dry off on the soft white sand before setting off for Sheet Harbour, where you'll enjoy a well-earned

meal on the sun-soaked patio at **The Henley House**. Pick up some locally brewed beer at **Sober Island Brewing Company** to take home before enjoying the scenic drive back to the city. Not ready to leave the idyllic Eastern Shore? Head a few minutes up the coast and stay the night at **The Marmalade Motel** in Port Dufferin.

CRYSTAL CRESCENT BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK

Sambro Creek | Peggy's Cove
Coastal Region

From downtown Halifax: 30 min

The perfect morning in Halifax begins with a visit to Crystal Crescent Beach. Plan to head out for the sunrise when the beach is calm and quiet to wander the sheltered coves and scenic **Pennant Point Trail** that loops along the coast and around the rugged peninsula. As you make your way back to Halifax, stop in at **Pavia Gallery – Espresso Bar & Café** for a freshly-brewed cup of coffee and homemade pastries on the sunny patio. Not a morning person? Pack a cozy sweater and plan to visit Crystal Crescent Beach at sunset when the beach is bathed in shades of pastel pink and purple. Stop by Pavia on your way out and pick up some treats to-go, then settle into the soft white sand for a dreamy sunset picnic.



QUEENSLAND BEACH

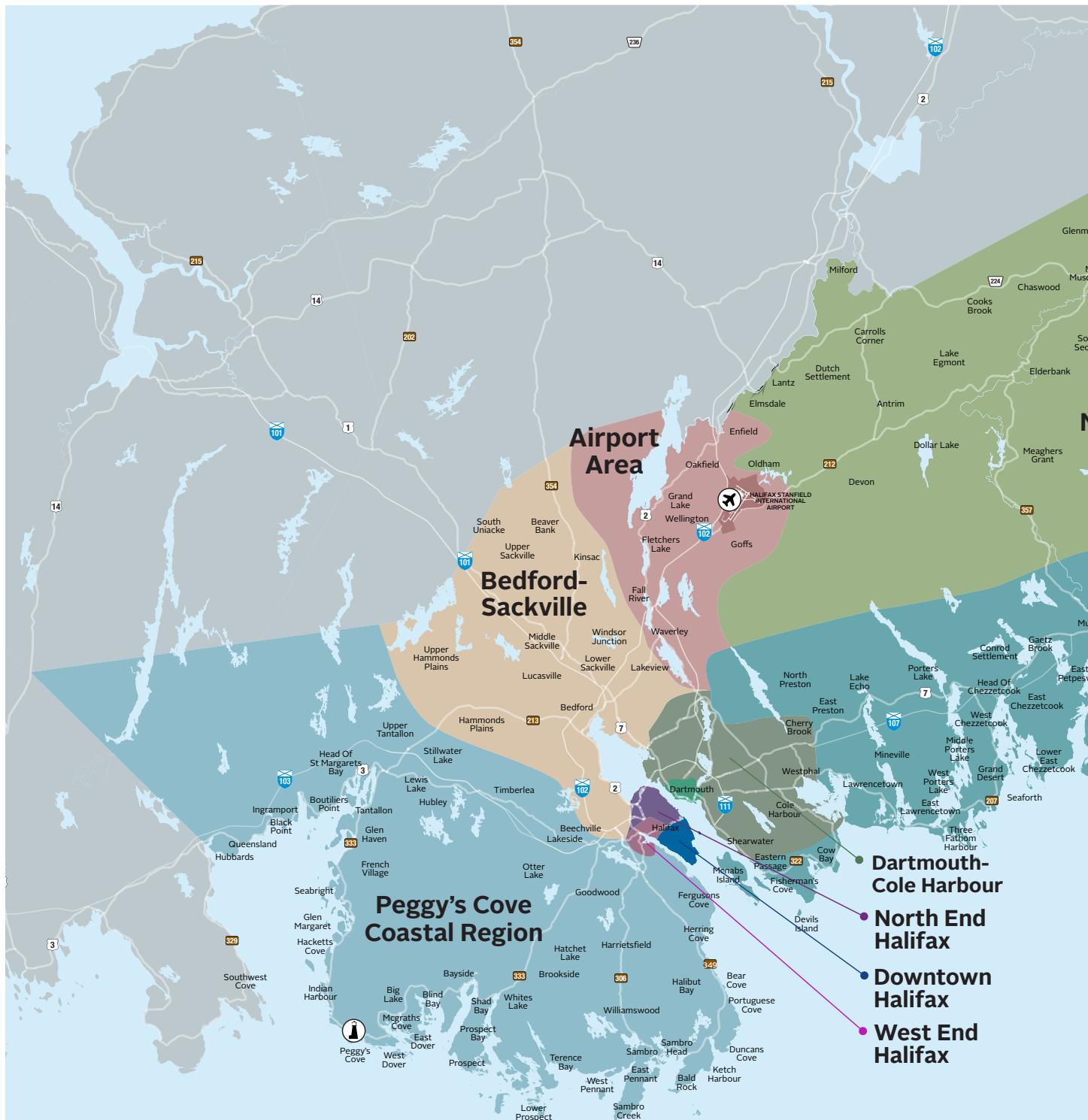


QUEENSLAND BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK

Queensland | Peggy's Cove
Coastal Region

From downtown Halifax: 40 min

If a day at the beach, followed by dinner and a show sounds like your jam, a trip to Queensland Beach is the ticket. Cruise along the famed Lighthouse Route before starting your adventure with a stroll along the **St. Margarets Bay Rails to Trails**. Start at any point along the 33-kilometre route and wind your way through lush woodland before heading to Queensland Beach for a dip in the gentle lapping waves. As the sun sets, make your way to **Tuna Blue** for al fresco dining and live music by the ocean. Fall in love? Turn a quick stop into a night or two at one of the six charming suites above the restaurant.



Airport Area
PG 48



Bedford-Sackville
PG 48

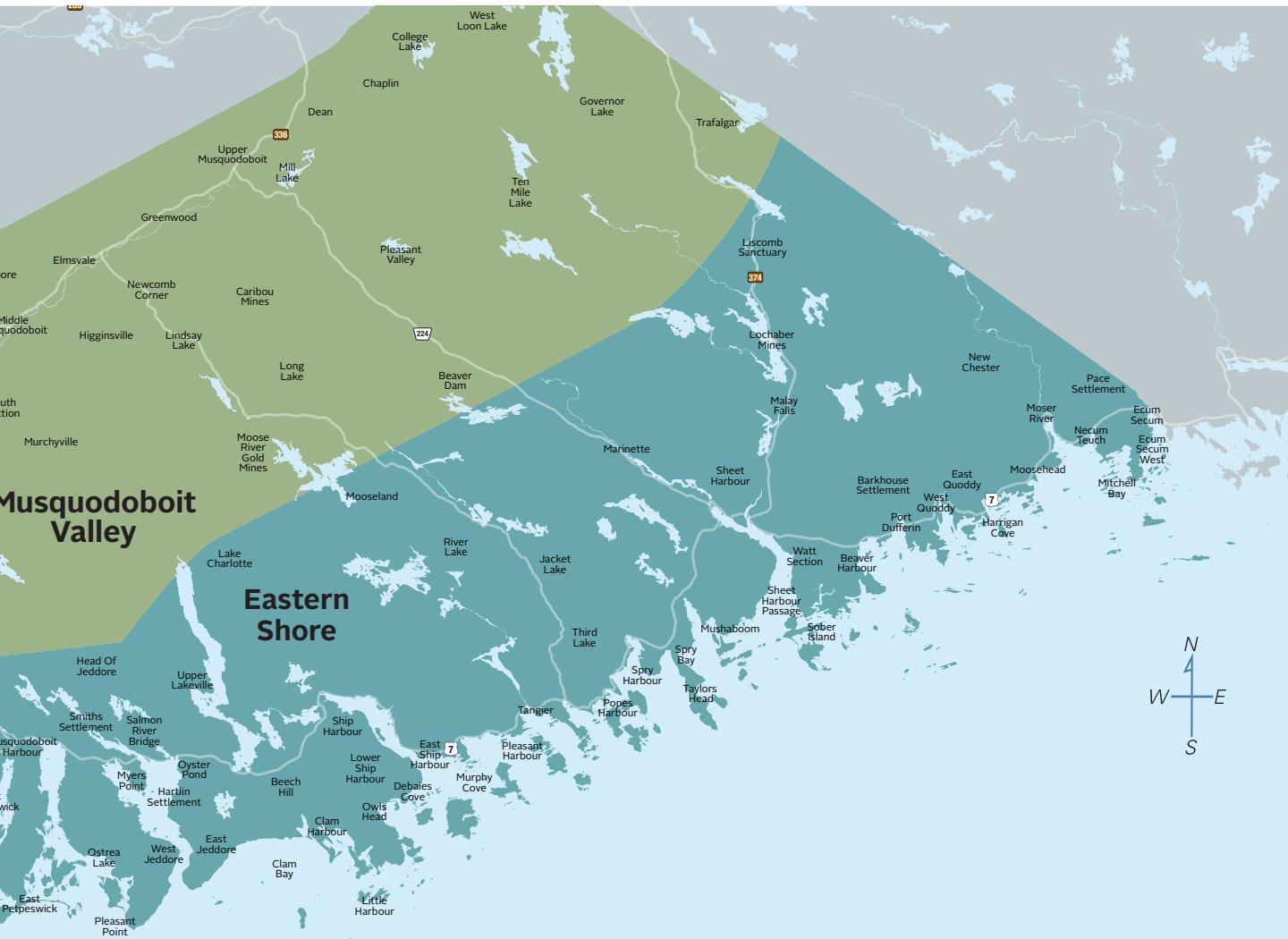


Dartmouth-Cole Harbour
PG 50



Downtown Halifax
PG 52





EXPLORE THE 9 Regions of Halifax

The Halifax Regional Municipality is comprised of more than 200 unique communities across nine distinct regions. Each region boasts its own rich history, distinct character, and exceptional

experiences, making the Halifax region a tapestry of cultural and natural beauty. From bustling cityscapes to serene seashores, Halifax has something for everyone to enjoy and explore.

Eastern Shore

PG 56



Musquodoboit Valley

PG 49



North End Halifax

PG 54



Peggy's Cove Coastal Region

PG 58

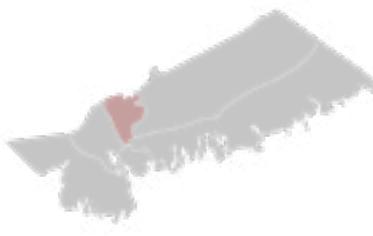


West End Halifax

PG 49



Illustrations by Janna Wilton. Find her on Instagram: @jannawiltonart.



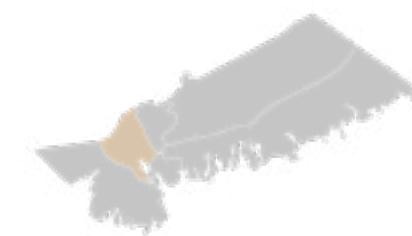
Airport Area



Just 30 minutes from downtown Halifax, the Airport Area is home to **Halifax Stanfield International Airport** and its surrounding communities. These suburban communities, including Fall River and Waverley, populate the region with cute cafés and bakeries, local pubs, and plenty of lakes and trails.

If you're into aviation you can't miss checking out the **Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum**. With 20+ aircraft, three simulators, and hundreds of artifacts, the museum is dedicated to the preservation of Canada's rich civilian and military aviation history, and has the most comprehensive collection east of Ottawa.

With a number of great hotels, inns, and B&Bs nearby, this region is ideal for travellers looking to stay close to the airport on a short stopover.



Bedford-Sackville



The Bedford-Sackville region is a family-friendly community centered around the most internal point of the Halifax Harbour. The region offers great shopping, family-friendly activities, and brilliant outdoor experiences.

Bedford sits at the northwestern end of the Bedford Basin and offers incredible views of the Halifax Harbour from **DeWolf Park**. The area is known for **Sunnyside Mall**, the charming **Bedford Basin Farmers' Market and Garden Centre**, and historic **Hemlock Ravine Park**. Another scenic destination is Susies Lake, which is a beautiful natural setting for picnicking, hiking, and relaxation.

The Sackville area is growing with new retailers and restaurants popping up all the time. It's a great stopover destination on your way to the Annapolis Valley. For those interested in history and culture, Lower Sackville has several notable landmarks and museums to visit. **The Fultz House Museum** was constructed in the 1860s and its collections reflect over 200 years of Sackville history.



Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum



Susies Lake



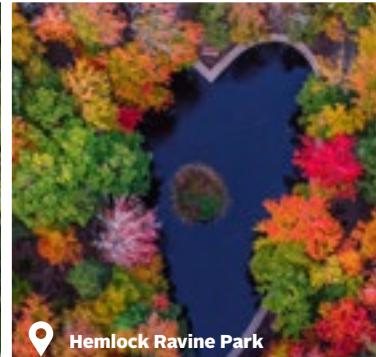
Liquid Assets



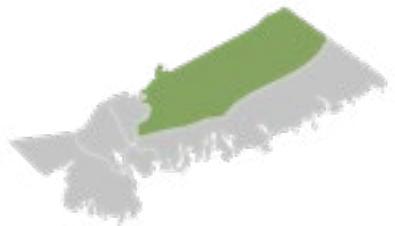
The Firkin & Flyer



Fultz House Museum



Hemlock Ravine Park



Musquodoboit Valley



Located in the eastern part of Nova Scotia, the Musquodoboit Valley is one of the largest of Halifax's nine regions, and nature lover's dream. With its stunning natural beauty, pristine rivers, and charming small towns, this valley offers endless opportunities for outdoor activities such as hiking, cycling, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, and camping. The region's pristine lakes and natural forests provide a haven for nature enthusiasts, and the Musquodoboit River is a prime spot for salmon fishing and kayaking.

Families can also enjoy the **Upper Musquodoboit Wooden Playground**, which features an impressive wooden tower, wavy slides, and themed sections for imaginative play.

Whether you seek adventure or tranquility, the Musquodoboit Valley is an idyllic destination for anyone travelling to Nova Scotia, offering a unique blend of outdoor recreation and family-friendly attractions.



Musquodoboit Valley



Musquodoboit Trailway



Upper Musquodoboit Wooden Playground



West End Halifax



Across the Commons to the west of downtown Halifax, the West End is a region with a mix of rural and urban areas. From Quinpool Road and the Armdale area, to the **Halifax Shopping Centre** and Fairview, there's a lot to see throughout this diverse region.

The **Northwest Arm** is a stunning ocean inlet that attracts kayakers, yachts, and sailing enthusiasts, and is home to both the Armdale Yacht Club and the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron.

The **Quinpool District**, centered around Quinpool Road, is a one-stop shopping and dining hub with hundreds of unique businesses. Discover specialized sporting gear stores, amazing coffee shops, craft breweries, a newly renovated hotel, and a fabulous array of restaurants, offering both local and international cuisine.



Quinpool Road



Dingle Tower



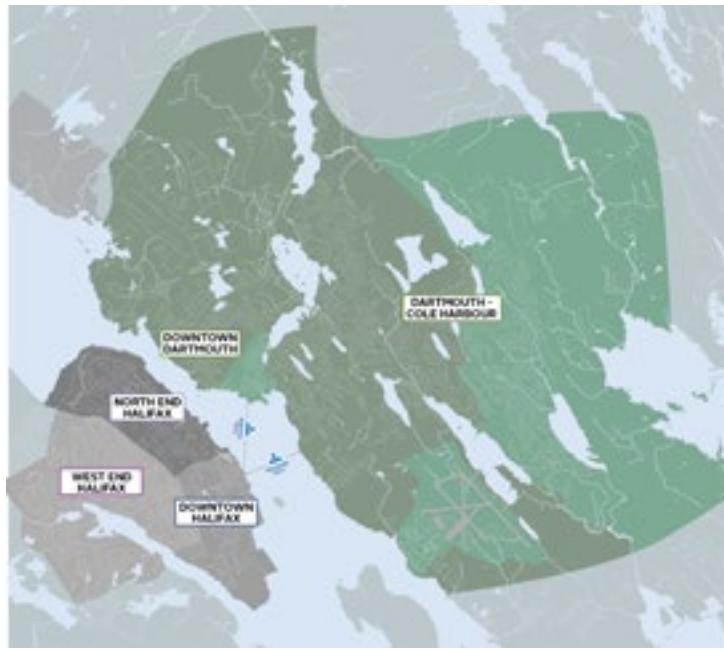
East Peak Climbing

MEETING • COMMUNITY • GROUPS • YOGA • PARTIES • FITNESS • TEAM BUILDING • COMMUNI

Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

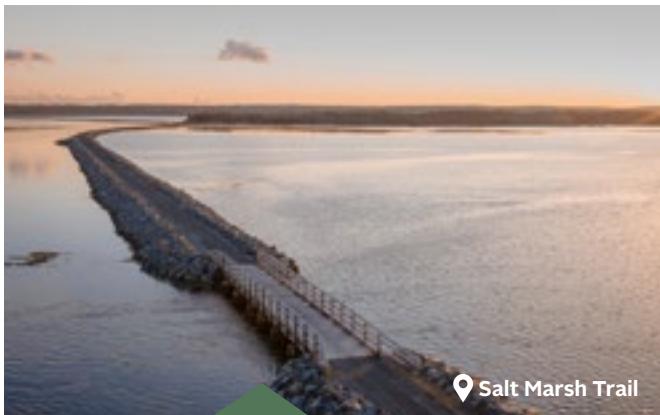
This must-visit region is made up of two distinct areas. Dartmouth, known as the City of Lakes, featuring spectacular lakes and a vibrant downtown core, and Cole Harbour, birthplace of Sidney Crosby and home of the beautiful Salt Marsh Trail.

Once an agricultural hub of the region, Cole Harbour is now a growing residential area with endless outdoor adventure. Dartmouth is a vibrant and welcoming community with an incredible local food scene, boutique and big-box shopping, and a friendly, small-town atmosphere despite its access to all the amenities of a big city.



SEE

Visit the **Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia** in Cherry Brook to explore the history and culture of African Nova Scotians.



📍 Salt Marsh Trail

DO

Head over to the **Salt Marsh Trail** in Cole Harbour for a peaceful escape into nature. Visitors can immerse themselves in the beauty of the coastal landscape, with stunning views of the marsh and Atlantic Ocean. With its tranquil atmosphere and diverse wildlife, the Salt Marsh Trail is a must-visit for nature enthusiasts and anyone looking for a unique and relaxing outdoor adventure.

SPEND A DAY EXPLORING THE COLE HARBOUR AREA



TASTE

Stop by **R&B Kitchen**, an award-winning family-owned restaurant in Westphal, specializing in soul food and Caribbean cuisine. With no set menu and an ever-changing "daily meal", the chefs continue to experiment with new dishes and people are always excited to see what's next.



EXPERIENCE DOWNTOWN DARTMOUTH LIKE A LOCAL

Downtown Dartmouth has often been referred to as the Brooklyn of Halifax, but comparisons aside, this vibrant community has an edgy, offbeat allure that's all its own. Over the last decade, downtown Dartmouth has experienced an exciting renaissance and is now known as a haven for unique restaurants, quirky shops, cool cafés, and public art. Easily accessible by ferry, locals know that downtown Dartmouth is a treasure trove of amazing spots just off the beaten path.

 Dartmouth



SEE

Portland Street is downtown Dartmouth's main street, and it's a charming, low-rise urban experience lined with a multi-textured mix of shops and restaurants. If you walk along the waterfront, you hit **Ferry Terminal Park**, a small urban park perfect for relaxing and snacking on whatever treats you picked up on your way. If you head just a little bit further you'll find the **Back to the Sea Centre**, now located at 140 Alderney Drive in Martin'sPark. This touch tank experience is great for all ages.

 Portland Street



TASTE

Dartmouth is attracting restaurateurs looking to do things a little differently. **Battery Park Beer Bar & Eatery** is a great a place to stop for a local beer and features a burger menu that's out of this world. For a cozy cocktail bar experience, head to **Dear Friend Bar**. Stop in for a coffee roasted in-house at **Café GoodLuck**, or a delicious flakey croissant at **Two If By Sea Café**.

DO

There's a unique creativity in downtown Dartmouth that's richly expressed in the community's shops and galleries. **Kept Gifts & Housewares** is a delightful hodgepodge of kitchenware, body products, paper, wearables, and décor - much of it handmade. **The Dart Gallery** is a collaborative, community-focused art gallery that supports and strengthens the local creative community. And **The Tare Shop** is a package-free coffee shop and bulk store that provides alternatives to over-packaged food, household, and personal items.

 The Tare Shop





Downtown Halifax

Downtown Halifax is the urban core of the region. Historic Palladian facades stand proudly alongside modern glass high-rises, expressing the unique mix of history and growth found in this harbour city.

The area hums with energy, drawing visitors and locals with live music, local shops, world-class attractions, and an incredible culinary scene. Downtown Halifax is also the site of the extraordinary Halifax waterfront which offers everything from beer gardens and playgrounds, to farmers' markets and museums.

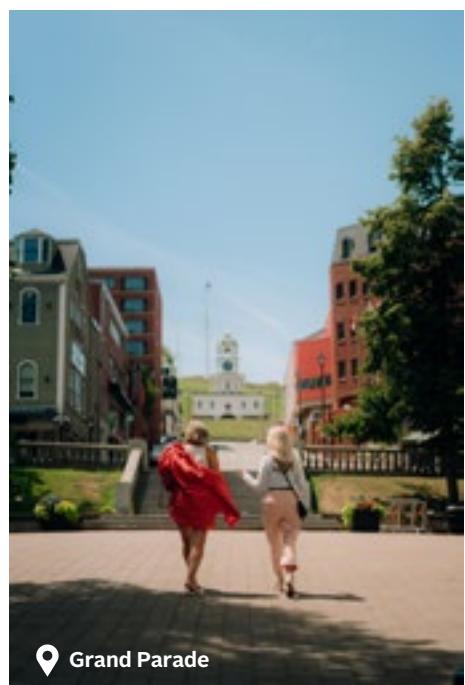
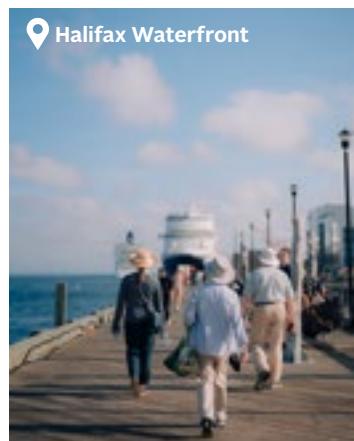
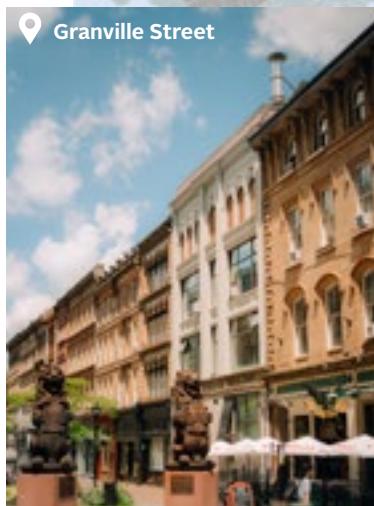
Walk a few blocks up the hill from the waterfront to the Entertainment District on Argyle Street, lined with local pubs, patios, and cafés, it's open to pedestrians only, throughout the summer. Think George Street meets Bourbon Street, but with a laid-back vibe you'll only feel on a warm summer evening on an Argyle Street patio.

Colourful, gritty, and undeniably cool, downtown Halifax is the vibrant beating heart of the city.

SEE

The Halifax waterfront is such an obvious draw, visitors often don't realize that if they venture a little up the hill that contains the city's urban core, they'll find just as many great things to see.

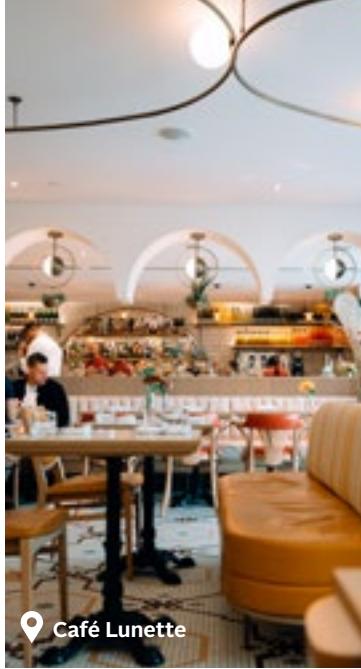
On historic Barrington Street, pick up a coffee and enjoy it in **Grand Parade**, a historic public square in front of Halifax City Hall. Just a few blocks away, pop into **Argyle Fine Art**, an award-winning gallery and shop where offbeat creativity is celebrated. And don't miss the **Halifax Central Library** on Spring Garden Road—an architectural masterpiece that locals have fallen in love with.



Argyle Fine Art

Barrington Street

Grand Parade



TASTE

You simply can't go wrong with any of the restaurants, cafés, and bars on the waterfront, Barrington Street, Argyle Street, and everywhere in between. A few local favourites include **Grounded Coffee Bar**—a tiny little café in Historic Properties. Across the street **Verano Food Purveyors** is a hidden gem, offering Latin-style eggs, tacos, and sandwiches, plus baked goods & coffee drinks. And **Highwayman**, an intimate, moody cocktail and tapas bar, features unpretentious food and drink in a setting inspired by *The Highwayman*, the iconic poem by Alfred Noyes. Finally, **Salt Yard** offers a variety of places to enjoy food on the waterfront.

DO

Yet again, the waterfront boardwalk is an immensely popular spot for locals and visitors alike. And near the southern end is a favourite stop for families: **The Discovery Centre**, a fun hands-on science museum. If you're in the mood for shopping, a hidden gem that locals love is **Brilliant Clothing Boutique**, a consignment shop just off Spring Garden Road that features designer labels. **The Loot Vintage** on Barrington Street is another great shop, offering a curated selection of vintage and modern clothing and accessories. Keep shopping your way around the downtown core at other great boutiques like **Another Shop Boutique**, **URBN-ish**, and **Ruffles & Tassels** on the waterfront, or **Sweet Pea Boutique** on Queen Street.



This content was produced in partnership with
Downtown Halifax Business Commission.

DOWNTOWN
BUSINESS COMMISSION
HALIFAX

downtownhalifax.ca | @downtownhalifax



SEE

Take a self-guided art tour of the North End. The area has long been a hub for artists, creatives, and lovers of the eclectic. Don't miss the Viola Desmond installation on Gottingen Street.

Plan your North End art tour at gonorthhalifax.ca/art.

North End Halifax



Halifax's North End is a bustling hub of culture and creativity, renowned for its diverse arts scene, award-winning dining, and lively nightlife. Visitors are immediately struck by the laid-back, artistic energy of the area, with its trendy cafés and cool craft breweries, vintage clothing stores, and colourful saltbox houses. The North End has a deep history that informs the area through the historic landmarks, cultural events, and the beloved independent businesses that continue to animate the iconic neighbourhood.

LOCAL TIP: Snack your way through the North End, starting with a treat at **Fortune Doughnut** on Gottingen Street or a small batch ice cream made with local ingredients at **Dee Dee's Ice Cream** on Cornwallis Street (renamed Nora Bernard Street, effective fall 2023). Further north, head to the Hydrostone District for a slice at **Salvatore's Pizzaiolo Trattoria**, followed by a homemade ice cream sandwich from **Lemonade General Store***.

*Available during the summer months



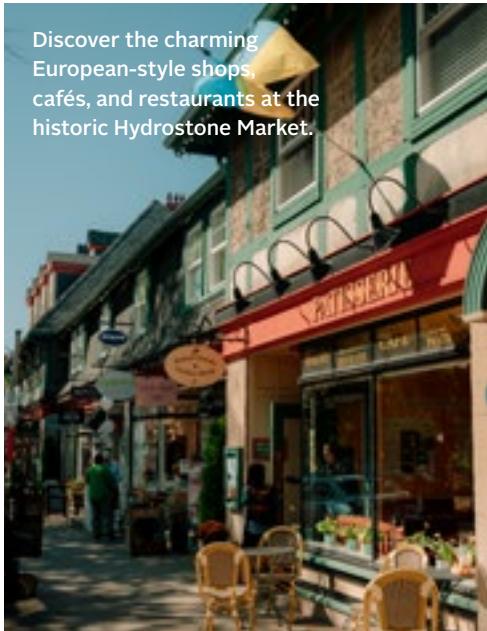
Ratinaud



Luke's Small Goods



Vaughan's General Store



TASTE

North End locals love cafés and delis. Experience **Espresso 46**, a charming coffee window on Isleview Street, or **Luke's Small Goods**, a local deli on Agricola Street, offering incredible sandwiches. Locals flock to **Bar Kismet** on Agricola Street, a welcoming seafood restaurant that offers creative cocktails. And don't miss **Field Guide**, a local favourite known for its seasonally driven menus, exquisite cocktails, and warm, welcoming atmosphere. Finally, **Ratinaud** offers Halifax the highest quality Nova Scotian ingredients prepared in traditional French cuisine style.



Mevyn Sustainable Apparel

DO

Visit the land where the people of Africville lived, worked, and raised their families for over a hundred years before being forcibly relocated to make way for industrial development in the 1960s. The Seaview United Baptist Church was rebuilt and opened in 2012 as the **Africville Museum**, a place where locals and visitors can learn the story of Africville, and recognize the contribution of the community to Canadian and African diasporic history.



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CRAFT CULTURE

The North End of Halifax is the birthplace of the thriving craft beer and cider culture in the region.

1

Propeller Brewing Company *Gottingen St*

Halifax's oldest craft brewery, featuring a retro arcade in their Gottingen Street location.

2

Good Robot Brewing Co. *Robie St*

A community-focused brewery complete with an astroturf beer garden that bills itself as Halifax's Most Questionable Brewing Experience.

3

Tusket Falls Beer Project *Gottingen St*

Originally started in Tusket, NS, Tusket Falls Beer Project brought their craft to the Gottingen Street taproom and kitchen in 2021.

4

Boxing Rock Brewing Co. *Windsor St*

A small batch brewery and retail store located in a converted gas station alongside the popular Local Source Market.



Your Eastern Shore Road Trip Guide

The Eastern Shore is the perfect place to take a road trip, and every road trip needs a navigator. Equip yourself with the Eastern Shore map, filled with tips for finding the best local spots in the region.

Eastern Shore



From white sands to dreamy seascapes and fresh seafood, the Eastern Shore is all about R&R. This laid-back coastal paradise is known for its spectacular landscapes, world-class surfing, and of course, Nova Scotia's famous beaches. Home to historic communities like Fisherman's Cove, East Preston, and North Preston, a thriving craft culture, and a relaxed, artistic spirit, the Eastern Shore offers a wealth of experiences from Eastern Passage to Ecum Secum.



Fisherman's Cove

FISHERMAN'S COVE

Fisherman's Cove is a picturesque, 200-year-old restored fishing village located **just 20 minutes from downtown Halifax** in Eastern Passage. With its charming harbour, quaint shops, and working fishing boats, Fisherman's Cove provides a glimpse into Nova Scotia's rich maritime history. Visitors can wander along the charming boardwalk, sample fresh seafood, and breathe in the salty sea air.



Uprooted Market & Café

Did you know?

North Preston is Canada's oldest and largest indigenous Black community, as well as having the highest concentration of African Canadians in the country.



EXPERIENCE THE EASTERN SHORE LIKE A LOCAL

Experience the epitome of natural beauty in this coastal paradise, and embrace the relaxed and artistic atmosphere as you discover the stunning vistas and charming coastal communities along the Eastern Shore.

SEE

Taylor Head Provincial Park offers some of the most awe-inspiring views in Nova Scotia. Located roughly 90 minutes from downtown Halifax, near the community of Spry Bay, the park boasts rugged cliffs, windswept headlands, and pristine beaches that offer breathtaking vistas of the Atlantic Ocean. Visitors can explore 22 kilometers of scenic trails and witness the raw power of the sea and the beauty of the rocky coastline. Whether you're admiring the panoramic views from the top of the cliffs or relaxing on the sandy beaches, Taylor Head Provincial Park is a natural paradise that offers a glimpse into the true essence of the Atlantic coast.

TASTE

Lupin Dining & Pantry is a small, seasonal farm-to-table restaurant in Musquodoboit Harbour. The menu is comprised of dishes made with ingredients picked directly from the on-site garden, providing diners with the rare opportunity to enjoy a truly local, farm-to-table meal. Lupin's year-round pantry offers a selection of curated local products and house-made grocery staples like jams and jellies, pickles, fresh breads, and more. It's a great place to stop in to pick up picnic supplies on your way to the beach or before heading out for a hike. Other great picnic supply stops include nearby **Uprooted Market & Café** in Musquodoboit Harbour, or up the coast at **The Marmalade Café** in Sheet Harbour.



DO

The **Eastern Shore's Gallery** in Head of Chezzetcook is a hidden gem that offers the perfect opportunity to experience the charm of the region. This historic church-turned-art gallery is filled with unique art and handmade products from 30 local artisans. Below the gallery, a friendly South African café hosts events and art classes. If you're looking for something a little more adventurous, the Eastern Shore has plenty of activities to suit your needs. Try a boat tour with **Sober Island Boat Tours**, a surf lesson with **East Coast Surf School** in Lawrencetown, relax in nature at **Norse Cove Seaside Camping**, or experience a sea kayaking tour with **Coastal Adventures** in Tangier.



Lawrencetown Beach





Peggy's Cove Coastal Region



The Peggy's Cove Coastal Region feels like it was made for scenic coastal drives. Stop to explore iconic lighthouses, sample fresh seafood, and discover local history on a tour of this must-visit region.

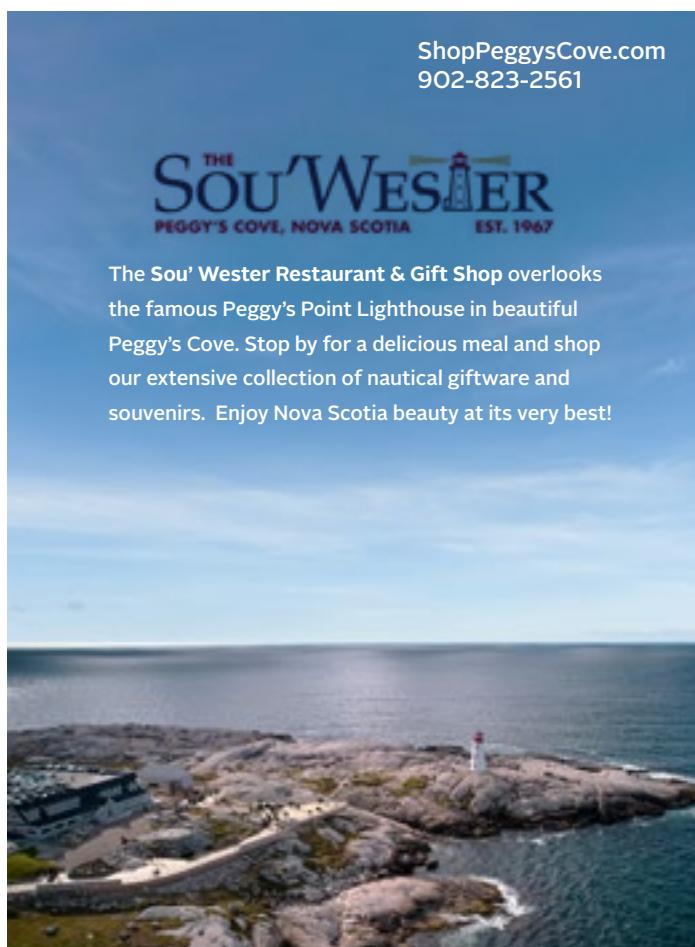
Breathtaking ocean views and clear blue waters make the area's numerous coastal hikes some of Halifax's most popular. Most prominently, this region is known for its namesake, the famous Peggy's Point Lighthouse, one of the most photographed lighthouses in the world. Peggy's Cove is an iconic Canadian landmark and an attraction well worth the short drive from downtown Halifax.



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The Sou' Wester Restaurant & Gift Shop overlooks the famous Peggy's Point Lighthouse in beautiful Peggy's Cove. Stop by for a delicious meal and shop our extensive collection of nautical giftware and souvenirs. Enjoy Nova Scotia beauty at its very best!



Take the Scenic Route

1

Go beyond the crowds and discover the offbeat wonders of Peggy's Cove Coastal Region with an excursion to **Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park**, an idyllic picnic destination sandwiched between two lakes.

**2**

On your drive out, make a stop at **Labour Day Picnic Café** to pick up some freshly baked picnic treats and browse the whimsical home goods. For those with a sweet tooth, this charming café is also home to **Lure Caramel Co.**, known for their small batch handcrafted salted and dipped caramels.

3

After picking up some treats, make your way over to **Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park**, just a 7-minute drive away, to stroll the scenic lakeside trails before settling into your picnic. Wade out into the warm waters and bask in the tranquility of this quiet hidden gem. This accessible day use park features drive-in picnic areas, barrier-free vault toilets, a fishing pier, and accessible trails that connect to the St. Margarets Bay Rails to Trails.

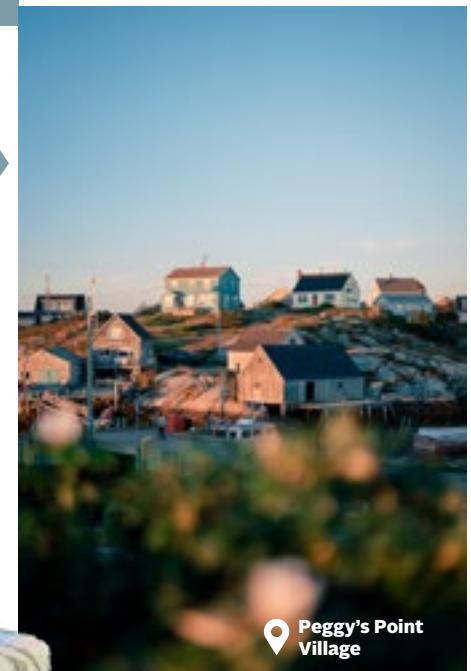
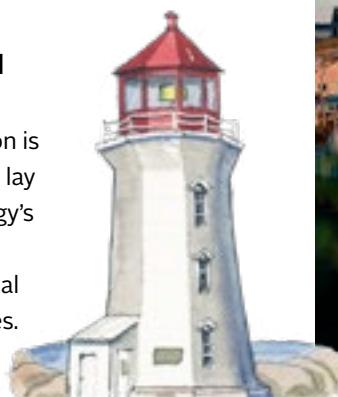
**4**

Take the scenic road back to Halifax along the Lighthouse Route for awe-inspiring views that wind through quaint coastal towns, including the picturesque village of **Peggy's Cove**.



Your Peggy's Cove Coastal Region road trip guide

The Peggy's Cove Coastal Region is filled with hidden gems. Get the lay of the land with the official Peggy's Cove Coastal Region map, filled with tips for finding the best local food, attractions, and adventures.





A Place Like No Other

WRITTEN BY BRAD DYKEMA

Nova Scotia's stunning coastline is graced by an array of charming fishing villages, nestled among its rocky inlets and coves. However, none have captured the hearts of visitors like the timeless beauty of Peggy's Cove.

Perhaps it's the historic lighthouse that draws them in, standing as a proud sentinel, casting its warning light over the waves for over a century. Maybe it's the village itself, colourful houses and fishing sheds perched precariously atop the rough granite landscape, doorsteps kissing the shoreline. While both lighthouse and village are indeed reasons to visit, perhaps the true magic of Peggy's Cove is a feeling more than a feature. Because in exploring this unique and rugged landscape, one can't help but be overwhelmed by its breathtaking majesty.

“ And after you pass through the village, step outside, and take that first breath of salty air, it hits you like a boulder of granite: this is a place like no other.

The feeling creeps into the pit of your stomach slowly as you wind along the road that approaches the village of Peggy's Cove, about forty minutes from central Halifax. The landscape shifts from forested and lush to open, flat, and rocky. A not-too-distant expanse on your left signals that the sea is within

reach. A sign of what's to come. After you pass through the village, and you step outside to take that first breath of salty air, it hits you like a boulder of granite: this is a place like no other.



Raw. Forceful. Overwhelming. The landscape is alien, yet somehow familiar. Massive mounds of granite pour into the sea. The air is heavy with salt and brine. A light blanket of fog fights being burned off by the sun - and loses. The immensity of the Atlantic Ocean hangs all around you.

Rising above it all, the white and red Peggy's Cove Lighthouse signals—quite literally—that this wild place is no stranger to humans.

The village of Peggy's Cove was founded in 1811, and the current lighthouse was constructed in 1915, but the history lesson here is much older. It's a story of steel and concrete shaped by salt water, a tale of the ancient battle between land and sea. As you explore the rolling granite dunes and witness the Atlantic crashing over the outcrops, you become a character in the ongoing history of this place. You are absorbed by it.



Tourists have made Peggy's Cove a frequent stop on their east coast itineraries, which might imply this fantastic place is a novelty, fit only for the first-time visitor. But any local will tell you how passionate they are about Peggy's Cove, and how they return time and time again. Because it's more than a place on a map or an item on a list. It's an emotional journey. It's a reminder of who we are, of where we come from, and of where we are going. This is a place like no other.



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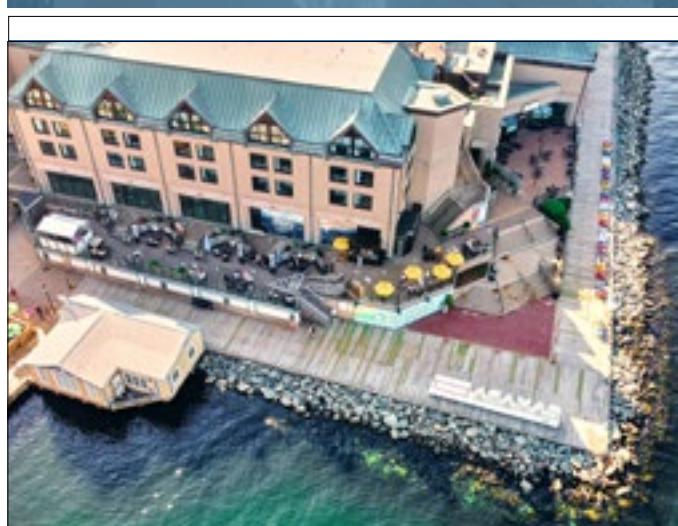
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Where to Stay

Halifax is a great place to explore and stay, with tons of amazing places to rest your head. From luxury oceanside resorts to cozy boutique hotels, you'll find a spot to fit your budget and style.

Downtown Halifax

Atlantic Corporate Suites

Fully furnished, luxury, short-term and extended-stay suites.

The Barrington Hotel

Located in the city centre with immaculately designed rooms and connected to the pedway system.

Cambridge Suites Hotel Halifax

Chic hotel located in the city's business district, just 1,650 feet from the Halifax Convention Centre.

Courtyard by Marriott

Halifax Downtown

Located near the Halifax waterfront, this hotel is home to CUT Steakhouse and neighbours the Alexander Keith's Brewery.

Dalhousie University

Downtown Halifax university offering conference hosting and accommodations.

Four Points by Sheraton Halifax

Located in the heart of downtown, steps from the ocean and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

The Halliburton

Boutique hotel near the historic Halifax waterfront, home to Stories Restaurant.

Halifax Marriott Harbourfront

Hotel boasting luxury rooms, stylish on-site dining and more on the Halifax waterfront.

Hampton Inn by Hilton - Halifax Downtown

New centrally-located hotel boasting exceptional views of the Halifax Harbour and Halifax Citadel National Historic Site.

The Hollis Halifax - a DoubleTree Suites by Hilton

Newly rebranded and renovated downtown Halifax hotel.

Homewood Suites by Hilton Halifax Downtown

A welcoming, extended-stay option in downtown Halifax with harbour and city views.

Hotel Halifax

Convenient location offers access to downtown pedway system with spacious, home-like accommodations and amenities.

Lord Nelson Hotel & Suites

Hotel and Halifax landmark that artfully blends historic charm with urbane styling design.

Muir Hotel

Five-star luxury hotel located in the steps of the Halifax waterfront near some of Halifax's best restaurants.

Premiere Suites

Fully furnished short-term rentals. Perfect for business travel, long-term stays and family vacation rentals.

Prince George Hotel

World-class, four-diamond service hotel in the heart of downtown Halifax for those seeking a luxury destination.

Saint Mary's University Conference Services

Ideal setting for all meeting and conference needs. Also offers accommodations.

Residence Inn by Marriott

Modern extended-stay hotel with views of Halifax Harbour in a central location.

The Sutton Place Hotel Halifax

A five-star luxury hotel experience at the downtown Nova Centre.

Westin Nova Scotian Hotel

A premiere hotel destination in Halifax's Seaport District just steps from the Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market and Pier 21.

Bedford-Sackville

Atlantic Corporate Suites

Fully furnished, luxury, short-term and extended-stay suites.

Coastal Inn Halifax

Conveniently located in the Bayes Lake Business Park. This hotel features an indoor pool and a fitness centre.

Comfort Hotel Bayer's Lake

Heated pool, sauna, and free movie/video games will ensure the enjoyment of everyone.

Comfort Inn Bedford

An award-winning, family-owned establishment located right on the Bedford Basin, minutes from downtown Halifax.



Future Inns Halifax Hotel & Conference Centre

A reputable hotel located near the Canada Games Centre with stylish rooms, perfect for families and full-service business visits.

Halifax Tower Hotel

Centrally located in the heart of Bayes Lake, the Halifax Tower Hotel & Conference Centre is a perfect combination of luxury, sophistication and style.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Halifax-Bedford

A stylish hotel just 10-15 minutes outside of downtown Halifax.

Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

Atlantic Corporate Suites

Fully furnished, luxury, short-term and extended-stay suites.

Best Western Plus Dartmouth Hotel & Suites

Three-star business-friendly hotel in the heart of Burnside.

Coastal Inn Dartmouth

The ideal place for your family vacations, business trips, and group trips.

Comfort Inn Dartmouth

Pet-friendly hotel close to Mic Mac Mall, Burnside Industrial Park and Dartmouth Crossing.

Courtyard Halifax Dartmouth

Modern accommodations in the heart of Dartmouth Crossing.

Delta Hotels by Marriott Dartmouth

Minutes from Dartmouth Crossing, Mic Mac Mall, and downtown Halifax.

DoubleTree by Hilton Halifax Dartmouth

A modern hotel offering an ideal location overlooking the beautiful Halifax Harbour.

Hampton Inn & Suites Dartmouth

Located in the heart of Dartmouth Crossing, this hotel offers free hot breakfast, and an indoor pool.

Hearthstone Inn Boutique Hotel Halifax/Dartmouth

This pet-friendly, intimate 54-room hotel offers all the amenities of home.

Holiday Inn Express + Suites Dartmouth

Cozy hotel located just 5 km from the airport with free 24/hr airport shuttle service.

Residence Inn By Marriott Halifax Dartmouth

Contemporary long-stay hotel packed with thoughtful features in the heart of Dartmouth Crossing.

Tranquil Dartmouth Apartments

Apartments just steps from the Alderney Ferry Terminal that takes you to downtown Halifax.

Airport Area

ALT Hotel Halifax Airport

Modern airport hotel connected to Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

Hilton Garden Inn Halifax Airport

Near the Halifax Stanfield International Airport – our airport shuttle will take care of transport.

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Halifax Airport

Pet-friendly hotel near the airport, enjoy free breakfast, airport shuttle, and laundry services.

Inn On The Lake

A four-star boutique hotel on a picturesque lake and just 10 minutes from the airport and 20 minutes from downtown Halifax.

Quality Inn Halifax Airport

A charming hotel just minutes from the airport and the Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum.

North End Halifax

Brewery Park

Halifax's first "contactless service" luxury boutique apartment/hotel that allows you to check-in on your terms.

Moxy Halifax Downtown

Discover our new pet-friendly boutique hotel in downtown Halifax.

The Narrows Public House

1896 heritage-designated venue with inn-style accommodation above the pub.

West End Halifax

Atlantica Hotel Halifax

Modern hotel in Halifax's west end overlooking the Halifax Common.

Best Western Plus Chocolate Lake Hotel

Pet-friendly hotel overlooking Chocolate Lake and only 4 km from downtown Halifax.

Peggy's Cove Coastal Region

Anchorage House & Cottages

Superbly located overlooking the beautiful Hubbards Cove.

Anchors Gate B&B

Overlooking Shad Bay, decorated in a nautical theme. The perfect location for day trips.

Bay Breeze Motel & Cottages

Casual motel and cottages on a 3-acre peninsula overlooking Head Harbour.

The Creation Lounge Retreat

Just 20 minutes from Halifax, enjoy pond views from almost every room of this open concept character home.

Harbourview Inn

Laid-back seasonal guesthouse across the street from the Atlantic Ocean and 3 km from Peggy's Cove Lighthouse.

Larinda's Landing Oceanfront Cottages

Eight gorgeous, well-appointed oceanfront cottages overlooking Head Harbour.

Nova Glamping

An oasis for anyone looking for a once-in-a-lifetime glamping experience.

Oceanstone Seaside Resort

Overlooking a sandy beach, this upscale lodging is minutes from Peggy's Cove.

Rosewood on the Cove

Oceanfront cottages create a perfect holiday retreat in a delightful village setting.

SeaWatch Bed & Breakfast

Located in Ferguson's Cove, across from McNab's Island, overlooking historic Maugher Beach Lighthouse.

Eastern Shore

Colibri-Hill

Striking two-storey historical home with stunning perennial gardens and walkways.

E&F Webber Lakeside Resort

A variety of accommodations, including RV and tent sites, camping cabins, and a fully serviced cottage, the park focuses on family fun.

Harbour Retreat

An ideal destination for solo travellers or couples, experience life in a quaint fishing village.

Jeddore Lodge & Cabins

Featuring a swimming pool, a garden, a restaurant and views of the sea.

Lawrencetown Lodge

A fully-equipped tiny cottage rental in a picturesque wooded lots, offering blissful solitude.

Marmalade Motel

A brand-new motel offering unique rooms, ocean views and a relaxing stay on the beautiful Eastern Shore.

Moonlight Beach Suites

Three self-contained suites with private entrances and decks overlooking the ocean.

Murphy's Camping on the Ocean

Unforgettable outdoor experiences via the Wild Islands Coast. Pet-friendly, scenic boat tours, and unique campsites.

Nalu Retreat

A luxury, four seasons, adult only retreat that offers an extraordinary and unforgettable five-star glamping experience.

Norse Cove Camping & Kayak Centre

A beautiful, dog-friendly oceanside campground with unique tent platforms, micro-cabins, non-serviced RV sites, and access to the Wild Islands.

Ocean Bay View Guesthouse

Luxury guesthouse with views of the Petpeswick Inlet, perfectly suited for events.

Paddler's Retreat Bed & Breakfast

Fisherman's home circa 1860 on the beachfront in Tangier, offering four rooms with shared and private baths.

Porters Peak

Custom designed, low-impact, ecologically sound cabin and tent rentals for intimate wilderness escapes.

Salmon River Country Inn/ The Mermaid Eatery

Humble inn in a whitewashed clapboard building, offering an à la carte restaurant.

Spry Bay Campground

Variety of overnight accommodations including RV sites, tent sites, and two rustic cabins equipped with basic utilities.

Webbers Lake

Charlotte Motel

Located minutes from Clam Harbour Beach, a great place for surfing, beach combing, swimming, and hiking.

Fairwinds Motel & Restaurant

Located on the oceanfront in Sheet Harbour. Explore inlets, rocky outcrops, islands, salt marshes, and endless beaches.

Musquodoboit Valley

Luna Rosa Chalet

Open concept design chalet-style cabin with views of Fisher Lake.

Lindsay Lake Farms & Lodge

Experience the Canadian wilderness at this luxury farm featuring a German-inspired restaurant and shop.



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LANDMARKS & ATTRACTIONS

- 1** Alexander Keith's Brewery
- 2** Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
- 3** Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21
- 4** Casino Nova Scotia
- 5** Centennial Pool
- 6** Dalhousie University and University of King's College
- 7** Discovery Centre
- 8** 'Drunken' Lampposts
- 9** Emera Oval
- 10** Georges Island National Historic Site
- 11** Grand Parade
- 12** Granville Mall Area
- 13** Halifax Brewery Farmers' Market
- 14** Halifax Central Library
- 15** Halifax Citadel National Historic Site & Army Museum
- 16** Halifax Common
- 17** Halifax Common Playground
- 18** Halifax Convention Centre
- 19** Halifax Ferry Terminal
- 20** Halifax Public Gardens
- 21** Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market
- 22** Halifax Skatepark
- 23** Harbour Hopper Tours
- 24** Maritime Museum of the Atlantic
- 25** Museum of Natural History
- 26** Neptune Theatre
- 27** Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD)
- 28** Old Town Clock
- 29** Peace and Friendship Park & Playground
- 30** Pizza Corner
- 31** Point Pleasant Park
- 32** Saint Mary's University
- 33** Scotiabank Centre
- 34** Submarine Playground
- 35** Wanderers Grounds
- 36** Waterfront Hammocks
- 37** The Wave

- Halifax Harbourwalk
- Shopping Districts
- Waterfront Districts
- North End Halifax
- Parks and Green Space
- Free Public WiFi
- Beer Garden (Seasonal)

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