

SOUTH SHORE



South Shore

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Sou'Wester Restaurant at Peggy's Cove

Coastal charm, outdoor adventure, and sea-inspired artisans and cuisine

From the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Old Town Lunenburg, with its colourful working waterfront and beautiful architecture, to the inspiring views of the coast and its 40-plus lighthouses, the South Shore is much more than the home of *Bluenose II* and the must-photograph Peggy's Cove. It is a place where you can imagine a time when tall ships filled the harbours and experience the area's seafaring heritage first-hand.

Watch how pewter designs become keepsakes before crafting a piece yourself at Amos Pewter in Mahone Bay, Atlantic Canada's only Pewter Economuseum. At Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site, discover Mi'kmaw petroglyphs etched in rock, with the help of an interpreter, and experience stunning stargazing in the Dark Sky Preserve.

Culinary delights abound here, and fresh seafood is the cornerstone of many delectable dining experiences, like the famed Shore Club Lobster Suppers in Hubbards, famous for great live music and serving more than a million lobster suppers over the past 90 years. Delicious seafood is never far away!



Bluenose II



Peggy's Cove

Unexpected discoveries

Sensea Nordic Spa, Chester

Take the plunge with a visit to Nova Scotia's first Nordic spa. The thermal and hydro therapies will have you feeling relaxed while you soak in the tranquil natural surroundings. Enjoy unwinding in all four seasons, as Sensea is open year-round.

Swell Time Board Co., White Point Beach Resort, White Point

Take part in an exciting surf lesson, customized to your individual skill level. Try something new as you learn safety and form on land before heading into the ocean to practice riding the waves. More experienced surfers will enjoy a 2–5 night surf retreat. Surf boards, stand-up paddleboards and body board rentals available.

Local Artwork, Petite Rivière & LaHave Area

The beauty and tranquility of this area has attracted many talented artists and craftspeople who now call it home. Stop in to the various studios and galleries to meet the artists and watch them create their art.

LaHave Islands Kayak & Sauna Tour Cape LaHave Adventures

Paddle the beautiful LaHave Islands, through calm, protected inlets, past seals, osprey and white sandy island beaches. Then relax in a wood-fired timber frame sauna!

Cosby's Garden Centre: Concrete Creations, Brooklyn

Walk along garden paths, weaving between tall white pines and granite boulders to discover a magical world of creative concrete sculptures.

BernArt Maze, Maitland

Canada's first art maze with nearly a kilometre of paths to explore. This maze and outdoor gallery includes sculptures, mosaics and murals around every twist and turn.

Exotic Fruit Nursery, Lunenburg

Step into the lush greenhouse on a guided tour to discover over 100 exotic fruit trees and bushes, from paw paws to persimmons, figs and even blue bananas!

Let your taste buds lead the way

The South Shore is a food and drink hot spot! From sweet maple products to fresh seafood plucked straight from the sea to restaurant menus with a local twist, you won't go hungry here!

Acadian Maple Products, Tantallon

Satisfy your sweet tooth. From syrups to sauces, candies to coffee, maple is the star of the show. Drop by to learn about maple syrup, savour a tasting, and pick up your favourite sweet goodies!

South Shore beer and wine

Visit the many craft breweries in this region to sample their latest creations and hear the unique stories behind their names, many rooted in local history. Drop in for a pint at Boxing Rock, Hell Bay, King Street, Lightship, Saltbox, Shipwright, or Tanner & Co. to sample their suds, with many breweries offering live music throughout the week. For the wine lover, savour a tasting and tour at Lunenburg County Winery in Newburne or District 33 Winery in Shelburne.

Dining in Lunenburg

Eat your way through Lunenburg! This culinary hot spot is spilling over with dining options and delicious, modern takes on traditional flavours. Try The Grand Banker's Lunenburger, a hamburger topped with lobster and a bacon-wrapped scallop; Salt Shaker Deli's award-winning seafood chowder made with smoked haddock; the Savvy Sailor's Lunenburg Breakfast of salt cod and smoked bacon fishcakes with rhubarb relish; everything lobster on The Old Fish Factory's Lobster & Seafood Festival menu the list goes on!

Ironworks Distillery, Lunenburg

Located in a former marine blacksmith's shop, Ironworks' spirits are crafted by hand using fresh, local ingredients. Go behind the scenes on the daily distillery tour and tasting to learn more about their award-winning Bluenose Rum, Pear Eau-de-Vie, and Rum Boat Rum, ocean aged on a boat afloat in Lunenburg Harbour!

Betty's at the kitch, Mahone Bay

Savour a wood-fired pizza and local wine flight. Enjoy a ceildh and three-course meal (mid October through May) or simply sit back with a small plate, charcuterie or cheese board while sipping a glass of Tidal Bay or local craft beer. After your meal, relax with an overnight stay at the kitch'inn.

Fancy Pants Café, Bridgewater

Stop by for breakfast or lunch where they aim to use sustainably grown and local ingredients. Don't miss their breakfast sandwich, chicken salad, or house-made veggie burger—plus, their baked treats are a must-try.

The Barn Coffee & Social House, Mahone Bay

This cozy coffee house is the perfect place to re-energize before starting your next adventure. Grab a cup of joe or a pastry from either of their two South Shore locations.

Capt. Kat's Lobster Shack, Barrington

Located in the Lobster Capital of Canada, this charming restaurant took first place in Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl's inaugural Lobster Roll Challenge, competing with some of the South Shore's best restaurants.

Osprey's Nest Public House, Petite Rivière

Serving up pub favourites and local seafood this year-round restaurant hosts live music every Friday and Saturday evening. Be sure to try their award-winning lobster roll, crowned the Lobster Roll-off winner twice—part of the annual Nova Scotia Lobster Crawl festival in February.

Lunenburger at The Grand Banker



Capt. Kat's Lobster Shack, Barrington



Boxing Rock Brewing



Not-to-be-missed experiences

This region is home to some of our most popular historic attractions and sweeping coastal views. Explore our coast, culture, and the many vibrant South Shore communities.



Lunenburg, UNESCO World Heritage Site

Peggy's Point Lighthouse, Peggy's Cove

Perched atop massive granite worn smooth by the pounding waves below, the iconic lighthouse at Peggy's Cove has been guiding sailors and fishermen home since 1868. Stroll through the village, take a boat tour, snap a photo from the accessible viewing deck and marvel at the unique landscape—but stay off the black rocks.

Bluenose II

Visit the homeport of *Bluenose II* for an up close view of this great sailing vessel at her berth on the Lunenburg Waterfront. Be sure to check the schedule to confirm when she will be docked in Lunenburg and open for deck tours or sailing to other ports around the province.

Old Town Lunenburg, UNESCO World Heritage Site

Established in 1753, Old Town Lunenburg is the best surviving example of British planned colonial settlement in North America. Take a guided stroll with Lunenburg Walking Tours, or scenic shuttle tour with Seaweed Tours to learn why Lunenburg's colourful waterfront, narrow streets, captivating architecture, and seafaring history have made it a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Lunenburg Academy National Historic Site

Explore the Heritage Interpretive Classroom to learn about the Academy's many contributions to the local community and provincial education system. Attend a musical performance at Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance (LAMP), which offers advanced studies in performance and showcases world-class performers. Bring the family for a picnic on the Academy grounds with a playground or relax with a book in the on-site library.

Shelburne County Museum, Shelburne

The Shelburne County Museum houses an impressive collection of artifacts spanning more than two centuries of settlement in Shelburne County. Displays of Mi'kmaq, Loyalist, African, and Welsh heritage are included. Memorabilia relating to Shelburne's rich shipbuilding history provide reminders of this glorious past.

Oceanfront Resort Getaways

Relax in the comfort of an oceanfront resort, complete with comfortable accommodations, on-site activities, delicious, locally-sourced dining, and of course, incredible ocean views. Consider Oceanstone Resort, Oak Island Resort & Conference Centre, White Point Beach Resort, or Quarterdeck Beachside Villas & Grill when making your travel plans.

Black Loyalist Heritage Centre, Birchtown

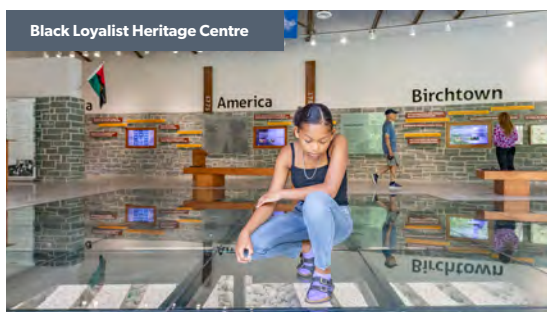
Discover the history and contributions of the Black Loyalists, some of Canada's first settlers. The Old School House Museum, the historic church, and the trail with interpretive panels are nestled alongside beautiful Birchtown Bay. The Black Loyalist Heritage Centre features artifacts, multimedia exhibits, and a virtual copy of Carleton's "Book of Negroes." For a guided experience, be sure to book Taste of Birchtown to get behind-the-scenes insights into the lives and stories of Black Loyalists, before savouring delicious charcuterie and craft beer tasting flight at nearby Boxing Rock Brewing.

Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic, Lunenburg

Learn about rum-running, August gales, and whales. Explore wharf side vessels, including the *Teresa E. Connor* an authentic 1930s saltbank fishing schooner, and enjoy *Bluenose* memorabilia. Meet an "old salt," and keep an eye out for the whimsical whale mural near the waterfront.

Ross Farm Museum, New Ross

Explore the heritage buildings on site that date from 1817, chat with costumed interpreters demonstrating farm activities of the early 1800s, and enjoy hands-on activities like planting, candle-making, and woodworking.



Black Loyalist Heritage Centre



Salty Dog Sea Tours

Amos Pewter, Mahone Bay & Peggy's Cove

Pay a visit to the flagship Amos Pewter store in downtown Mahone Bay and craft your own pewter piece to take home. Watch the talented artisans at work before browsing the shop for a perfect souvenir. Open year-round. Their Peggy's Cove retail shop is open May–October.

The mystery of Oak Island

Take a two-hour guided tram tour of Oak Island and dive into the mystery of the world's longest-running treasure hunt with exclusive access to this privately owned island. Led by an expert guide, you'll hear local legends and theories while visiting iconic sites featured on the popular TV show *The Curse of Oak Island*. Or, book a boat tour with Salty Dog Sea Tours to discover key sites from the water and hear about the fascinating history of Oak Island.

Golf by the sea

The South Shore has great golf courses to challenge your game. Check out Chester Golf Club in Chester, White Point Golf Club in White Point, Osprey Ridge Golf Course in Bridgewater, and River Hills Golf & Country Club in Clyde River.

Fort Point Lighthouse, Liverpool

This distinctive "hunchbacked" light is the third-oldest surviving lighthouse in Nova Scotia. Go inside to sound the handcranked foghorn and explore the interpretive display.

The Village of Chester

Less than an hour's drive from Halifax, the historic seaside village of Chester is known for sailing, golf, live theatre productions, and its relaxing coastal lifestyle. Spend the morning paddling the waters around Chester, then pull up a seat at the quaint Kiwi Café for lunch. In the afternoon, explore the 3-km hiking trail at nearby Graves Island Provincial Park or Castle Rock Trail. The Rum Runners Trail also connects through Chester. Cap off your day with an overnight stay at a charming inn.

South Shore beaches

The South Shore is known for its sprawling white sand beaches, many of which are at provincial parks, including Bayswater Beach, Carter's Beach, Rissers Beach, Summerville Beach, Thomas Raddall, and Sand Hills. The calmer ocean waters at Beach Meadows Municipal Beach are great for young children. At The Hawk Beach on Cape Sable Island, the most southerly point in Nova Scotia, keep an eye out for the "drowned forest" and migratory birds.



Sandy Point Beach

Forging Lunenburg Memories

Get a glimpse into the art of bladesmithing with award-winning smith, Rick Marchand, before swinging the hammer and crafting your own forged keepsake at Wildertools in Lunenburg!



Did you know?

Lobster is in season on the South Shore from the end of November to the end of May, but is available throughout Nova Scotia year-round. While in Nova Scotia be sure to try lobster rolls, creamed lobster, lobster eggs benedict, lobster poutine, even lobster craft beer and lobster ice cream!

South Shore



Visitor Information Centre locations

Outdoor adventures

There's a lot of ocean coastline to explore, so pack your towels and sunscreen and get outside.

Sea kayaking—Lower Prospect, Blue Rocks and LaHave Islands

From the granite outcroppings of Lower Prospect to the golden seaweed and narrow slate passageways at scenic Blue Rocks, guided kayaking tours offer spectacular open-ocean adventures, relaxed paddling in sheltered coves, gourmet dining, and overnight island experiences. Don't miss bioluminescent kayaking with Cape LaHave Adventures or Pleasant Paddling on select dates throughout the summer. For self-guided adventures, equipment rentals are also available from operators along the South Shore.

Kejimikujik backcountry adventures, Whynot Adventure Outfitters

Venture into the backcountry, paddling the tranquil waters and rocky shoreline of Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site with an experienced guide. Connect to the storied history and legends of the area; enjoy backcountry cuisine and sleep lakeside under the stars in this designated Dark Sky Preserve. Perfect for any skill level.

Lumberjack AXEperience, Barrington

Receive hands-on lumberjack training with world champion logroller Darren Hudson, beneath the pines in his riverside park by the picturesque Barrington River. Be guided through the five essential lumberjack skills: logrolling, tree climbing, axe throwing, bow sawing, and cross cutting.

Stand-up paddleboard, Liverpool

Explore the historic Mersey River by paddleboard, kayak, or canoe. Liverpool Adventure Outfitters offers a variety of guided tours, from their Sunset SUP & Sip, complete with a tasting flight at Hell Bay Brewing Co. to a full day tour that takes you down the Mersey River and out through turquoise waters around neighbouring islands.

Camping with ocean views

Who needs a sound machine when you can have the actual ocean lull you to sleep? Reserve a site at Graves Island, Rissers Beach, Thomas Raddall, or The Islands Provincial Parks for a seaside camping getaway. Be sure to book early as oceanside sites can fill up quickly.

Rum Runners Trail, Lunenburg to Halifax

Take a guided bike tour with Freewheeling Adventures or map out your own adventure with rentals from Lunenburg Bike Shop, Sweet Ride Cycling, or Train Station Bike & Bean. Enjoy a leisurely two-day (or more!) bike ride, savouring the local flavours at award-winning restaurants and exploring attractions and seaside artisan shops along this 119-kilometre multi-use rails-to-trails route. Connect through Mahone Bay, Chester, Hubbards, and Head of St. Margarets Bay; there are multiple access points over seven trail sections.

Kejimikujik National Park Seaside, Port Joli

Discover this wild and isolated coastline of glacier-carved headlands, secluded rocky coves, and expansive silver sand beaches, complete with sightings of seals and various shorebirds. Explore the two coastal trails, Harbour Rocks and Port Joli Head, as you make your way to the beach.

Sail the Mahone Bay Islands

Book a private sailing charter with Sail and See to learn about local history, stories, and legendary island mysteries. Keep your camera ready for seals, seabirds, and to capture yourself taking the wheel or raising the sails.

Kejimikujik National Park & National Historic Site

Explore ancient Mi'kmaw canoe routes, encampments, and portages, backcountry camping sites, spectacular stargazing, and an impressive system of hiking and cycling trails. Bring your own equipment or rent a canoe or kayak and safety equipment at Whynot Adventure Outfitters.

Blue Rocks

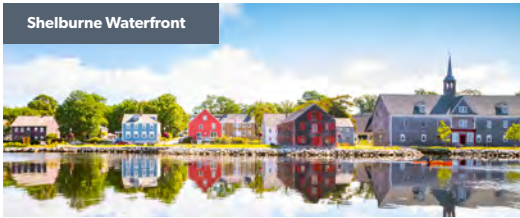


Kejimikujik National Park & National Historic Site



Capture a moment

Here you will find unspoiled landscapes, majestic seascapes, and—clinging to the coastline between them—captivating vibrant communities.



UNESCO Southwest Nova Biosphere Region

Experience the night sky the same way the Mi'kmaq saw it thousands of years ago, in spectacular darkness. In this rare place unaffected by light pollution, take a nighttime journey into the darkest skies of Nova Scotia. Learn about astronomy and Mi'kmaq cultural perspectives of the star-filled night sky with Parks Canada interpreters and Royal Astronomical Society of Canada astronomers.

Lunenburg Waterfront

Red wooden warehouses, brightly hued heritage homes, and crystal-blue water make the Lunenburg waterfront a jewel-toned tapestry. The best view is from Bluenose Golf Course on the other side of the harbour.

Peggy's Cove

Probably the most-photographed lighthouse in Canada, the Peggy's Point Lighthouse is a must capture. Just keep off the black rocks. Avoid the crowds and capture the sunrise and picturesque Peggy's Cove Village from unique vantage points by joining the Peggy's Cove Morning Light Tour with Picture Perfect Tours.

Blue Rocks, near Lunenburg

Artists, photographers and kayakers alike will be delighted by the undeniable natural beauty of the fishing village and surrounding islands of Blue Rocks.

Historic Shelburne Waterfront

Shelburne's beautiful wooden buildings and maritime essence combined with an historic streetscape free of power lines make it easy to capture a stunning image from land or boat.

Three Churches, Mahone Bay

The *New York Times* called this postcard view "pretty as a picture." Turn down the Oakland Road for a good vantage point and see for yourself why it is so charming.

LaHave Islands

Home to some of the few remaining island communities, the LaHave Islands showcase an important cultural landscape. Learn about the area, its inshore fishery, and island life at LaHave Islands Marine Museum. Explore the sheltered passageways and narrow inlets by kayak with Cape LaHave Adventures to discover fishing wharves, pristine beaches and coastal wildlife.

48 Hours Exploring

Lunenburg to Barrington

Mix and match these 48-hour road trips located throughout this guide to create a Nova Scotia adventure all your own or click [here](#) for more itineraries and trip ideas.

Day 1

Morning

Spend the morning sea kayaking the picturesque waters of Blue Rocks with **Pleasant Paddling**. Explore islands and coves and maneuver narrow passageways. You may even spot a seal or porpoise! Then head into the nearby **UNESCO World Heritage Site** with **Lunenburg Walking Tours**. Your lively guide will give you the details on this historic port town. Afterwards, stroll the colourful streets browsing the quaint shops.

Afternoon

After a lunch of local seafood overlooking the harbour, enjoy a rum tasting at **Ironworks Distillery**, then check out Nova Scotia's sailing ambassador, **Bluenose II**, (confirm she's in port prior to your visit). Then visit the **Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic** to learn about her history.

Evening

Spend the night at a seaside resort. Enjoy dinner overlooking the ocean at either **White Point Beach Resort** or **Quarterdeck Beachside Villas**, followed by a stroll on the beach as the sun sets over the ocean.

Day 2

Morning

After breakfast overlooking the beach, head on to **Kejimikujik National Park Seaside**. Explore the coastal trails leading to turquoise waters lapping at white sand shores.

Afternoon

Enjoy lunch in Shelburne at **Charlotte Lane Café** and a craft beer tasting at **Boxing Rock Brewing Co.** before travelling to the **Black Loyalist Heritage Centre** in nearby Birchtown.

Evening

Barrington is the Lobster Capital of Canada. Visit **Capt. Kat's Lobster Shack** to get your fix. From lobster rolls to lobster fondue, creamed lobster to lobster poutine and everything in between, you'll find all things lobster here!