

Cape Breton Chronicles

4-day all-inclusive adventure tour

Summer itinerary



Baddeck, Cape Breton - Day # 1

Depart from Halifax and make our way towards the beautiful island known as Cape Breton, rated one of the best road trips in the world by Travel & Leisure Magazine, #2 island destination in the world by National Geographic 3 years in a row, and #1 island to visit in North America. Our first stop takes us to the tumbling cascade of Park Falls to marvel in the roar of this powerful waterfall.

We are then off to Cape Breton, in no time at all you'll see why Nova Scotia is referred to as New Scotland, as we drive past rolling hills and wind up at the door step of the Bras D'or Lakes and the base of "Salt Mountain – 2.5km". Here we hike to the summit following the moderate trail for incredible views of the lakes below, the surrounding hills and soaring eagles above the countryside.

After our hike we head to the beautiful lakeside town of Baddeck. Here we will have a chance to stroll the lovely streets and shops and later catch a musical act after a fine meal at the Silver Dart Lodge where we rest our heads for the evening.

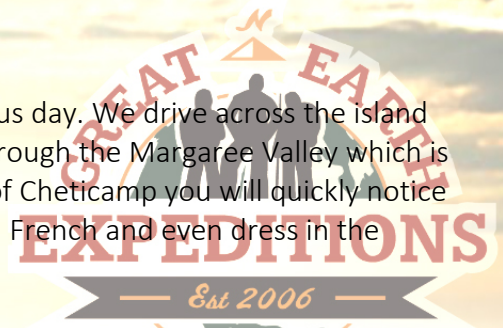
Evening concert – Baddeck Gathering Ceilidh

1st night accommodations – Silver Dart Lodge



Cabot Trail, Cape Breton - Day #2

After a healthy and filling breakfast we are off to start our adventurous day. We drive across the island toward to western side of Cape Breton, passing through mixed forest and through the Margaree Valley which is home to one of Canada's premier salmon rivers. Making a stop in the town of Cheticamp you will quickly notice the strong Acadian culture and presence. Many folks here still speak Acadian French and even dress in the traditional Acadian attire.



We continue on to the Highland's National Park, making frequent stops to take photos from the look offs of the highlands which rise from the ocean. There is no better way to see and experience Cape Breton then by foot. We hike the world famous **"Skyline Trail – 7km"** which follows the mountain ridge and offers incredible views of the surrounding highlands and the Bay of St. Lawrence which lies 1000ft below. Keep your eyes open for pods of Pilot Whales in the waters below and the parks largest land animal along the trail, the majestic Moose. Returning to the van we follow the "Cabot Trail" driving across the highlands to view an expanse of mountain plateaus and glacial valleys. We then arrive at the quaint little harbour village of Pleasant Bay which is **one of the best places in Canada to go whale watching**. Many species of whales can be seen in these rich waters including the Minke Whale, Humpback, Fin Whale and most frequently seen are the pods of Pilot Whales. After our time on the water we return to the beach for a lobster dinner next to a fire and stunning sunset (weather permitting).

2nd night accommodations – Mid Trail Motel

Cabot Trail - Day #3

Waking up in Pleasant Bay is always a treat; really could this get any better? We'll yes it can! We fill up on a hearty breakfast and of course a hot coffee and tea. Crossing back over the mountains toward the east coast we head towards Cabot's Landing Beach Park. We spend some time at the 4 mile long beach where John Cabot was said to have first landed in 1497, hence giving the famous coastal drive the named "Cabot Trail".

A short drive brings us to our **sea kayaking** destination (weather permitting). From the cockpit of our sea kayaks we paddle the waters of the South Harbour lagoon where bald eagles are frequently seen. The water is so clear here you can even see fish swimming underneath your kayak. After lunch we keep their feet dry on land as we hike past the seaside village of **"White Point – 2.5km"** out onto the peninsula where pink granite cliffs rise from the sea. This location is a great place to spot eagles, whales and various seabirds.

After our hike we drive again to the beautiful village of Baddeck. This is where Alexander Graham Bell had built a summer home which still stands today overlooking the Bras D'or Lakes, also known as Canada's inland sea.

Alexander Graham Bell was quoted saying this about Cape Breton:

"I have travelled around the globe. I have seen the Canadian Rockies, the American Rockies, the Andes and the Alps and the Highlands of Scotland; but for simple beauty, Cape Breton outrivals them all."

3rd night accommodations – Silver Dart Lodge

St Ann's Bay, Cape Breton - Day #4

At the mouth of St Ann's Bay lies a set of rocky islands known as the Bird Islands. It is here we get a chance to experience Nova Scotia's largest Puffin colony (Mid June – Mid August), Eagles and Seals (Mid August – Mid September). Our boat operator and hosts are extremely knowledgeable and passionate about this incredible area and make this an unforgettable experience. *(Do not forget your camera for this tour)*

After our tour we continue our travels, making our way back to the mainland of Nova Scotia and saying farewell to Cape Breton. On our way back, we make a stop at the university town of Antigonish for a rest and share stories and photos of our amazing expedition, before returning back to the city of Halifax where we finish our 4-day long journey together.

Activities include:

(Spring & Summer) Whale Watching, Sea Kayaking, Concert and Bird Island Boat Tour.

Package inclusions:

- Professional Tour Guide
- Transportation
- 3 nights shared accommodations in local Inn's & Lodge
- 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- National Park Fees
- Guided hikes to Salt Mountain, Skyline Trail & White Point
- Activities include: Whale Watching, Sea Kayaking and Bird Island Boat Tour or Concert.

*Does not include guide gratuities, alcoholic beverages or items purchased during personal time.

