



# NEWFOUNDLAND ONLY

June 16, 2022 – 15 days

*A comprehensive tour of Canada's easternmost province*

This brand new tour includes many special places in wild and wonderful Newfoundland. The culture and heritage runs deep. Highlights include Cape Spear, easternmost point of North America; the Bonavista Peninsula, Terra Nova National Park, Prime Berth Fishing Museum, Botwood Flying Boats, L'Anse aux Meadows World Heritage Site, the only known Viking settlement in North America; Lobster Cove Lighthouse, and Gros Morne National Park. Experience different aspects of Newfoundland during 4 boat excursions: a puffin and whale watching trip, an iceberg viewing quest, Western Brook Pond, and Bonne Bay. Enjoy 4 theatrical shows, a ceremonial Screech-In, and a traditional Jigs Dinner. Fly to St. John's, then travel west across Newfoundland, and fly home from Deer Lake. Come and discover all the things you never knew about this unique province.

Activity Level: 2



**TOUR**  
**30**

24 Meals Included:

10 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 dinners

Fares per person:

\$5,780 double/twin; \$6,860 single  
Please add 5% GST.

Experience Points:

Earn 127 points on this tour.

Redeem 127 points if you book by March 16, 2022.

Departures from: Victoria



## ITINERARY

### Day 1: Thursday, June 16

A transfer is provided to Victoria Airport. We fly to Toronto, then continue to **St. John's**, arriving late evening due to the 4½ hour time change. We stay three nights at the Alt Hotel which has an excellent downtown location near the harbour.

**Accommodation:** Alt Hotel

### Day 2: Friday, June 17

Sleep in and relax this morning! An afternoon tour with a local guide visits historic **Cabot Tower** atop Signal Hill where Marconi received the first



Cabot Tower

Trans-Atlantic wireless message in 1901. We also see the Confederation Building, the colourful "Jellybean Houses", and Quidi Vidi Battery. An exciting experience is standing at the most easterly point in North America,

**Cape Spear**, graced by two historic lighthouses. Tonight, meet your fellow travellers during a **traditional Jiggs Dinner**, also called a scoff or a feast.

**Meals included:** Dinner

**Accommodation:** Alt Hotel

### Day 3: Saturday, June 18

The morning is leisure time and you may wish to browse the shops along Water Street. The afternoon features a **puffin & whale watching cruise** in the Witless Bay Ecological Reserve. With 2½ million seabirds including 500,000 pairs of Atlantic Puffins, this reserve offers amazing opportunities to see and photograph the birds, and these waters are also one of the best feeding areas for whales in Atlantic Canada.

**Accommodation:** Alt Hotel

### Day 4: Sunday, June 19

Leaving St. John's, we travel across the farmlands of the Avalon Peninsula. Newfoundland is known for some wonderful place names and today we follow the **Baccalieu Trail** through villages such as Heart's Content, Heart's Desire, and Heart's Delight. As if those aren't romantic enough, how

about Cupids, Harbour Grace, and even Dildo? We explore the Wooden Boat Museum and the Cable Station which was the western terminus of the Trans-Atlantic cable from 1866 to 1965. We stay two nights in Clarenville.

**Meals included:** Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Clarenville Inn

### Day 5: Monday, June 20

The day is devoted to exploring the **Bonavista Peninsula**, one of Newfoundland's iconic places as noted by the poetic line "From Bonavista to Vancouver Island" in *This Land is Your Land*. We visit the **Cape Bonavista Lighthouse** which operated from 1843 until 1962 and is now a museum dedicated to the lifestyle of a lightkeeper. Next is **Ryan Premises National Historic Site** which operated as a retail store and cod exporter from 1857 to 1978. Nearby is **Ye Matthew Legacy**, a recreation of John Cabot's 1497 ship. A stop in **Trinity Bay** is also arranged today.



**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Clarenville Inn

### Day 6: Tuesday, June 21

We spend the morning exploring **Terra Nova National Park**. From the visitor centre, enjoy short walks along the shore of Newman Sound or part of the Goowiddy loop. Afterwards, we head to the north coast, crossing several bridges and the Elliott Causeway to reach the island where **Twillingate** is located.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** Anchor Inn Twillingate

### Day 7: Wednesday, June 22

The north coast is known for **icebergs** that have floated south from Greenland, so we take a two-hour boat excursion which hopefully can approach one of these amazing ice giants. Later, we



stop at the Prime Berth Fishing Museum and experience the gregarious personalities and lifestyles of the Newfoundland fishermen, and the **Beothuk Centre** which interprets these vanished native people and their culture.

**Meals included:** Lunch

**Accommodation:** Comfort Inn Gander

### Day 8: Thursday, June 23

**Gander** was once the largest airport in the world and, throughout the 'Jet Age' of the 1950s and 1960s, European flights stopped here for fuel. A local person meets us to talk about Gander's role as host to thousands of air travellers who were grounded on September 11, 2001, the story told by the popular musical, *Come From Away*. The Gander Aviation Museum has an amazing collection of aircraft. We also pause at the Silent Witness Memorial which commemorates the Arrow Air crash of 1985. Leaving Gander, we follow the Trans-Canada Highway west. We visit the Flying Boat Museum in **Botwood**, the town where the giant Pan American clippers landed and refuelled in the 1930s during trans-Atlantic flights. We stay overnight in **Deer Lake** in western Newfoundland.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Holiday Inn Express

### Day 9: Friday, June 24

The remote **Viking Trail** ranks among the most scenic highways in Eastern Canada because it is bounded by the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the west and the barren Long Range Mountains to the east. **Gros Morne National Park**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, protects a wilderness of deep fjords and coastal beaches. During a stop at Broome Point, we learn about the Newfoundland fisherman's lifestyle. Near the tip of the Northern Peninsula, we stay in **St. Anthony** for

two nights. Entertainment this evening is provided by Wade Hillier who re-enacts the Viking saga of the discovery of Newfoundland.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel North, St. Anthony

### Day 10: Saturday, June 25

We visit **L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site** and examine the reconstructed sod houses and artifacts from Leif Eriksson's Viking expedi-



L'Anse aux Meadows

tion to "Vinland" about the year 1000. This afternoon, we tour the home of Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, founder of **Grenfell Mission**, and view the Jordi Bonet Murals at the hospital.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel North, St. Anthony

### Day 11: Sunday, June 26

We retrace our route along the Viking Trail, stopping at the Arches to see the waves eroding the seashore. We stay overnight in Cow Head. Tonight, we have tickets to attend a show at Theatre Newfoundland's **Gros Morne Festival**.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Shallow Bay Motel, Cow Head

### Day 12: Monday, June 27

**Western Brook Pond** is one of Newfoundland's best-known attractions, yet its name hardly does justice to this awesome fjord cut deep into the tablelands of Gros Morne. The "pond" is 16 km long and our two-hour cruise passes 600-metre high cliffs and many cascading waterfalls.



Western Brook Pond

**Note:** There is a level walk of 2.7 km each way (45 to 60 minutes) from the parking lot to the boat dock. Those who are unable to do this walk can stay longer at the motel.

Afterwards, we continue south to Rocky Harbour. Dinner is followed by the **Anchors Aweigh** show where a band of five talented musicians present renditions of popular Newfoundland songs and tunes, sprinkled with one-liners and wit. We stay two nights at two small hotels in Norris Point.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Neddies Harbour Inn OR Sugar Hill Inn

### Day 13: Tuesday, June 28

A wonderful experience is the **Bonne Bay boat tour** which provides views of the Gros Morne tablelands. A Newfoundland tradition is a **Screech-In Ceremony** on the boat. Are you going to be one of the brave travellers who kisses the cod?



With the benefit of a Parks Canada interpreter, we explore **Green Point Geological Site** which protects an intriguing sequence of layered rocks. Almost 500 million years ago, these rocks formed on the bottom of an ancient ocean and geologists have discovered fossils that define the boundary between the Cambrian and Ordovician periods, making Green Point a world geological benchmark. Near Rocky Harbour, we visit **Lobster Cove Head Lighthouse**, built in 1897 and still flashing its warning light across the Gulf of St. Lawrence. A "Farewell to Newfoundland" dinner is arranged.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** Neddies Harbour Inn OR Sugar Hill Inn

### Day 14: Wednesday, June 29

First, we take a water taxi to visit the **Norris Point Marine Station** which is a marine ecology research and teaching facility noted for its wonderful aquarium. We take a short walk with a Parks Canada interpreter who talks about the remarkable ancient tablelands. In Deer Lake, we visit the **Insectarium** which displays thousands of insect species (mounted and live) along with a butterfly conservatory and beehive.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Holiday Inn Express, Deer Lake

### Day 15: Thursday, June 30

We fly from Deer Lake via Toronto to Victoria. A transfer is provided to your pickup point.

**Meals included:** Box Breakfast



**Activity Level 2:** Moderate activity which could include walking up to 1 km over uneven surfaces, stairs, beaches, and some trails. The walk to the boat dock for the Western Brook Pond cruise is 45 minutes or 2.7 km each way along a wide level trail; you can stay longer at the motel in Cow Head if you prefer not to do this trip, but it is a truly spectacular boat excursion. Most hotels on this tour do not have elevators. The coach cannot carry a scooter. There are many stops during this tour and you must be able to get on and off the coach by yourself without delaying your fellow travellers. There can be long walks in some airports; request a cart or wheelchair in advance or at check-in if this could be an issue. If you are not able to participate in Activity Level 2, Wells Gray Tours recommends that you bring a companion to assist you. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.

## UNTOUCHED AND UNSPOILED.... WITH PLENTY OF BREATHING ROOM

As Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are fond of saying, this place is about as far from Disneyland as you could possibly get. And yet, we think you will find that it competes as one of the happiest places on earth. The people are extremely proud of their province — Labrador on the mainland and the island of Newfoundland — and are very resilient. Economic hardship has often plagued this land, and yet the people endure and thrive in spite of it, most often with great joy. The natural wonders here are unparalleled, with stark rugged landscapes warmed by a thousand kilometres of shoreline. The history is vibrant, full of stories of adventure and global events and ordinary people doing extraordinary things. This is a journey of popular sights as well as off the beaten path places, but an experience not soon forgotten.

Celebrate your arrival in Newfoundland by gazing out over the Atlantic from Cape Spear, North America's easternmost point. Stand on Signal Hill where the first trans-Atlantic wireless message was received in 1901. Take boat excursions close to an iceberg at Twillingate and watch thousands of puffins, other seabirds, and whales near St. John's. Enjoy local entertainment on four evenings. Learn about the Newfoundland fishery at Broome Point and Prime Berth Museum. Explore two national parks, Terra Nova and Gros Morne, and several national historic sites. Be humbled by history at L'Anse aux Meadows, settled by the Vikings about a thousand years ago. Admire the soaring cliffs above Western Brook Pond. Have fun at the Screech-In Ceremony during the Bonne Bay cruise and kiss the cod. Walk on 500 million-year-old rocks at Green Point.

This is the first time that Wells Gray has offered a tour of Newfoundland Only (other than the 2020 and 2021 tours which had to be postponed due to Covid-19). Our Maritimes & Newfoundland tour has been an annual event since 1978, but this tour provides an in-depth discovery of Canada's easternmost province. It is an amazing experience amid the wonders of Atlantic Canada.

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### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Transfers to/from Victoria Airport
- Flight from Victoria to St. John's, NL
- Air transportation taxes and security fees
- Airline luggage fee for 1 suitcase per person
- 13 days of coach transportation
- 14 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Transfer from St. John's Airport to hotel
- Locally-guided sightseeing in St. John's
- Cape Spear National Historic Site
- Signal Hill National Historic Site
- Puffin & whale watching boat excursion
- Traditional Jiggs dinner in St. John's
- Wooden Boat Museum
- Heart's Content Cable Station
- Bonavista Peninsula tour with Lighthouse
- Ryan Premises National Historic Site
- Ye *Matthew* Legacy
- Terra Nova National Park
- Iceberg Quest boat tour at Twillingate
- Prime Berth Fishing Museum
- Beothuk Centre
- Gander Aviation Museum
- Silent Witness Memorial
- Botwood Flying Boat Museum
- Broome Point Fisheries Exhibit
- L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site
- Grenfell House & Interpretive Centre
- Re-enactment of Viking saga by Wade Hillier
- Show at Theatre Newfoundland in Cow Head
- Western Brook Pond boat excursion
- *Anchors Aweigh* show
- Gros Morne National Park
- Bonne Bay cruise with Screech-In Ceremony
- Green Point Geological Site with interpreter
- Lobster Cove Head Lighthouse
- Norris Point Marine Station with water taxi
- Insectarium
- Transfer from Deer Lake hotel to Airport
- Flight from Deer Lake to Victoria
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Gratuities for local guides, docents & boat crew
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **24 meals:** 10 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 dinners

## TOUR NOTES

- This unique tour has many experiences on the Island of Newfoundland, but does not visit Labrador.
- Expect some hotels to have 3-star ratings (not luxurious). Your 3-night stay in St. John's at the Alt Hotel is the best accommodation. Some communities only have one place to stay such as at Cow Head and Twillingate, and at Norris Point, our group is split among two small inns. Finding available and suitable hotels has dictated this itinerary.

**TOUR 30** This is a Tour 30 departure meaning the tour is limited to 30 participants, a more intimate travel experience. This is due to some smaller hotels along the route.

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## TOUR POLICIES

**Payments:** A deposit of \$700 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due March 16, 2022. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

**Cancellation Policy:** Up to February 16, 2022, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From February 17 to March 16, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From March 17 to April 15, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From April 16 to May 13, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After May 13, there is no refund.

**Fare Changes:** Changes to taxes and surcharges from airlines and other tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore, Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up until departure.

**Travel Insurance:** A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

**Home pickups** may be offered in Greater Victoria, depending on the number of people booked and coach size. Decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

**Photo Credits:** AdobeStock (Quidi Vidi), Pixabay (puffin), Roland Neave (Cabot Tower, Lobster Cove), Wikimedia (Matthew, iceberg, Western Brook Pond, Bonavista), Wikimedia – Dylan Kereluk (L'Anse aux Meadows),

**Experience Points:** This tour earns 127 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until March 16, 2022.

**Consumer Protection BC Licences:** Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842

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"From Bonavista to Vancouver Island"