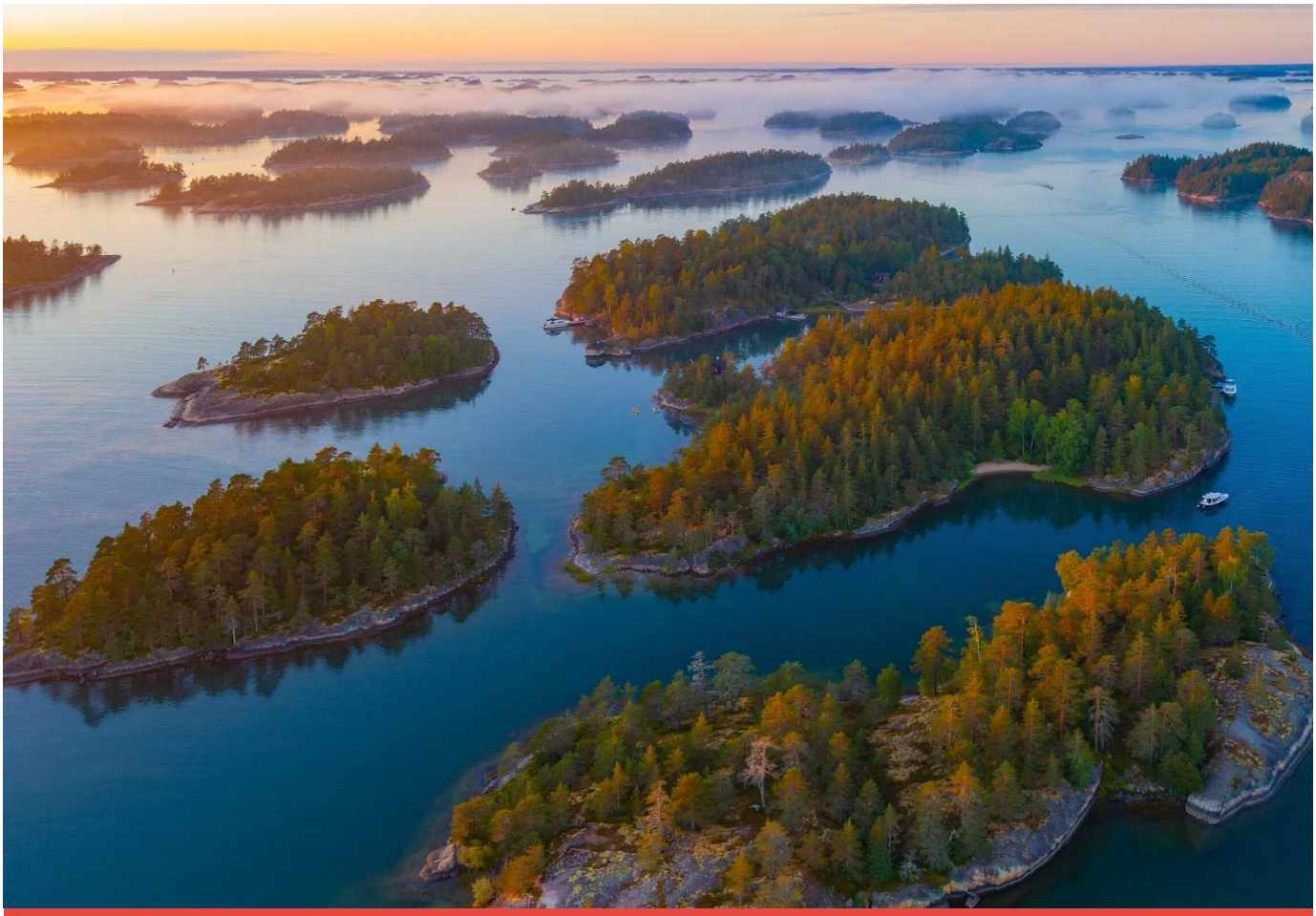


EASTERN CANADA UNCOVERED

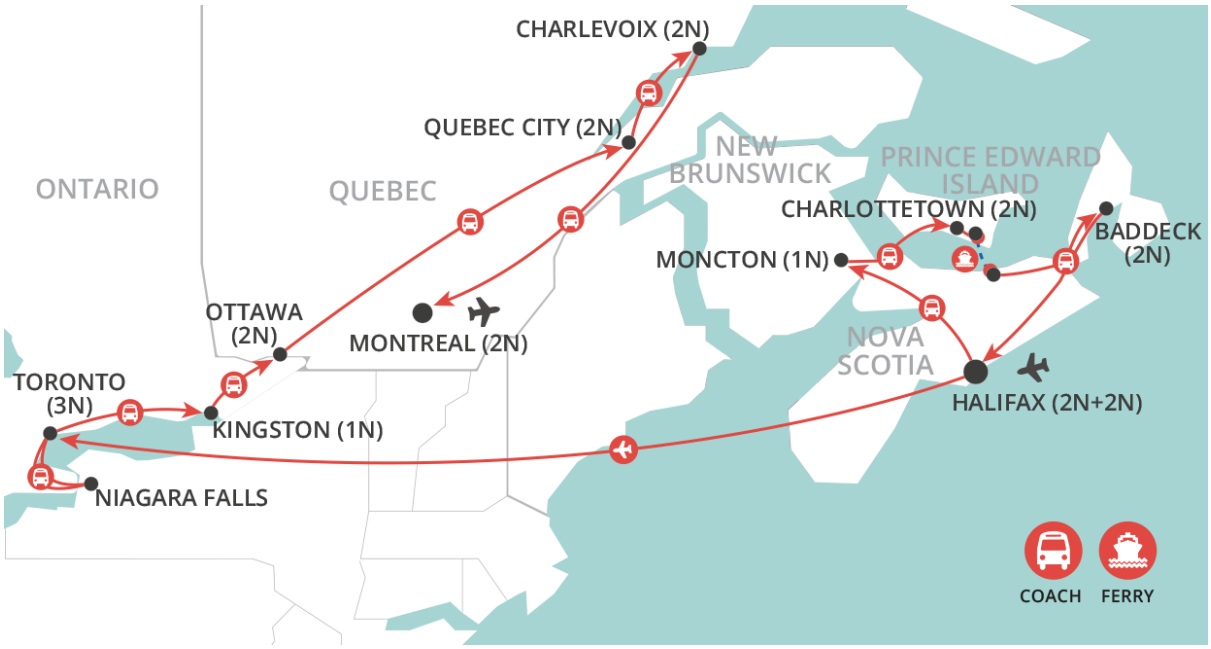
Classic Flex Tour | 24 Days | Physical Level 1

Halifax 2N - Moncton 1N - Charlottetown 2N - Baddeck 2N - Halifax 2N - Toronto 3N – Kingston 1N – Ottawa 2N – Québec City 2N – Charlevoix 2N – Montréal 2N

Journey through Eastern Canada, from the historic cities of Ontario and Québec to the coastal towns and fishing villages of the Maritimes. Along the way, visit Niagara Falls, explore the region's French and British heritage and discover the landscapes, local traditions and maritime history of Atlantic Canada.

- Admire the iconic lighthouse at Peggy's Cove
- Take a Shediac lobster cruise
- Follow the spectacular coastal scenery of the Cabot Trail
- Feel the mist of Niagara Falls
- Cruise through the island-dotted waters of the Thousand Islands
- Search for whales in the waters of the St. Lawrence River

TOUR MAP



TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Most meals
- Most sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escorts
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides
- Safe and secure with IATA

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

CLASSIC FLEX TOURS:

Classic Flex tours let you see the iconic sites and signature experiences of each destination on an excellent-value, fully escorted group tour, with a little more freedom to do things your own way. Your international flights, accommodation, transportation, touring and most meals are all arranged, so you can travel with complete peace of mind. Where it works best for the destination, personal time is woven into the itinerary, giving you the chance to explore independently, seek out a local restaurant, or simply relax at your own pace.

Throughout, your National Escort's unparalleled knowledge will bring each destination to life and turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

Our tours come with a physical rating to guide you in selecting a holiday that suits your comfort level. Joining any of our tours involves independent mobility and the ability to stay active throughout the day, which is essential for fully enjoying the unique landscapes and attractions of Canada.

'Eastern Canada Uncovered' is rated as a physical level 1. A reasonable level of fitness is required, with regular sightseeing on foot and some longer days exploring cities, historic towns, coastal areas and national parks. You will be getting on and off coaches, boats and ferries, walking on a variety of surfaces, climbing steps and occasionally spending several hours on your feet. Some sightseeing may involve gentle inclines or uneven ground.

Please consider:

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods, including in Toronto, Ottawa, Québec City, Montréal, Halifax, Charlottetown and other towns and coastal areas.
- Some excursions involve walking on uneven or unpaved surfaces, particularly at Montmorency Falls, Peggy's Cove, Hopewell Rocks, Cape Breton Highlands National Park and other natural attractions.
- You will need to get on and off coaches, boats and ferries independently, sometimes using steps.
- Visits to historic sites and attractions, including Old Québec, Fort Henry, Halifax Citadel and Green Gables Heritage Place, may involve walking along cobbled streets, climbing steps or crossing uneven ground.

Some days involve longer coach journeys between destinations, particularly through Quebec, along the Atlantic coast and the Cabot Trail, with stops at towns, viewpoints and other attractions. Our National Escort is dedicated to providing a high level of service and support throughout your journey. However, their primary role is to manage the daily aspects of the tour and they are unable to offer extensive personal physical assistance. We kindly ask our travellers to be prepared for the physical aspects of the tour to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable experience for everyone.

JOINING YOUR TOUR:

The tour is 24 days in duration including international flights or 22 days in duration based on 'Land Only'. Join the tour on Day 1 in Halifax and end the tour on Day 22 in Montréal.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour, or when booking pre and post night accommodation with Wendy Wu Tours.

Day 1: Fly to Halifax Meals: D



On arrival in Halifax International Airport, you will be met in the arrival hall by your National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours, or a representative. Together with all other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will transfer to your hotel.

Early check-in is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our reservations team to book.

An informal Welcome Dinner will be held tonight.

Destination Information

Halifax – The capital of Nova Scotia and a major Atlantic port, Halifax has played an important role in Canada's naval and maritime history since its foundation in 1749. The city is centred around a large natural harbour and is home to landmarks including the historic waterfront, Halifax Citadel and the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21.

Day 2: Explore the South Shore Meals: B, L



Head to the fishing village of Peggy's Cove, approximately 1 hour from Halifax, to view Canada's most photographed lighthouse, set against the dramatic Atlantic coastline. Allow around 1 hour to explore the village before continuing to Mahone Bay to soak up its coastal charm, picturesque waterfront, historic churches and beautiful bay dotted with islands and sailboats. Continue for approximately 30 minutes to Lunenburg to wander through the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Old Town, where steep streets are lined with colourful 19th-century wood-clad houses, and browse the exhibits at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic.

Destination Information

Peggy's Cove – A small fishing community on Nova Scotia's Atlantic coast, best known for its lighthouse perched on a granite outcrop beside the sea. The lighthouse was built in 1915 and is one of Canada's most recognisable coastal landmarks.

Mahone Bay – Mahone Bay is a small town on Nova Scotia's South Shore, named after the sheltered bay on which it sits. Its waterfront faces several small islands, while the town is known for its three historic churches overlooking the harbour.

Lunenburg – Founded by the British in 1753, Lunenburg is one of the best-preserved planned British colonial settlements in North America. Its colourful waterfront and wooden buildings form part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, while the town is closely associated with the sailing ship *Bluenose*.

Day 3: Bay of Fundy Meals: B

Hop over the provincial border to New Brunswick, a journey of approximately 2 hours from Halifax, to the shores of the Bay of Fundy, known for its extreme high tides. Walk in Hopewell Rocks Provincial Park with a knowledgeable guide for around 1 hour, learning about its geology and seeing the famous sea stacks. Continue to Moncton, a journey of approximately 40 minutes, where the rest of the day is at leisure in this laid-back city set on a bend of the Petitcodiac River.



Destination Information

Bay of Fundy – Stretching between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the Bay of Fundy has the highest tides in the world, with the water level changing by up to around 16 metres. Its tidal range has shaped a coastline of cliffs, mudflats and distinctive rock formations.

Hopewell Rocks – Rising from the shore of the Bay of Fundy, these towering sandstone formations have been shaped by millions of years of tidal erosion. At low tide, visitors can walk along the ocean floor between the rocks, while at high tide they are surrounded by water.

Moncton – Located in southeastern New Brunswick on the Petitcodiac River, Moncton is one of the province's largest cities and an important commercial centre for the region. The nearby river is known for its dramatic tidal bore, when the incoming Bay of Fundy tide pushes a wave of water upstream.

Day 4: Lobster Cruise Meals: B, L, D

This morning, join a cruise of Shediac Bay to learn all about lobster fishing. You can help haul in the traps and get a taste of Acadian hospitality as you enjoy a feast featuring this local delicacy. Cross the impressive Confederation Bridge to enter your third province, the quaintly charming Prince Edward Island. Continue for around 1 hour to the capital, Charlottetown, where you'll embark on a foodie walking tour through downtown, learning why Prince Edward Island is known as 'Canada's Food Island'.



Destination Information

Shediac Bay – Located on New Brunswick's eastern coast, Shediac Bay opens into the Northumberland Strait and is known for its warm, shallow waters and sandy beaches. The nearby town of Shediac is known as the 'Lobster Capital of the World', with the giant lobster sculpture on its waterfront reflecting the importance of the industry.

Confederation Bridge & Prince Edward Island – Spanning 12.9 kilometres across the Northumberland Strait, the Confederation Bridge connects New Brunswick with Prince Edward Island and is the longest bridge in the world crossing ice-covered waters. On Prince Edward Island, red sandstone cliffs, farmland and coastal villages characterise the landscape.

Charlottetown – Prince Edward Island's capital and the birthplace of Canadian Confederation, following the 1864 Charlottetown Conference that brought political leaders together to discuss a union of the British North American colonies. The city's historic centre contains colourful 19th-century buildings, while the waterfront overlooks Charlottetown Harbour.

Day 5: Prince Edward Island

Meals: B, D

Spend the morning among the sandy beaches, red cliffs and windswept dunes of Prince Edward Island National Park, then visit Green Gables Heritage Place, a 19th-century farm that inspired the 1908 novel Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maud Montgomery.

This afternoon has been kept free for independent exploration in Charlottetown before heading to New Glasgow for dinner.



Destination Information

Green Gables Heritage Place – Set within Prince Edward Island National Park, this historic farmhouse was the inspiration for Lucy Maud Montgomery's 1908 novel Anne of Green Gables. The site includes the farmhouse, gardens and woodland landscapes that influenced locations in the book.

New Glasgow – Situated along the East River of Pictou County, New Glasgow developed as an industrial and shipbuilding town during the 19th century. Today, it is one of the main communities in northern Nova Scotia and provides a base for visiting the surrounding Northumberland Strait coast.

Day 6: Ferry to Nova Scotia Meals: B



Take a ferry across the Northumberland Strait to Nova Scotia, a crossing of approximately 1 hour 15 minutes. Visit the Hector Heritage Quay, where a Maritimes historian will guide you around a full-size replica of the ship Hector, which arrived here from Scotland in 1773, and share stories of these early settlers. Continue to Baddeck on Cape Breton Island, a journey of approximately 2 hours, where you will enjoy a Cape Breton cèilidh, with live folk music, dancing and storytelling.

Destination Information

Nova Scotia – One of Canada's three Maritime provinces, Nova Scotia occupies a peninsula and more than 3,800 coastal islands on the Atlantic Ocean. Its history reflects Mi'kmaq, Acadian, Scottish and British influences, with fishing, shipbuilding and seafaring playing an important role in the province's development.

Hector Heritage Quay – Located in Pictou, this museum tells the story of Scottish immigration to Nova Scotia through the ship Hector, which arrived in 1773 carrying around 200 passengers. Exhibits cover the voyage, the settlers' experiences and the development of Scottish communities in the region.

Cape Breton Island – Connected to mainland Nova Scotia by the Canso Causeway, Cape Breton is known for its rugged Atlantic coastline, highlands and strong Scottish and Mi'kmaq heritage. The island is home to Cape Breton Highlands National Park and the Cabot Trail, a 298-kilometre scenic route around its northern coast.

Day 7: The Cabot Trail Meals: B, L, D



Visit the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site to learn about the inventor's life and work. Take the Cabot Trail, a world-famous scenic coastal highway, into the wilds of Cape Breton Highlands National Park, where untouched forests, dramatic coastal cliffs and glorious ocean views unfold along the way. Stop in picturesque Ingonish, around 1 hour 30 minutes from Baddeck, surrounded by rugged coastline and sweeping Atlantic views.

Destination Information

Cabot Trail – Winding for around 298 kilometres around the northern section of Cape Breton Island, the Cabot Trail passes through Cape Breton Highlands National Park and coastal communities including Ingonish and Chéticamp. The route follows the Gulf of St Lawrence and Atlantic coast, with sections reaching the highlands of the national park.

Ingonish – Ingonish is surrounded by Cape Breton Highlands National Park and lies beside a narrow strip of land separating the Atlantic Ocean from the freshwater waters of the area. It is one of the main communities along the Cabot Trail and provides access to beaches, hiking trails and the Highlands Links golf course.

Day 8: Halifax — Meals: B, D

Journey from Cape Breton back to Halifax, a drive of approximately 4 hours, stopping in Antigonish, known as the Highland Heart of Nova Scotia. Stretch your legs with a walking tour of Halifax's vibrant waterfront before enjoying a tour and tasting at a local brewery. This evening, a dinner will be held at the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site, a hilltop, star-shaped fort in the heart of the city's downtown, with commanding views over the harbour.



Destination Information

Antigonish – Antigonish is a small town with strong Scottish heritage and is home to St Francis Xavier University, founded in 1853. It is known as the 'Highland Heart of Nova Scotia' and hosts the annual Antigonish Highland Games, one of the oldest Highland games outside Scotland.

Halifax Citadel National Historic Site – Perched on a hill above downtown Halifax, this star-shaped fortress was completed in 1856 as part of the city's coastal defences. Today, the site's barracks, ramparts and artillery displays illustrate Halifax's role as an important British military and naval base.

Day 9: Charlevoix & Whale Watching — Meals: B

Today has been left free for independent exploration of Halifax – Nova Scotia's capital, known for its maritime heritage, historic waterfront and connections to the Titanic.

From your hotel, you may wish to:

- Explore the shops, cafés and restaurants of Spring Garden Road, one of Halifax's main shopping streets.
- Visit the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, which tells the stories of immigrants who arrived in Canada through Halifax between 1928 and 1971.
- Discover Halifax Public Gardens, a Victorian-era park featuring ornamental flowerbeds, fountains and landscaped pathways.

Please note: As today is free for independent exploration of Halifax, you will not be accompanied by a National Escort. Should you require assistance during this time, please revert to your final documents where you will find 24/7 emergency contact details. Tomorrow, a Wendy Wu Tours representative will transfer you from your hotel to the airport ahead of your flight to Toronto.

Day 10: Charlevoix Meals: B, D

Today, transfer from your hotel to Halifax Stanfield International Airport for your flight to Toronto, a flight time of approximately 2 hours 30 minutes. Upon arrival, meet your Wendy Wu Tours representative in the arrivals hall before transferring to your hotel, where the rest of the day is at leisure. This evening, meet your new National Escort and fellow travellers over a welcome dinner.



Destination Information

Toronto – Ontario's capital grew from the British colonial settlement of York, founded in 1793, and took the name Toronto in 1834. Waves of immigration have shaped the city into one of the world's most multicultural urban centres, with more than 200 ethnic groups represented and over 160 languages spoken. Landmarks include the CN Tower, completed in 1976, and the historic Distillery District, where restored Victorian industrial buildings recall the city's 19th-century manufacturing past.

Day 11: Explore Toronto Meals: B, L

Set out on foot to see Toronto, strolling along the edge of Lake Ontario and spotting famous sights such as the CN Tower, which stands 553 metres tall. Head into the Old Town area to historic St. Lawrence Market, a food market that has served the city since 1803. Take a guided tour with a progressive lunch, sampling different dishes at a variety of stores and stalls offering speciality foods, cheeses, meats and seafood. Afterwards, enjoy some Flex time for independent exploration. You could ascend the CN Tower, explore the natural history and world cultures exhibits at the Royal Ontario Museum, or wet your whistle at Steam Whistle Brewery, housed in a restored railway roundhouse near the waterfront.



Destination Information

Lake Ontario – The easternmost of the five Great Lakes, Lake Ontario forms part of the border between Canada and the United States, with Toronto built along its northwestern shore. The lake has been an important transport route since Indigenous communities first travelled its waters, later supporting the fur trade and the growth of ports and settlements around the Great Lakes.

CN Tower – Completed in 1976, the CN Tower was built by Canadian National Railway as a telecommunications tower to improve broadcasting across Toronto's growing skyline. Standing 553 metres tall, it held the title of the world's tallest free-standing structure for 32 years. Its observation levels offer views across Toronto and Lake Ontario, while the glass floor provides a view straight down to the ground below.

St. Lawrence Market – A cornerstone of Toronto's food trade since the early 19th century, St Lawrence Market occupies a site that has hosted public markets since 1803. The South Market building brings together vendors selling fresh produce, meat, seafood, baked goods and local specialities, while the market remains a longstanding part of the city's commercial and community life.

Day 12: Niagara Falls Meals: B, L



Depart Toronto for Niagara Falls, a journey of approximately 1 hour 30 minutes. Straddling the border between Canada and the USA, you'll view all three falls – Horseshoe Falls, American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls – from land, before joining a Hornblower cruise for a closer look at the cascades, feeling the mist as you approach the base of the falls. Before returning to Toronto, travel approximately 30 minutes to Niagara-on-the-Lake in the Niagara Peninsula wine region, where you'll enjoy lunch and a wine tasting at an estate winery. The return journey to Toronto takes around 1 hour 30 minutes.

Please note: The Hornblower cruise may be replaced with the 'Journey Behind the Falls' tour due to seasonal availability or adverse weather conditions.

Destination Information

Niagara Falls – Formed by the Niagara River between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, Niagara Falls comprises three waterfalls: Horseshoe Falls, American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. Horseshoe Falls straddles the Canada–US border and carries the greatest volume of water, with the falls playing an important role in the development of hydroelectric power in the region.

Niagara Peninsula – Stretching between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie in southern Ontario, the Niagara Peninsula benefits from a relatively mild climate influenced by the surrounding Great Lakes. These conditions support one of Canada's leading wine regions, particularly around Niagara-on-the-Lake, where vineyards produce varieties including Riesling, Chardonnay and Cabernet Franc. The area is also known for its orchards, historic towns and the Welland Canal, which allows ships to bypass Niagara Falls.

Day 13: Thousand Islands Parkway Meals: B, L



Travel along the scenic Thousand Islands Parkway, following the St. Lawrence River past island archipelagos and waterfront communities. Enjoy lunch at Fort Henry before joining the Bonnycastle Tour, where you'll meet soldiers representing Her Majesty's Army of 1867 and explore the citadel of Upper Canada, learning about the fort's role in defending the region. Later, visit the Great Lakes Museum to see the S.S. Keewatin, a historic passenger steamship that once carried holidaymakers across the Great Lakes. The evening is at leisure.

Destination Information

Thousand Islands Parkway – Following the northern shore of the St Lawrence River in eastern Ontario, this scenic route runs between Gananoque and Brockville through the Thousand Islands region. The river is dotted with more than 1,800 islands, ranging from tiny rocky outcrops to wooded islands with historic cottages and castles, including Boldt Castle on the American side.

Fort Henry National Historic Site – Built between 1832 and 1837 to defend the entrance to the Rideau Canal and the naval dockyard at Kingston, Fort Henry is a British military fortress overlooking the St. Lawrence River. Its ramparts, barracks and defensive positions illustrate 19th-century military life, while costumed interpreters and military demonstrations bring the fort's history to life.

Day 14: Thousand Island Cruise & Ottawa Meals: B



Board a boat in the Thousand Islands region for a relaxed, narrated cruise through the channels and between the islands of the St. Lawrence River. Once a playground of the rich and famous, the area is dotted with charming cottages, grand island homes and historic sights. Afterwards, travel to Ottawa, Canada's capital, a journey of approximately 2 hours, where you'll take a guided city tour including Parliament Hill, home to Canada's federal parliament, and the Rideau Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that becomes one of the world's largest naturally frozen skating rinks in winter.

Destination Information

Ottawa – Canada's capital was selected by Queen Victoria in 1857, partly because its position between English-speaking and French-speaking Canada made it a suitable compromise between rival cities.

Originally a centre for the timber trade, Ottawa developed around the construction of the Rideau Canal and now houses the country's federal government, national museums and major cultural institutions.

Parliament Hill – Overlooking the Ottawa River, Parliament Hill is the seat of Canada's federal government, with its distinctive Gothic Revival buildings constructed mainly during the second half of the 19th century. The original Centre Block was destroyed by fire in 1916 and rebuilt with the Peace Tower, completed in 1927, which stands 92 metres high. The site remains a focal point for national ceremonies and Canada Day celebrations.

Rideau Canal – Completed in 1832, the Rideau Canal was built under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel John By as a military supply route linking Ottawa with Kingston on Lake Ontario, providing an alternative to the vulnerable St. Lawrence River border. Stretching 202 kilometres and incorporating 47 locks, it is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In winter, a section through central Ottawa becomes the Rideau Canal Skateway, one of the world's largest naturally frozen skating rinks.

Day 15: Explore Ottawa

Meals: B, D

Visit the National Gallery of Canada to enjoy its impressive collections of Indigenous and Canadian art. Browse the stalls at the buzzy ByWard Market, an area known for its colourful street art and boutique stores. This afternoon, enjoy some Flex time for independent exploration before a hosted dinner featuring regional flavours and local ingredients.



Destination Information

National Gallery of Canada – Opened in its current building in 1988, the National Gallery of Canada houses a major collection of Canadian and international art, including works by Indigenous artists, European masters and contemporary creators. Designed by architect Moshe Safdie, the glass-and-granite building features a dramatic interior and a large glass tower, while the grounds are marked by the bronze sculpture Maman, a giant spider by artist Louise Bourgeois.

ByWard Market – Established in 1826 by Lieutenant-Colonel John By, the engineer responsible for the Rideau Canal, ByWard Market is one of Ottawa's oldest and best-known neighbourhoods. Its historic market buildings and surrounding streets are home to produce stalls, independent shops, cafés and restaurants, reflecting a long tradition of trade and public life near Parliament Hill.

Day 16: Cabane à Sucre & Québec City Meals: B, L



Cross from Ontario into Québec, Canada's predominantly French-speaking province, travelling approximately 2 hours from Ottawa to a traditional cabane à sucre (sugar shack). Sit down for lunch featuring Québécois dishes, followed by a maple syrup tasting accompanied by traditional folk music. Continue to Québec City, a journey of around 3 hours, and head into atmospheric Old Québec for a guided walking tour. Discover the city's French colonial heritage, including its role as the capital of New France and its fortified historic district, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Destination Information

Québec City – Founded by French explorer Samuel de Champlain in 1608, Québec City is one of the oldest European settlements in North America and remains a centre of French-speaking culture in Canada. Its position overlooking the St. Lawrence River made it strategically important during the colonial period, and its fortified historic district is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city is also known for the Château Frontenac, a landmark hotel that dominates the skyline above the river.

Sugar Shack – A traditional cabane à sucre is a seasonal maple-syrup operation where sap collected from sugar maple trees is boiled down to make syrup. Particularly associated with Québec, these establishments open in late winter and early spring, often serving hearty Québécois dishes alongside maple-based treats such as tire sur la neige—hot syrup poured onto snow and rolled onto a stick.

Old Québec – Enclosed by the only surviving fortified city walls in North America north of Mexico, Old Québec preserves the streets and buildings of the city's French and British colonial past. Its Upper Town includes the Château Frontenac and Dufferin Terrace, while the Lower Town's Petit-Champlain district is known for its narrow streets and historic stone buildings. The district became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985.

Day 17: Île d'Orléans and Wendake Meals: B, D



Visit Montmorency Falls, approximately 15 minutes from Québec City, and take the cable car from the base to the top of the 83-metre-high waterfall, which is taller than Niagara Falls. Enjoy panoramic views of the St. Lawrence River and Île d'Orléans before continuing to the island for a guided walking tour.

Wander its rural villages, admiring centuries-old stone houses and heritage churches while learning about early French-Canadian traditions. Return to Québec City, around 30 minutes away, with free time to find lunch before heading to Wendake and the Huron-Wendat heritage sites, approximately 20 minutes from the city centre. Learn how the Huron-Wendat Nation maintains its ancestral traditions alongside modern life and listen to myths and legends shared by a storyteller. Tonight, dinner will be served in Old Québec.

Destination Information

Montmorency Falls – Located just outside Québec City, Montmorency Falls drops 83 metres over a rocky cliff into the Montmorency River, making it around 30 metres higher than Niagara Falls. A suspension bridge crosses above the crest, while stairways and cable cars provide different views of the waterfall.

Île d'Orléans – Situated in the St. Lawrence River just east of Québec City, this fertile island was one of the earliest areas of French settlement in New France. Its six historic villages retain traditional stone houses, churches and farmsteads, while the island's orchards, vineyards, berry farms and maple producers reflect its long agricultural heritage.

Wendake – A community of the Huron-Wendat Nation on the outskirts of Québec City, Wendake preserves and shares the history, culture and traditions of the Wendat people. At the Huron-Wendat Museum, visitors can learn about Indigenous history and craftsmanship, while the reconstructed longhouse and traditional village offer insight into Wendat life before and during early contact with Europeans.

Day 18: Whale Watching

Meals: B, L



Head into the landscapes of Charlevoix, a UNESCO-designated Biosphere Reserve, travelling approximately 1 hour 30 minutes from Québec City to the coastal town of Baie-Sainte-Catherine. Take the scenic drive along the northern shore of the St. Lawrence River, where the road hugs cliffs, rounds sweeping capes and traverses rolling hills. Take to the water on a whale-watching tour in the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park, looking out for some of the 13 species of whale recorded in the region, including humpbacks and belugas. Enjoy a farm-to-table lunch before continuing to Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu, approximately 1 hour 30 minutes away, an iconic Châteauesque hotel overlooking the river.

Destination Information

Charlevoix – Stretching along the north shore of the St Lawrence River east of Québec City, Charlevoix is a region shaped by a meteorite impact around 400 million years ago, which created its distinctive circular geological landscape.

Its villages, including Baie-Saint-Paul and La Malbaie, are known for their artistic communities, historic architecture and locally produced food, while the surrounding hills rise from the river's edge.

Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park – This protected marine area covers the meeting point of the Saguenay River and the St. Lawrence Estuary, where cold, nutrient-rich waters support a diverse range of marine life. Beluga whales live here year-round, while minke, fin and occasionally blue whales feed in the estuary.

Day 19: Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu — Meals: B, L, D

This morning, enjoy some Flex time, making the most of the hotel's facilities, which include a spa, swimming pools and golf. Embark on the Charlevoix Flavour Trail, an agrotourism circuit showcasing local cheesemakers, microbreweries, cider houses and more, all in a spectacular setting between the river and the Laurentian Mountains. Return to the Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu for a behind-the-scenes tour followed by dinner.



Destination Information

Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu – Overlooking the St Lawrence River in La Malbaie, this grand château-style hotel opened in 1899 and helped establish Charlevoix as a summer resort for wealthy travellers from Canada and the United States. Rebuilt following a fire in 1928, the property retains its historic resort character, with landscaped grounds set above the river and views across the surrounding Charlevoix region.

Day 20: Travel to Montréal — Meals: B, L

Depart the Charlevoix region and travel southwest to Montréal, a journey of approximately 4 hours, stopping for lunch en route. On arrival, enjoy an introductory tour of the city, taking in its main sights and getting your bearings in Canada's second-largest city, known for its French heritage and distinctive mix of historic and modern architecture. The evening is at leisure, with dinner at your own arrangements.



Destination Information

Montréal – Founded by French settlers in 1642 as Ville-Marie, Montreal developed into a major trading centre at the meeting point of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers. French remains the city's official language, and its heritage is evident in Old Montreal's cobbled streets, stone churches and historic port. The city is also known for its distinctive blend of French and North American culture, from its food traditions to its festivals and arts scene.

Day 21: AURA Experience

Meals: B, D

Make the most of some Flex time to discover Montréal independently. You may wish to stroll through Mount Royal Park or the Botanical Garden or visit the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts. Later, find yourself on the cobblestone streets of Old Montreal at the magnificent Notre-Dame Basilica, where you'll enjoy the AURA Experience, an immersive light and sound show that brings together art, music and architecture. Sit down to a farewell dinner this evening.



Destination Information

Notre-Dame Basilica – Located in Old Montréal, this Gothic Revival church was completed in 1829 and became one of the city's most recognisable landmarks. Its richly decorated interior features deep-blue ceilings dotted with gold stars, intricate wood carvings and stained-glass windows depicting the religious history of Montréal rather than traditional biblical scenes.

AURA Experience – A multimedia light and sound show inside Notre-Dame Basilica, AURA uses architectural lighting, projection and music to highlight the church's ornate interior. Created by Montreal-based studio Moment Factory, the immersive performance transforms the basilica's vaulted ceilings, columns and altar into a changing display of colour and imagery.

Days 22 - 24: Fly Montréal to New Zealand

Meals: B

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to Montréal International Airport, according to the departure time of your international flight, arriving home two days later.

Late check-out is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.

CANADA TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS:

New Zealand passport holders are currently permitted entry to Canada without a visa for stays of up to 6 months, but must obtain an eTA (Electronic Travel Authorization) online before departure if arriving by air. The eTA must be completed by each traveller and is not included in the cost of your tour. Wendy Wu Tours can offer general guidance on the application.

Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back in New Zealand.

Please note the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate; Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa.

GROUP SIZE:

Most of our groups consist of 16 travellers or more and will be accompanied by both a National Escort and local guides. On Classic Flex Tours, there will be no more than 28 travellers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu Tours groups while you are travelling.

EATING IN CANADA:

Canadian cuisine reflects the country's varied landscapes and cultural influences, from fresh seafood on the Atlantic coast to salmon and Pacific seafood in British Columbia. Across the country, you may also encounter regional favourites such as poutine, maple syrup, smoked meats and locally produced cheeses, while dishes often draw influence from French, British and Indigenous traditions.

Breakfasts are generally served buffet-style at hotels, with a choice of cooked and continental options. Lunches may be served at restaurants, cafés or as packed lunches when travelling through more remote areas or on longer touring days. Evening meals are typically served in local restaurants or hotels, with menus offering a mixture of Canadian and international dishes.

Canada is well equipped for a wide range of dietary requirements, although choices can become more limited when travelling through remote areas. If you have specific dietary needs, please let us know when booking so these can be communicated to our local partners in advance.

ACCOMMODATION:

Your accommodation in Canada is carefully selected for its location, comfort and character, with a mixture of well-established hotels, locally owned properties and larger city hotels possibly used throughout your journey.

Accommodation will generally be of a good three- to four-star standard, with some five-star hotels included too. Standards are comparable with those you would expect in New Zealand, although individual properties may vary in style, facilities and size.

All group tour hotels have private Western-style bathroom facilities, air conditioning or heating, a TV and Wi-Fi. In some smaller towns or more remote areas, hotel facilities may be simpler than those found in the major cities, but all properties are selected to provide a comfortable base from which to explore the destination.

If you experience any difficulty during your stay, please speak to your National Escort or Local Guide. All hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly reviewed by our staff and local partners to ensure they meet our standards.

TRANSPORT:

Ferries: Ferries are used on selected journeys of this tour. Ferries have indoor seating, outdoor viewing areas, cafés and toilets, although facilities vary between services. Vehicle decks are enclosed during the crossing, so passengers will need to leave the coach and travel as foot passengers. Sailing times can vary due to weather, sea conditions and operational requirements.

Coaches: Air-conditioned coaches are used for sightseeing, excursions and longer journeys throughout Canada. Coaches generally have comfortable reclining seats and an onboard toilet, although facilities vary between vehicles. Canada is a vast country and some journeys involve several hours of driving, particularly when travelling between provinces and cities. Journey times are approximate and may be affected by traffic, road conditions, weather and scheduled stops.

TIPPING POLICY:

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and Canada is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time.
In order to avoid any inconvenience, Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your National Escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed to local guides and drivers throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the National Escort.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy but we do recognise that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

INSURANCE:

We strongly recommend that you take out a policy as soon as you pay your deposit. Wendy Wu Tours cannot in any way be made liable for any additional cost incurred by the customer on any tour due to the customer not having adequate travel insurance.

We also encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the original.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

Wendy Wu does not give specific health advice, but we do recommend you see your doctor at least six weeks prior to travel for advice and to allow time for any necessary vaccinations. Please remember to take your itinerary with you. Safe travel has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.safetravel.govt.nz

ITINERARY CHANGES:

It's our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we'll make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.safetravel.govt.nz as in the event of an emergency, New Zealand Consular assistance will be more readily available.

Up until the day you travel, it is vital you keep up to date and familiarised with the entry requirements as these can change at short notice. You are personally responsible for completing any entry forms, conducting any covid tests (if necessary), etc and adhering to countries' specific entry requirements. You can also access the New Zealand Government's travel advisory service for up-to-date information about your destination on the same website.

AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive an email with your confirmation invoice, along with a link to our website where you can find your visa information (if applicable) and other important information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

Updated November 2026