

TALES OF THE CANADIAN MARITIMES

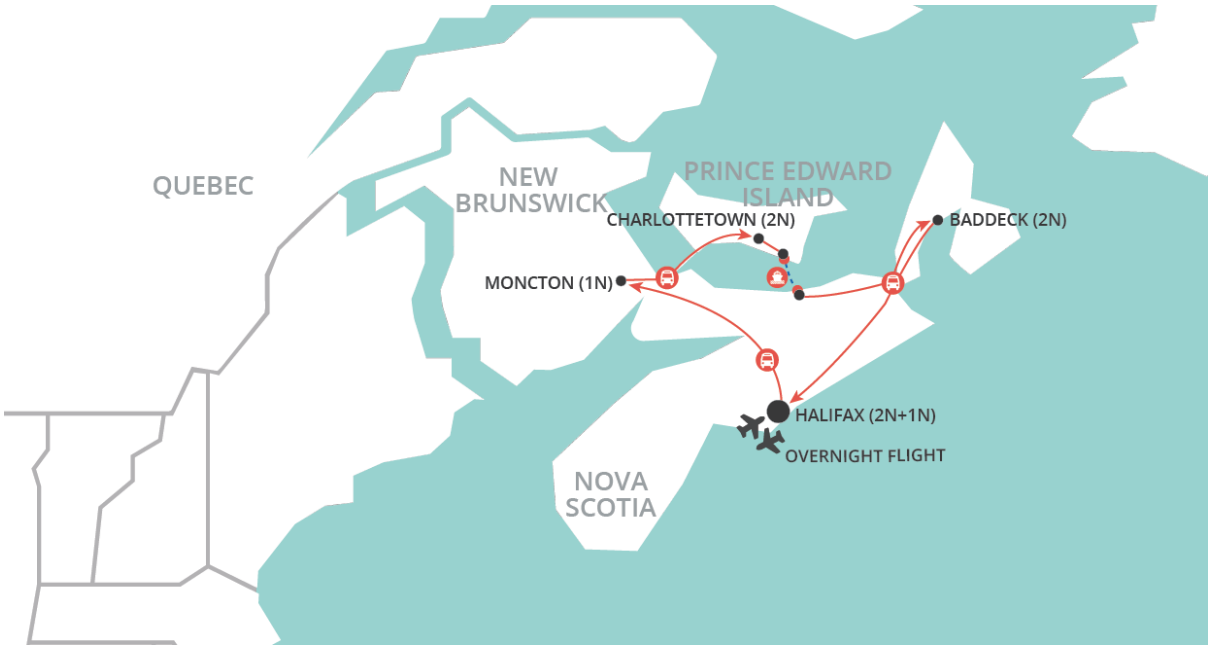
Classic Flex Tour | 11 Days | Physical Level 1

Halifax 2N - Moncton 1N - Charlottetown 2N - Baddeck 2N - Halifax 1N

A region dominated by the wild Atlantic Ocean, embark on an adventure through Canada's Maritime Provinces. Discover the picturesque bays, sandy beaches, jagged coastline and spectacular national parks of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, where landscapes are steeped in a rich and historic legacy ripe for exploration.

- Admire the iconic Peggy's Cove Lighthouse
- Explore UNESCO-listed Lunenburg
- Visit the dramatic Hopewell Rocks Provincial Park
- Take a Shediac lobster cruise
- Discover Anne of Green Gables
- Drive the Cabot Trail

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.

'Tales of the Canadian Maritimes' is rated as a physical level 1. A reasonable level of fitness is required, with regular sightseeing on foot and some longer days exploring towns, coastal areas and national parks. You will be getting on and off coaches 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 Halifax, Lunenburg, Charlottetown, Cape Breton Island and other towns and coastal areas.
- Some excursions involve walking on uneven or unpaved surfaces, particularly when visiting Peggy's Cove, the Hopewell Rocks, Cape Breton Highlands National Park and other natural attractions.
- You will need to get on and off coaches and ferries independently, sometimes using steps.
- Some visits, including the Halifax Citadel and historic sites such as Green Gables Heritage Place, involve walking between buildings and across outdoor areas.
- Some days involve longer coach journeys along the Atlantic coast and the Cabot Trail, with stops along the way to visit 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 11 days in duration including international flights or 9 days in duration based on 'Land Only'. Join the tour on Day 1 in Halifax and end the tour on Day 9 in Halifax.

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 farewell 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.

Days 9 - 11: Fly Halifax to New Zealand — Meals: B

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to Halifax 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.

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