



**A Culture of Craftsmanship & Artistry.** Maybe it is Nova Scotia's wind-swept beaches deliciously salty air, or the inspirational natural beauty that nurtures the artists' soul. Whatever it is that Nova Scotia possesses, it is an endless source of creative inspiration for thousands of local artisans and artists, whose work can be viewed throughout the province at craft fairs, in art galleries, and even in local markets and roadside displays.

Take historic Lunenburg for example. This seaport town of 2,500 people is home to 17 art galleries. They offer a wonderful selection of local crafts and artwork as well as the stark beauty of the Inuit sculptures and prints found at Houston North gallery. Or consider Chéticamp and the beautiful Acadian art of this village on Cape Breton's Cabot Trail. For generations, the village has produced uniquely crafted colourful hooked rugs that can even be found on the walls of Buckingham Palace and the White House. A Halifax fine art and crafts tour on the other hand, may include a range of different galleries and studios. From world-class programming at Dalhousie Gallery and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia to student shows in arts, crafts, and design at NSCAD University and private studio tours throughout the city, Halifax is a menagerie of art experiences.

#### A Few Nova Scotia Favourites ...

- Ann Schroeder Studio of Fine Art Quilts, Mabou
- Nova Terra Cottage Pottery, Lunenburg
- Inklings in Wood, Maitland
- Leather Works by John C. Roberts, Indian Brook
- Linens for Life, Chester
- Lyncharm Pottery, Antigonish

#### Don't Miss ...

- Cape Breton Centre for Craft & Design Artisan Trail Map
- Clothesline Art Show, Musquodoboit Harbour, July 17-18
- Paint Sea on Site, Lunenburg July 24-25
- Chester Art Festival, August 18-28
- Nova Scotia Fiber Arts Festival, October 12-16

## GALLERIES & STUDIOS ....

The **Nova Scotia Centre for Craft and Design (NSCCD)** is a public institution dedicated to education, promotion and the provision of opportunity for Nova Scotia artisans and artists to exhibit their work. NSCCD is under the management of the nonprofit Nova Scotia Designer Crafts Council (NSDCC). The Mary E. Black Gallery (MEBG) within the NSCCD is Nova Scotia's only public gallery with a fine craft mandate and hosts local, regional, national and international fine craft exhibitions year round. The exhibitions, publications and educational programs of MEBG reflect historical and contemporary expressions, both regionally and nationally, and promote fine craft that embodies the energy and innovative spirit of Mary E. Black (1896 – 1988), the province's first craft administrator, a noted weaver and author. MEBG mandate is to present exhibitions which educate the public about craft and design, and to promote the pursuance of excellence in the craft community.



**Nova Scotia Crystal - at 1300° it's the coolest show in town!** In the majestic hills of Ireland, the crystal makers' craft is part of some families' blood, passed from generation to generation. But in this age of automation, those numbers are dwindling. That is what drove a handful of Irish crystal makers to Nova Scotia in 1996. They took the matter into their own skilled hands and established NovaScotian Crystal with the noble purpose of saving the life of their dying craft. As the only crystal maker in Canada, the company pledged to shun the thudding sameness of automation for the glorious originality of handmade crystal. Today, the ancient craft is flourishing. And since beauty begets inspiration, it is the reason Nova Scotia has long been known as a place where creativity flourishes. It was that, along with the familiar Celtic flavour and stunning natural beauty that attracted the original group of Irish crystal makers who founded NovaScotian Crystal. Many of their patterns were inspired by and named for the history and landscape of Nova Scotia. NovaScotian Crystal has established itself as something of a landmark on the city's busy waterfront. The glassworks where crystal is made often draws an audience. It is a marvel to see

several craftsmen working together in a tightly choreographed dance with fire as they pull molten crystal from the clay oven and fashion it into things of beauty. If you're ever in town, feel free to drop by, say hello and watch the show.

The **Art Gallery of Nova Scotia** is the gateway to the arts for Atlantic Canada. Located in downtown Halifax, with a satellite location in Yarmouth, the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia offers various exhibitions and a variety of programming opportunities. The AGNS collects, preserves and exhibits visual arts for the benefit of both residents and visitors to Nova Scotia, housing over 14,000 works in its permanent collection. One of the favourite exhibits is the Maud Lewis Gallery, featuring her renowned folk art and the little house where it all started!



**Amos Pewter** designs and handcrafts pewter gifts and keepsakes in an open studio located in Mahone Bay on the South Shore of Nova Scotia. These artisans began making pewter gifts and keepsakes in 1974 in the vacant boat building shop (circa 1880) that houses the workshop today. At Amos Pewter, designers and craftspeople put the spotlight on the skills and techniques that have been used by pewter makers for decades. In the Amos workshop, honoured traditions of the craft are practiced alongside technologies of the modern world. Amos Pewter has won awards for excellence in craftsmanship and design from the Nova Scotia Designer Craft Council. Their skilled staff knows the value of quality craftsmanship and will take the time to help customers recognize the hallmarks of quality workmanship. Amos Pewter is a member of the Économusée network whose mission is to showcase traditional trades and skills. Molten pewter is cast into jewelry, picture frames and ornaments. Pewter discs are spun on a lathe into vases and candlesticks. Exhibits and interpretive panels tell the story of pewter. As a business rooted in a historic craft, Amos Pewter is a unique place to visit. Customers quickly become engaged in conversation with the friendly staff, who will share their knowledge and skills of pewter making as well as the best chowder in town!



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