It all starts here.
Surrounded almost entirely by water, Nova Scotia has long been acknowledged as the original maritime culture in North America. That’s probably because we have the distinction of being the first permanent British settlement in Canada. It’s a decoration defined by a unique history, rich culture and a one-of-a-kind relationship with the sea. Nova Scotia is a well-known home of historical firsts, not only for those who live here, but also for all of those who visit our shores.

When your visitors arrive in Nova Scotia, the treasure lies not only in what they’ll see but more importantly, how they’ll feel. That first glimpse of majestic waves crashing on the giant rocks of Peggy’s Cove. The first note of a bow gliding effortlessly over a Celtic fiddle. The first taste of a mouth-watering feast of food fresh from our land and sea. And of course, the warm welcome everyone receives when they first step foot in Nova Scotia and how it never goes away, no matter where they explore.

As part of the Canada-New England Cruise Corridor, more than 20 major cruise lines visit Nova Scotia’s ports-of-call every year. From the marquee port of Halifax, to Sydney and the smaller ports-of-call around the province, a variety of shore excursions provide rich cultural experiences to suit every taste. Allow your guests to discover our unique Maritime history, immerse themselves in 1744 France, explore our award-winning wineries, visit a UNESCO World Heritage Site or indulge in a feast of fresh seafood.

Situated on the world’s second largest harbour, Halifax has been welcoming guests for over 260 years; maybe that’s why we’re so well known for our legendary hospitality. As the first city of Nova Scotia, Halifax combines the international essence of a modern port city with the culture and heritage of one of Canada’s most historic communities. Rich with unique galleries, historic centres and museums, visitors can view the world’s finest collection of artifacts from the Titanic at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, or wander through one of North America’s first and only surviving 19th century Victorian gardens at the Halifax Public Gardens. They’ll explore bustling city streets that were some of the first to be lit by electricity in North America, stroll along the waterfront boardwalk or take in the crisp, salt air on a harbour tour. There are so many things to enjoy in this captivating, diverse city that even upon a second visit, guests will still discover new experiences to delight in.

Vacations start on the trip to your ship.

**Halifax is Truly a City of Firsts.**

Halifax’s location, experienced port staff, modern facilities and ability to provide passengers with the ultimate in vacation experiences, stands second to none. All of this, paired with our homegrown desire to welcome guests and entertain, combine to guarantee the success of your Halifax-based cruise homeport and turnaround operations.

With daily non-stop flights from many North American and European cities, as well as US Customs pre-clearance facilities at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport, Halifax offers an ease of access similar to numerous large urban centres in the United States and Europe. The largest airport between Montreal and Boston allows visitors to take advantage of short flight times from major North American cities including New York, Boston, Toronto and Montreal, all less than two hours away. Visitors from Chicago, Washington DC and Philadelphia need only add an hour more, making Halifax a quick jaunt from these locations. And if you’re looking to draw a European market, Halifax is proud to say we’re under six hours away from the United Kingdom. Making for a homeport market of more than 100 million consumers from Canada, the United States and Europe. We also have scenic highways, exceptional hotel accommodations and cruise ship berths that give passengers direct, ship-to-shore access. We’re just a one-day sail from New York City, and less than a day’s sail from many Atlantic Canada ports and their diverse and captivating port-of-call experiences. We even offer a touch of France at the islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon, also less than a day’s sail away.

Your guests will always remember their first trip to Halifax and most certainly, the conveniences it offers. With quick turnaround and first-class homeport facilities, your business is welcomed with the same passion that we have for your guests.
Halifax

Halifax Citadel National Historic Site

The Halifax Citadel is a 19th century star-shaped naval fort sitting in the middle of downtown Halifax. Only minutes from the Port, visitors can explore the Citadel’s living history museum, where the 78th Highland Regiment still fires the noon day cannon. They can become a soldier for a day, or take in a Highlander Experience as the costumed animators make history come to life amidst the musket galleries, earthen ramparts, garrison cells and more in this magnificent British fort.

Peggy’s Cove

Set on the rocky shores of the Atlantic Ocean, Peggy’s Cove is one of Nova Scotia’s most breathtaking and famous landmarks. Perched atop massive granite rocks, the iconic red and white lighthouse is a photographer’s dream and most often, the first destination for those new to Halifax. Those who visit will explore the tiny, authentic fishing village, dine on fresh seafood and be awed by the relaxed atmosphere and stunning natural beauty of Peggy’s Cove.

Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Celebrate and share the Canadian immigration experience at Pier 21. Here, tribute is paid to the 1.5 million immigrants, war brides, displaced people, evacuee children and Canadian military personnel who passed through this famous building between 1928 and 1971. The restored and preserved Pier 21 serves as a monument to the stories of the people who helped build our nation, including the tale of the first contact between our European forefathers and the native North Americans.

Wine Tasting in Annapolis Valley

Visitors will enjoy a leisurely day experiencing the wineries of Nova Scotia and the charming beauty of the Annapolis Valley. With a climate and soil that favours unique and distinctive grape varieties, Nova Scotia is now producing several of Canada’s award winning wines. Guests can take tours with a local sommelier and explore the premiere wineries in the region including Sainte-Famille, Gaspereau Valley Vineyards and Domaine de Grand Pré. It’s an experience as unique as the wineries themselves and sure to make anyone fall in love with Nova Scotia wines!

Visit destinationhalifax.com for more information about Halifax, Nova Scotia.
Sydney

The first sight for those entering the port of Sydney will probably be that of the world's largest fiddle. This is just one indication of how seriously those who call Cape Breton Island home take their music. While visiting, guests are sure to enjoy a traditional ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee), an incredible experience of Celtic fiddling, dancing and song that will have everyone's feet tapping and hands clapping. This historic community is considered the urban heart of Cape Breton Island, and boasts several buildings and landmarks that date back to 1786. A stroll along the Oceanfront Esplanade in downtown Sydney will lead visitors to numerous statues and plaques that celebrate the city's rich cultural heritage including Aboriginal, French and Gaelic roots.

Highland Village in Iona

The living history museum and cultural centre of the Highland Village of Iona welcomes guests throughout the year. Here they'll explore North America's Scottish roots in this picturesque 43-acre hillside village that overlooks the world-renowned, Bras d'Or Lakes. It's a destination that celebrates the Gaelic experience in Nova Scotia and brings the rich Scottish history to life with costumed animators, period buildings, artifacts and even farm animals.

Cape Breton Miners Museum

The Cape Breton Miners Museum pays tribute to the region’s long and rich coal mining history. Visitors will hear stories directly from the miners and their families. Learn about the resource that helped build the great nation that is Canada. Go deep, deep underground for a firsthand tour of the Ocean Deeps Colliery. Learn firsthand what it was like to work in the mines from actual retired coal miners who guide visitors through the subterranean maze that they worked in for many years. It’s an experience unlike any other.

Fort Petrie Military Museum

During the Second World War, Sydney Harbour was a key strategic port against a German invasion and acted as the assembly point for convoys to England. The Fort Petrie Military Museum honours this military history that helped to win the war. The museum boasts a 13-acre site, two stories of underground fortifications, WWII gun emplacements and the observation post museum.

Sounds of Cape Breton

Cape Breton Island has a unique, irresistible musical sound and scene. Influenced by Scottish, Irish and Acadian traditions, this musical experience will introduce your passengers to professional local entertainers as they sing, step dance and of course, play the fiddle in a traditional Gaelic social gathering called a ceilidh.

Visit cbisland.com for more information about Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia.
Baddeck

“I have travelled around the globe. I have seen the Canadian and American Rockies, the Andes, the Alps and the Highlands of Scotland, but for simple beauty Cape Breton outrivals them all.” So said Alexander Graham Bell, world-renowned inventor of the telephone, who was so taken with the beauty of Baddeck that he chose it as his summer residence. And who could blame him? Stretching along the shores of the magnificent Bras d’Or Lakes, Baddeck is a village in full bloom from spring to autumn with flowers displayed in baskets, boxes and gardens along its downtown core. And as the gateway to the world famous Cabot Trail, catch-your-breath vistas of land, sea and sky are just waiting around every turn.

Sailing on the Bras d’Or Lakes

Where the Cape Breton Highlands meet the lowlands, this massive inland sea offers some of the finest boating in North America. The unique tidal waters create a rich ecosystem home to a wide variety of wildlife, including the majestic bald eagle, osprey, foxes, and white-tailed deer. It’s a birder’s and nature lover’s paradise just waiting to be discovered.

Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site

The Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site in Baddeck chronicles the milestones of the man who invented the telephone and so much more. He oversaw the construction of the “Silver Dart”, Canada’s first powered flight machine. Bell also built an airplane on water (known today as a hydrofoil) – the HD-4. Today, visitors can see a life-size replica of this famous boat as well as many more models, replicas, photo displays and artifacts.

Gaelic College of Celtic Arts & Crafts

Situated in the heart of Cape Breton Island, the Gaelic College of Celtic Arts and Crafts was founded in 1938 as a school devoted to the study and preservation of the Gaelic language, arts and culture. Students of all ages and abilities from around the world come here to take courses and keep Gaelic alive in Canada. World-class instructors offer programs in traditional Scottish disciplines including Gaelic language and song, music, dance and crafts. The tranquil setting, the camaraderie, the wide range of study and other activities attract all those who study at or just visit the Gaelic College.

46°18’N, 60°8’W
Digby

Overlooking the picturesque Annapolis Valley, Digby is a charming fishing town nestled on the shores of the beautiful Annapolis Basin. Known as the scallop capital of Canada, the town of Digby has been an active fishing community since it’s founding in the late 18th century. Located just off the Bay of Fundy, home to the highest tide in the world, Digby’s location offers visitors access to some of the best whale watching in North America. Digby is also home to many other attractions including historic sites, lovely parks and hiking trails.

Famous Digby Scallops

Digby is known as Canada’s Scallop Capital. Harvested from the world-famous Bay of Fundy, Digby scallops are praised for being plump, sweet and like no other scallop in the world. Sautéed in butter or breaded and deep fried, these one-of-a-kind scallops go perfectly with an award winning Nova Scotia white wine to make for a meal that any visitor won’t soon forget.

Bear River First Nation Heritage and Cultural Centre

Bear River First Nation is one of thirteen First Nation communities in Nova Scotia. According to both archaeology and oral tradition, the ancestors of the people of the Bear River First Nation have lived in Nova Scotia since the beginning of time. The Cultural Centre enhances understanding of the Mi’kmaq heritage through interactive programs, exhibits and experiences. See artifacts that date back as far as 4,000 years and take in the village of Bear River with its riverside buildings resting on stilts.

Port-Royal National Historic Site of Canada

Founded by French explorer Samuel de Champlain in 1605, Port-Royal was Canada’s first permanent European settlement. During the winter of 1607, Champlain organized the Ordre de Bon Temps (the Order of Good Cheer), the first social club in North America. Reconstructed by the federal government of Canada as a national historic site in 1938, Port-Royal features costumed interpreters and period demonstrations that capture the look and feel of the original 17th century Habitation. Visitors can also take in the panoramic view of the Annapolis River and Basin, a true sight to behold.
A Taste of History – 18th Century Chocolate

Trade links with the West Indies, France and New England made it possible for this luxurious item to be enjoyed by those who could afford it. Judged a necessity for the colony, chocolate was believed to fortify and aid digestion. Fortunately for today’s visitors, Louisbourg’s chocolate culture is alive and well. Visitors can meet merchants importing chocolate, speak to a servant preparing hot chocolate for her mistress, or personally experience the taste of this historic chocolate in one of the many period restaurants. If your passengers have a taste for history, then they will love this memorable and tasty experience.

18th Century Forge and Weaponry Workshop

Here visitors can spend their day as an apprentice in a fully functioning 18th century military forge. Together with a journeyman blacksmith, they can cast musket balls and operate the bellows that blow on the coal-fired forge changing solid lead into molten metal. Travellers will also have the opportunity to inspect and handle a period flintlock firearm, contrast and compare a 1736 French Grenadier musket from its English counterpart and find out how a musket is loaded and fired.

18th Century Costumes Workshop

Visitors will enjoy an up-close look at the costumes of 18th century Louisbourg. An upper class lady and her ‘servante’ personally show off their clothing and its different layers. The hostess permits guests to see and feel the fine craftsmanship of an upper class ensemble, or the crudeness of a servant’s attire. It’s a unique opportunity to discover 18th century French female aesthetics and find out how social class determined the severity of a corset and the shape of one’s silhouette.

Louisbourg

The largest historical reconstruction in North America, Fortress Louisbourg National Historic Site of Canada is a one-of-a-kind destination. While here, visitors are transported back to 1744 to experience the fortified French colonial town which twice endured sieges that shaped the destiny of the continent. Once home to nearly 2,100 civilians and a garrison of 700 soldiers, it easily holds the title of Canada’s most ambitious historical reconstruction. In addition to massive stone fortification walls, there are over 60 reconstructed buildings interpreted by staff wearing costumes appropriate to the year 1744.

Each summer the Fortress springs to life and dreams of costume interpreters become the town’s residents. These men, women and children enact the full range of society, from the leisurely activities of the rich to the hard physical labour of the poor. Visitors will interact with musicians, soldiers, merchants, street vendors, bakers, servants and fishermen, all adding to the authenticity and uniqueness of the period experience.
Lunenburg

Formally established in 1753, the Town of Lunenburg was the first British Colonial settlement in Nova Scotia outside of Halifax. Made up of people from across Switzerland, France and Germany, these settlers built a vibrant and stable economy reliant upon the fishing industry, eventually making Lunenburg the fishing capital of Canada. In addition to the thriving fisheries, Lunenburg became famous for building wooden vessels, most notably, the world-renowned Bluenose. From 1921 to 1938, the Bluenose was undefeated in the annual International Fishermen’s races and became known as the Queen of the North Atlantic, the fastest schooner of the Grand Banks. The natural beauty of this South Shore town inspires awe in all those arriving in Lunenburg, time and time again. Captivated by history, Lunenburg’s dedication and commitment to preserving its rich architectural heritage has earned it the distinction of being only one of two urban communities in North America to be named a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Old Town

Old Town Lunenburg is the best surviving example of a planned British colonial settlement in North America. Established in 1753, it retains the original layout and overall appearance, based on a rectangular grid pattern drawn up in the home country. The inhabitants have worked hard to safeguard the town’s identity throughout the centuries by preserving the historic wooden architecture of the houses and public buildings. Many of these buildings date from as far back as the 18th century and are an excellent example of a sustained vernacular architectural tradition.

Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic

The breathtaking Lunenburg waterfront is home to the world-class Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic. This large museum showcases a fleet of floating vessels at the wharves, an extensive aquarium and a large exhibit complex that offers something for everyone, from local crafts and culture to boats and local history. Visitors can learn about rum running, whales and August Gales. Meet lobsters, flounder, cod and more in the aquarium. Have a yarn with “old salts” and learn more about Canada’s most famous schooner, the Bluenose. Walk the docks, visit the waterfront vessels and refresh in the salt air as you take in one of the best maritime moments in the world.

Shopping in Mahone Bay

Pretty as a postcard, Mahone Bay is a swift and scenic journey from Lunenburg. Situated on a bay of more than 100 islands, this charming town is rich with history, culture and 19th century architecture. And for those seeking original and interesting treasures to take home, Mahone Bay is a shopping destination not to be missed. Main Street hosts an assortment of art galleries and gift shops that feature the funky folk art and original crafts that the area’s artists are known for. Visitors will also find antique shops, specialty stores and delightful markets. Variety abounds from one end of this town to the other, all within easy walking distance.

44°22'N, 64°18'W
As the winsome sounds of highland bagpipes float across the water to greet cruise passengers to the port of Pictou, Nova Scotia, there is an immediate sense of the area’s proud Scottish heritage. Established in 1773 with the arrival of Scottish settlers on the tall ship The Hector, Pictou is a picturesque small town steeped in history and charm. Beyond the fascinating historical tours of the area, Pictou is also located close to pristine beaches and beautiful nature trails. With several shore excursions of discovery and inspiration nearby, Pictou makes a perfect stop on any Atlantic Canada adventure.

**Hector Heritage Quay**

The Hector Heritage Quay offers those who visit a true and honest reconstruction of the beautiful ship, Hector. This vessel landed in Pictou, the Birthplace of New Scotland, in 1773. At the Hector Heritage Quay Interpretative Centre, visitors can learn all about the historical voyage that brought Scottish culture to our shores, watch a blacksmith and carpenter ply their trade, chat with the resident artist and tour the rigging and gift shop.

**Museum of Industry**

Relive the industrial revolution at the second largest museum in Atlantic Canada - The Stellarton Museum of Industry. The size of seven hockey rinks with over 37,000 artifacts, the Museum of Industry is a quick, scenic ride from the Port of Pictou. Guests will time travel from the Industrial Age to the Computer Age in this interactive museum. When they’re done, a stroll through the town of Stellarton is a must, where a bevy of interpretive panels tell visitors the story of this unique community.

**Zip Lining**

For those looking for something a little more adventurous, Nova Scotia’s first and biggest zip line awaits. Not for the faint of heart, the Monster line is approximately 1,100 feet long and 240 feet above the forest floor. It’s the only spot to enjoy the breathtaking sights and sounds of Pictou County from a higher point of view!
Shelburne
Nestled in one of the finest natural harbours in the world, Shelburne was once the fourth largest community in North America. In 1783 about 3,000 United Empire Loyalists arrived in ships from New York City and from there, the population quickly grew to more than 10,000. The United Empire Loyalists, who maintained allegiance to the British Crown during the American Revolution, created an instant boomtown in the wilderness. The population, which had grown as quickly, then decreased within twenty years to a few hundred as the Loyalists moved to other destinations. The legacy of the Loyalists continues to live on in Shelburne to this day with Historic Dock Street retaining the aura of the 18th century. From silver sand beaches and rugged, rocky coastline dotted with lighthouses, to the working waterfront fishery and serene lakes and rivers, those who visit Shelburne County will find history waiting at every turn.

Black Loyalist Heritage Society Museum
Birchtown is the historic settlement of the African Americans known as Black Loyalists. These Africans escaped from slavery in the American South and fought for the British during the American War of Independence. When it became evident that the Americans were winning the war, the British retreated and transported more than 2,500 Black Loyalists to Birchtown, Nova Scotia. Birchtown grew to become the largest settlement of free blacks outside of Africa in the 18th century. Today, visitors can visit the museum commemorating the Black Loyalists and explore the Birchtown school and church that it is built around.

Historic Dock Street
A must-see, this walking tour of the restored Historic Dock Street is a unique experience in this seaport town. In addition to art galleries, antique stores, gift shops, yacht clubs and public marinas, Historic Dock Street is renowned for the variety of museums that line it. From the Ross-Thomson House, with the oldest restored store in North America, to the Dory Shop, where the art of dory-making is demonstrated everyday during the summer, to the Muir-Cox Shipyard, where the time-honoured craft of wooden boat building is still practiced, there is so much to see and do on Historic Dock Street in Shelburne.

Canoe the Tobeatic Wilderness
The best way to discover the Tobeatic is by canoe. Visitors will enjoy a nature-guided paddle into this wilderness where they’ll bask in the raw, untouched nature that surrounds them. They’ll explore dozens of remote lakes, rivers, streams and old portages that link them. Many of these are traditional canoe routes that had been known for centuries to the Mi’kmaq people.
## Port Information

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<tr>
<td>Shelburne</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>259-275</td>
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### Tidal Ranges (metres)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Port</th>
<th>Tidal Ranges (metres)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baddeck</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digby</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisbourg</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunenburg</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pictou</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelburne</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>0.9-1.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Port Contacts**

**Baddeck**
Harbourmaster: Brian Morrison  
43 Chisholm St, Baddeck, NS B0E 1B0  
Tel: 902.295.2785 | Cell: 902.295.8110  
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**Digby**
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**Halifax**
Halifax Port Authority  
Manager Cruise Development: Catherine McGrail  
PO Box 336, Halifax, NS B3J 2P6  
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**Louisbourg**
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**Lunenburg**
Harbourmaster: Bill Townsend  
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**Sydney**
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Harbourmaster Cyril Aker  
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### Vessel Agents

- **Atship Services Ltd. (Sydney)**
  - Ed Rafferty, Manager
  - Tel: 902.564.5083 | Fax: 902.564.9732
  - Email: sydney.ops@atshipservices.com

- **Fenton Maritime Agencies (Sydney)**
  - Tel: 902.568.5661 | Fax: 902.568.5663
  - Email: fomar@pei.aibn.com

- **Fenton Maritime Agencies (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.423.8136 | Fax: 902.429.1326
  - Email: ops@fkwarren.ca

- **Furncan Marine Limited (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.423.6111 | Fax: 902.423.6177
  - Email: info@cabanatravel.ns.ca

- **Holmes Maritime Inc. (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.422.0400 | Fax: 902.422.9439
  - Email: ops@holmesmaritime.com

- **Inchcape Shipping Services (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.465.3361 | Fax: 902.482.5737
  - Cell: 902.465.1439
  - Email: robert.sharp@iss-shipping.com

- **Montship Inc. (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.420.9184 | Fax: 902.422.6010
  - Email: ktyler@montship.com

- **Nortec Marine Agencies (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.423.8178 | Fax: 902.420.4130
  - Email: rherder@nortec.ca

### Land Agents

- **Atlantic Cruise Ship Services (Halifax and Sydney)**
  - Tel: 902.455.5601 | Fax: 902.455.5657
  - Email: crs@atlanticcruise.ca

- **Ambassatours Gray Line (Halifax and Sydney)**
  - Tel: 902.425.6242 | Fax: 902.425.0223
  - Email: info@ambassatours.ca

- **Cabana Charters & Tours Ltd. (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.455.8111 | Fax: 902.455.8112
  - Email: info@cabana-charter.ca

- **Metro Transit Charter (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.490.6620 | Fax: 902.490.6688
  - Email: info@metrotaxi.ca

- **Holmes Tours of Atlantic Canada 2001 Limited (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.866.2861 | Fax: 902.866.0673
  - Email: anchorffbry@esteem.sympatico.ca

- **Novus Tours (Halifax)**
  - Tel: 902.422.8461 | Fax: 902.422.6499
  - Email: info@novustours.com

- **TayMac Tours (Halifax and Sydney)**
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