

Natural Wonders of Newfoundland June 23 – July 3, 2024 (11 Days)

Tentative Tour Itinerary



Collins Tours is pleased to welcome you along for another great getaway to beautiful and breathtaking Newfoundland! This tour will take you to some of the most natural and historical points in Canada. Explore Signal Hill, Cape Spear National Historic Area, Port Aux Choix Historic Area, L'Anse aux Meadows World Historic Site (Viking settlement), and more! Our tour includes sightseeing cruises in Twillingate and Bay Bulls where we are treated to a whale & puffin watching excursion, plus an optional boat tour on Bonne Bay on the western reaches of the island in Gros Morne National Park. After a review of the following itinerary, I'm confident you will see that

Collins Tours has organized another fantastic getaway. Sit back, relax and enjoy the wonders of Canada's very own... Newfoundland!

Sincerely, Greg Collins - President & CEO

Day 1 - Sunday, June 23 - Ferry to Argentia, NL - Overnight Ferry

• Meet your tour manager or shuttle driver at your **designated meeting point**. Pick-up/drop-off locations are as follows: Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your designated departure time in order to provide ample time for luggage and travelers to board.

FINAL DEPARTURE TIMES:

New Brunswick:

- Lincoln Irving Big Stop TBA
- > Saint John, Rte.1 Irving Big Stop (Rothesay) TBA
- > Moncton, Magnetic Hill McDonalds TBA
- > Aulac Irving Big Stop 15 min. rest stop TBA

PEI: Shuttle to meet Main Coach in Aulac, NB

> Charlottetown – Super Store Mall Entrance - TBA

Nova Scotia:

- > Halifax, Sobey's Lacewood Dr. TBA
- > Dartmouth Crossing, Hampton Inn TBA
- > Quality Inn Airport Hotel TBA
- > Truro Heights Irving Big Stop 1hr lunch stop meet NS passengers - TBA
- All stops for passenger pick up/drop off will be brief (10-15 min.) and we ask that you remain on board unless directed by your tour manager.
- We will stop for lunch along our route, (meal not included in tour price).
- Upon arrival at the ferry terminal, your tour manager will check in with Marine Atlantic. Please have your ***valid photo** identification must include full name and date of birth.
- <u>Please note</u>: All passengers should pack an overnight bag for the overnight ferry crossing into Argentia. Large pieces of luggage will remain on the coach until we arrive in St. John's N.L. You will also be required to do the same for the overnight ferry from Port Aux Basques back to Nova Scotia.
- The coach boards the ferry, then passengers are checked in. Your Tour Manager will provide room keys of your overnight cabin (price included in your tour cost). Please note: Marine Atlantic randomly assigns cabins on day of check-in and will not guarantee cabins with windows. The crossing from North Sydney

to Argentia, N.L. takes approx. 14-16 hrs, depending on the weather. *Your private ferry cabins inclusions are ferry ticket, accommodation in a 2 or 4 berth cabin, fuel, and security fees).*

• Dinner and all activities on the ferry are at your leisure (cost on own).

Day 2 – Monday, June 24 – Argentia – Delta Hotel St. John's NL (D)

- Breakfast is on your own this morning before we arrive in Argentia, Newfoundland.
- Board the coach before we disembark the ferry, then we make our way through Newfoundland's Avalon Region, arriving at approximately noon in St. John's, Newfoundland's capital city.
- Relax while your Tour Manager checks you in for your 2-night stay at the Delta Hotel. Room keys will be handed out and luggage will be delivered to rooms (one per person). Early check-in has been requested, but cannot be guaranteed until 3:00 p.m.
- Enjoy lunch at your leisure in one of the pubs or restaurants near your hotel.
- Get set for a 2.5-hour professionally guided tour of this historic port city, featuring Victorian architecture and brightly coloured buildings, amazing views from Signal Hill National Heritage Site, Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Confederation Building, and picturesque Quidi Vidi Village (included tip at your discretion).
- Following your guided tour, take time to freshen up before joining us a delicious welcome dinner. Welcome to the Rock! **(Included).** Note, our Welcome & Farewell dinners include one glass of wine or beer.
- Following dinner, you are free to experience more of Newfoundland's friendly and lively local culture...your way! Perhaps a stroll down George Street; or a night on the town? It is the weekend after all. (On own).

Day 3 - Tuesday, June 25 - Delta Hotel, St. John's, NL (B, L)

- Hot deluxe breakfast is included in the hotel this morning.
- Meet your group and Tour Manager this morning to depart from the hotel for our drive south to Bay Bulls for our exciting Whale & Puffin sightseeing cruise at Witless Bay Ecological Reserve.
- Immediately following your eco-cruise, enjoy lunch at the cafe located on site (Included; choice of homemade, fresh sandwiches and soup with dessert).
- This afternoon, enjoy a guided tour of Cape Spear National Historic Site, the most easterly location in North America. Hold onto your hats as you explore this rugged coastal site with its 175-year-old restored lighthouse! (Admission and tour price included). Please note, the terrain at Cape Spear is rocky, please use caution and avoid going close to the cliff edges.
- Board the coach for our trip back to the hotel, leaving you with time to relax or explore on your own. Enjoy your last night in St. John's...your way, with dinner at a location of your choice (your expense).

Day 4 - Wednesday, June 26 - St. John's - Quality Hotel Clarenville (B)

- Enjoy another hot deluxe breakfast included this morning before checking out of the hotel. Please be sure to cover any incidental charges at this time.
- This morning we will visit The Rooms **(admission included).** This is Newfoundland and Labrador's largest public cultural space. The Rooms is a portal to the many stories this province and its people have to tell. Here, you'll find collections, exhibits and programs that tell our stories and interpret our natural world through art, artifacts, archaeology, architecture and archival record.
- Then you will have some leisurely time to explore St. John's downtown area on your own and have lunch (your expense) before our afternoon drive to Clarenville.
- Next stop, the town of Clarenville and the Quality Hotel, our home for the night.
- Again, enjoy our Collins Tours signature hotel check-in service and the friendly folks at our hotel.

Day 5 – Thursday, June 27 – Clarenville – Bonavista – Quality Hotel, Gander (B, L, D)

- Enjoy a hot breakfast this morning. Today we will travel the Discovery Trail and explore the beautiful Bonavista Peninsula with a short photo stop at the Cape Bonavista Lighthouse.
- We visit the Matthew Legacy **(included)**, located at the tip of the Bonavista Peninsula. Learn about this replica of the caravel sailed by John Cabot in 1497, from Bristol, England to what many assume is the exact spot in Newfoundland he arrived.
- We will stop at a family-owned tea room for a meal in Bonavista (included) before boarding the coach and making our way towards Gander, to the Quality Hotel, our accommodations for the next two nights.
- Relax as your guide checks you into the Quality Hotel and has bags sent to your room. Take time to freshen up before our group dinner and another gathering to share stories of time together so



- dinner and another gathering to share stories of time together so far (Included).
- Stay tuned for the highlight of today, the famous Newfoundland Screech Inn ceremony following dinner with entertainment, prepare to become an honorary Newfoundlander, B'y!

Day 6 - Friday, June 28 - Gander - Twillingate - Quality Hotel, Gander (B, L)

- Enjoy full American breakfast this morning, before our departure this morning to Twillingate.
- Upon arrival, take in the scenery and enjoy the town at leisure while those who have booked a cruise can enjoy a brief break while your guide checks you in for our sailing with Iceberg Quest; a 2-hr narrated sightseeing cruise through the channels and islands of north-central Newfoundland **(Optional)**.
- Following the cruise, we will make our way to the Auk Island Winery where we will enjoy a lunch (**Included**). Followed by a tour and a wine sampling **(Included)**.
- Enjoy our afternoon drive back to the hotel
- Dinner is on your own this evening with options nearby.

Day 7 – Saturday, June 29 – Gander – Norris Point - Shallow Bay Motel, Cow Head (B, D)

- Enjoy the hotel's breakfast (included) before our departure
- Today's drive includes a 20-minute morning rest stop, followed by a lunch break along our route. (not included)
- All aboard for our trip north to the picturesque tiny town of Norris Point surrounded by the beautiful Gros Morne National Park, to enjoy and (**Included**) 2-hour interpretive cruise on Bonne Bay. Learn about the geological wonders, rich cultural history, and biological diversity of this fascinating bay, situated in the heart of Gros Morne National Park, a "UNESCO" World Heritage Site.



- After the cruise, our drive takes us to the hotel up the picturesque community of Cow Head. Once again, your Tour Manager will check the group into the Shallow Bay Motel and have bags sent to your rooms.
- Tonight, enjoy another group dinner (Included)
- Following dinner, you are free to relax and enjoy the evening. Perhaps you would like to take a nice walk over to the cove for amazing sunset views!

Day 8 - Sunday, June 30 - Cow Head - Haven Inn, St Anthony (B, D)

- Enjoy another hot breakfast at the hotel before we travel north to the end of the Great Northern Peninsula at St. Anthony.
- We will visit the Port au Choix National Historic Site. On the west side of Newfoundland's Great Northern Peninsula, you'll find the crossroads of 6,000 years of human history. The sea's bounty drew Maritime Archaic people, the Dorset people, the Groswater people and the recent indigenous people here long before Europeans arrived. **(Admission included).** Enjoy a short educational film and some fascinating artifacts, considered some of the richest archeological finds in North America.
- We will stop for lunch today at a local restaurant. (Not included).
- We will gather to enjoy a dinner with music in St. Anthony! (Dinner and entertainment included).

Day 9 – Monday, July 1 – St. Anthony – Holiday Inn Express, Deer Lake (B) Happy Canada Day!

- Enjoy another hearty NL breakfast before we start heading south (included).
- This morning we will make our way to L'Anse Aux Meadows to travel back in time during your visit to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, located on the Great Northern Peninsula. Explore remains of an authentic 11th-Century Viking settlement, evidence of the first European presence in North America, predating Columbus by 500 years! (Ticket included).
- A lunch stop has been scheduled for convenience of the group (not included).
- During our drive today we will stop at the Provincial Arches for a photo opportunity (weather permitting)



- We will check in to our hotel for the evening, once again, your Tour Manager will distribute room keys and have your luggage sent to your room on your behalf.
- Please remember to pack only an overnight bag for tomorrow's overnight ferry crossing. Large luggage must remain on the coach while sailing to Nova Scotia.

Day 10 – Tuesday, July 2 – Deer Lake-Corner Brook-Port Aux Basques (B, Farewell Group Dinner)

- Enjoy breakfast at the Deer Lake Holiday Inn Express (included)
- After checking out of the hotel we make our way to the Newfoundland Insectarium, complete with interpretive talk and fascinating insight into bees & bee society (admission and talk included).
- Following our visit, we drive towards Corner Brook along the Humber River valley, past Marble Mountain, with photo stops along the way.
- After lunch (on own), we will have some free time to explore another part of Corner Brook.
- Our "Farewell to the Rock" group dinner will give you an opportunity to reflect on your time spent in one of Canada's most unique places (included). Note, our farewell dinner includes a glass of wine or beer.
- We will make our way south to Port Aux Basques and the Marine Atlantic Ferry Terminal. Prior to checking in, we will stop for last minute snacks and essentials for the overnight ferry crossing.
- We will check in for the crossing (overnight sailing) to North Sydney. The tour manager will distribute your cabin key for your cabins (included in tour price). Please remember only your overnight bag is allowed on deck. Large suitcases must remain on the bus (Ticket, tax & surcharges are included in tour price).
- Relax and enjoy your 6-8 hour crossing to North Sydney, NS.



Day 11 - Wednesday, July 3 - Port Aux Basques Ferry - North Sydney & Home

- Breakfast this morning will be on board the ferry (on own, your expense).
- Once we disembark in North Sydney, it's time to head home. We will have a brief stop along the route followed by lunch break (one hour, price not included).
- Travellers will be returned to their original pick-up locations. Approximate arrival times listed below.

Nova Scotia Travellers:

- ≻Truro Big Stop TBA
- >Quality Inn Airport Hotel –TBA
- > Dartmouth Crossing, Hampton Inn TBA
- > Halifax, Sobeys Lacewood Drive TBA

Prince Edward Island Travellers:

> Charlottetown – Shuttle from Aulac - TBA

New Brunswick Travellers:

- > Aulac Irving Big Stop TBA
- Moncton, Magnetic Hill McDonald's TBA 15 min rest stop
- > Saint John, Rte. #1 Irving Big Stop TBA
- Lincoln Irving Big Stop TBA
- Thank you for choosing to travel with Collins Tours on this memorable tour of Newfoundland. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Tour itineraries are **ONLY a guideline (estimate)** and may need to be modified by your tour manager. Times are subject to change due to various unforeseen factors, such as weather, traffic, mechanical issues, emergencies, and "Acts of God." Collins Tours is not responsible or liable, in any way, for delays caused by any unforeseen events described above or similar occurrences which may cause changes in the itinerary. No refunds or reimbursements or credits will be offered in the event of any such occurrences. Travel delays are at your own risk and expenses. Travel insurance is highly recommended in case of any sickness or illness prior to traveling or while travel. Collins Tours will not be helpd responsible for personal medical expenses, loss of days, or events caused by any medical concerns or conditions of individual passengers.
- *Seat Rotation Policy will be in effect for this tour and will be explained by your tour manager once on board. Please note front seats are not guaranteed with note from physician. To be fair to all, you will be rotated through the front half of the coach only with a physician's note, or where possible closer to the front.
- We ask that everyone respect timelines, as determined by your tour manager, as well as keeping scents to a minimum due to some passenger having allergies. This will help ensure ALL **clients are able to enjoy themselves to the fullest**.
- Tour price does NOT include people's incidental room charges, such as movie rentals, internet, phone calls, etc. Give the front desk your credit card information to cover these fees.
- Marine Atlantic requires valid photo ID for boarding ferry. Identification MUST include photo, full name & birth date.

Hotel Contact Information

- June 23 Marine Atlantic Ph: 1-800-341-7981
- June 24 & 25 Delta Hotel, St. John's Ph: 709-739-6404
- June 26 Quality Hotel, Clarenville, Ph: 709- 466-1717
- June 27 & 28 Quality Hotel, Gander Ph: 709-256-3931
- June 29 Shallow Bay Motel, Cow Head Ph: 709-243-2471
- June 30 Haven Inn, St. Anthony, Ph: 709-454-9100
- July 1 Holiday Inn Express, Deer Lake, Ph: 709-635-3232
- July 2 Marine Atlantic Ph: 1-800-341-7981

Be sure to pack for all four seasons during this tour as Newfoundland can experience all four in one day!

- Marine Atlantic assigns all cabins randomly. We are **NOT** able to request or guarantee windows for cabins reserved on sailings to or from Newfoundland.
- Collins Tour is not responsible for lost or stolen baggage or personal items.
- **REMEMBER**: Your Tour Manager handles hotel check in/checkout procedures, overall group management (e.g. timely

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transitions, itinerary planning), and group representation at events, hotels, ferry terminals, and overall operation of each tour. We work hard to ensure that everyone enjoys his or their experience to the fullest. **Gratuities for your Tour Manager and driver are not included in your tour price.** Tipping is your way of saying 'Thank You," for a job well done. **Here are our guidelines on** *Tipping Etiquette*:

- Collins Tours Manager Ranging from \$6,00 \$8.00 per person, per day.
- Bus driver- \$5.00 \$6.00 per person, per day.
- Private city tour guides- \$3.00 per person, per day



Thank you for traveling with Collins Tours! We look forward to serving you with your future travel plans