

**JUNE 8-16, 2024** 

# Join the ETV Endowment and Austin Jenkins on an unforgettable journey to Nova Scotia!

Our journey begins in Halifax, where we'll explore the city's vibrant waterfront, visit historic landmarks and begin our exploration of Nova Scotia's natural history. We'll experience the charm of Peggy's Cove, Mahone Bay, Lunenburg – a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and more.

Next, we'll travel over to Charlottetown, PEI, for a city tour complete with a visit to PEI National Park and a stop at Green Gables Heritage Place, the inspiration behind Lucy M. Montgomery's beloved series, *Anne of Green Gables*.

We'll continue on to the village of Baddeck, located in the heart of Cape Breton Island, where we'll drive the Cabot Trail, enjoy whale and puffin watching and get immersed in Gaelic history at Highland Village. Our journey concludes in the beautiful town of Port Hawkesbury on the tip of Cape Breton.





Halifax, Nova Scotia

## DAY ONE: SATURDAY, JUNE 8

### Arrive in Halifax

On arrival at Halifax Stanfield International Airport, we'll meet Sally Lane, our Destination Southwest Tour Director, and our driver and transfer downtown to Halifax Marriott Harbourfront, our home for the next three nights. This evening we'll enjoy our **Welcome Dinner.** 



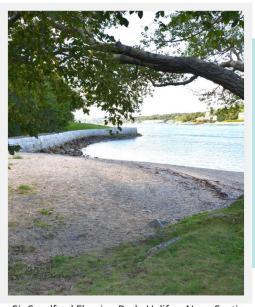
Halifax waterfront, Nova Scotia

### DAY TWO: SUNDAY, JUNE 9

### Halifax

We'll enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel and then begin our immersion into the nature of Nova Scotia with a nature walk at Sir Sandford Fleming Park. On the forest floor, we'll look for wildflowers, including pink lady's slipper orchids, blue-bead lilies and Canada mayflowers, all bursting forth to see the spring. Above, we'll look for yellow warblers, red-breasted nuthatches and common yellowthroats, all singing loudly and nestled in a backdrop of fragrant balsam firs, white pines and northern red oaks. At the end of our walk, we'll climb a few stairs to enjoy a picturesque view back over Halifax from the top of Sir Sanford Fleming Memorial Tower.

After **lunch**, we'll enjoy a tour of Halifax that includes the waterfront, downtown, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Titanic Graves, a picture stop at Citadel Hill and a stroll across the Public Gardens. We'll also see St. Paul's Anglican Church and Province House. The evening is free for dinner on your own.



Sir Sandford Fleming Park, Halifax, Nova Scotia



Peggy's Cove Lighthouse, Nova Scotia

### South Shore Touring

Indulge in **breakfast** at Peggy's Cove while overlooking one of the most photographed lighthouses in the world before enjoying some free time to explore this famous fishing village. We'll continue on to Mahone Bay, home to many artisans and famous for its scenic views. Our next stop is Lunenburg – a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where we will enjoy a guided tour of the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic.

After **lunch**, you may choose to join Austin on the Back Harbor Trail, an easy walk that wraps around Lunenberg with views of wetlands and wildlife, or enjoy free time in Lunenburg on your own before heading back to Halifax for a free evening.

## Halifax to Charlottetown

After **breakfast**, we'll visit the Millbrook Heritage and Cultural Centre to learn about the Mi'kmaq people. We'll enjoy **lunch** and have a guided tour of Joggins Fossil Cliffs – a UNESCO World Heritage Site on the spectacular Bay of Fundy – before crossing the Confederation Bridge to Charlottetown, PEI, where we will enjoy a festive **dinner** and the next two nights at Rodd Royalty.



Confederation Bridge, Prince Edward Island

Green Gables Heritage Place

### **PEI Touring**

Enjoy **breakfast** before embarking on a city tour of Charlottetown. We'll visit PEI National Park, home to rolling dunes and red sand beaches. Here, we'll take the Cavendish Dunelands Trail, with endless views of sand dunes, grasses, wildflowers and freshwater ponds. Walking in this place with wind blowing through your hair, you'll feel free - like Anne Shirley. And, we'll visit her home at Green Gables Heritage Place, the inspiration behind Lucy M. Montgomery's iconic *Anne of Green Gables* books. We'll enjoy a traditional **lobster dinner** before heading back to Charlottetown.

### DAY SIX: THURSDAY, JUNE 13

#### Charlottetown to Baddeck

After **breakfast**, we'll take a scenic ferry back to Nova Scotia via the Northumberland Straight. We'll continue on to Inverary Resort in beautiful Baddeck, our home for the next two nights. Before checking into our hotel on the Bras d'or Lake, we'll visit Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site to learn of the many accomplishments of this genius who made his home in Baddeck and once remarked, "I have traveled 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!" We'll conclude the evening with **dinner** together.



Bras d'or Lake, Nova Scotia

### DAY SEVEN: FRIDAY, JUNE 14

### Cabot Trail Touring

After **breakfast**, we'll drive the iconic Cabot Trail, stopping at several nature trails to stretch our legs and enjoy a **boxed lunch** along the way. We'll plan to visit the following:



Cabot Trail, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

The Lone Shieling Loop is a half-mile leg stretcher that gives us a glimpse of the ancient Acadian Forest. It is part of the largest old growth forest in the Maritimes, with trees approaching 400 years of age. We'll be sheltered by ancient sugar maple, birch and beech trees. Spring wildflowers on the forest floor include nodding trilliums and Solomon's plum, all infilled with a diversity of beautiful fern species.

The Cape Breton Highlands Bog Walk is a 1/3 mile boardwalk that takes us across a bog ecosystem. What the trail lacks in distance, it makes up for with wild orchids, pitcher plants and swamp laurels in bloom. Several dragonfly species will keep us company as we walk through the flowers, and we'll keep our eyes peeled for moose and other wildlife species along the way.

We'll conclude our day with a whale-watching tour (subject to weather) in Pleasant Bay before returning to Baddeck.



Atlantic Puffin

### DAY EIGHT: SATURDAY, JUNE 15

### Cape Breton Touring

This morning after **breakfast** we'll embark on a puffin-watching boat tour (subject to weather). After the tour, we'll visit Highland Village, a living history museum and cultural center that celebrates the Gaelic experience in Nova Scotia. In the afternoon, we'll continue on to the Maritime Inn Port Hawkesbury, located in a small town on the bottom tip of Cape Breton, and enjoy a **Farewell Dinner** to celebrate all that we've experienced.

## **DAY NINE: SUNDAY, JUNE 16**

### Return to Halifax

After **breakfast**, we'll board the coach and transfer to the airport for flights home.





### **ABOUT YOUR GUIDES**

AUSTIN JENKINS is a native of Camden, SC. He received his undergraduate degree studying biology and education at The Citadel and graduate degrees from Clemson University studying various organisms. He is an instructor for the popular SC Master Naturalist Program through Clemson Extension and the SC Wildlife Federation, where he is a former chair and emeritus board member. Austin teaches at USC Sumter, where his courses include Environmental Biology and Natural History of South Carolina.

years and has been involved in all aspects of the tourism industry since the early 1990s, from being an operations manager to escorting tour groups around the United States and abroad. She successfully ran two of New Mexico's largest destination management companies for more than two decades, but her greatest love has always been being a top-notch tour guide. Sally lives by the motto "Give them service and take it a step beyond."

## **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

### JUNE 8, 9 & 10

#### **Halifax Marriott Harbourfront**

1919 Upper Water Street Halifax, NS B3J 3J5 902-421-1700



14 Capital Drive Charlottetown, PE C1A 8C2 902-894-8566

### **JUNE 13 & 14**

### **Inverary Resort**

368 Shore Road Baddeck, NS B0E 1B0 902-295-3500

### JUNE 15

#### Maritime Inn Port Hawkesbury

717 Reeves Street
Port Hawkesbury, NS B9A 2S2
902-625-0320



Halifax Marriott Harbourfront



**Inverary Resort** 



Rodd Royalty



Maritime Inn Port Hawkesbury



Skyline Trail, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

#### **TOUR PRICE PER PERSON:**

• **Double Occupancy:** \$7,419 per person

• Single supplement: \$1,320

A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to secure your place on this trip.

**To reserve your place,** send the registration form with check or credit card information for the deposit amount to: ETV Endowment Nova Scotia Tour, 401 E. Kennedy Street, Suite B-1, Spartanburg, SC 29302.



#### **Price Includes:**

- \$1,000 tax-deductible contribution to the ETV Endowment
- Expert guidance of Austin Jenkins, PhD
- Privately-guided tours of major sites, including: Halifax

Peggy's Cove

Mahone Bay

Lunenburg

**Joggins Fossil Cliffs** 

PEI National Park

Green Gables Heritage Place

Cabot Trail

Highland Village

and so much more!

- Whale and puffin watching (subject to weather)
- 8 nights' hotel accommodations
- Breakfast daily, 4 lunches and 5 dinners
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- Roundtrip airport transfers
- Ferry to Nova Scotia via the Northumberland Strait
- Baggage handling for one piece of luggage per person for hotel transfers
- One ETV Endowment luggage tag
- All gratuities for meals, driver, local guides and tour director
- Free time for additional sight-seeing, relaxing or shopping

#### Not Included:

- Airfare to/from Halifax
- Services, meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
- Laundry, telephone calls and expenditures of a personal nature
- Travel insurance

PLEASE NOTE: Itinerary is subject to change. You should plan to arrive to/depart from Halifax Stanfield International Airport. Do not book airfare until instructed to do so by the ETV Endowment.

This is a nature tour, and there will be moderate-to-active walking throughout the trip, sometimes over varied, uneven or slippery terrain. You should feel comfortable participating in full days of activities.

Questions? Contact Amy Raffo at the ETV Endowment at 864-591-0046 or araffo@etvendowment.org.

