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**INVERNESS
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www.invernessoran.ca

Editorial Copy: K.C. Beaton
 Graphic Design: Lindsay Shaw
 Advertising Manager: Bernice Curley
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 Photographs: cover – Marilyn Ellison
 (top), Francis MacDonald (bottom);
 inside – see photo for credit

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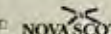
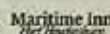
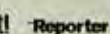
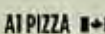
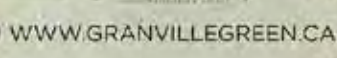
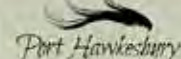
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WELCOME TO Canada's Musical Coast - Inverness County

Canada's Musical Coast is a string of beautiful communities and majestic coastline vistas bound together by musical traditions. The music culture here is written into the story...the very fabric of the coastline. During harsh winters and trying times, music and dance were neither indulgence or luxury, but rather survival. Music culture here is honest, authentic and shared directly from the heart – this is a coast shaped by music.

Inverness County comprises the entire western coastline of Cape Breton Island, and reaches inland as far as the beautiful Bras d'Or Lakes. Between these shorelines, the cultures, arts, languages and landscapes complement each other, extending an open invitation for visitors to experience any or all of western Cape Breton's offerings.

The Sunset Side of Cape Breton Island is your guide to the activities, culinary choices, places to rest and event information in Inverness County.

We are pleased to share these wonders of our place with you!



FOR DETAILED EVENT LISTINGS PICK UP OUR
SUMMER & FALL EVENTS OR OUR DANCING
AROUND INVERNESS COUNTY BROCHURE
AT ANY VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE ON
CAPE BRETON ISLAND!

CANADA'S
MUSICAL  **coast**



Inverness County Councillors: (back) John Dowling, John MacLennan, Alfred Poirier; (seated) Laurie Cranton, Betty Ann MacQuarrie and Jim Mustard.

Councillors and Staff of the Municipality of the County of Inverness are pleased to welcome you to Canada's Musical Coast! Share in our enthusiasm for the county's vibrant lifestyle.

As you travel throughout our county you will undoubtedly be captivated by our vast coastlines and serene sunsets. We can assure you it's the people and personalities that will stay with you and draw you back again and again.

– Betty Ann MacQuarrie, Warden

EMAIL: ORAN@NS.ALIANTZINC.CA WWW: INVERNESSORAN.CA

The Inverness Oran

PICK UP THE CURRENT ISSUE WEDNESDAY OR CHECK US OUT
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Need-to-knows about Inverness County

A lighthearted look at life in this ruggedly beautiful place from the perspective of people who call it home

- ♪ You don't need to like music, but it helps.
- ♪ We weren't kidding when we called it Canada's Musical Coast. Don't be afraid to try the dances. We are always eager and enthusiastic about guiding you through and sharing our joy!
- ♪ In one day in Inverness County you could play golf, hike a trail, bet on a horserace, listen to at least one language that isn't English, tour a distillery, sample a flight at a craft brewery, dance a square set, walk a beach, ride on a boat, watch a sunset, and still have time for a seafood dinner.
- ♪ There are four seasons in Inverness County: snowmobiling, fishing, haymaking and dancing. Sunsets are always in season.
- ♪ Our beaches are beautiful year-round. It just takes a little more imagination and a pair of snowshoes to see that in February.
- ♪ The bright silver stars in the skies over Inverness County may not shine as bright as city lights, but they're abundant, all natural, renewable and sustainable.
- ♪ It's okay to be in awe of everything you see and do here. We are too.
- ♪ For the people who live here, the sight of new lobster traps or boats on open water in spring causes a rush of endorphins akin to the experience some feel seeing babies and puppies.
- ♪ You can learn as much about genealogy through one conversation with most residents of Inverness County as through any online DNA testing service.
- ♪ No matter your status in life away from Inverness County, while on the roads you will all be greeted by the same two fingered steering wheel wave from local drivers in oncoming vehicles.
- ♪ Back road tours are a great way to test your sense of adventure. GPS guided back road tours however have been known to result in search and rescue missions in Inverness

County. Trust directions provided by humans over technology. Many of the trails you will hike, the museums and galleries you will visit and the events you will see are cared for and powered by volunteers.

♪ If someone has told you that the weather may call for a sundress and a snowsuit all in the same day, they're exaggerating. But a cardigan or a fleece in your bag is not a waste of space.

♪ *Failte. Bienvenue. Pijila'si.* Welcome. You have come to a place where the beauty of the place and the hospitality of the people are unrivalled. We're happy to share our home with you. People rarely visit Inverness County just once...so see you again soon.



Photo by: K.C. Beaton



Photo by: K.C. Beaton



PORT HASTINGS



Welcome to Cape Breton! Port Hastings is the first place to see on Cape Breton Island. This community offers a visitor the chance to stop, look and learn about our island, get some travel advice, grab a snack or take a deep breath before launching into your Cape Breton adventure.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: A&W, Port Hawkesbury Motel (Hearthstone Inn)

Places to Sleep: motels, B&B, cottages

Places to Stop: Nova Scotia Visitor Information Centre and Cape Breton Store, Genealogy/History/Archives: Port Hastings Museum, Pioneer Cemetery

Amenities: Gas station, convenience store, post office

Churches: St. David's United, 902-625-2178

902-625-1295/porthastingsmuseum@gmail.com

PORT HASTINGS MUSEUM
and Archives and Artisans Collective Shop

Monday to Friday: 10 to 4 pm
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A&W Port Hastings

#357 Highway #4, Telephone 902-625-0033



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Hours of operation: 6am-11pm Monday to Sunday

Port Hastings: Gateway to the Sunset Side

As you cross the Canso Causeway you arrive in the village of Port Hastings. It is primarily a residential community located next door to the town of Port Hawkesbury. Canadian author Linden MacIntyre lived here in his youth and has used the community and surrounding places along Route 19 as settings or backdrops for his novels. Port Hastings is where the Sunset Side of Cape Breton begins.

One of the first stops in the community is the Visitor Information Centre operated by the province of Nova Scotia. Staff in the centre are well informed about places to stay, spots to eat and things to do around Inverness County and throughout Cape Breton. There are also services such as internet, washrooms, picnic tables, a gift shop and information brochures.

Across the rotary from the visitor information centre are the Port Hastings Museum and Archives and St. David's Church. The displays and archives inside the museum tell the stories about the communities of Mulgrave, Port Hastings and Port Hawkesbury, as well as surrounding places like Rhodena, Long Stretch Road or Troy. The museum has collections of hundreds of photographs, archival records, genealogical records and other artifacts about the area from the time of settlement at 1788 through the time of construction of the Canso Causeway that opened in 1955. There is also information about the impact rails and sails had on this port community. The museum operates an ice cream barn and a craft shop featuring quilts and handcrafts of local artisans and there is a picnic site in front of

the building.

St. David's United Church was established in 1829. The current building was officially opened in 1855 and still holds services weekly. Each year the church hosts one of the largest quilt shows/sales in Cape Breton in mid-August.

Port Hastings is also the launch point of the Celtic Shores Coastal Trail, a 92-kilometer section of the Trans Canada trail stretching along the west coast of Cape Breton to the town of Inverness. Celtic Shores is a multi-use trail, meaning it's accessible to hikers, cyclists, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles. The first four kilometers of this trail from the access point at the Canso Canal is windswept and rugged as you are walking level with the water. These first four kilometers are accessible to hikers; it is recommended that cyclists pick up the trail at Troy Station along Route 19.

Port Hastings is where your Cape Breton adventure begins.



Opening ceremony of the Canso Causeway back in 1955.

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Port Hawkesbury

We greet every visitor to Cape Breton – that's our job as the first town after the causeway. We'll immerse you in Cape Breton's warmth, hospitality and musical culture as you visit our shops or explore our beautiful community on the coast.

Let the warm waters of our local beaches beckon, or perhaps you'd enjoy a challenging round at one of our many nearby golf courses. If nature's more your thing enjoy the breathtaking views from one of our hiking trails.

Let us caress your soul with the music and culture that has made our tiny island famous at one of our many Ceilidhs. Our Granville Green free outdoor concert series, Sunday evenings throughout the summer, are sure to please every musical taste.



***We like to make the very best
in first impressions***

Come find out what kind of first – and lasting – impression we'll make.



For more information visit us online at TownOfPortHawkesbury.ca or call 902-625-2591.



TOWN OF PORT HAWKESBURY



Photo by: Murdo Ferguson

Port Hawkesbury is Cape Breton's front porch. The town has a long history with the sea. Ships and fishing vessels were built here in the early and mid 1800s. Port Hawkesbury continued to grow as a port when railway connections were made to the rest of Canada. Today it is a centre of commerce and industry on the west side of Cape Breton.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: A variety of fast food outlets, Tim Hortons, A1 Pizza, Millers Pub, Papa's Pub, Treasure Trove, Fleur de Lis Tearoom, Barykin Bistro, China King

Places to Sleep: Maritime Inn, B&Bs

Places to Stop: Port Hawkesbury Waterfront, Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre (Franklin Wright Gallery, Shannon Studio, Bear Head Conference Room, YMCA fitness facilities)

Trails: Community Woodland Trails, waterfront boardwalk

Amenities: gas stations, larger grocery stores, hardware/sporting goods/automotive repair, Port Hawkesbury Centre (shopping mall, various retail outlets), pharmacies, churches, hair care, aesthetic services, library, CAP (public internet access) site, post office

Music: Port Hawkesbury Ceilidhs (Tuesdays at 8), Granville Green (Sundays at 7)

Churches: St. Joseph's Catholic, 902-625-1045; St. Mark's United, 902-625-2229



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Port Hawkesbury: A summer of fun

Summer in the town of Port Hawkesbury starts to heat up around the weekend leading up to Canada Day, July 1st.

Canada's 151st birthday celebration offers an afternoon of music, food and good times beginning at 12 noon at Granville Green, near the Port Hawkesbury waterfront. There's music by Beech Hill offering folk rock and contemporary sounds, a barbecue, children's games, and a birthday cake for Canada.

July 1st is also the opening day of the Festival of the Strait community festival. Events throughout the week include family softball games, a drive-in theatre night, a senior's picnic, a giant game of spotlight, puppet shows, parades, concerts and pub nights. The Festival of the Strait wraps up on July 8th with fireworks after the Granville Green concert featuring Steven Page.

The Ceilidh Market will be kicking off at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre July 19th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., running weekly until mid-October. The Ceilidh Market will feature produce grown and products manufactured on Cape Breton Island or in Northeastern Nova Scotia.

The Port Hawkesbury Trails are a place for you to enjoy the beauty of nature right in your backyard. The trails are comprised of nine kilometers of natural woodland with groomed walkways for your use. Trail maps are available at the Town of Port Hawkesbury or online at www.townofporthawkesbury.ca.

If you are interested in some free play, the Port Hawkesbury playground is the place for you. Ballfields, tennis courts, lit basketball courts, play structures and an amazing splash pad are here for your enjoyment. The playground is located behind the



Legendary songwriter Gordie Sampson at Granville Green in 2016.

Port Hawkesbury Shopping Centre and has activities for all ages.

On August 5th, renowned children's entertainer Fred Penner will close out the 2018 Granville Green concert series. Leading up to this 7 p.m. show, there will be opportunities for you to

get out and enjoy the day. Activities include bungee jumping and inflatables at the playground from 1 to 3 p.m., geocaching adventures, a trail scavenger hunt and a *plein air* art creation event.

For information about summer events in Port Hawkesbury, visit www.townofporthawkesbury.ca, or see the *Inverness* Oran published on Wednesdays for the latest updates.

www.fdltearoom.ca

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Port Hawkesbury Ceilidhs

The Port Hawkesbury Ceilidhs have been a staple of musical attractions in western Cape Breton since 1996. The ceilidh has gone through several transformations throughout its history, but the vision of these events has remained unchanged: a weekly event featuring traditional fiddle and folk music for residents and visitors in the Strait Area. At the core of the success of these ceilidhs has been a group of dedicated volunteers who, with a variety of sponsoring organizations, have kept these weekly gatherings running for 23 seasons. These volunteers now sponsor the ceilidhs and donate the proceeds to local charities.

Over the years the Port Hawkesbury Ceilidh stage has hosted legends of Cape Breton fiddle music and provided a place for young performers getting started on the traditional music scene. Each season features a variety of fiddlers, piano players, pipers, dancers, Gaelic singers, storytellers and surprise guests. The 2018 season of Port Hawkesbury Ceilidhs begins on Tuesday, July 2nd at 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, 606 Reeves Street. Admission is \$10/adult, \$4/student (16 and under), and free for children 5 and under. Concerts run every Tuesday evening until October 2nd. Tea and oatcakes are served each week, while supplies last. Visit www.capebretonceilidh.com for details on the weekly schedule of performers.



Photo by: Bob MacEachern

Wendy MacIsaac (left) and Andrea Beaton.



Photo by: Bob MacEachern

Port Hawkesbury ceilidh featuring the MacNeil family, Celtic Touch Dancers, Dawn and Margie Beaton and Kevin Dugas on the pipes.

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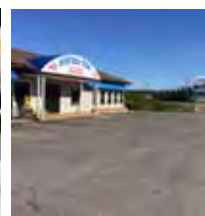


Miller's summer hours:

Weekdays: 6:30am-11pm

Saturdays: 7am-11pm

Sundays: 7am-10pm



717 Reeves St., Port Hawkesbury / 902-625-5250

Granville Green celebrates 24th season

Remember the days of relaxing, carefree Sunday evenings sitting on a front porch, watching the sun go down, visiting with friends and neighbours, maybe listening to some music? If you don't remember, does it sound appealing?

The Granville Green concert series offers the chance to sit on Cape Breton's front porch on Sunday evenings between July 1st and August 5th. The Granville Green bandshell is in Port Hawkesbury on the waterfront. You can watch the water, see the sun set and listen to music provided by some of the hottest acts in the industry as well as long-time favourites. Oh...and the concerts are free.

Here's the line-up:

July 1st – Lennie Gallant, Opener – Cassie and Maggie

July 8th – Steven Page, Opener – Jon Hines

July 15th – Bruce Guthro, Opener – Jodi Guthro

July 22nd – The Town Heroes, Opener – Party Boots

July 29th – Rawlins Cross, Opener – The Hypochondriacs

August 5th – Fred Penner, Opener – Dylan Menzie

All shows begin at 7 p.m. Come along, bring a lawn chair or a blanket.

For further information, check out www.granvillegreen.ca.



Photo by: John Gillis

Lennie Gallant at a previous Granville Green concert in the summer of 2004. Gallant returns to the Granville Green Festival stage this year on July 1st.



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Email: rodger.cuzner.c1@parl.gc.ca
Website: www.rcuzner.liberal.ca



CREIGNISH



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

If you travel on Route 19 just before the gloaming of the day, you can experience a Creignish sunset. Make the most of it by stopping at Creignish Recreation Centre to watch it from the Celtic Shores Coastal Trail. It's a great place to enjoy one of life's simple pleasures afforded by nature.

Creignish is a coastal village located on Route 19 (The Ceilidh Trail), approximately ten kilometers from the Canso Causeway. The community is home to musicians Natalie MacMaster, Ashley MacIsaac and Wendy MacIsaac. It is also the setting of Linden MacIntyre's Scotiabank Giller Prize winning novel *The Bishop's Man*.

Celtic Shores Coastal Trail runs through Creignish with trail access points at Creignish Recreation Centre, at the trailhead in nearby Troy or at Christy's Lookoff in Craigmore. The trail through this community is straight, flat, well maintained and well suited for leisurely walks, running, cycling or travel on off-road vehicles. It's also the perfect place to view a spectacular sunset looking over St. George's Bay.

Tucked into the foothills of Creignish Mountain, Stella Maris Catholic Church looks over Route 19. This wooden church was built in 1899 by Gaelic settlers who would have come there after the Highland Clearances in Northern Scotland.

Creignish Recreation Centre is home to a community hall, and outdoor spaces including a playground and a ballfield. The hall hosts many events throughout the year, including two

Saturday dances on August 31st featuring Howie MacDonald and Douglas Cameron and October 5th featuring Shelly Campbell and Allan Dewar.

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www.AllanMacMaster.ca



At a Glance

Places to Stop: Creignish Recreation Centre (community hall, baseball field, playground), Celtic Shores Coastal Trail

Churches: Stella Maris Catholic, 902-625-2919



JUDIQUE



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

Music lives in Judique. Stop and see the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre and learn about the unique tradition of Cape Breton fiddle music. Listen to the music and have a bite to eat during a lunchtime *ceilidh*. Stretch your legs or work off your lunch with a hike on the Judique Flyer Trail.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Celtic Music Interpretive Centre: Daily lunch Ceilidhs (11:30 am-3 pm Monday - Saturday), 1-5 pm (Sunday Ceilidh)

Places to Sleep: Glamping (Shore Road), B&B

Places to Stop: Celtic Music Interpretive Centre (9am-5pm Monday-Friday, 11 am-5 pm Saturday, Sunday)

Trails: Judique Flyer Trail (Celtic Shores Coastal Trail System)

Amenities: gas stations, convenience store (NSLC outlet) mechanic shop, CAP (public internet access) site

Music: Celtic Music Interpretive Centre (daily June 4th-October 14th, Sundays mid-October - May), Kintyre Farm Scottish Concert (August 12th)

Churches: St. Andrew's Catholic, 902-787-2795

St. Andrew's Parish Judique: A Bicentennial



St. Andrew's Parish in Judique is the oldest church in Cape Breton that was built and established by Scottish Gaels. Sources indicate that a chapel did exist in Judique as early as 1804 but the first parish priest was not officially appointed until 1817. This priest, Fr. Alexander MacDonnell, arrived in February of 1818, travelling from Cape Jack in Antigonish County over the ice.

The first church was constructed and opened in 1820. This structure and one more was destroyed by fires caused by lightning strikes. After these losses, parishioners decided to build the third church from sandstone. This is the church that stands in the community to this day.

The parish and community of Judique will mark the bicentennial on July 1st, 2018. The day begins with mass at 10 am and continues with brunch in Judique Community Centre, tours of the church and the trails surrounding the parish property, musical celebrations, an evening barbecue, winding up with fireworks in the Tartan Gardens, adjoining the church.

Check out the *Inverness Oran* published on Wednesdays for schedule updates, or visit the parish website: standrewsparishjudique.weebly.com.

Celtic Music Interpretive Centre

The community of Judique is a serene and beautiful coastal community located on Route 19 approximately 25 minutes from the Canso Causeway. Settled by Gaels who arrived in Nova Scotia from Scotland after 1773, it is believed that the first Gaelic song written in Cape Breton was about early days in the area that became known as Judique, experienced by a settler.

In the centuries since, Cape Breton has become recognized as a worldwide gathering place for authentic traditional music. In that context, it is natural that a centre devoted to maintaining the history of Cape Breton music be in the community of Judique.

The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre is in its twelfth year of operation. Each year it has grown in its role as a visitor destination for the community of Judique while at the same time staying true to its mission to preserve and promote the traditional music of Cape Breton. Live music happens Monday through Saturday during the months of June through mid-October with ceilidhs that run from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The tunes are as tasty as the lunch menu that features many local dishes such as lobster rolls, a haddock burger, sandwiches, soups and salads. There are Wednesday evening supper pubs and ceilidhs from mid-July through August. Sunday afternoon music sessions happen year-round from 2 to 5 p.m.

Learning opportunities for stepdance, fiddle, piano and beginner Gaelic are available from June through August. The centre also maintains an extensive archive of recordings, video, articles and information about Cape Breton music as well as an interpretive exhibit room using various media to tell the story about the music and the musicians of Cape Breton. The gift shop carries a selection of local traditional and folk music recordings, music books, local hand crafts, gift ideas and jewellery. Every October the centre offers the Buddy MacMaster Fiddle Camp where students gather from around the world to learn from some of the finest tradition bearers in Cape Breton music.

This year the centre offers two unique and exclusive visitor

experiences: a musical guided tour on The Celtic Shores Coastal Trail and the Ocean Ceilidh and Seafood tour. The walking tour is approximately 1.5 hours in length along the shores of St. George's Bay. It offers some spectacular views, and a chance to gain deeper knowledge of the music and dance as well as the Gaelic language that influences them. During the tour, participants will have the chance to see some live music performed by the guides, learn the basics of stepdance and have a snack.

The Ocean Ceilidh and Seafood tour is a five-hour, all-inclusive experience that features a guided walking tour on the Celtic Shores Coastal Trail, music, dancing, a chance to learn Gaelic phrases, a sampling of local wines, craft beer and single

malt whisky, a lobster dinner by the ocean and a sunset sea cruise. This is a one-of-a-kind authentic Cape Breton experience available only at the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre, as part of Tourism Nova Scotia's Excellerator Program.

What is perhaps most telling about the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre is that there are visitors who return to the centre every year. They consider the CMIC a home base during their stay or a focal

point of their travel itinerary. The majority of front of house staff are young people under the age of 30. These individuals have been raised with a solid knowledge of Cape Breton music and dance, as well as Gaelic language, history and culture. The musicians and the dance instructor on staff are all graduates of a music mentorship program supported by the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre. The youthful energy and passion gives the CMIC a sense of vitality and shows their commitment to securing these traditions for future generations.

The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and for select evening shows. Full details of all events, lessons, tours, schedules and admission fees are available on the CMIC's website: www.celticmusiccentre.com.





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A day in the life of Celtic Music Interpretive Centre...



Judique Community Centre is a multi-purpose community centre serving Judique and the surrounding communities in Inverness County, Nova Scotia, Canada. We are the most popular facility for wedding receptions, dinners and gala events on the western side of Cape Breton Island. We feature an improved climate controlled environment with the installation of 6 large heat pumps over the winter, a fully-equipped professional-grade kitchen facility and ample parking. Judique Community Centre has been the host to Celtic Colours fiddle night as well as the Guitar Summit. We host Mom and Tot's weekly, senior's exercise group, summer bingos, guitar summit, KOC brunches, just to name a few. We have a fabulous mezzanine room used for various group meetings, as well as corporate meetings. Catering can be provided.

The Judique Community Centre is located along the famous Ceilidh Trail which is the breathtaking coastal route to the Cabot Trail. We are situated at one of the entry points to the fabulous Celtic Shores Coastal Trails, which are perfect for walking, biking, and accessing a beach area. We are right next door to the one and only Celtic Music Interpretive Centre and across the street from the community garden.



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Cape Bretons Natural Stage

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Sunday, August 12th 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Judique Outdoor Scottish concert held at Cape Breton National Stage "Kintyre Farm" located on the River Denys Road in Judique.

We offer a fun-filled afternoon with lots of the famous Inverness County fiddlers, piano players, singers, step-dancers and Celtic dancers.

This is a perfect way to close out Judique on the Floor Days.

Lots of free parking, canteen and public washrooms.

Pack a blanket or chair and head for this fun-filled afternoon



PORT HOOD



Photo by: Marilyn Ellison

So many beaches, all kinds of time...Port Hood is a seaside town that is made for summer! Home to five beaches, fabulous restaurants, hiking trails, and the legendary Chestico Days festival, Port Hood is a place you must see on your Route 19 adventure!

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Admiral Lounge & Dining Room (lunch, dinner), Clove Hitch Bar & Bistro (lunch, dinner), Sandeannie's Tearoom (breakfast, lunch)

Places to Sleep: motel, RV/campground, B&B, inn, cottages

Places to Stop: Chestico Museum & Archives (genealogy, local history), Port Hood Day Park, beaches

Trails: Chestico Trail (Celtic Shores Coastal Trail system), Port Hood Boardwalk (at day park)

Amenities: gas station (mechanic on duty M-F), grocery store, convenience store, NSLC retail store, hardware/sporting goods, gift shop, photo/art gallery, municipal offices, credit union, car wash, library, CAP (public internet access) site, post office
Music: Admiral Lounge & Dining Room (Saturdays 6-9 pm), Clove Hitch Bar & Bistro (nightly mid-June to August)

Churches: St. Peter's Catholic, 902-787-3317; St. Stephen's United, 902-787-2323; Jubilee United, Port Hood Island (summer only), 902-787-2323

Chestico Days festival: A 40th birthday bash

Port Hood is getting ready to celebrate a 40th birthday this August. Chestico Days, the community's summer festival began in 1978 as a project of the Chestico Museum Society. Each year the festival has grown, reaching a status of a vacation planner event for people who live in or come home to Port Hood each year.

Chestico Days runs during the last week of July into the first weekend of August. Organizers strive to offer events that appeal to people of all ages and a variety of interests. Throughout the week there will be a golf tournament, food, live music, dancing, children's entertainment, and lots of fun.

Check out the *Inverness Oran* published on Wednesdays for a complete schedule of Chestico Days 2018.



Chestico Museum also turns 40

In 1978 a group of volunteers in the community of Port Hood recognized the importance of having a place to preserve the history and heritage of the community. A large collection of artifacts was acquired that once belonged to a prominent Port Hood merchant. The organization purchased and renovated a former two-room schoolhouse to accommodate this collection. The Chestico Museum and Archives was opened in 1986.

Through the artifacts, the museum depicts middle class existence in the rural community of Port Hood in the late 19th

and early 20th centuries. Furniture, dishware, photographs, clothing and books make up much of the displays. There are also some unique items and special exhibits with information about fishing and coal mining industries in Port Hood as well as local veterans from WW I and II throughout the summer season.

This year the museum celebrates its 40th anniversary, sharing this milestone with Chestico Days, a popular festival co-sponsored by the museum that happens at the end of July through the first weekend in August each year.

The museum hosts ceilidhs each Thursday in July and August from 7 to 8 p.m. featuring music provided by local entertainers and a good cup of tea. Admission is \$5. On July 8th, a strawberry social will run from 2 to 4 p.m. with homemade strawberry shortcake made with local berries. The cost is \$10 adults/\$5 children.


Historic walking tours of Port Hood led by guides in period costume are also a highlight of summer activities offered by the Chestico Museum and Archives.

The Chestico Museum operates from June 1st to October 12th this year. It's open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. in July and August. Check out the museum website at www.chesticoplac.com for further information about the museum and events.



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The community-owned Sunset Sands RV Park is located across from the Al MacInnis Sports Centre, the heart of summer activities in the village, and next door to a beautiful beach, just a comfortable chair away from a beautiful sunset, and a swimming pool for parents wanting to keep a closer eye on their children. The RV park has 72 full-service sites with 50 and 30 amps of power, satellite TV hookup, and free wi-fi access. It also offers 12 tenting sites, and is open May 18th to October 18th with seasonal and monthly rates. Rental RVs are available. From mid-June to mid-September, guests have complimentary use of a pool complex across the road (Wharf Road), which has adult and children's saltwater pools.



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Port Hood launches new music festival at Murphy's Pond

The Port Hood Area Development Society is hosting the first annual Murphy's Pond Music Festival on Saturday, July 14th, 2018 from 1 to 8 p.m. at #130 Murphy's Pond Road.

Live music is available throughout the day provided by local performers. The line-up includes Robert Bouchard, Dan Doiron, Billy Spears, Lynn Chisholm & friends, Tracey MacNeil & Family, DJ MacGillvray, We'koqma'q Drummers and many more.

Food is available on-site from 2 to 5 p.m., offering hamburgers, hot dogs, sausage and Galloping Cows Fine Foods pizza. Port Hood Co-op will have ice cream treats on sale. Adult refreshments are available for those 19 and over in the beverage tent beginning at 1 p.m. until 9 p.m.

There is no admission fee for this event but a donation jar will

be available and 50/50 tickets will be sold throughout the day with the winning ticket drawn at 9 p.m. Proceeds from the day support community initiatives throughout the year for the community of Port Hood.

Come on out to Murphy's Pond Music Festival. Bring a lawn chair. Enjoy a full day of music and spectacular scenery on Canada's Musical Coast.



Photo by: John Gillis

Hugh John Beaton and Keith MacNeil: two of Port Hood's talented local performers.

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MABOU



Photo by: Marilyn Ellison

Mabou is where Gaelic language and traditions thrive. It is a place renowned for its depth of musical talent; it is not unusual to hear driving tunes ringing through the village day or night during the summer. Nestled in between highlands and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Mabou is a haven for photographers, nature lovers, dreamers, dancers, musicians and explorers. Visit for a night or stay forever; Mabou welcomes you!

At a Glance

Places to eat: Shining Waters (breakfast,lunch), Red Shoe Pub (lunch, dinner), Mull (lunch, dinner), Mabou River Inn (pizza)

Places to stay: campground, B&Bs, inns, motel

Places to stop: Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine, Nest gift shop, Mabou Farmers Market, Kinship Place playground, An Drochaid museum

Trails: Mabou River Trails, Celtic Shores Coastal Trail, Cape Mabou Trails, West Mabou Provincial Park (trails around West Mabou Beach)

Music: Red Shoe Pub (nightly and Sunday matinees), Glenora Inn and Distillery (afternoon and evenings Sunday-Saturday), Mabou Community Hall (Tuesdays at 7:30 pm), Glencoe Hall: Family Dances (Thursdays at 9 pm), Brookvillage Hall: Adult Dances (Mondays at 9:30 pm), West Mabou Hall: Family Dances (Saturdays at 9 pm), Strathspey Place

History and Genealogy: An Drochaid Museum, Alexander Doyle Public Library (inside Dalbrae Academy)

Amenities: Gas station, groceries

Churches: St. Mary's Catholic, 902-945-2952; St. John the Baptist Catholic (Brook Village), 902-945-2063; St. Joseph Catholic, 902-945-2952

Alexander Doyle Public Library

Inside Dalbrae Academy, a high school of approximately 300 students, there is an oasis of calm known as the Alexander Doyle Public library. It is part of the Eastern Counties Regional Library system that also operates branches in Port Hawkesbury, Port Hood and Margaree. The library was opened as a permanent branch in 2015 through a partnership with the local school board as the community had the highest circulation rates in the ECRL system through its bookmobile program.

The library offers the expected vast and varied collection of reading materials for all ages: books, magazines and the local newspaper (Inverness Oran). It also offers a little of the unexpected such as free meeting space or quiet workspace for individuals and groups, DVD's of movies and popular TV shows for all ages, high speed internet, free wi-fi, public use computers and a fully equipped recording studio.

So, if you need a book for the beach or a tranquil cottage vacation, or a rainy day hang out; a place to re-connect with the rest of the world to check email, social media or write your travel blog; or even record a podcast, drop by the Alexander Doyle Public Library. It's open year-round. Hours are: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays it's open until 4 p.m. Saturdays it's open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Located inside Dalbrae Academy, 11156 Route 19, Mabou.
902-945-2257 / email: Mabou@nsme.library.ns.ca
Follow us on Facebook: [@alexanderdoylelibrarymabou](https://www.facebook.com/alexanderdoylelibrarymabou)

Keeping square dance culture alive in Mabou

If you visit Mabou, one of the best ways to experience a night out is by going to a square dance. The area is home to three iconic dance events in community halls in Brookville, Glencoe (each hosting dances weekly throughout the summer) and West Mabou, which runs weekly dances year round. Each of these events were borne out of necessity to raise funds for various community projects or for upkeep of the halls themselves.

A Cape Breton square set is a form of folk dancing, done in several parts (known as figures), traditionally in sets of four couples, each element of the figure being repeated four times (hence the designation "square" set). Square sets are danced throughout Cape Breton, each with its own local variation, but the Inverness County square set as it exists today is comprised of three figures, danced to accompanying music in the tempos of two jigs and a reel. The culture of these dances is inclusive so whether it's your first adventure or you're a seasoned pro, there is a place for you to give it a go.

The Brookville dances happen on Monday nights. These are adult dances which means admission is restricted to those aged 19 and over and alcohol is served on the premises. Admission is \$8 per person. Dancing begins at 9:30 p.m. and features some of the best known traditional Cape Breton fiddlers on the scene. These dances attract some of the finest dancers on the island who rival some feats of athleticism by



Photo by: John Gillis

dancing all night (an average of six sets, lasting approximately 25 minutes each).

Con't next page...

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Keeping dance alive... continued from previous page

The Glencoe hall was built as a one-room schoolhouse and is located at the convergence point of several country roads that connect to the surrounding communities of Judique, Port Hood, Mabou and Whycocomagh. It's approximately a 20-minute drive on unpaved roads from any of these communities; part of the adventure of the night is just getting there.

The Glencoe dances are on Thursday nights starting at 9 p.m. This is a family dance meaning there is no alcohol served inside the dancehall and it welcomes people of all ages. This dance is most closely associated with the legendary fiddler Buddy MacMaster. He was the featured player for these dances for over thirty years. After his retirement and since his passing, these dances have continued to thrive featuring a rotation of well-known musicians. Among these artists are MacMaster's relatives and younger musicians who were influenced and inspired by Buddy's style of playing Cape Breton fiddle music. The atmosphere of these dances is fun and welcoming, much like the character of the people of Glencoe. It's a great place to learn the sets as seasoned dancers are ready and able to guide novice dancers. This dance runs from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. Admission is \$8, free for children under 12.

The dances in West Mabou take place in a hall known as the West Mabou Sports Club. These events were started in 1988 as a fundraising initiative for the community's softball team that won the chance to compete for the Eastern Canadian championship title in a tournament being held that year in

Ontario. The original plan for these dances was a short term one to help with the expenses of the team's trip. Thirty years later the West Mabou dance is a staple of the Saturday night social scene in Inverness County. It has had profound impact on the growth of Cape Breton fiddle music as it has continually provided a stage for hundreds of young performers in need of a place to make their first public performance and/or develop their skills playing for dances. West Mabou has always been a family friendly event and the place where parents have year-round access to passing on the traditions of Cape Breton social dancing. Young stepdancers have grown up with the opportunity to refine their art by being part of the solo dancers' queues that are a part of each dance. There was a time where square dancing was considered an activity for older generations and was fading in popularity. West Mabou dances have blasted away that old stereotype and made it the cool place for the under 30 set to gather on a Saturday night. Dancing begins at 9 p.m. and admission is \$8 per person with children under 12 admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

All these dances have canteens that sell water, tea, soft drinks and assorted snacks to sustain dancers through the night. Dress in cool and comfortable clothing as there is no air conditioning. Dancing experience is not necessary. A little bit of a sense of humour, appreciation of adventure and the willingness to try something new are good things to take with you to a Cape Breton square dance. Enjoy!

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Strathspey Place Summer 2018

Nestled among the rolling hills of Mabou you will find Strathspey Performing Arts Centre. This soft seat theatre is a state of the art performance space in rural Inverness County, an area known for its depth of talent in the creative arts. Strathspey has drawn acts from just down the road to right around the world to The John Morris Rankin Stage since its opening in 2000.

This summer Strathspey Performing Arts Centre presents *Currents*: a multi-cultural summer festival featuring some of Nova Scotia's most exciting, and promising musicians including Reeny Smith, Dave Sampson, Sean McCann, Brent Aucoin, Keith Mullins, Scott Macmillan, Brian Doyle and Jeannie Beks, Maxim and Gervais Cormier. This series runs on Thursdays from July 12th through August 23rd. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.

Other performances include a tribute to the Grand Ole Opry featuring Lynn Chisholm and friends on August 5th at 3 p.m. and the play *A Keppoch Wedding* produced by Duncan MacDonald of Ships of 1801 Productions on September 22nd at 7 p.m.

Visit www.strathspeyplace.com for more information about what's happening at Strathspey Performing Arts Centre.



Red Shoe Pub

Mabou's landmark Red Shoe Pub underwent renovations during the late fall and winter of this past year. Angie Smith, pub manager is looking forward to showing the new space to everyone who visits this summer. The Red Shoe opened for the 2018 season on May 25th. Angie and the Red Shoe staff are excited to share good music, good food and good times with everyone who visits during the season.

The Rankin sisters, who own the pub, recognized the need for an expansion to increase indoor seating. Initially there was some reluctance to change the face of a building that is more than a century old. Angie, along with local designer David Greenwell, gave much careful consideration to maintaining this architectural integrity in designing the new space. The result is a perfect blend of old and new structure.

The new space provides an additional twenty-four seats and a second bar on the main level. It also opens the second floor providing additional space for food prep and storage. There is also a new office area, the nerve centre of the Shoe as it is where much of the season's planning takes place.

The Red Shoe is open daily from the end of May to the middle of October. There is live music each day at varying times. Check out www.redshoe.com or the *Inverness Oran* for all the latest details on the Red Shoe schedule.

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Mabou Farmers' Market:

They built it, people come...from everywhere

Field of Dreams is a hit 1989 movie based on a novel written by W.P. Kinsella called *Shoeless Joe*. In the movie, a mantra is repeated that drives the lead character to create a baseball diamond in his corn field: "If you build it, they will come." So too with the Mabou Farmers' Market. Eleven years ago, a group of local food producers and artisans decided to try a small market to showcase their products. At the time a movement was growing among consumers interested in shopping local, cooking slow and knowing where your food was coming from.

The Mabou Farmers' Market has grown from a few tables set up on the Mabou waterfront into the third largest event of its kind in the province of Nova Scotia. Each Sunday from the first weekend in June until the middle weekend in October, the market attracts over 70 vendors offering food, fresh vegetables, meat, fish, plants, baked goods, beverages for all ages, local crafts, art and one-of-a-kind gifts. The event is held inside the Mabou Arena offering a covered space to move around and explore the items. The property around the arena is home to Kinship Place, a fully-equipped playground that is a huge hit for the littlest visitors to the farmers' market.

Music is right in the middle of all the action at the Mabou Farmers' Market. Each week performers from across Inverness County and throughout Nova Scotia provide entertainment. Tables and chairs are arranged around the stage area so that

market visitors can sit and enjoy the music, have a snack with coffee or lunch.

The Mabou Farmers' Market is the place to visit on Sunday mornings to get into or stay in the loop for the week ahead in Mabou. The 2018 season begins on June 3rd and runs until October 7th. Hours are from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Mabou Arena is approximately one kilometer from Route 19, on Mabou Harbour Road.



Photo by: John Gillis

Mabou freshmart

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Mabou School of Cape Breton Stepdance

Mabou is known as the place where culture lives. There are many opportunities for people to hear and see live traditional music and dance, as well as experience them by playing in jam sessions or learning the dances. The performers of this music are often accessible, welcoming questions from the audience about the music, or a chance to chat about what draws them to it.

The Mabou School of Cape Breton Square Dance is an example of these experiences. Launched in 2017, the school is offering a week-long program of instruction in the art of percussive dance in Cape Breton. The week is led by Melody Cameron, a fiddler and dancer with more than 40 years experience performing and teaching in her hometown of Mabou and around the world. The 2018 school runs from July 23rd to 27th.

Melody will be assisted in the instruction for the week by Gerard Beaton. Guest instructors Margie Beaton, Dawn Beaton, Jenny MacKenzie, Melanie MacDonald and John Pellerine will join them for one session each through the week. Each afternoon, the school will host special guest presenters who will give cultural talks about the Cape Breton music tradition. The topics for these discussions will cover dance form and technique, links between Gaelic language and music and dance and historical links to Scotland.

The goal of the school is to give students high quality stepdance instruction and a week filled with Mabou experiences.

There are opportunities to attend local dances, ceilidhs, music sessions, dine at local restaurants, hike trails or visit beaches.

At the time of publication, there were just a handful of spaces left for the 2018 Mabou School of Cape Breton Stepdance. Contact capebretonstepdance.com for further information about registration for this year or keep it on your radar for your next trip to Inverness County.



Photo by: John Gillis

 A photograph of the exterior of the Red Shoe Pub. The building is white with red trim. A large, oval-shaped sign hangs from the roof that says "Red Shoe Pub" with a red shoe icon. Below it, a red banner reads "A BHROG DHEARG". A red and white striped awning covers the entrance. In the foreground, there's a green lawn and some outdoor seating.

A great place to kick up your heels!

Weekly Entertainment / Lunch & Dinner
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 Tel. 902.945.2326
 Fax 902.945.2552

11533 Hwy 19, Main St., Mabou, CB / Email: redshoe@ns.aliantzinc.ca

 The logo for Mabou Farmers' Market. It features a stylized blue tree with red musical notes as branches. Below the tree, the word "mabou" is written in a large, blue, lowercase font, and "farmers' market" is written in a smaller, green, lowercase font.

Sundays 11-2
 June 3rd - October 7th

Fresh Produce • Crafts • Artisans • Live Music
 Baked Goods • Free Range Meats • Honey
 Seafood • Handmade Soaps • Wine

Mabou Arena
 186 Mabou Harbour Rd, Mabou

@maboufarmersmarket @maboufarmersmarket

Mabou Communications

Mabou Communications sits in the center of the village of Mabou. A sign on the building reads *Tigh Litirichean...* translated literally it means House of Letters for it once housed a post office. It is a well-kept structure and property that seems rather non-descript to a passer by. For the people of Mabou, the building and the business operating inside it represent a David and Goliath moment in community history.

In 1991, the Canada Post Corporation informed the community of Mabou that its post office would be closed as part of a restructuring plan. The move meant that the building would be abandoned and postal services would only be available in neighbouring communities more than 15 kilometers away. At that time when postal mail systems were a primary means of communication, losing one was viewed as a significant blow to rural existence.

The people of Mabou joined together to save the post office. Protest rallies were held in front of the building to gather attention to the issue. Canada Post representatives agreed to visit the community and address concerns. That meeting in the spring of 1991 gathered a crowd that filled the community hall and flowed out into the parking lot. The result of this meeting was that while Canada Post would no longer maintain a post office, it would work with the community to find a way to provide postal service in Mabou. The solution was Mabou Communications Ltd.

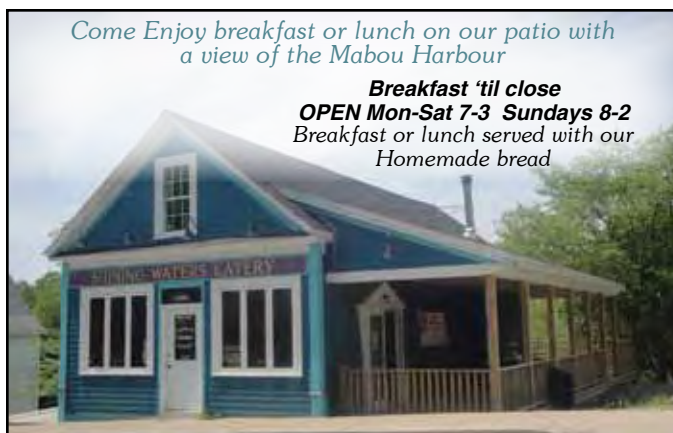
Today the business serves the community by providing a full range of postal services. There is also a Community Access Program (CAP) site which allows for affordable access to technology for residents and visitors in Mabou, free wireless internet, business services such as fax, photocopy and lamination of documents as well as office supplies. It is the centre of the community. If you want to get in the loop or stay in the loop in Mabou, a visit is essential. Mabou Communications is open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Mabou
Communications**

| | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postal outlet • office supplies • wifi internet • cap site • fax services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copy services (b&w or colour) • lamination |
|---|---|

902-945-2292





Ceilidh on The Wharf

The region of Mabou known as the Coal mines was once a bustling industrial center, with an active coal mine, a fish cannery that prepared lobster and salmon, fishing, farms, forestry and a bustling community of large families. The mine ceased production about 100 years ago. The cannery was destroyed in a wind storm in 1963 and the decline of these industries, the population has shrunk to the point where Mabou Coal Mines is a year-round home to a handful of families. Finlay's Point wharf remains a home harbour for fish harvesters from spring to fall to bring their bounty ashore.

The wharf is nestled at the foot of the Mabou Highlands in a harbour that feeds into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is an area of rugged beauty that is the setting for the Annual Ceilidh on the wharf. It's an afternoon filled with fine music offered by local performers, barbecue favourites, and, if conditions permit, boat rides on the fishing boats that call the wharf home.

The event takes place on August 12th and runs from 1:30 to 4 p.m.



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

An Drochaid



Photo by: Josefa Cameron

For more than 40 years *An Comunn Gàidhlig Agus Eachdraidh Mhàbu*, the Mabou Gaelic and Historical Society has been devoted to preserving the history, language, cultural traditions and the stories of the people of Mabou and surrounding areas. The museum they operate, *An Drochaid* (The Bridge) has been a gathering place, a learning centre and cultural touchstone link between the past and the present in the community of Mabou.

The building itself operated as a general store until the establishment of the museum in 1980. *An Drochaid* museum is a centre for artifacts, Gaelic language activities, genealogical and historical records, history and music. There are displays of old photos on the walls, Rankin Family memorabilia, books,

and information about the schools that operated in Mabou for over one hundred years.

The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from July 1st to August 24th and upon request throughout the rest of the year. *An Drochaid* hosts special events each month throughout the year, including the annual milling frolic during the Mabou Ceilidh scheduled for Saturday, July 21st at 2 p.m. It is also open for cultural classes (music, language, dance) at various times during the summer. Local artist Peter Rankin is hosting a discussion about Storytelling and Art on October 10th at 2 p.m.

Watch for information about events at *An Drochaid* in the *Inverness Oran*, published each Wednesday.

Glencoe Day: *A summer community picnic*

Labour Day weekend is often the time when summer begins to wind down. The community of Glencoe offers a fun, relaxed day on Sunday, September 2nd that gives you a chance to hang on to the spirit of summer just a little bit longer.

The afternoon includes children's games, a horseshoe tournament, bingo games, mass, and a supper prepared by the people in the community. If you leave from a visit to Glencoe hungry, you did it wrong. The day winds up with a family square dance in the Glencoe Hall from 9 p.m. to midnight with music by Rodney MacDonald and friends. The whole day has the feel of a traditional community picnic. It's a fun way to spend the day with friends and family.



Photo by: John Gillis

Tuesday Night Ceilidhs in Mabou Hall

Music is an organic part of existence in this region. Kitchen parties, jam sessions, *ceilidhs* and dances happen everywhere, every day throughout the summer season, offering visitors a glimpse of how deep the well of musical talent runs on Canada's Musical Coast.

For 23 seasons Joey Beaton and Karen Beaton have been shining a light on the pure drop: traditional Cape Breton fiddle music presented in a pristine and simple format. Each Tuesday the duo, along with their special guest musicians, present a 90-minute concert. All these performers have a deep appreciation for the older styles of traditional Cape Breton fiddling which they also interpret and incorporate when playing newer tunes. The performers share their music and their knowledge with an audience who listens reverently to every note and nuance of the tunes.

If you want to dig a little deeper into this form of traditional music, these Tuesday night *ceilidhs* are a must see. You will have the opportunity to feel the energy and power of this music; often a dancer is in the hall giving a glimpse of the relationship between the music and the dance. The concerts are presented in an environment that is focused entirely on the tunes; often the only other sound you will hear is the rhythmic cadence of feet tapping in perfect, effortless time to the music.

This series begins on July 3rd with a special Kitchenfest ceilidh. The hosts will have ten door prizes on offer to the audience through the evening. There are nine concerts in total,

wrapping up on August 28th with a Patron Appreciation Night where ten more door prizes will be handed out. Showtime each week is 7:30 p.m. Check the *Inverness Oran*, published on Wednesdays for details of each week's concert.



Photo by: John Gillis

Karen and Joey Beaton with none other than Justin Trudeau. You never know who you might meet in Mabou!

Winter in Inverness County

The summer season in Inverness County is a frenetic time when everyone tries to cram an entire year of playing, eating, living, loving, beaching, sailing, swimming, dancing, connecting with family and friends home on vacation, festivals, seeing, doing, dreaming and fun into three months. It's a time of warm weather, sunny days, starry nights, flip flops, care free living, back road tours, all-night jam sessions and the stories they produce. Doors are always open, teapots are always on. We live for this each year. There is nothing that really compares to summer in Inverness County.

The experience of winter is completely different. It's a time where people savour the luxury of time. We restore and retreat. People still get on the go with winter activities such as hockey, hiking, snowshoeing or snowmobiling, but the pace is different. It's more personal.

While most of the seasonal operations take a break after mid-October, there are still many things to do. Several music venues continue to offer a variety of events such as ceilidhs, dances

and concerts. At least one restaurant and accommodation place in nearly every community stays open year-round. Winter in Inverness County offers a visitor a chance for deeper insight into the cultural traditions, languages and artistic expressions of this place.

Hiking trails throughout the county are maintained throughout the winter. There is nothing quite like the beauty of a snowshoe hike on pristine snow, or on a cold, clear, night when the moonlight reflects off a snowy pasture giving it the appearance of a field full of diamonds.

Stand on a beach and witness the power of drift ice moving through the water...explore the back country on a snowmobile, skate on a frozen pond or learn a square set in a small hall, or about the culture and history of our communities over a cup of tea. There are lots of possibilities for winter in Inverness County.

Visit <https://canadasmusicalcoast.com/> or follow the Inverness County facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/InvernessCounty/> for ideas about things to do during winter.



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

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Glenora Pub ...

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Nestled at the foot of the Mabou Highlands is the Glenora Distillery, a single malt whisky distillery. The distillery offers tours, as well as providing accommodations and fine dining. It is also a popular location for catching some of the County's traditional musicians.

Fine Dining and Accommodations

There is something on the menu to satisfy everyone's palate served in a bright, intimate dining room or outdoor terrace setting. Nine rooms and six chalets and with a 5 room lodge. Rated in "WHERE TO EAT IN CANADA."

***An Amazing Cape Breton
Get-away!***





LAKE AINSLIE



Photo by: Marilyn Ellison

Lake Ainslie is the largest freshwater lake in Nova Scotia. The lake is approximately 20 kilometers long, stretching from the southwest side of the Margaree River, flowing into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The communities around Lake Ainslie were settled primarily by Gaels immigrating from northern Scotland starting in 1820. The lake also has great significance to the Mi'kmaq people of Unama'ki (Cape Breton Island). Eagles maintain a presence over Lake Ainslie as a number of bald eagles nest around the shores.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Tulloch Inn (dinner, reservations only)

Places to Sleep: Inn, campgrounds

Places to Stop: Scotsville School of Crafts, MacDonald House Museum

Trails: Great Trail: Bealach Breagha Trail

Amenities: photo/art gallery, CAP (public internet access) site

Churches: East Lake Ainslie Presbyterian (times subject to change), 902-258-2824; Immaculate Conception Catholic, West Lake Ainslie, 902-945-2592



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Drive on the 395

Back roads tours are a great way to test your sense of adventure. They are a way to find hidden gems or just escape the routes that have heavier traffic. The back roads and side roads around Inverness County often wind along bodies of water offering spectacular views. Since the road conditions are not straight and wide as you'd find on a larger highway, you have the option and opportunity to take in these views at a slower pace. It is often easier to pull to the side of the road to take a picture of a landscape or snap a selfie at a scenic vista.

If you turn off the Trans Canada Highway at Whycomogah on to Routes 252 and 395, you will find yourself at the start of a scenic drives through the communities that surround Lake Ainslie. The body of water itself is the largest freshwater lake in Nova Scotia. There are places to stop and watch eagles soar over this lake, as well as spots to swim or fish, or hike and bike near it.

The MacDonald House Museum located in East Lake Ainslie is open during the summer. The site offers a glimpse of early days of the Lake Ainslie communities. There are tours through a one-room schoolhouse, a heritage home and a barn with antique farm equipment. The museum property offers beautiful views of the lake, ideal for photographers and artists. The museum is now connected to The Great Trail, making it a good stopping point for anyone hiking or biking nearby. Visit the museum website <http://www.macdonaldhousemuseum.ca/home.html> for more details.

The Lake Ainslie Fire Department Ceilidh Days is an annual festival that brings people together and raises funds to support this local volunteer fire service. Running from July 3rd to 7th, events for the weekend include a pub night with live music, merchandise bingo, community roast beef supper, parade, barbecue and children's games. All events take place at or around the Lake Ainslie Volunteer fire hall.

This fire department is also the site of a new event for this year. Each Friday beginning on July 20th, the community will host ceilidhs with live music provided by local entertainers from 7 to 9 p.m. This is a family friendly event, a great opportunity to introduce young people to traditional music.

Visit the community's website at www.lakeainslie.ca for complete details of the Firemen's Ceilidh Days and the Friday

night ceilidhs.

The Scotsville School of Crafts was founded in 1991 by the Lake Ainslie Weavers and Craft Guild. Their goal was to create a place to teach and display several traditional crafts such as spinning, weaving and painting. The organization has converted an old school building into a unique space, achieving their goal. The Lake Ainslie Weavers and Craft Guild offers classes in winter and fall, operates a summer gallery and gift shop selling products from local artisans. Each year during the Celtic Colours International Festival, the school offers learning workshops in heritage crafts and art that has wide appeal to people who come from around the world to see this annual 10-day musical event that happens across Cape Breton. Visit the Scotsville School of Crafts website for further information and schedule of events: www.scotsvilleschoolofcrafts.ca.

Check out the *Inverness Oran* published every Wednesday for further information about events around Lake Ainslie throughout the summer.



The Lake Ainslie Weavers & Craft Guild
INVITE YOU TO VISIT THE
 SCOTSVILLE SCHOOL OF CRAFTS
& C@PSITE
WWW.SCOTSVILLESCHOOLCRAFTS.CA
OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
IN SCOTSVILLE, NS
Verna 902-258-2278
Peggy 902-248-2520

MacDonald House Museum



Follow the key signs
to museums in
Nova Scotia



www.macdonaldhousemuseum.ca

On the shores of Lake Ainslie, tour a heritage home, hear stories of the local people and enjoy the views of the sparkling water. Parking, picnic site, access to the Trans Canada Trail through Lake Ainslie and a children's trail.

We are open from end of June to end of August.
Visit our website or email for a list of events.

3458 Highway 395, East Lake Ainslie
Inverness County, Nova Scotia
902-258-3317

Email: lahistorical@seasidehighspeed.com

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WHYCOCOMAGH



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

Whycocomagh is on the sunrise side of Inverness County. The name is derived from a Mi'kmaq word (*We'koqma'q*) meaning head of the waters. This community is located on the eastern end of Inverness County and sits on the northwest shore of the Bras d'Or Lakes. The Skye River flows through the community. Whycocomagh offers beautiful trails, campgrounds, restaurants and shopping.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Charlene's Bayside Cafe (lunch, dinner, breakfast on weekends only); The Farmer's Daughter (breakfast, soups, sandwiches, pizza, bakery); Tim Horton's (breakfast, soup, coffee, sandwiches, baked goods); Auld Brass Door (lunch, dinner)

Places to Sleep: motels, cottages, campground

Places to Stop/Shop: We'komaq, Whycocomagh Provincial Park

Trails: Whycocomagh Village Trail, Salt Mountain Trail, We'komaq Spirit Trail

Amenities: gas station (mechanic on duty M-F), grocery store, liquor store outlet, gift shop, flower shop/garden centre, pharmacy, churches, bank, car wash, post office, CAP (public internet access) site

Music: Waterfront Centre (varying schedule)

Churches: Holy Trinity Parish, 902-756-3005; Little Narrows Presbyterian, 902-756-2066; St. Andrews Presbyterian, 902-756-2669; Stewart United Church, 902-756-2762

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Skye River Trail:

A place to restore your spirit

The Skye River Trail is located at 9423 Trans Canada Highway in the community of We'koma'q. It is part of the Great Trail, a nationwide system of trails linking 15,000 communities along 24,000 kilometers across Canada. We'koma'q is a historic Mi'kmaq community located along the Bras D'or Lakes.

The experience of walking on the Skye River Trail fills you with a sense of peace and serenity that only a walk in the woods can create. While you are not far from a busy highway, being surrounded by trees and water gives you the feeling that you are a world away from the pace of everyday life. The sounds of birdsong and rumbling river water will all at once stir and soothe your soul. The sun filters through the leaves giving the impression of dancing light. There are opportunities for rough camping, kayaking and fishing on the Skye River.

The community members of We'koma'q enjoy a long history of pride in their heritage. This is highlighted and celebrated during two cultural showcases happening on the Skye River Trail this summer. During these afternoons, displays of Mi'kmaq cultural traditions are featured including music, song, dancing, handcrafts, food and language. The first cultural showcase is scheduled for July 17th from 6 to 9 p.m. during the Whycocomagh Summer Festival. The second is October 6th from 1 to 4 p.m. during Mi'kmaq History Month, coinciding with the Celtic Colours International Festival.

Pack a picnic lunch and come to the Skye River Trail; your spirit will be grateful.



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

Signage on the Skye River Trail provide the names of the trees to which they are attached in Mi'kmaq; *Sna-wey* is the Mi'kmaq word for maple.

WHYCOCOMAGH
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The Auld Brass Door
 9816 Trans Canada Hwy 105, Whycocomagh, Cape Breton
 Telephone: **902-756-3284**

HOURS: 11:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M. SUN. TO THURS.
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 A.M. FRI. TO SAT.

Whycocomagh: Head of the waters

Whycocomagh is the central point of Inverness County. Situated on the Trans Canada Highway, the village is within a 90-minute drive to any major attraction on Cape Breton Island. The village began to take shape as Gaels who had come to Cape Breton from Northern Scotland sought settlements that allowed for ready access to agriculture and forestry. By the middle of the 19th century mercantile businesses began to develop. Local entrepreneurship started to flourish with the establishment of blacksmith shops, hotels and other shops. During this time, the shores of Whycocomagh Bay and the Skye River were shared with Indigenous people in the We'komaq community for fishing, a tradition that continues today. Boating became an important means of supporting growing commerce initiatives. It became increasingly common to see steamships or commercial fishing vessels in the Bay, docked or passing through on their way to Sydney. The Creignish Hills which surround Whycocomagh were popular for sustenance hunting.

Today the action in Whycocomagh Bay is mostly pleasure craft. In the last several years the Whycocomagh Waterfront Centre has been offering a place for water travellers to tie up and take in what the village has to offer – food, gift and supply shopping, hiking trails, musical events and good people. Whycocomagh is also part of the Great Trail's Bras d'Or Lakes water route. Hiking trails have been developed in places hunters once roamed. Whycocomagh is a modern little village that

remains true to traditional values of friendship and hospitality. However you choose to travel, water or land, it's a great place to check out!



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

Located right on the Trans Canada Highway just 45 minutes before the best way to start the Cabot Trail (counter clockwise)

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FARMER'S DAUGHTER

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Photo by: K.C. Beaton

On the shore of The Bras d'Or Lakes in the Whycocomagh Provincial Picnic Park

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CAPE BRETON SQUARE DANCES In Inverness County

The Cape Breton square dance and step dance traditions were brought over from Scotland by the early Scots settlers and are intrinsic to Cape Breton culture.

An evening spent at any of Inverness County's regular square dances is sure to be an unforgettable experience. Visitors are made welcome and they will hear the music of some of Cape Breton's best known musicians.

SUNDAY

(July 1st, September 2nd, October 7th only)

GLENCOE MILLS 9PM-12AM

July 1st: Douglas Cameron & MacMorin

September 2nd: Rodney MacDonald & Friends

October 7th: Shelly Campbell & Allan Dewar

Family dance (all ages); adm. \$8/under 12 free, canteen

MONDAY

BROOKVILLE HALL

July and August: 9:30pm-1am

Adult dance (19+), adm. \$8, bar and canteen

WEDNESDAY

THE BARN

Normaway Inn, Margaree: 10pm-12am

THURSDAY

GLENCOE MILLS HALL

July 5th – August 23rd: 9pm-12am

Family dance (all ages); adm. \$8/under 12 free, canteen

FRIDAY

THE BARN

Normaway Inn, Margaree

June, September, October: 9pm-12am

Family dance (all ages), adm. \$6/students \$5.

SOUTH WEST MARGAREE HALL

July and August, 9:30-12:30

Adult (age 19+), adm. \$8, bar

CREIGNISH COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE

August 31st & October 5th only: 9pm-12am

Family dance (all ages)

Adm. \$8/\$4 youth/free (12 and under)

SATURDAY

WEST MABOU FAMILY DANCE

West Mabou Hall, 2399 West Mabou Road

Year Round 9pm-12am

Family dance (all ages), adm. \$8, canteen





Official Trail Maps available at
Cape Breton Island Visitor Information Centres.



WALKING TRAILS

1. Trans Canada Trail / International Appalachian Trail
2. Port Hawkesbury Trail
3. Craigmare Creek ORM Park
4. Alexander Trail
5. Port Hood Boardwalk
6. West Mabou Beach & Trails
7. Cape Mabou Highlands Hiking Trails
8. MacFarland Woods Trail
9. Salt Mountain Trail - Whycocomagh
10. Bualach Breigh Trail
11. MacDonnell House Museum Trail
12. Bualach Breigh Trail
13. Old Miller Trout Farm
14. Inverness Boardwalk
15. Egypt Falls Trail
16. Eagle Nest Trail
17. Sentier Minne Platte
18. Cheticamp to Margaree Harbour
19. Cheticamp Boardwalk
20. Skyline Trail
21. CBH National Park - 26 Trails
22. Meat Cove Mountain Trail Lowland Cove Trail
23. Whycocomagh Village Trail



KAYAK ROUTES

6. Port Hood & Henry Island
7. Bras d'Or - Marble Mountain / West Bay
24. Meat Cove
26. Cheticamp to Margatec Harbour
27. Margatec to Dunvegan
28. Inverness to Mabou Harbour
29. Port Hood to Judique
30. Judique to Troy
31. Strait to Carso
32. Lake Ainslie Shores
34. Whycoomagh Bay - Bras d'Or
35. Southwest Mabou & Mull Rivers to Mabou Harbour
36. Margatec - Lake Ainslie Canadian Heritage River System



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twitter



ROAD CYCLING ROUTES - OFF TRAIL

Inverness County is a cyclist's dream for variety of cycling experiences both on the trail and on our roadways. We have put together a list of day or half day trips you may want to consider. While on an outing, plan to visit one of our many gift & craft shops, grab lunch at our friendly eateries, or take the time to grab a quick swim at one of our fine beaches or rivers.

Please remember that while Nova Scotia has legislated the "one meter" rule, and safe passage of highway traffic around road cyclists is mandatory, it is your responsibility as a cyclist to be cautious of road traffic and conditions, make yourself highly visible and use proper hand signals for approaching traffic. Check out these ten suggested road route outings.

1. Port Hood to Colindale to West Maitou Coal Miners & Return
2. Whycoomagh to Scotsville to Inverness and return via West Lake Ainslie
3. Inverness to Scotsville to Southwest Margaree to Broad Cove Banks Road Return to Inverness
4. Whycoomagh to Malawatch to West Bay to Dundee Return.
5. Margaree Centre to Margaree Harbour and return via Margaree Forks.
6. Cheticamp to Plateau to St.Joseph Du Moine and return

7. Bay St. Lawrence to Ment Cove and return
8. Cape Clear Look-off via Margaree, St. Joseph Du Moine or Chateaup.
Advisable to use local guides for various routes available
9. Burnish and St. Margaret of Scotland Pioneer Church via Melford
Advisable to use local guides for various routes available
10. Inverness to Mabou via Cape Mahou -
Advisable not to cycle on signal "Cape Mahou" hiking trails.
These suggested trails do not permit cycling due to road surface conditions

Awaken Your Senses

*See, Listen, Breath-in the beauty
Sounds and Scents of the
Celtic Shores Coastal Trail*

OPEN DAILY
FROM DAWN TIL DUSK,
YEAR ROUND.

Use at your own risk.

THE CELTIC
COASTAL
INVERNESS
TRANS CAN

The Celtic Shores Coastal Trail is a series of community trails. The major activities are listed below. The first kiosk is located at the Celtic Causeway as you enter the park.

92 kms - Port Hazel
CB Island TCT Trailhead Pavilion
0623718 E 5056136

TRAIL H INFORMATI

THE CEILID TRAILS

22km - Canso Canal to CH
Troy Station Trailhead
0621276 E 3060816 N

THE JUDICIAL TRAILS

19 kms Chisholm's Brook
Michaels Landing Trailhead
0617546 E 5083790 N

THE CHESTICO

17 kms – Little Judique Harbour
Mabou River Port Harbour
Kiosk/Access
0614653 E 5090709 N

THE MABO
TRAILS

19.6 kmz - Zutphen Farm SW
West Mabou Trailhead
0619675 E 5097712 N

THE INVERN
TRAILS

16 kms – Blackstone to Inverloch
Trailhead Kiosk

TRAIL RULES A

The Celtic Shores Coastal Trail is open year round. Please expect to see the following: hikers, walkers, equestrians. In winter you will find people skiing, hiking, and



C SHORE L TRAIL COUNTY'S ADA TRAIL

is comprised of five linked
ess points for these trails are
located just to the left of the
ter Cape Breton Island.

ings to Inverness
ion & Kiosk @ Canso Canal
N — 0617365 E

HEADS & ON KIOSKS

H COASTAL SECTION

isholm's Brook, Long Point
Kiosk/Access/Parking
— 0617365 E 5074458 N

QUE FLYER SECTION

to Little Judique Harbour
ad Kiosk/Access/Parking
— 0614653 E 5090709 N

TRAIL SECTION

rbour to Zutphen Farm SW
ood Station Trailhead
ss/Parking
— 0619675 E 5097712 N

OU RIVERS SECTION

W Mabou River to Blackstone
Kiosk/Access/Parking
— 0630129 E 5110225 N

ESS SHEAN SECTION

Inverness Miners Museum
/Access/Parking

ND ETIQUETTE

il is a shared use trail that is
se use the trail responsibly.
users on the trail: cyclists,
s and summer motorized.
snowshoeing cross country
d snowmobiling.



1000 Credit: Dave Maclean

INVERNESS COUNTY IS NOVA SCOTIA'S SNOWMOBILING DESTINATION REGION

INVERNESS COUNTY'S SNOWMOBILE TRAILS MAP SKETCHED JUNE 2014, WAS
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Caution



*Inverness County has a
unique trail experience for
every weekend of the year*

DISCLAIMER: While considerable effort has been made to provide accurate
information, we take no responsibility for any errors or omissions. The ultimate
responsibility for safety lies solely with the individual. MAPS ARE NOT
FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES.



FESTIVALS IN INVERNESS COUNTY

Kitchenfest

June 29th - July 7th

Various venues across
Inverness County and Cape Breton
Full schedule: www.kitchenfest.ca

Festival of the Strait

July 1st - 8th, Port Hawkesbury
www.festivalofthestrat.ca

Lake Ainslie Firemen's Ceilidh Days

July 3rd - 7th, Lake Ainslie
www.lakeainslie.ca

Glendale Come Home Days Annual Concert

July 7th

Margaree Firemen's Days

July 6th - 8th

Sea Harvest Festival

July 8th - 15th,
Meat Cove, North River, Dingwall, Aspy Bay
www.seaharvestfestival.com

Murphy's Pond Music Fest

July 14th, Port Hood

Whycocomagh Summer Festival

July 16th - 21st, Whycocomagh

Mabou Ceilidh

June 18th - 22nd, Mabou

Inverness Gathering

July 23rd - 29th, Inverness

Belle Cote Days

July 25th - 29th, Belle Cote

Chestico Days

July 29th - August 5th, Port Hood
www.almacinnissportscentre.com

Festival de l'Escaouette

August 3rd - 7th
www.cheticamp.ca

Judique on the Floor Festival

August 8th - 12th, Judique

Marble Mountain Family Weekend

August 10th - 12th, Marble Mountain
www.marblemountainvillage.com

Margaree Highland Games

August 10th - 12th
margareehighlandgames.com

Glencoe Day

Sunday, September 2nd
Glencoe Mills

Celtic Colours International Festival

October 5th - 13th
Locations across Cape Breton Island
Full Schedule www.celtic-colours.com

CEILIDHS AND LIVE MUSIC IN INVERNESS COUNTY

SUNDAYS:

Celtic Music Interpretive Centre, Judique 2-5 pm

Red Shoe Pub, Mabou: 4-7 pm

Glenora Distillery Glenora 1-3 pm, 8-10 pm

Daily (Monday to Friday)

Celtic Music Interpretive Centre Lunch Ceilidhs

11:30 am-3 pm

Glenora Distillery 1-3 pm, 8-10 pm

Red Shoe Pub 5-7 pm

MONDAYS:

Ceilidh in the Park, Port Hood 7-8 pm

July 2nd - September 3rd

TUESDAYS:

Mabou Community Hall 7:30-9pm

July 5th - August 23rd

WEDNESDAYS:

The Barn, Normaway Inn, Margaree 8-10 pm

Fr. John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre,

Glendale (Every 2nd Wed. June 13th - Oct 3rd)

THURSDAYS:

Chestico Museum, Port Hood 7-8 pm

Alice's Ceilidhs, Inverness Fire Hall 8 pm

FRIDAYS:

Red Shoe Pub, Mabou 9 pm-12 am

Lake Ainslie Fire Hall, East Lake Ainslie 7-9 pm

(starting July 20th)

SATURDAYS:

Admiral Lounge and Dining Room 6-9 pm

Doryman Pub and Grill 2-6 pm

Red Shoe Pub (times vary)

Check out The Inverness Oran published every Wednesday for the latest updates!



ORANGEDALE/MARBLE MOUNTAIN/MALAGAWATCH



Photo by: K.C. Beaton

These communities on the sunrise side of Inverness County are part of the Bras d'Or Lakes scenic drive. Orangedale offers the Railway museum. Marble Mountain offers beautiful views of the Bras d'Or Lakes. There are century old wooden churches, a beach and a vineyard located here and it's part of the Great Trail's water route for those who enjoy paddling.

If you're a fan of exploring places that are a bit off the beaten track, consider a drive through the communities of Orangedale, to the North Mountain communities that include Malagawatch, Big Harbour Island and Marble Mountain. If you remember the experience of a Sunday drive, when you just explored places for the sake of seeing what was there, this is worth trying.

Stop at the Orangedale Station Railway Museum to learn about the significance of the railroad to Inverness County. This award-winning museum is the site of one of Canada's oldest railway stations, dating from 1886. There are artifacts, stationmaster quarters, waiting rooms and an office looking as they would have when the station was operational.

Parts of the road are quiet, others are quite remote; it's all beautiful. The entire route is at the edge of The Bras d'Or Lakes, regarded as Canada's inland sea. Keep in mind that these are rural road conditions: winding, hilly, sharp turns, places where pavement is at the very end of its life span or gravel roads. They're not meant to be rushed on. Cell service is not consistent throughout the drive. That's not necessarily a bad thing, but GPS won't work. So, if you like to use online maps for guidance, download or seek out directions before you go. Pack a picnic lunch and stop at the scenic lookoff at Marble

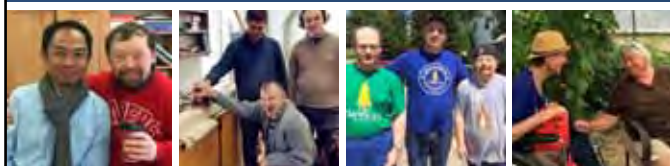
Mountain that offers a stunning view of the lakes, or head to the Marble Mountain Beach. This community hosts a Family Weekend from August 10th to 12th.

The road to these places is off Highway 105. Turn at the sign for Orangedale. The museum is visible from this road. The Marble Mountain Road turnoff is just before you get to the museum. Marble Mountain Road continues through to Port Hawkesbury.

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SAT. 10-5



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OUTSIDE WHYCOCOMAGH



www.larchecapebreton.org Email: larchecb@larchecapebreton.org

At a Glance

Places to Stop: Orangedale Rail Station Museum, Eileanan Breagha Vineyard, Marble Mountain Beach

Amenities: convenience store, post office, used clothing store, churches, craft shop

Churches: Orangedale United, 902-756-2829; Orangedale Presbyterian, 902-756-3157



GLENDALE



Glendale is located on the Trans Canada Highway. Settled primarily by Gaels who emigrated from Northern Scotland, the influence of this culture is still evident today. Glendale holds cultural significance for Cape Breton fiddle music as it was the site of a festival that gathered over 100 fiddlers in 1973 in response to a 1972 documentary called *The Vanishing Cape Breton Fiddler*. The filmmaker notes that the tradition of Scottish fiddling was fading in Cape Breton. The Glendale Festival is largely regarded as the touchstone event that re-grew the Cape Breton fiddling tradition.

Nestled at the foot of A' Bheinn Ghorm, the Blue Mountain lie the communities of Glendale, Kingsville and Queensville... referred to in Gaelic collectively as *Bràigh na h-aibhneadh*. The mountain has been a strong influence for the people of this area providing material to build shelter, sustenance through hunting, fishing and growing since settlers first arrived from the Highlands of Scotland beginning at the end of the 18th century.

The Gaels (the people of Highland Scotland) have a keen appreciation for close family and community ties, merriment,

good music, great stories and good food. The community of Glendale and the surrounding places that make up *Bràigh na h-aibhneadh* remain true to their roots, welcoming everyone to come and see them throughout the summer season.

The Fr. John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre is housed in the former parish glebe house. It is the place to find local archives and genealogical information, a gift shop as well as a Community Access Program (CAP) site with public access to computers and internet service. The centre hosts musical *ceilidhs* there every second Wednesday from June 13th through October 3rd featuring local entertainers. A light lunch (tea, sweets, sandwiches) is served at each *ceilidh*. The centre also hosts monthly suppers on July 15th, August 12th, September 9th and October 14th between 4:30 and 6 p.m. Admission is \$12/adult, \$6/under 12, free for children under 3.

Outdoor concerts have social and cultural significance in Cape Breton as they are places where the people from the communities gather and re-connect while listening to music and song from the area. The annual Glendale Come Home Days outdoor concert is July 7th on the grounds beside St. Mary of the Angels Church and the Fr. John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre beginning at 2 p.m. Admission is \$20 per adult.

The Fr. John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre is located on Highway 105 in Glendale (20 minutes from the Canso Causeway) and is open daily in July and August.

At a Glance

Places to Stop: Fr. John Angus Rankin Community Centre

Amenities: church, CAP (public internet access) site

Music: Fr. John Angus Rankin Community Centre Kitchen Ceilidh (alternating Wednesdays beginning June 13th at 7 pm)

Churches: St. Mary of the Angels Catholic, 902-625-2345



INVERNESS



Photo by: Francis MacDonald

Inverness is one of the most beautiful spots on the sunset side of Cape Breton. This town has seen a renaissance in the last five years with the development of two world class golf courses. It's a new home for some, a reclaimed home for others. Small business is thriving; young families are flourishing. Play a round of golf, walk the boardwalk, hang on the beach, catch a night of harness racing, grab a brew or find unique gifts and treats.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Coal Miners Cafe (breakfast, lunch, dinner) West Side CookHouse (breakfast, lunch, dinner), Cabot Public House (lunch, dinner), Panorama Dining Room (fine dining), Glenora Distillery (pub and fine dining), Reel Pizza, Route 19 Brewery Pub

Places to Sleep: campground, B&B, inn, cottages

Places to Stop: Inverness Miners Museum (local history), Inverness Beach, Inverness Visitors Centre

Trails: Inverness Shean Trail (Celtic Shores Coastal Trail system), Inverness Boardwalk

Amenities: hospital (ER, outpatient services), community health centre, gas station (mechanic on duty Monday to Friday), grocery store, convenience stores, NSLC retail store, hardware/sporting goods, gift shops, day spa, art gallery/performance centre, banking, car wash, post office

Music: Coal Miners Cafe (weekly), Cabot Public House (nightly May-October), Alice's Ceilidhs (Inverness Fire Hall, Thursdays at 8 pm), Broad Cove Scottish Concert (July 29th)

Churches: Stella Maris Catholic, 902-258-2462; St. Margaret of Scotland (Broad Cove), 902-258-2462; St. John's Pastoral Charge, 902-258-2686; Inverness Community Church, 902-258-7135

Making the most of a stay in Inverness

Golf has earned a rightful place in the spotlight for the town of Inverness. In less than six years, the two courses have gained international attention and won places in the top 100 golf destinations in the world.

But there is so much to see and do in Inverness. The northern side of the Celtic Shores Coastal Trail runs from in Inverness towards Mabou. Approximately 20 kilometers of multi-use trail is perfect for walking, cycling or travel by off road vehicle. The most dramatic spot on this trail is the Deepdale Trestle. One of 26 bridges on the entire trail, this one is truly spectacular as it is approximately 300 feet long and 100 feet in the air.

Eagle Eye Outfitters offer boat tours of St. George's Bay with options that include private charters, deep sea fishing expeditions, salmon fishing tours and lobster boils. They also rent mountain bikes capable of handling conditions on local trails and do kayak tours.

There are lots of little shops to visit, a grocery store to explore, art galleries, live horse racing twice a week and restaurants that offer something to suit everyone. Mill Road Social Enterprises operates a bakery (you must try the cinnamon rolls), The Closet Thrift Store and the Village Market every Thursday. The beach is spectacular, whether you have a few minutes to spend or the whole day, it should be a part of your stay in Inverness.

A natural drama unfolds over the ocean in Inverness

When travelling north on Route 19, you will climb a hill known locally as The Corner (presumably because of the intersection of Banks Road and Route 19 at the foot of the hill). About mid way to the top of this hill you catch the first glimpse of the sea. A little further up, the harbour comes into view. Depending on the time of day you can see the fleet of fishing boats sailing out for a day of work, coming back home to safe harbours when the work is done, or as they slumber along side the wharf at the closing of the day. The harbour waters usually look serene. The open water offers considerably more drama. The motion of the water ranges from lapping gently on the beach to a wild and relentless surf that explains the craggy rough-hewn appearance of the shore. The sky over the water is an ever-changing show of light created by sun, wind and clouds.

The town of Inverness runs parallel to the sea making the

water visible from just about any vantage point. If this fact alone doesn't captivate you, wait until sunset. The colours evolve from soft and subtle pastel blues, yellows and pinks to intense, vibrant reds, purples, gold and magenta as the gloaming of the day arrives.

Take a drive through Inverness to see this drama unfold at any time of the year. Or if you want to take the time to appreciate it without the distraction of keeping eyes on the road, walk. The Inverness Boardwalk can be accessed at the top of Beach Road (beside the Irving gas station) and continues for about two kilometers over the beach. Stairways offer passage to the beach if you need to feel the sand and water on your feet. Benches and tables are located along the boardwalk offering a peaceful spot to meditate, rest or enjoy a picnic dinner.

These shows are free, the run is unlimited. Enjoy.



Photo by: Francis MacDonald

Nothing is more lovely than owning a home on the western coast of beautiful Cape Breton Island! Enjoy all that Inverness has to offer in your new *Cape Breton Home*



SOLD

TURN KEY 1283 SQUARE FOOT SHOW HOME UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON LOT 36 - VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS



Emcees Jennifer MacDonald-Ashton and Joe Murphy will welcome all the talent and special guests this year which include Miller/MacDonald/Cormier (shown right).

The 62 annual Broad Cove Scottish Concert will not disappoint – see details for this year's concert on page 58



inverness county
centre
for the **Arts**

- June 8&9 10am-6pm.....Adam Hill Photography Workshop**
June 9 8-10pm.....Farmer the Band, Performance
June 13-Aug 8 2-4pm.....Craft Together Workshop (Every Wednesday)
July 3-29 11am-5pm.....Hands Dancing, Members Show
(Opening Reception: June 30, 6-8pm)
July 3-29 11am-5pm.....Small Treasures, Gallery Exhibit
(Opening Reception: June 30, 6-8pm)
July 3-Aug 14 6-7pm.....InFlux Ideas Talks (Every Tuesday)
July 8-Aug 2Shared Energies: Momentum,
 Collaborative Artist-in -Residence
(Exhibition: Aug 4-Sept 2,
Opening Reception: Aug 3, 6-8pm)
July 29 3-6pm.....An Introduction to Artistic Collaboration
& Networking (Public Workshop)
Aug 18.....Plein Air, Painting Day Outdoor Painting Session
Aug 25.....Day inFlux, Performances, Talks, Workshops
Sept 8-30 11am-5pm.....Contemporary Portraiture by Gillian McCulloch
(Opening Reception: Sept 7, 6-8pm)
Oct 6-13 11am-5pm.....Transitions: Studio Art Quilt Associates
(SAQA) Atlantic Region, Exhibition
(Opening Reception: Oct 5, 6-8pm)

16080 Highway 19, Inverness
NS B0E 1N0 / 902-258-2533

Hours of Operation:
Tuesday - Sunday
11AM to 5PM

- **Closed Canada Day**
Sunday, July 1st
- **Open Thanksgiving**
Monday, Oct 8th

Admission is free
but donations are
appreciated

Doug Fraser Art Studio

The experience of Doug Fraser's art begins as you turn on to the road that leads to his studio. Located in Deepdale; approximately 10 minutes from the center of town in Inverness, the studio is on Loch Ban Road, climbing one kilometer uphill on a winding gravel road, past his childhood home to the home he has built with his wife, their family and their cat, Casper.

The road to the house and gallery is lined with trees, a bit narrow, and when driving it for the first time, one may feel unsure of what to expect. In any other setting, this could be a cause for anxiety or fear. But as you approach Doug's studio, there's a sense of peace takes you by surprise. You realize that you have left the place where clocks and schedules matter and come to a place filled with a calming energy. This one-kilometer trek allows you to clear your mind and prepare you to just be in the moment.

Doug Fraser has worked as a full-time professional artist for 19 years. His work is landscape art and sculpture, visions he has seen from this property that is six acres of the homestead land he was born and raised upon. Everything he creates is influenced by the nature he is surrounded by. He paints on large canvases ranging in sizes like 22"x28", 36x48 or 30x60. This allows Doug to convey an idea that he is capturing the infinity of nature in his paintings.

The sculpture garden is arranged in a circular pattern in the front of the yard. Each piece is strategically placed so that they have their time in the light each day. The wood and stone compositions are somewhat reflective of life: sometimes

a little gnarly, sometimes with varied textures and layers, the most interesting stuff is sometimes beneath the surface. The wood is not varnished, just treated to keep bugs away. Stones are polished and coated with a sealant. Each piece is abstract, totally subject to the eye of the beholder offering a unique and individual perception depending on the light and the vantage point. Some of the works (painting and sculpture) have elements that seem to follow you...the way a bright full moon seems to be a companion on a night time journey.

Doug is a self-taught artist and claims his learning never really stops. His art is his how he communicates with the world. It is how he conveys his respect and reverence for the nature he is surrounded by. His paintings are a study of light, and the balance between light and darkness. The place that he looks out on from his studio doesn't change, but what he sees always looks different because the light changes constantly. There is constant movement in the trees, the water and in nature.

Even in a stark winter landscape or a thunderstorm in a moody sky there is a sense of warmth in his paintings that comes from within him. You sense that warmth in the first greeting from Doug. He exudes passion when talking about his art, and the nature that moves him to create. You feel the joy Doug feels when having a conversation about art, and sense it through the time and the patience he invests with visitors to the gallery.

Doug Fraser's Art Studio is exactly why a trip on the Sunset side of Cape Breton is not complete without a back roads tour.



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It's the kind of hidden gem that will shine the brightest in your memories. The gallery is open seven days a week throughout the summer months from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit dougfraserart.com for details and directions.



DOUG FRASER ART

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dougfraserart@ns.sympatico.ca



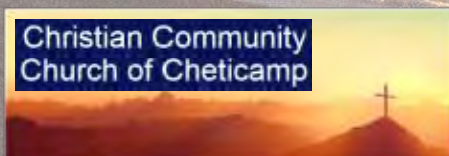
*God is the creator of this beautiful island of
Cape Breton and all things.
Come and worship Him.*

Sundays at 10.30am



At Inverary Resort
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Baddeck
Pastor Phil MacCormack
(902) 295-1387

Sundays at 10.30am



14044 Cabot Trail, Point Cross,
Cheticamp
Pastor Pierre Chaisson
(902) 258-5910
Highland Christian Community Church
Cape North Culture Center
Sunday Evenings at 6:00
Pastor Pierre Chaisson

Sundays at 11am



Mill Road Social
Enterprises Building,
20 Mill Road,
Inverness
Pastor Mark Palmer
(902) 258-7135

Sundays at 11am



924 East Big
Intervale Rd
Margaree Valley
Pastor Hugh Morrison
(902) 248-2735

Inverness County Centre for the Arts:

15 years of showcasing visual arts

The history of a council serving the arts community in Inverness County goes back to the mid-1980s when the Inverness County Council of the Arts was formed. Their vision was to nurture, enable, and promote the artistic expression and fulfillment of all people. The council became active in planning and presenting visual art exhibits, musical and theatrical performances and cultural education opportunities.

As the profile of the arts council grew, desire to establish a venue that was devoted to the preservation and promotion of art in the community, and the mission to build the Inverness County Centre for the Arts had begun. Construction began in January 2002 and the centre opened in 2003. It is a unique venue of 8640 square feet, built in a tranquil setting, overlooking the ocean.

For 15 years the Inverness County Centre for the Arts (ICCA) has hosted at least eight art exhibits a year in the gallery space including shows by internationally known artists, exhibits featuring member artists called *Hands Dancing*. The reception room hosts musical events, dramatic presentations and craft shows throughout the year. ICCA also strives to present learning opportunities in various art media.

Upcoming gallery exhibits include *Four Corners*, featuring the work of four young artists with Inverness County roots. This show opened on June 1st and continues through to June 24th. *Hands Dancing* runs in the outer gallery from June 30th to July

29th. *Small Treasures*, a juried show which features works of art in all media that are no larger than 12 inches in any dimension runs in the main gallery concurrently with *Hands Dancing*. *Transitions*: A contemporary textile exhibition by the members of the Studio Art Quilt Associates of the Atlantic Region opens October 5th and runs through October 28th.

Inverness County Centre for the Arts is located at 16080 Route 19 in Inverness. The gallery is open Tuesday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibit opening night receptions are 6 to 8 p.m. For further information visit the ICCA website at www.invernessarts.com.



Photo by: John Gillis

SUMMER HOURS

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SATURDAY

9 am to 5 pm

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Two days at the races in Inverness

Sunday mornings in Inverness County would look entirely different if it weren't for the sight of horse trailers moving along Route 19. Watching them pass by as they make their way to Inverness is as much that morning's ritual as pouring water in the teapot or making coffee. The Inverness Raceway has been a top attraction to the town since 1926. Each Sunday afternoon from June to October, a full card of live harness racing is offered to spectators that come from all over Cape Breton and throughout the Maritimes. A second evening of races is offered on Wednesday evenings under the lights in July and August.

While live harness racing is not unique to the town of Inverness, it's a rare opportunity these days as there are just a handful of places to see events like it in the Maritimes. The Inverness Raceway is

located at 112 Forest Street, turn right off Central Avenue (Route 19) and you'll see it at the top of the hill.



Photo by: Bill Dunphy



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~ Fàilte ~

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Inverness Beach: Making the sun, sand and surf for everyone

Anyone who is affected by mobility challenges, directly or as a support person knows that the challenge trying to exist as a differently abled individual in a world geared for average people is sometimes huge. Some of life's simple pleasures such as a trip to the beach during a summer day are feats of planning and logistics, if they're possible at all.

The Inverness boardwalk had sustained significant storm damage and needed repairs. When the Inverness Development Association began planning for this, they recognized the opportunity to take the repairs beyond fixing some broken boards to creating a place that everyone could use. The boardwalk now includes a ramp that leads to the beach and mats that roll from the

bottom of that ramp to the water. Two floating wheelchairs, called Mobi-Chairs are available for anyone wanting to go for a dip. Beach wheelchairs and beach walkers capable of moving over sand are also there for use. The Beach Hut has also been renovated with accessibility in mind. These changes cost approximately \$60,000. For anyone who loves the beach and lives with mobility challenges, being able to get to the water independently or with minimal support is priceless.

At present, Inverness Beach is the only beach on Cape Breton Island offering accessibility for individuals with mobility challenges. The leadership shown in this project has made the town of Inverness an example of what good things can happen when people are committed to building strong communities.

Tel. 902-914-2162 / solusdayspa17@gmail.com



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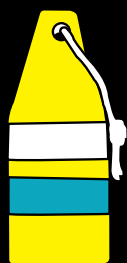
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POST TIMES

WEDNESDAY
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SUNDAY
1:30 P.M.

PHONE

902-258-3315

HORSEMAN'S BINGO - TUESDAY - 7:30

Sponsored by the Inverness Raceway

Growing business in Inverness

Throughout the last two or three generations, most of the stories we read and hear focus on the decline of rural areas. Dwindling populations, downturn in land- and sea-based industries, the allure of bright lights and big cities have all played a role in drawing people away from small towns and communities all over the world. Inverness, Cape Breton has bucked this trend over the last 10 years. The growth in this community shows the tenacious character of the people and offers a beacon of hope to anyone who fights what is often an uphill battle for rural development.

The quest to build a golf course in Inverness reads like a classic triumphant underdog movie script. A group of volunteers had a vision: create a large visitor attraction anchor for Inverness that would offer positive economic impact for the community. It took time, patience, dedication and determination to find the right connection for Inverness. Once it was made, the vision of those volunteers came to fruition and the Cabot Links Golf Resort came into existence. It meant creating the first authentic links golf courses in Canada. These courses have captured the world's attention, ranked as two of the world's top 100 18-hole courses. Cabot Links is built parallel to the town of Inverness and Cabot Cliffs is located a few kilometers north on Route 19 in Inverside.

Over the past six years, since the opening of the Cabot Links Golf Resort, the seaside community of Inverness has experienced a renewal and growth on many levels. The area has

garnered world-wide attention. Students have employment in their home community during the summer season, and people come from around the world to work at the resort. Young families have moved to the community or returned home from larger centers to work at the golf resort or are pursuing spin off employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The promise of a golf course attracted a large coffee chain to set up shop in Inverness, sparked real estate development, and a large home building supplies retailer maintains a store in the town as well.

But what is perhaps the most encouraging sign of confidence in rural growth is the successful development of small businesses in Inverness. Storefronts on or near the main street have begun to bloom, offering a variety of products and services, unique gifts, handcrafts, clothing, home décor, adventure tours, day spa treatments, convenience items and fashion accessories.

The Bear Paw Gift Shop and Freeman's Pharmacy are two veteran retail operations having been part of the town's streetscape for decades. The Bear Paw offers an array of gift ideas, hand-woven and hand-knit items, glass art, jewellery, and a selection of Gaelic books, music books, works by local authors, and cds by local musicians. Freeman's is a full-service pharmacy with a complete stock of typical health and beauty items. The store also carries giftware, candy, fashion accessories and items to meet a variety of needs.

continued next page...

INVERNESS GATHERING EVENTS

KitchenFest

June 29th-30th
July 1st, 6th, 7th
Music TBA



Legion Day Thursday ~ July 26th

Music by: Take 4

Unveiling new
Inverness Cenotaph
11 a.m.

Entertainment to
follow with Dara
MacDonald

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
No Admission

Saturday, July 28
Music 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
With John Burke
Admission \$10.00

All events 19 years & over



Golf Tournament, Dr. Bernie Maclean Golf Classic

Monday, July 23rd, 2018. Le Portage Golf Course,

Shot Gun - Start at 10 am. Steak dinner and reception at
Inverness Arena following the Golf Tourney.

Contact Info: dr.berniamacleangolfclassic@gmail.com

Neil MacQuarrie: 1-902-968-1420

Inverness Gathering Dance

Saturday, July 28th, 2018, 10 pm - 2 am.

Music by Matt Minglewood Band,
advance tickets \$25, tickets at door \$30.

19 years and over.

Contact Neil MacQuarrie: 1-902-968-1420

Inverness Arena T.V. Bingo

Every Thursday, 7 pm, Inverness Community Channel 3.

Growing business in Inverness...from previous page

Quincy Street Market is a new business entering its second year of operation. It's an eclectic little boutique that carries items ranging from pottery to pillows to yoga pants. The market brightens up the street with its artful window displays and warm pastel façade.

Solus Day Spa is located at 7 Maple Street, just off Central Avenue, right behind The Bear Paw. Opened in 2017, Solus (Gaelic for light) offers skin and nail care services using organic, eco-friendly products. The environment is bright and relaxing, a perfect vacation self-care treat.

All these businesses offer a glimpse of a quirky cool and hip little place surrounded by unspoiled and rugged beauty that can only be offered by the sea. They also show the spirit of the

people who have taken their passion for and commitment to their community and turned the tides on rural decline.



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Ceilidh Trail C.B. Club Park in Inverness is a great place to gather during the summer.

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Banks Schoolhouse *Music Festival*

DMNikas is hosting the 8th annual Banks Schoolhouse Music Festival on August 6th and 7th from 6 p.m. to midnight. The venue is located at 399 Broadcove Banks Road (off Route 19).

Musical guests for this festival include ALEXR from Hamilton, Ontario, Brian Doyle and the BS Band, The Loch Band, James Ferris Band, Scott Macmillan, Mitch Poirier, the Matthew Fraser Band, Black River Crossing, Abby & Tyler Mullendore, Bill Quimby, Kenny Hutchins and Alex DeRoo. These performers offer a range of folk, blues, rock and roll, jazz and everything in between.

The Forever Green Organic Farm & Garden Food Truck will be on site both nights serving up local food favourites.

Admission is free, and the event is open to music lovers of all ages. It's an outdoor event so bring along a lawn chair and a blanket to sit on plus warmer clothes as the air often cools after sunset.



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Aug 6 & 7 th, 2018 6 pm to midnight #bsinverness

62nd Annual Broad Cove concert features Piano Summit and Miller/MacDonald/Cormier

For more than six decades now the annual Broad Cove Scottish Concert has filled the stage behind the St. Margaret's Parish of Scotland Church with some of the finest performers from the Maritimes Celtic tradition.

With the 62nd annual concert on July 29th on the new stage, that tradition continues with one of the finest young players (bagpipes and fiddle), opening up the concert, Judique's Joe MacMaster.

The big concert begins at 3 p.m. sharp and will run until 9 p.m. Join emcees Jennifer MacDonald-Ashton and Joe Murphy as they welcome all the talent and special guests this year which include Miller/MacDonald/Cormier.

Anita MacDonald and Ben Miller have previously released a CD of their own as a duo and this year you can expect to see them as a trio when they join with Acadian multi-instrumentalist Zakk Cormier. CBC *Mainstreet* has called the trio "one of the most important folk acts on Cape Breton Island today."

In addition, this year will also feature an impressive Piano Summit including some of the finest players active today in the Celtic music: Marion MacLeod, Lawrence Cameron, Tracey Dares MacNeil, Mac Morin and Maybelle Chisholm-McQueen.

This year's Guitar Summit brings back fan favourites Brian Doyle and Scott Macmillan along with two young men who are their proteges and former students – Inverness County's James MacLean and Matthew Fraser. MacLean is a native of Lake Ainslie and is a graduate of Dalhousie University's Music Program while Fraser hails from Deepdale and is currently

studying music at Dalhousie as well.

Broad Cove will also feature the talent from the Change of Step Highland Dance Company. Formed in 2014, this group has performed internationally and delighted audiences on Parliament Hill on Canada Day, in the Vancouver Olympics, at the Dollywood Festival of Nations in Tennessee and at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo and more.

The Cape Breton Fiddler's Association will also be special guests at Broad Cove this year, along with a number of Gaelic singers such as Lewis MacKinnon, Jim Watson, Ronald MacKenzie, Sarah MacInnis, Alice Freeman and more, including Inverness County's Gaelic singing group, *Coisir an Eilean*.


Danelle and Céline Doucet are two fine young performers with Cheticamp roots who will be bringing their talent to the concert.

Beech Hill is a contemporary pop and folk band that can bring an audience to its feet. Beech Hill consists of Peter MacInnis, Jesse Fraser, Jesse Ryan and Neil MacQuarrie, all Inverness County residents with strong Celtic roots.

This is just a brief preview of some of the artists who will be coming to the Broad Cove stage this year.

Following the concert there will be a dance at the South West Margaree Hall beginning at 10 p.m.

You can check out a full line-up and artist profiles at www.broadcoveconcert.ca or its Facebook group: Annual Broad Cove Scottish Concert.



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THE MARGAREES



Photo by: Francis MacDonald

The communities around the Margaree River were settled originally by Gaels, Irish and Acadian families. These people sustained themselves through economic endeavours generated by the river. Margaree offers eclectic and unique experiences for visitors through its museums, hiking trails, fly fishing, paddle boarding and one of a kind craft shops.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Dancing Goat (breakfast, lunch, coffee, bakery), Duck Cove Inn (lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch), Island Sunset (lunch, dinner, lobster pound, fine dining), Belleview Restaurant (lunch, dinner, pizza), Big Interval Lodge (lunch, dinner), Salmon Pool Inn (lunch, dinner, fine dining), The Lakes Restaurant, The Normaway Inn

Places to Sleep: motels, campground, B&B, inn, cottages

Places to Stop: Margaree Salmon Museum, Public Library, Margaree Fish Hatchery

Trails: Cape Clear, Egypt Falls

Fishing: Margaree River (licensing may be required)

Amenities: gas station (mechanic available, North East Margaree), grocery store, convenience store, gift shops, churches, post office, credit union, craft shops, art gallery, CAP (public internet access) site

Music: Normaway Inn (Wednesdays in the Barn, July, August; nightly in the dining room; Fridays during September and October); St. Joseph's Parish Hall Southwest Margaree (Fridays); Island Sunset (Tuesdays)

Churches: Margaree Family of Catholic Churches, 902-235-2435; Margaree Valley Baptist, 902-248-2735



Photo by: Francis MacDonald

Margaree Highland Games

The seventh annual Margaree Highland Games happens on August 10th to 12th on the grounds of St. Michael's Parish located at 1181 East Margaree Road. The festival will kick off on Friday with a variety concert at St. Michael's Parish Hall. Community events are also highlighted on Saturday with a \$500 jackpot bingo, opening mass, fricot supper, and a traditional square dance with Douglas Cameron.

Saturday's amateur competitions include five events: weight for distance, weight over bar, braemar stone, hammer toss and caber toss. Competitors are divided into three divisions (youth, junior, and amateur). The winner on Saturday is invited to compete again Sunday with the pros.

In 2015, Margaree Highland Games was twinned with Bressuire Highland Games in France. This partnership of agreement and friendship has fostered much learning and support across continents, as we continue to share our language, our culture, and our sport with each other. Margaree Highland Games is thrilled to welcome their 2nd French athlete, Cédric Picard to this year's event. He will compete during Saturday's amateur division.

Sunday is the main event. It happens **rain or shine!** Margaree hosts ten professional athletes, competing in the same five events as the amateur competitions on Saturday. Two challenge events, sheaf toss and farmer's walk, as well as women's events, are also part of Sunday's events.

Sunday's jam-packed schedule includes highland dancing

and pipe and drum performances, running races, a silent auction, horse rides, children's games, tug-of-war, and more. Barbecue meals and a refreshment tent are also available on site throughout the day.

Check out the *Inverness Oran*, published on Wednesdays for full details of the Margaree Highland Games.

Follow the Margaree Highland Games on Facebook: facebook.com/MargareeHighlandGames/ or visit the website: www.margareehighlandgames.com.



Photo by: Rob Romard



Margaree, NS
6289 Cabot Trail
902.248.2727

Living life around the Margaree River

If summer in Margaree isn't paradise, it's awfully close. Communities celebrate their vibrant sense of identity with a variety of festivals and local events, welcoming visitors to share in their good times. Summer festivals offer a variety of events that range from golf tournaments to concerts to dinners, dances and athletic events. These festivals give insight into the experience of living like a local and when you support these events, you contribute to community organizations and infrastructure.

The communities around the Margaree offer everything a visitor needs to make for vacation convenience such as grocery shopping, banks, post offices, restaurants, corner stores, and gift shops. Margaree also offers lots of things to do that can make vacation into a great escape. You can enjoy quiet inns, cottages and cabins, spend time at the library, or visit museums. If you need a little more adventure, check out hiking trails, take a tour of the river on a paddle board or ride it like a lazy river on a tube. There are places to hear music or learn to dance, play mini golf, ride go carts, sit on the beach or watch a race where you can see anything that floats.

Margaree is the place to go if you need to slow down, relax and enjoy the best of what life has to offer.

Anything That Floats Race in Margaree

The Anything that Floats Race is an annual community event taking place on the Margaree River on Saturday, August 4th. This unique and fun-filled family event invites local people and visitors to come out and enjoy the glory of the Margaree River on a summer day. It's been a staple of summer in Margaree for more than 25 years.

The race entries are divided into two categories: 1 – kayaks and canoes; and 2 – everything else. Participants make their way down the river in boats, rafts, tubes, inflatable furniture and any manner of imaginative buoyant creations. Registration takes place at Tanners Run, just off the Cabot Trail and finishes down the river at Doyle's Bridge. There's a barbecue and prizes are awarded for several categories. Check it out!



7th Annual Margaree Highland Games August 10 - 12

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MAIN EVENT

Sunday, August 12th-10:30am

RAIN or SHINE

- Heavy Events
- Highland Dancing
- Pipe Band Performances
- Tug of War
- Horse Rides
- Running Races
- Silent Auction
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Rob Romard
Photography



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Margaree-Lake Ainslie Heritage River Society

MARGAREE: River of history. The Margaree-Lake Ainslie watershed area is one of only two Heritage Rivers in Nova Scotia. It is recognized as such for its rich cultural heritage as well as the magnificent scenery that amazes and delights with every turn of the road.

This spring, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its designation, the Margaree-Lake Ainslie Heritage River Society will unveil a series of commemorative signs placed at strategic viewing places along the river and lake, where travellers can easily witness the changes to the local environment that have occurred over the past century. Watch for signs, such as this one located at the Margaree Crossroads, as you tour the area.



MARGAREE-LAKE AINSLIE CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER RIVIERE PATRIMOINE MARGAREE-LAC AINSLIE



Village of East Margaree, c. 1914 / Village de Margaree est, c. 1914



A project of the Margaree Lake Ainslie Canadian Heritage River Society - 2018.

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Margaree Salmon Museum:

Fish stories and more

The Margaree River is known throughout the world for its salmon fishing. People have come for generations for a chance to cast a line and catch big fish or tell the stories about ones that got away.

For more than 50 years the Margaree Salmon Museum has been a must-stop destination for visitors to Margaree. The building was once a one-room schoolhouse in North East Margaree. Today it's a cultural touchstone that strives to share the rich history of fishing on the Margaree River and educate visitors on the importance of conservation to preserve the stocks for future generations.

The museum offers displays that relate to salmon angling on the river, photos and memorabilia from renowned anglers. There is also practical information for those who want to fish the river including season information, species identification and need to know guidance about fishing on the Margaree River.

The Salmon Museum is open from June 15th to October 15th. It's open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MARGAREE

SALMON MUSEUM



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CHÉTICAMP



Photo by: Francis MacDonald

Cheticamp is an Acadian community on the northern side of Inverness County. Throughout its history a primary economic driver in the town has been the fishing industry. The community sits at the entrance to the Cape Breton Highlands National Park; since its opening in 1936, tourism initiatives built around a robust Acadian culture have made Cheticamp a must-see destination on the sunset side of Cape Breton.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Happy Clam (breakfast, lunch, dinner), Robin's Donuts (breakfast, coffee), The Harbour Restaurant (lunch, dinner), Doryman Pub & Grill (lunch, dinner), Le Gabriel (lunch, dinner), Seafood Stop (lunch, dinner), Frog Pond Café (coffee, fresh baked goods), The Evangeline (lunch, dinner), Wabo's (pizza)

Places to Sleep: motels, campground, B&B, inn, cottages

Places to Stop: Les Trois Pignons, Elizabeth LeFort Gallery, Marguerite Gallant Museum, Père Charles Aucoin Genealogy Centre, folk art galleries

Trails: Gypsum Mine Trail, Cape Breton Highlands National Park

Golf: Le Portage (18 hole)

Amenities: gas stations, grocery store/hardware store, convenience stores, pharmacy, gift shops, banking, craft shops, art gallery, liquor store, bakeries, CAP (public internet access) site, post office

Music: Doryman Pub & Grill (Saturdays 2-5 pm), Le Gabriel (varied schedule); Summer festival (details forthcoming)

Churches: St. Peter's Catholic, 902-224-2064; Christian Community Church, 902-248-2107; St. Joseph's Roman Catholic (St. Joseph du Moine) 902-224-3333

Marguerite Gallant Museum

Marguerite Gallant (1890-1983) was a native of Chéticamp with a profound love of collecting. She worked in Pennsylvania for many years as a maid for the Edward Cahill family. It is said that she learned the value of collecting from Mr. Cahill who was an ardent collector.



When she returned to Chéticamp in 1938, Marguerite moved into a tiny house which she filled with objects of all kinds. As Marguerite's reputation for collecting spread through the community, people brought objects to her rather than let them be thrown away.

After Marguerite's death, La Société Saint-Pierre became custodians of the collection and moved it to Les Trois Pignons. Thanks to this incurable collector, many valuable artifacts from Chéticamp's history have been preserved.

A jam-packed summer in Cheticamp

By all accounts, 2018 promises to be another busy tourist season for Cape Breton. The village of Cheticamp has a full schedule of events offering visitors the opportunity to see, hear, taste and experience the very best of everything Acadian culture has to offer.

The backdrop to this year's summer celebration is the 125th anniversary of the building of Église Saint-Pierre. Many of the events throughout the summer recognize the hard work and dedication of the people of Chéticamp.

From June 29th to July 1st Cheticamp celebrates Canada Day. Events include a Canada Day mass, family activities at the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, nightly dance concerts featuring dance troupes performing both traditional Acadian cultural dances and modern choreographies.

On July 8th, His Eminence Cardinal Gérald Lacroix will celebrate a special mass for the 125th anniversary of Église Saint-Pierre. Spiritual faith is an integral part of Acadian culture. This mass, which begins at 10:30 a.m., honours this magnificent church and the people who built it.

Award-winning francophone artist Ronald Bourgeois will perform concerts in the Église Saint-Pierre Chapel on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in July and August beginning on July 17th through to August 8th. Showtime is 8:00 p.m.

Festival de L'Escaouette takes place from August 2nd to 5th. This festival offers four days of activities for all ages that celebrate Acadian culture and traditions. The event features bookend concert performances beginning with an official opening concert

on August 2nd and winding up with the 125th anniversary gala concert at L'Eglise Sainte-Pierre. In between, the weekend is filled with music, dancing, dramatic productions, parades and music.

National Acadian Day events on August 15th and 16th include 10:30 mass on August 15th, and performances of the musical play *Dans ma maison* at Église Saint-Pierre at 8:30 p.m. on August 15th and 16th.

The *Conseil des arts de Chéticamp* is featuring two productions throughout July and August. *Cabanés* is a musical play featuring an evening filled with traditional Acadian songs set on a camping trip in the woods. Performances run Thursdays to Saturdays from July 12th to 30th at 7:30 p.m. at *La Place des arts Père Anselme-Chiasson*. *Gélas – La Réunion* is a comedy that runs August 1st to 4th at 7:30 p.m., also at *La Place des arts Père Anselme-Chiasson*.



Photo by: Francis MacDonald

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Gypsum Mine Trail Cheticamp

The Gypsum Mine Trail was started in 2008; the trail has been opened since 2011. It is a multi-purpose trail, meaning it is accessible for hiking, cycling, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles. It is built on the railroad bed that once ran from Cheticamp Harbour to the mine which operated from 1911-1939. The full trail route is approximately 12 kilometers, beginning at Quai de Mathieu in the middle of the town, continuing along the harbour. This portion of the trail is mostly straight and flat, along a well-groomed trail. It offers an easy walk or cycle along the water with views of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The latter part of the trail is at the mine site itself. It is approximately five kilometers round trip from the parking area on the Cheticamp Back Road to the Gypsum Mine Lake. This part of the hike would be little to no challenge to an experienced hiker or anyone in peak physical condition. It is well maintained but there is a gentle, steady incline for most of the route to the lake. It might be a bit more demanding for a novice hiker or if you're in less than peak physical condition. Embrace the challenge! There are spots to rest along the way.

Along the trail you will see pieces of gypsum, a crystalline white rock flecked with black or gray, embedded in the path. The whole trail is lined by wildflowers and bordered by natural bogs. You may see eagles soar overhead. You will have a view of the surrounding mountains of the Cape Breton Highlands and see craggy and rugged rock formations that were once the

face of the mine. At the top of the trail is a man-made lake that shimmers in the sun and reflects hues of greenish-blue water from the gypsum deposits that are all around it. This lake has been a hidden gem swimming hole for years; swimmers need to be cautious however as the true depth of the water is not known. Trail developers have added benches beside the lake making it a serene spot to rest, take photos, have a snack or a full picnic.

The Gypsum Mine Trail is accessible year-round. As with most of the trails in the region, if you pack it in, pack it out, and respect that you share space with wildlife habitats.

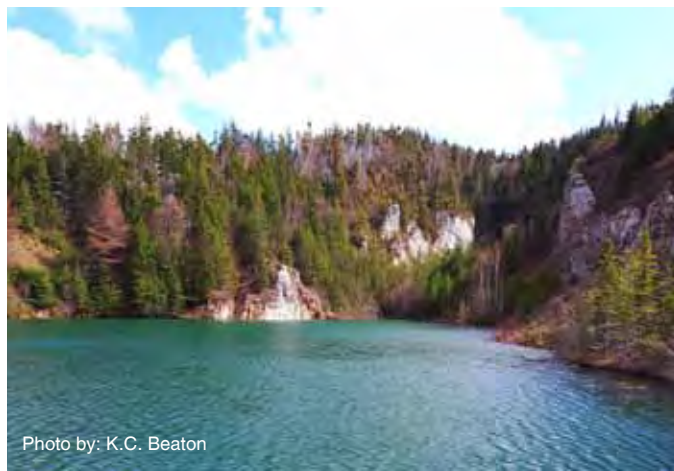


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Eglise Sainte-Pierre: 125 Years

The earliest settlers in the community of Cheticamp are believed to have arrived in 1785. These pioneers chose to establish themselves in the mountains overlooking the harbour. Over the next 50 years, the people of Cheticamp dredged a channel to the sea and grew the community into a port. Fishing became more and more of an economic driver in the area.

Towards the end of the 19th century, the population was growing in Cheticamp. People increasingly chose to establish their homes closer to the water. The church that was built in 1862 soon became too small and was no longer central to the population.

Planning began to build a new church in the centre of the village of Cheticamp. Father Pierre Fiset, parish priest, had a

vision to build a magnificent structure that could be seen from any vantage point in the parish. Funds to build this church
continued on page 71...



Photo by: Michel Soucey



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Eglise Sainte-Pierre: 125 Years...

continued from page 69...

were gathered through levies on each parishioner. Local fishermen donated a day's catch to the parish with revenue from the sales of the fish added to the fund. In time David Oulett, a Quebec architect known for his work in design of churches was contracted to design this new church. Much of the building material was given freely by local merchants and business operators. Parishoners contributed to the construction, the wood and the mortar. The first mass was celebrated in December 1892. Total construction costs for the church were approximately \$42,000. The Cassavant pipe organ, which by today's valuation would be worth in the vicinity of \$100,000, was installed in 1905 for \$1,496.

L'Eglise Sainte-Pierre stands solidly in the center of Cheticamp today. The building remains a testament to the faith and the fortitude of the people of the parish as well as the Acadian spirit. It is recognized as one of the most iconic and beautiful churches in Atlantic Canada.

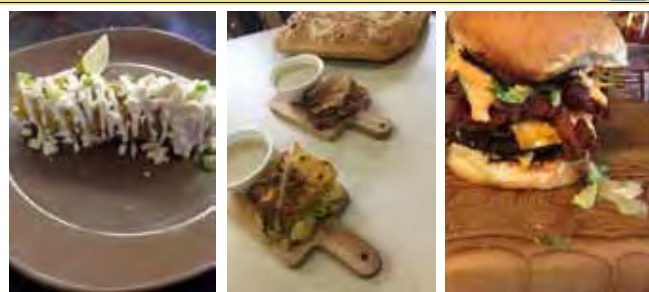
A special mass commemorating the 125th Anniversary of L'Eglise Sainte-Pierre takes place on July 8th at 10:30 a.m. This mass will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Gérald Lacroix. Later in the summer, on August 5th, the church will be the setting for a gala celebration concert featuring Scott Macmillan, Ronald Bourgeois, Lina Boudreau and Michel Aucoin. Suggested donation for this concert is \$15. All proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the church.

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Festival de L'Escaouette

One of the aspects of visiting Cape Breton is the vast and varied opportunities to experience the culture, traditions and customs of the local people, with the local people. The community of Cheticamp has cultivated experiential tourism into an art form. Their customs and traditions are fused into the food they serve, the music they play, the songs they sing and the theatre they perform.

From August 2nd to 5th *Festival de L'Escaouette* brings together all the best of Acadian culture into four days of activities for all ages. The schedule of events includes concerts, a special mass, parades and a gala celebrating the 125th anniversary of the construction of *Eglise St. Pierre*.

See www.cheticamp.ca for details of this festival or visit Les Trois Pignons for detailed information about *Festival de L'Escaouette*. *The Inverness Oran* published every Wednesday will also have complete details.



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Elizabeth LeFort learned to hook rugs at a very young age, mastering landscapes and photographic reproductions, and has been hailed as “an artist in wool.”

Elizabeth was so skillful at reproducing photographs that she began to create portraits in wool. Her portrait of American president Dwight Eisenhower was presented to him at the White House in 1957. This was followed with a series of portraits including Queen Elizabeth II, Pope Pius XII, Pope John XXIII, Jacqueline Kennedy, President Lyndon Johnson, Prime Ministers Lester Pearson and John Diefenbaker, and Prince Charles. Consequently, her art has graced Buckingham

Palace, the White House and Vatican City in Rome.

Always striving for more challenges, she completed a series of reproductions of religious paintings, including daVinci's The Last Supper, and scenes from the life of Jesus.

Two large original works depicting important events in the history of Canada and the United States leave no doubt as to her sense of design and her mastery of the craft.

Elizabeth LeFort, Chéticamp's most famous artist in wool, was awarded an honorary doctorate by Université de Moncton in 1975 and was made a member of the Order of Canada in 1987.



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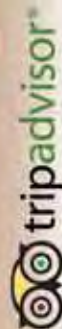


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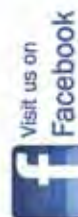


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The Père Charles Aucoin Genealogy Centre



When Father Charles Aucoin (1911-1999) retired in 1973, the beneficiary of that retirement was Chéticamp. For the next quarter of a century, the Chéticamp native threw himself into a labour of love, undertaking the laborious task of transcribing by hand all the old church records from 200 years of Acadian settlement in northern Inverness County. Father Aucoin prepared more than 100,000 personal file cards. He also wrote a number of articles on Acadian life and history.

The results of his work are of particular help to former Chéticamp people and their descendants who return to the village in search of information about their ancestors and family history. A very important department at *Les Trois Pignons* is that of the history and genealogy of the Chéticantins. Under the able direction of volunteers Jean-Doris (à Joe à Joe) LeBlanc and Charles D. (à Freddie à Damien) Roach, there is accumulated here all possible documentation on these subjects: books, copies of parish registers, census lists, listing of names from all the headstones in the cemetery and old photographs.

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PLEASANT BAY



Photo by: Arlie Fitzgerald

Pleasant Bay is the halfway point of the Cabot Trail. The community offers experiences to visitors that range from great adventures, such as whale cruises, to hiking expeditions over unspoiled terrain to the serenity of Gampo Abbey, a Buddhist monastery and retreat centre that invites visitors in for tours at scheduled times throughout the summer.

Pleasant Bay is a village on the Cabot Trail that has been a fishing community for the entirety of its history. The earliest settlers were believed to have arrived in 1828 from the Isle of Skye. Immigrants from other parts of Scotland and Ireland soon followed and began to build settlements along the shore and coastal lowlands area. One of these settlement areas is the site of the present-day Fishing Cove hiking trail in the Cape Breton Highlands National Park.

The Skyline Trail offers some of the most iconic views of the

Cabot Trail. This seven-kilometer loop trail features a dramatic headland cliff lookoff over the Atlantic Ocean. As you stand on this cliff, you may see whales carousing in the sea below, or watch eagles soar above in the sky. Vehicles moving on the Cabot Trail look like toys. In the moment as you take all this in it feels like you are standing on top of the world.

The Whale Interpretive Center promotes and preserves awareness of whales and marine life by creating a unique visitor experience. There are exhibits, interpretive displays and scale illustrations of 16 species of whales found in the waters off Cape Breton Island. The center is open from June 1st through October 15th. Tours are provided throughout the day. Located at 104 Harbour Road, the Whale Interpretive Center is just beside a wharf from where whale watching cruises depart several times daily. Stop and learn about the whale habitat before setting off on a sea adventure to watch whales up close.

Pleasant Bay is also home to Gampo Abbey, a western Buddhist monastery in the Shambala tradition. Visitors are welcome to walk the Abbey grounds, hike the trails and visit the Stupa of Enlightenment. However, due to the monastic schedule for 2018, the community is not able to offer tours of inside the Abbey.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Mid-Trail Motel, Rusty Anchor, Mountain View Restaurant

Places to Sleep: motels, campground, B&B, inn, cottages

Places to Stop: Whale Interpretive Centre, Gampo Abbey

Trails: Robert's Mountain, MacIntosh Brook, Pollets Cove, Cape Breton Highlands National Park (many trails in this region are considered suitable for advanced, experienced hikers)

Whale Watching: sea cruises (zodiac, fishing boat)

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MEAT COVE



Photo by: John Gillis

If you sit on a hilltop or hike on the Seawall Trail in Meat Cove, you may think you are on top of the world. You wouldn't be completely wrong. The community is located on the northern tip of Cape Breton Island. Meat Cove offers the ultimate in rugged, unspoiled beauty, unparalleled ocean vistas, encounters with good, kind people and fantastic seafood.

Meat Cove: A place to escape modern life

Meat Cove is often described as a place to escape modern life. While the community is linked to the rest of the planet with current telecommunication technology, one look at the views from any point in this tiny place on the northern-most tip of Nova Scotia, you will feel the urge to go unplugged.

Like most of the other places in northern Inverness County, Meat Cove has been a fishing community for most of its existence. With a population of approximately 70 people, you get the sense that living here full time is a test of mettle. Some of the residents who live here can trace their roots back to the

original settlers of Meat Cove who arrived in the 1850s.

The hiking trails that surround Meat Cove offer visitors the chance to experience solitude and serenity of this area. A short 1-kilometre boardwalk stroll leads to the beach. Other trails offer varying degrees of challenge and distances that range from 2.5 to 10 kilometers round-trip. These trails often involve being near cliffs. Feel free to appreciate the unobstructed view this affords, but stay well away from the edges of these cliffs.

The Meat Cove Community Centre allows you to reconnect with the modern world for a while if you wish/must. There's computer access, internet service and a food service. The centre also offers historical information and photos about the families of Meat Cove, including a veteran's memorial display.

Meat Cove Campground offers tent camping and oceanside cabins where you can sleep under a star-filled sky listening to waves breaking on the shore. There are kayak rentals, hiking trails, free showers and free wi-fi. The Oceanside Chowder Hut at the campground is a fully licensed dining spot with various menu options, including seafood chowder, plus a selection of local beer and wine.

Whether you visit Meat Cove for a few hours or a few days, the experience will stay with you long after you re-join modern life.

At a Glance

Places to Eat: Oceanside Chowder Hut, Meat Cove Community Centre

Places to Sleep: campground, inn

Places to Stop/Shop: Meat Cove CAP site (local history museum)

Trails: Hiking Trails, beach, boardwalk

Amenities: CAP (public access internet) site

Meat Cove: A wonderful camping and hiking experience



HIKING

Meat Cove is widely known for all its wonderful hiking trails. It offers a variety of trails that will not disappoint you, all with amazing views that you will not forget. Be sure to bring your camera to capture the scenes on film.

CAPE ST. LAWRENCE TRAIL

Trail length 5 km one way, maximum elevation 850 ft. This Trail starts by the office at the Meat Cove Community Centre/Restaurant (check with the office if you plan to leave your vehicle near here) on the gravel road and changes to a narrow track after 150 meters and proceeds up the hill. This is by far the steepest and most challenging part of the hike. In the first kilometer you will climb nearly 700 feet and pass by a wooden gate and the sign for the Meat Cove Look Off trail to your left. By the time you reach a meadow and corral to your right most of the climbing is finished. About 2 kilometers from the start you will see the side trail to Cape St. Lawrence to your right. As of July, 2009 this was well marked with flagging tape on both sides. It's the first trail to your right past the meadows of any size and suitable for an ATV or horse and cart originally. The rest of the hike is an easy 3 km proceeding gradually downhill except for one short steep section. Be sure to check the look-off at the top of this section just past Big Pond.

LOWLANDS COVE TRAIL

Is 5 km to the coast from the Cape St. Lawrence turn-off or 7 km from the Meat Cove Community Centre/Restaurant. Instead of taking the Cape St. Lawrence turn-off at the 2 km mark, keep straight on. After another kilometer you will see the Pollets Cove turn-off to your left; after about another kilometer you should see the disused road and trail to the abandoned zinc mine (1.5 km); another 0.75 km takes you to an abandoned farm. All that remains is a clearing and some farm implements. The trail proceeds gradually down to the coast. The topographic map indicates a side trail to Lowlands Cove Brook starting

0.7 km from the coast. I was day-dreaming and totally missed this turn-off. Judging by the stunning scenery it would be worth locating.

LOWLANDS COVE COASTAL TRAIL

Is 3.2 km coastal trail. Just keep a safe distance from the cliff edge and follow ATV and animal tracks along the coast. If proceeding from Lowlands Cove, the Cape St. Lawrence Light and start of the trail to Meat Cove is easy to find. Proceeding the other way to Lowland Cove, be on the look-out for the trail just before the grassy area changes to a wooden area as Lowlands Brook is approached. Steel posts painted red can be found throughout the Lowlands. There are a couple located close to where the trail starts inland.

MEAT COVE MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Is 1.3 km to eastern end of ridge. This trail starts a short distance up the road from the Internet Café and is marked by a sign on a tree and a few stones placed to form steps. The trail climbs steeply nearly 900 feet in the first 0.75 km and then levels off somewhat. The grassy ridge of the mountain extends over a kilometer with fantastic views in all directions.

RIVER BOARD WALK TRAIL

This pleasant boardwalk trail extends nearly a kilometer from the Internet Café to the beach.

| GPS Data | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Cape St. Lawrence light Turn | W60°35.277' |
| N47°01.423'W60°34.696' | Pollets Cove Turn off |
| Cattle Corral N47°01.560' W60°34.381' | N47°01.013'W60°35.294' |
| Meat Cove Lookout-1 Turning N47°01.413' | Abandoned Farm N47°00.856'W60°36.219' |
| W60°34.233' | Lowland Cove inland/Coastal Junction |
| Meat Cove Lookout -2 N47°01.225' | N47°01.299' W60°37.144' |
| W60°34.146' | Wooden Gate N47°01.446' W60°34.150' |
| View of Light from 525ft N47°01.796' | |

Everyone Welcome - Bienvenue à tous



MAIN STREET, CHETICAMP / PHONE: 902-224-2066 / FAX: 902-224-2382 / INFO@CHETICAMPCO-OP.CA

OFFERING OUR CUSTOMERS FRIENDLY
BILINGUAL SERVICE, COMPETITIVE
PRICING AND A COMPLETE LINE
OF PRODUCTS IN THE FOLLOWING
DEPARTMENTS.



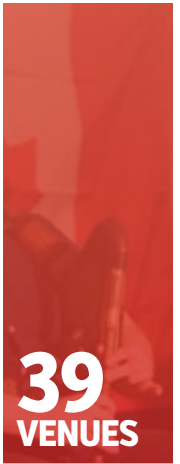
**SUMMER HOURS
STARTING JUNE 1ST**

**9:00-6:00 MONDAY,
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
9:00-9:00 THURSDAY
9:00-5:00 SATURDAY**

- GROCERY •
- PRODUCE •
- BAKERY • MEATS
- DELI • ICE
- CAMPING
SUPPLIES
- BUILDING
SUPPLIES



Facebook.com /  CheticampCoopHomeHardware / <https://www.cheticampco-op.ca/>



9 DAYS

39 VENUES



**70+
EAT LOCAL
RESTAURANTS**



**120+
EVENTS**



200+ PERFORMERS

| AN ANNUAL CAPE BRETON-WIDE TRADITIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL! |

The perfect summer
kick off - *one big Cape
Breton kitchen céilidh!*

#KITCHENFEST | KITCHENFEST.CA

Féis a' Chidsin!
KitchenFest!

JUNE 29 - JULY 7, 2018

