

Highlights

Halifax – Baddeck – Ingonish – Meat Cove – Pleasant Bay – Skyline Trail – Cape Breton Highlands National Park – Cheticamp – Antigonish – Fortress Louisbourg – Peggy's Cove – Lunenburg – Mahoney's bay - Halifax

7 Nights accommodations in Hotels, Cottages, B & B and Motels.

Park Passes to Cape Breton Highlands National Park.

Admissions to Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site.

Admissions to Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site.

Admissions to Halifax Citadel National Historic Site.

Rental of a mid-size car.

Unlimited Mileage.

Available on demand - 01 May to 31 October 2023

This tour is fully customizable

As you hug the world-famous Cabot Trail coastline you will wind through Cape Breton Highlands National Park, where lush, forested river canyons carve into the ancient plateau, edged by rust-coloured cliffs.

Keep your eyes open for moose and bald eagles. You might even catch a minke or pilot whale breaking waves in the Atlantic, or Gulf of St. Lawrence. And you're never far from a steaming plate of local lobster fresh from the ocean around you.

Explore the park's 26 scenic trails, from easy forested walks to sloping coastal hikes. Cape Breton Highlands National Park's hiking trails range from easy strolls to challenging climbs with panoramic views of canyons, highlands, and seacoasts. The trails provide a chance to intimately explore the complex habitat of northern Cape Breton Island.

Cabot Trail sightseeing is one of the most popular activities offered by the national park. Numerous look-offs provide ample opportunities to admire the striking beauty of the landscape including a variety of superb beaches. Choose between salt or freshwater or enjoy both!

Cabot Trail offers you great culinary experiences from chowder and lobster to traditional oat cakes and porridge bread and even a Craft Brewery.

Immerse yourself in the Celtic culture. Kick up your heels at a local ceilidh or square dance, take part in kilt making or a milling frolic at the Gaelic College of St. Anne's.

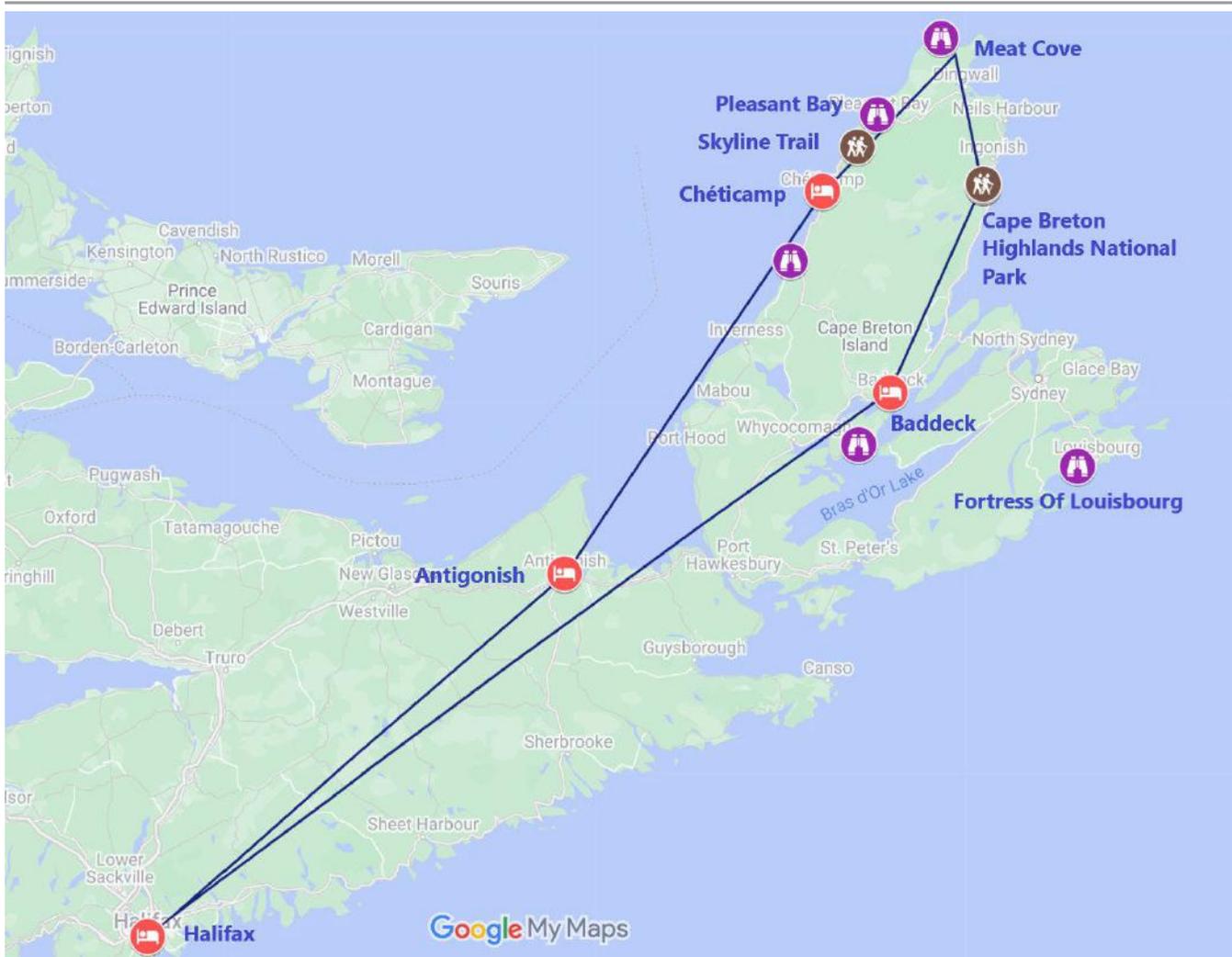
Cabot Trail offers you one of the most magnificent drives in North America and treats you to the spectacular scenery of the Cape Breton Highlands.

Self Drive Holiday Cabot's Trail



Halifax, NS, Canada

Product Code: **DM-SD-YHZCABOTS**



Day 1: Arrive in Halifax

This afternoon arrive in Halifax. After collecting your bags, proceed to the car rental desk to pick up your prebooked rental car. After you have checked into your hotel, explore downtown Halifax on foot. Take a walk down the Halifax Waterfront Boardwalk, a 3 ¾ kilometre urban wooden walkway – one of the longest in the world – links you to downtown shops, restaurants, and attractions while taking you past public art installations like the droopy 'Fountain' and 'Get Drunk, Fall Down' lampposts.

Overnight in Halifax, NS.

Day 2 – Halifax to Baddeck

Driving Distance: 351 km | approx. 7 hours of driving.

Start your engine for today's drive northeast to Baddeck in mid Cape Breton Island. Drive by following Highway 104 to the 1.6-kilometre Canso Causeway before hanging left onto Highway 105.

Enroute stop by at New Glasgow for a glimpse of times gone by at the Carmichael-Stewart House Museum. Stretching your legs along the town's revitalized riverfront walk – complete with Victorian-style lampposts and marina.

Later today, drive to Baddeck. The village of Baddeck has been described as the beginning – and the end – of Cape Breton Island's world-famous Cabot Trail. Nestled along the shore of the Bras d'Or Lake in Cape Breton, the town is a favourite stop for sailors and those looking for tranquil beauty in the heart of the island.

The most famous of Baddeck 's summer residents were Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, who built two homes on his estate he called "Beinn Bhreagh", Scottish Gaelic for "Beautiful Mountain".

Your Self-Drive package includes admissions to Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site.

Do not miss the Beddeck Lobster Dinner experience.

Overnight in Beddeck, NS.

Day 3 – Baddeck to Ingonish

Driving Distance: 105 km | approx. 6 hours of driving.

One of the main entrances into the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, Ingonish is home to the famous Keltic Lodge Resort and one of the top 100 golf courses in the world, the Highlands Links. At Ingonish, you will find from leisurely strolls to challenging hikes in the Cape Breton Highlands Park.

Stay overnight at the historic Cape Breton resort, the Keltic Lodge Resort and Spa. Located in the heart of Cape Breton Highlands National Park surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean with spectacular views of Cape Smokey rising out of the sea. Keltic Lodge is the perfect place to spend the night. The resort offers great dining and an outstanding cuisine. The Highland Sitting Room features nightly entertainment, as well as a light pub-style menu.

Overnight in Ingonish, NS.

Day 4 – Ingonish to Cheticamp

Driving Distance: 160 km | approx. 8 hours of driving.

This morning, you will depart Ingonish to drive along the north shore of Cape Breton Island to Cheticamp. Check your brakes – sharp curves and steep grades ahead – and fuel up before leaving Ingonish. Then travel counter-clockwise (shown here) to catch outside-lane and sunset views.

Stop by at Meat Cove, the most northern settlement in Nova Scotia, it's one detour off the Cabot Trail you won't regret taking. The remoteness makes for some incredible untouched wilderness adventures with beaches & mountaintops all ready to be explored.

From here, we head to Pleasant Bay. Pleasant Bay is a community on the western coast of Cape Breton Island, on the shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Here, you can jump on board Captain Mark's Whale and Seal Cruise and go whale watching. The tour offers a unique adventure along the rugged coastline of Cape Breton Island. You will get to see Pilot, Minke, Finback and Humpback Whales.

Driving further south you come to Skyline Trails in the Cape Breton Highlands National Park. The Dramatic headland cliff overlooks the rugged coast from the end of this level trail. Spend some time here and enjoy an eagle's view of the Cabot Trail as it winds its way down the mountain and vehicles look like toys. Watch for whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence from the viewing decks. Moose, bald

eagles, bears, and numerous boreal birds live in this habitat. Give moose a wide berth. You are required to stay on the boardwalk.

Arrive early evening at the picturesque Acadian fishing village of Cheticamp nestled near the west entrance of the Cape Breton Highlands National Park. The colorful Acadian joie-de-vivre can be felt throughout this community.

Here, you will learn about Acadian culture, soak up the scenery, including incredible sunsets, and sample traditional Acadian foods. The village offers a variety of recreational opportunities including an 18-hole golf course, whale tours, fly-fishing, deep-sea fishing, sailing/boating, horseback riding and hiking trails.

On your drive the Cheticamp, stop off at Pleasant Bay for a great Whale & Seal Cruise. Our s well as Seals and Bald Eagles. The spectacular rock and cliff formations, sea caves, waterfalls and pioneer settlements are all part of the experience. A hydrophone to hear the whales is also available.

At Cheticamp, we offer you a choice of the 4-star Pilot Whale Chalets with its boast warm and inviting accommodations or Cheticamp Island Cottages on Cape with its tranquil setting and panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean. Cheticamp Island Cottages are the only ocean-front cottage accommodation in the Cheticamp area. Ocean swimming and a sandy beach is only 100 meters in front of the cottages.

Overnight in Cheticamp, NS.

Day 5 – Cheticamp to Antigonish

Driving Distance: 192 km | approx. 8 hours of driving.

Leaving the quaint little village of Cheticamp behind, head for for Antigonish, the Highland Heart of Nova Scotia. Rich with Scottish culture, Antigonish is host to the annual Antigonish Highland Games, the oldest continuously running Highland Games outside of Scotland.

Enroute, you first stop will be Inverness, once an active coal mining town. Today the town of Inverness is better known as a golfer's dream destination. Beach lovers will love to visit Inverness Beach, a long stretch of sandy coastline that is popular with ocean swimmers and beachcombers alike. Walk the boardwalk that overlooks the beach from the sand dunes above and be sure to time your stroll to catch one of the gorgeous sunsets over the ocean. You may even spot a pod of Minke or Pilot whales passing by!

Your next stop on your drive to Antigonish will be Mabou is a small rural community located on the west coast of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. Mabou is known for its living history, the place to be if you wish to listen and dance to Celtic Music, immerse yourself in Gaelic Culture!

Your last stop before heading for Antigonish will be Judique as small village with the Highway 19 running straight through as the main street. The presence of the Celtic Music Interpretive Centre makes Judique an essential destination for anyone interested in the island music scene.

Overnight in Antigonish, NS.

Day 6 – Fortress Louisbourg

Driving Distance: 222km | approx. 3 hours of driving each way.

Just east of Sydney, Nova Scotia, you'll discover a portal to the past at one of North America's busiest 18th-century seaports. Founded by the French in 1713, this reconstruction of the original French town and fortifications is the largest—and best—of its kind in North America, offering a heavy dose

of history and culture with each unique experience. Watch French soldiers march down the streets of the town as ladies dance in formal parlours. Cannon fire shakes the ground as harpsichord tunes mingle with baking bread aromas drifting from the stone bakery. Step through Louisbourg's fortress walls and time-warp back to the 1700s. Chat with fishermen, sailors and servants. Sip rum and watch lace-making as children play 300-year-old games and stew simmers on an open-hearth fire. It's so real, it seems surreal.

Make sure to dress warm and wear comfortable walking shoes when you are visiting Fortress Louisbourg.

Overnight in Antigonish, NS.

Day 7 – Antigonish to Halifax

Driving Distance: 213 km | approx. 3 hours of driving.

This morning, drive to Halifax.

Day free to explore Halifax, Peggy's Cove, Lunenburg, Mahoney's Bay and more.

Admissions to Halifax Citadel National Historic Site are included in your Self Drive package.

Rest of the day free.

Overnight in Halifax, NS.

Day 8 – End of your Cabot's Trail Tour

Your Cabot's Trail Tour ends this morning. Hotel check-out is posted for 11 AM. Drive to the airport, drop your rental car off and fly home.

End of your Cabot's Trail Tour.

Inclusions

- ✓ 7 Nights accommodations in Hotels, Cottages, B & B and Motels.
- ✓ Park Passes to Cape Breton Highlands National Park.
- ✓ Admissions to Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site.
- ✓ Admissions to Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site.
- ✓ Admissions to Halifax Citadel National Historic Site.
- ✓ Rental of a mid-size car
- ✓ Unlimited Mileage.
- ✓ Taxes & HST.

Exclusions

- × Airfare. Offered as a supplement on request.
- × Breakfast and other meals.

- × Rental Car Insurance – Collision Damage Waiver/ Loss Damage Waiver with \$ 500 deductible. This is offered as an Optional Add-on.
- × Additional Driver Fees .
- × Roadside assistance.
- × Gas for the vehicle.
- × GPS. Racks, etc.
- × Child and Infant Seats.
- × Parking & Tolls.
- × Canada Park Fees.
- × Porterage at hotels.
- × Bottled Water in hotel rooms.
- × Visa and Documentation Fees.
- × Telephone calls, Laundry, and other expenses.
- × Any personal expenses.
- × Gratuities for hotel staff (optional).
- × Travel Insurance – highly recommended. We require clients to provide us a signed Waiver in the event your client opts to decline your offer to sell Travel Insurance.
DMCI Inc. sells Manulife Travel Insurance to residents of Ontario. Please check with us for rates. Residents of other provinces as well as those coming from overseas must purchase Travel insurance in the province/country where they reside.
- × Optional Tours and activities.
- × Early Check-in and Late Check-out charges. Charges will apply.
- × If applicable, cost of any RTPCR/Antigen Test or costs related to quarantine.

Deposit

100% Deposit required on confirmation of this Tour.

Change & Cancellation Policy

- 46-days prior to start of tour – 100% refundable less \$500
- 45-days or less – 100% non-refundable.
- No Show – 100% non-refundable

Note

1. Clients should be double vaccinated and are required to produce a vaccination certificate on demand.

2. If required by the federal/provincial health authorities, clients will be required to wear a face mask in all public places.

FAQ

- **Can we get a guide to guide us on this tour?** Yes. We can get you a licensed guide to guide you on the Cabot's Trail part of the tour for an additional cost. Very few guides operate in this area. Hence the service must be booked well in advance and is 100% non refundable once confirmed.
- **Do clients require a Driver's License?** - Clients operating the rental car must be in possession of a driver's license valid for operating the vehicle in Canada.
- **What kind of information is required to book my rental car?** We will need your first and last name as on your Driver's License.
- **What should be the minimum age of person driving the rental vehicle?** Clients and must be at least 21 years of age.
- **Is Insurance for the Rental Car included (Collision Damage Waiver/ Loss Damage Waiver with \$ 500 deductible)?** No. Insurance for the Rental Car is not included. We offer this as an optional Add. The CDW/LDW Add-on Package should be purchased at the time of making your reservations. Please check with us for rates that are inclusive of CDW/LDW Package.
- **What kind of documentation should I present to pick up my rental car?** You will need to present a valid Driver's License (valid in the province in Canada where you will pick up to your rental car). If there is a second driver, such person should also have a valid driver's license. You will also need to present a valid credit card. If you are a overseas resident, you will be required to present a second piece of valid Government issued photo-id such as a passport.
- **Do clients require a credit card to rent the confirmed rental vehicle?** Yes. The person in whose name the vehicle is being rented must be in possession of a credit card in his/her name. Clients are required to present the credit card along with their driver's license to rent the car.
- **Would the car rental company require a deposit to pick up the rental vehicle?** - No. However, the rental company would take an authorization for between \$300 and \$750 (depending on the location) to cover any damages, unpaid tolls, fines etc. The authorization will typically auto-cancel within 72 hours of the car being returned to rental deposit on time and in good order. Car Rental companies typically will not accept cash in lieu of credit card.
- **Am I allowed to drive my rental car into the United States?** You can. However, if you plan to drive into the United States, this intent should be brought to our notice at the time of reservations so we can alert the rental company and secure necessary approval.
- **Do rental Car contracts run on a 24-hour contract?** Yes. Car rental contracts work on a 24-hour cycle. Your car should be return at or before the drop-off time printed on your rental contract provided to you at the time of pick-up of your rental vehicle. Please make sure to review rental contract, especially the drop off date, time and drop off location before you proceed to the lot to pick up your rental vehicle.

- **Can I pick up my rental car in Canada and drop same off in the United States?** No. The car has to be returned to the drop off point in Canada as confirmed on your reservations.
- **Are Child Seats/Infant Seats available?** Child/Infant Seats must be booked at the time of making your reservations. Child/Infant Seats are subject to availability. We recommend you bring your own Child/Infant seats.
- **Would I require a credit card to check-in at confirmed hotels, lodges, and inns?** Yes. Clients are required to present a Credit Card in their name at check-in. Hotel will typically take an authorization on the credit card for between \$500 and \$750 per stay to cover room incidentals and any damage to property. The authorization will auto-cancel within 72 hours of check-out less any incidentals or other charges relating to the room. The hotels will also require you to present a valid Government issued photo id such as a passport or driver's license. The name on the reservation should match the name on the photo-id you present.
- **What is the hotel check-in and check-out times?**
 - Check-in: 4 PM
 - Check-out: 11 AMEarly Check-in and Late-check-outs require prior approval by the hotel. Additional charges, possibly an additional night charge will apply.
- **What is your policy should our flight be cancelled or delayed and therefore we are unable to join the tour?** – We are responsible only for services booked through us. Therefore, your inability to travel or join the tour on time due any reasons including but not limited to delayed/cancelled flights, denied boarding, delayed/cancelled visas, health conditions, death in the family, etc. are not reasons for a refund or a substitution tour. If you are unable to join the tour or fail to join the tour on time, no refund/substitution tour will be provided. All such circumstances should be covered by your Travel Insurance.

For More Information on this Tour Package, Operating Dates & Tariffs,

Contact our Destination Specialist @

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www.dmci.ca

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