

Nova Scotia

Celtic Connections in the New World

Study Leader: David Allen Lambert

September 19–23, 2022 | Canada

Prince Edward Island Optional Extension
September 23–26, 2022



Heritage Tours
by American Ancestors



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LEADERSHIP OF DAVID ALLEN LAMBERT, CHIEF GENEALOGIST

David Allen Lambert has been on the staff of NEHGS since 1993 and is the organization’s Chief Genealogist. David is an internationally recognized speaker on the topics of genealogy and history. His genealogical expertise includes New England and Atlantic Canadian records of the 17th through 21st centuries; military records; DNA research; and Native American and African American genealogical research in New England. Lambert has published many articles in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, the *New Hampshire Genealogical Record*, *Rhode Island Roots*, *The Mayflower Descendant*, and *American Ancestors* magazine. He has also published *A Guide to Massachusetts Cemeteries* (NEHGS, 2018). David is an elected Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston, Mass., and a life member of the New Hampshire Society of the Cincinnati, and the Massachusetts Sons of the Revolution. He is also the tribal genealogist for the Massachuset-Punkapoag Indians of Massachusetts.



CABOT LINKS RESORT, INVERNESS

Perfectly located between the picturesque coast of Cape Breton and the charming town of Inverness, the four-star Cabot Links Resort is a timeless and award-winning locale where guests are sure to relax. Lodge guestrooms incorporate natural cedar wood and white marble to create a uniquely rustic and modern aesthetic, the epitome of laid-back luxury. Guests will enjoy sweeping views of the ocean or rolling green links from the comfort of their rooms. Dine at one of two on-site restaurants or enjoy a cocktail while basking in glorious views of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

THE PRINCE GEORGE HOTEL, HALIFAX

The stylish, four-diamond Prince George Hotel in the heart of Halifax is the perfect base for an exploration of the Nova Scotian town and surrounds. Newly enlarged, modern guestrooms feature fine linens and sleek, sophisticated décor. Guests are only steps from the city’s finest shops, as well as the historic waterfront, Public Gardens, and Neptune Theatre—one of the oldest professional theater companies in Canada. If you’re in the mood for fine dining, look no further than Gio Restaurant located on the ground floor. Innovative cuisine meets warm wood interiors for an inviting, worthwhile experience.



ITINERARY

Monday, September 19

Arrival & Inverness

Arrive at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport in the early afternoon and board a group transfer to the Cabot Links Resort, just over three hours away. Along the way, visit the **Glenora Inn and Distillery**, North America’s first single malt whiskey distillery. In the early 1800s, Scottish immigrants introduced their own whiskey-making process to Cape Breton and nearly 200 years later, the process



is largely unchanged at Glenora. Following a guided tour, enjoy a sampling of the distillery's products. Check into the **Cabot Links Resort** before gathering this evening for a cocktail reception, followed by a welcome dinner celebrating the group's arrival in Nova Scotia.

Tuesday, September 20
Cape Breton



Kidston Island Lighthouse / Dennis Jarvis



Gaelic Village / Paul

This morning, depart for the **Gaelic College** on the west coast of Cape Breton Island. The college, dedicated to the promotion and preservation of traditional Gaelic culture, features cultural demonstrations, from kilt making to Gaelic storytelling. Visit the nearby **Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site**, a museum focused on the Scottish-born inventor, which features models of his work, along with mementos and interactive exhibits. Partake in an optional, **guided nature walk** along the site's picturesque grounds jutting out over Baddeck Bay, or enjoy free time to explore the museum at your own pace. Pause for a group lunch alongside the Baddeck Harbor with great views of the Kidston Island Lighthouses. Later this afternoon, tour the **Highland Village Museum** overlooking the glistening Bras d'Or Lake. The property encompasses eleven historic buildings, all staffed by guides wearing period dress and depicting life for Gaelic settlers from the mid-18th century through the early-20th century. Return to Cabot Links for downtime before heading out to **The Red Shoe**, the lively pub established by world-renowned singers Heather, Cookie, and Raylene Rankin in 2005. This evening is made merrier by live music and a delicious meal of Nova Scotia home cooking.

Wednesday, September 21
Antigonish, Pictou & Halifax

This morning, check out of the Cabot Links Resort and head southwest towards Halifax along the scenic **Ceilidh Trail**. Pause first in the sleepy town of Judique to meet with historians and experts at the **Celtic Music Interpretive Center**. Experience the interactive exhibits, which feature Celtic memorabilia from Cape Breton through the ages, followed by a special **fiddle performance** just for our group. Continue through the town of **Antigonish** (which hosts its own Highland Games each year!) and stop for a group lunch nearby. Land in **Pictou**, dubbed "the Birthplace of New Scotland," where emigrants from the northwestern coast of Scotland arrived in 1773 to establish their new community. The town's most prominent feature is the **Hector Heritage Quay**, home of the full-sized replica of the ship Hector upon which the Scottish emigrants arrived. We reach **The Prince George Hotel** in Halifax early this evening. Gather for a cocktail reception, after which you are free to enjoy dinner on your own.



Judique / ICCNS



Pictou Lighthouse Replica & Museum / Dennis Jarvis



The Hector / Dennis Jarvis

Thursday, September 22

Halifax

The morning begins with a guided tour of the **Halifax Citadel National Historic Site** which stands proudly above our hotel and looks out across the Halifax Harbor. Since Halifax was founded by the English in 1749, four iterations of the fortress have been constructed on Citadel Hill. The most recent structure is a concrete star fort, today restored to its original Victorian-era glory. We'll enjoy a guided walking tour through the historic city center, first visiting the **Old Town Clock**, which sits at the base of Citadel Hill. Other notable stops include: **St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica**, the Gothic Revival Catholic cathedral that boasts the tallest granite spire in North America; **St. Paul's Anglican Church**, built in the 1750s and the oldest surviving Protestant church in Canada (and the oldest building in Halifax); and **Halifax City Hall**, designed by Canadian architect Edward Elliot in the 1880s. Before lunch, visit the **Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21**, the National Historic Site which was the gateway to Canada for one million immigrants between 1928 and 1971. Next, visit the **Maritime Museum of the Atlantic**, Canada's oldest and largest maritime museum with a collection of over 24,000 artifacts spanning nearly 200 years of history, including a permanent exhibit on the RMS Titanic. This evening, gather for one final dinner marking the end of this cultural voyage through Nova Scotia.



Friday, September 23

Departure

Board a private group transfer to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport to meet departing flights *or* continue to the Prince Edward Island optional extension (see below for further information).

Prince Edward Island

Optional Extension

September 23–26, 2021

THE GREAT GEORGE, CHARLOTTETOWN

Along a tree-lined street in the center of Charlottetown, PEI, sits the historic Great George hotel. Spanning seventeen buildings that date back to 1846, the Great George is a beautifully preserved piece of history with modern comforts of the 21st century. Light-filled guest rooms feature charming period touches, from wingback chairs to brocade draperies. Although the hotel itself does not feature on-site dining, it is situated at the heart of Charlottetown's growing food scene and hotel staff can recommend a local seafood spot or pub down by the Harbor.

ITINERARY

Friday, September 23

Victoria & Charlottetown

Depart from Halifax and drive to Prince Edward Island, just over three hours away. After crossing onto the island, stop in the charming historic seaport of **Victoria** for a group lunch featuring PEI's famous oysters. Continue to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island's capital city, and check into **The Great George**, our home base for the next three nights. Later this afternoon, join a **guided walking tour** of historic Charlottetown. Experience the soaring interiors of **St. Dunstan's Basilica Cathedral**, the French Gothic church designated a National Historic Site of Canada since 1990. Pass by important government buildings, from **Province House**, the Greek Revival seat of the Legislative Assembly of P.E.I. (and Canada's second-oldest seat of government) to the contrasting Romanesque Revival **Charlottetown City Hall**. Pause to admire the sprawling **Government House**, residence of P.E.I.'s Lieutenant Governor, the Honorable Antoinette Perry. The final stop is **Beaconsfield Historic House**, one of the area's most graceful residences, where our expert guide leads us on a tour of this enduring symbol of Victorian elegance. Explore the beautifully preserved interiors and collection of period furnishings. The evening concludes with dinner at a cozy restaurant within walking distance of the hotel.



St. Dunstan's Basilica / Tony Webster



*Beaconsfield Historic House
Charlottetown PEI / amanderson2*

Saturday, September 24

Tracadie & Summerside

The day starts with an early drive to **Glenaladale**, a sprawling, historic estate overlooking Tracadie Bay. The land was settled by First Nations peoples and Acadians until 1772, when Captain John MacDonald brought the first Scottish Catholic settlers to what was then St. John's Island. The estate became Captain MacDonald's home and the home of his

descendants until the early 1900s. Today, the Glenaladale Heritage Trust is regenerating the site and creating a community space where visitors and islanders alike can discover the land's storied past. Enjoy a group lunch in **Summerside** before a stroll through the quaint residential streets lined with early 19th-century homes. Arrive at the **MacNaught History Centre and Archives** to view archival documents, from P.E.I. newspapers on microfilm to transcribed census and gravestone records, among other valuable resources tracing the history of Island residents. Before returning to Charlottetown, visit the **College of Piping and Celtic Performing Arts of Canada** in Summerside. The College seeks to maintain the rich musical tradition of Scottish and Irish settlers who fled to Prince Edward Island after the Highland Clearances and Irish "Troubles." Learn more about the College's mission and delight in a musical performance by current students. Return to Charlottetown for an independent evening and dinner.

Sunday, September 25

Belfast, Orwell & Charlottetown

This morning, we drive along the Hillsborough Bay to Belfast, site of the **Belfast Historical Society and Selkirk Scottish Heritage Centre**. In 1803, displaced Scottish crofters landed in Belfast with Lord Selkirk, the Scottish philanthropist who sponsored several immigrant settlements in Canada, and developed one of the most productive farming districts in the colony. Today, the Heritage Centre and its replica Croft House seek to promote and encourage interest in the region's history through exhibits, research, and cultural events. Later, visit the **Sir Andrew Macphail Homestead**, originally built in 1856 and purchased by the Macphail family in 1864 as their family farmhouse. Andrew, descendant of Scottish emigrant father William Macphail, spent much of his adult life on the Homestead, despite actively teaching at McGill in Montreal (where he became the first professor to teach the history of medicine). The Sir Andrew Macphail Foundation serves to celebrate and continue the legacy of its namesake through the preservation and restoration of the historic home. Enjoy lunch at the homestead before returning to Charlottetown for a free afternoon. Gather in the early evening for drinks and live music before a lobster dinner celebrating the official end of this journey through Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Monday, September 26

Departure

Board a private transfer to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport to meet departing flights.



NOVA SCOTIA with Prince Edward Island Optional Extension September 19-23 & September 23-26, 2022

All visits are subject to re-confirmation closer to the tour dates in the event of government orders for closures or restricted access to sites featured in this itinerary.

Tour Cost:

Land Package: \$5,295

Single Supplement: \$850

Extension Tour Price:

Land Package: \$2,695

Single Supplement: \$395

Main Tour Price is per person, based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 12 paying participants. Extension Price is per person, based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 8 paying participants.

Activity Level:

Moderate; good walking ability is advised.

Flights:

Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their round-trip air arrangements.

Terms & Conditions:

This program is co-sponsored by The National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA ("NTSUSA") and operated by International Seminar Design, Inc. ("ISDI"). ISDI acts only as an agent for the participant and for New England Historic Genealogical Society ("NEHGS") and NTSUSA with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services relating to this tour. ISDI, NEHGS, NTSUSA, and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity, which may be caused by any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of the tour. NEHGS, NTSUSA, and ISDI reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason including insufficient numbers of participants, as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. If bookings fall below the minimum required, passengers will be advised of additional costs or itinerary alterations before departure date.

Travel Insurance:

NEHGS and ISDI strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. NEHGS will send you travel insurance information upon tour registration. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

Main Tour Price Inclusions:

Four (4) nights' accommodation as listed in the itinerary; breakfast daily, three (3) lunches, three (3) cocktail receptions, three (3) dinners; one (1) group transfer upon arrival at Halifax Stanfield International Airport (YHZ) and one (1) group transfer upon departure to YHZ.

Extension Tour Price Inclusions:

Three (3) nights' accommodation as listed in the itinerary; breakfast daily, two (2) lunches, one (1) cocktail reception, two (2) dinners; one (1) group transfer upon departure to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport (YHZ).

Both Main & Extension Tour Price Inclusions:

one (1) cocktail and one (1) glass of beer or wine at included pre-dinner receptions; two (2) glasses of wine or beer at included dinners; all sightseeing and admission charges as outlined in the itinerary; land transportation by deluxe air-conditioned coach; bottled water on coach; leadership of David Lambert for duration of the tour; services of Cy Britt, Director of Heritage Travel, NEHGS, and Kirstin Bridier, Executive Director of the National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA, as tour managers; expert, local guides for all planned sightseeing activities; gratuities at included meals and for guides and drivers; handling of two (2) pieces of luggage per person upon arrival and departure at each hotel; service charges and taxes; complete pre-departure documentation and materials, including reading list, travel tips, and destination information.

Both Main & Extension Tour Price Exclusions:

Airline tickets, airline taxes, or fuel surcharges; airport portorage; transfers to and from the airport for individuals not using the included group transfers; gratuities for hotel cleaning staff; personal items such as wines, liquors, à-la-carte orders, meals other than those specified in the itinerary, personal services, room service, valet/laundry service, and tour deviations. If due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend any additional nights, you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfer, and meal costs. Personal insurance for health, baggage, and tour cancellation is not included.

For more information, please contact Cy Britt, Director of Heritage Tours
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