

Nova Scotia Cuisine & Garden Tour

A Taste of Nova Scotia



Nova Scotia has a rich culinary history that dates back over 400 years. You will find a wide range of culinary delights to suit every taste – from succulent seafood favourites such as lobster, salmon and scallops to delicious traditional desserts such as Blueberry Grunt and Scottish Oatcakes.

Visitors can select from a wide range of restaurants throughout the Province committed to offering the best that Nova Scotia has to offer through the [Taste of Nova Scotia](#). Nova Scotians love good food and good fun – and we love to share it with our guests!

Day One

The port city of Halifax is Nova Scotia's bustling capital and the perfect place to begin your culinary and horticulture adventure! Halifax boasts a variety of fine restaurants, exciting nightlife, galleries, museums, shopping, parks and gardens.

Spend the morning on a highlights tour of the city's leading attractions such as the **Maritime Museum of the Atlantic**; **Pier 21 National Historic Site**, and **Halifax Citadel National Historic Site** before heading to nearby **Historic Properties**, with its unique collection of specialty boutiques, restaurants and pubs. Watch artisans at work at **NovaScotian Crystal**, Canada's only mouth-blown, hand-cut crystal.

Take a late afternoon stroll through the **Halifax Public Gardens** - a 17-acre Victorian horticultural masterpiece located in the heart of the city. Considered to be the finest original formal Victorian Public Garden in North America, visitors can enjoy Sunday afternoon band concerts set among the beauty and tranquility of the beautiful flora. Just steps away is one of the city's premier shopping districts - **Spring Garden Road**.

Kick off your evening with a visit to **Alexander Keith's Nova Scotia Brewery** – the oldest working brewery in North America where you will not only see, hear and smell the beer being brewed, but you'll hear songs and stories that date back to the 1800's in this highly entertaining and interactive tour. Afterwards, take in the local flavour and live music at one of the many historic Halifax pubs.

Overnight: Halifax

Day Two

Departing from Nova Scotia's capital city of Halifax, the Evangeline Trail travels southwest along the Fundy Coast. At your first stop, experience a grand country mansion at **Uniacke Estate Museum Park**. Visitors can savour the natural beauty of the park on one of the seven walking trails featuring elements of the 18th century English landscape tradition and unspoiled Nova Scotia woodland.

Your journey continues through the beautiful **Annapolis Valley**, Atlantic Canada's richest agricultural region where the orchards and rolling farmlands comprise one of the most celebrated apple-growing

regions in the world. The area is also home to a growing number of wineries and grape growers - have a guided tour and tasting at **Sainte Famille Wines, Blomidon Ridge Estate Winery, Gaspereau Vineyards** or **Domaine de Grand Pré** a member of the ECONOMUSEUM® network.

Visit **Grand-Pré National Historic Site** where a graceful stone church stands as a memorial to the Acadians who were forcefully exiled from their homes and farms during the Deportation from 1755 to 1763. The site also features a statue of Evangeline, the fictional heroine of Longfellow's immortal epic poem, attractive formal gardens, ancient French willows and multipurpose visitor reception centre.

Stop at **Tangled Garden**, a herb jelly and vinegar production facility with two acres of herb and sculpture gardens.

Next stop is **Wolfville**, a charming university town with stately trees and beautiful heritage homes. Dominating the centre of town is Acadia University, one of Canada's top undergraduate schools. The new **Environmental Sciences Research Centre** has a six-acre native botanical garden, greenhouses, and a gene bank of Atlantic Region flora.

Overnight: Wolfville

Day 3

Begin your day with a stroll in the lovely **Blomidon Inn Gardens** in Wolfville – four acres of themed gardens, ponds and collection of indigenous rocks.

Just outside of Wolfville you will find the lovely gardens and grounds of **Prescott House Museum** in Starr's Point. Both a National and Provincial Historic site, the Museum is a gracious Georgian house (c1814) built by Hon. Charles Ramage Prescott, a merchant and horticulturalist who introduced better varieties of apples and helped establish the Fruit Growers Association.

A short drive will take you to **Hall's Harbour**, a lovely natural harbour and picturesque fishing village on the upper Bay of Fundy. The village has several artists' studios, hiking and walking trails. Hall's Harbour Lobster Pound offers tours as well as a restaurant that serves up fresh boiled lobsters at picnic tables by the water's edge.

A couple of options are available for you this afternoon. Visit **Blueberry Acres** where you will find rows and rows of high bush blueberries laden with giant, sweet fruit ready for the picking. While there, stop at **Between the Bushes** restaurant where your palate will be delighted by cuisine created using fresh local and regional ingredients. Or visit **Fox Hill Cheese Farm**, a sixth generation family farm surrounded by lush fields and apple orchards and a spectacular view of Minas Basin and Cape Blomidon. Learn how they produce their delicious varieties of cheese in the European farmstead cheese making tradition. Stop by one of the many farm markets to sample the abundant produce and local delicacies such as apples, pumpkins and blueberries - to name just a few!

Overnight: Wolfville

Day 4

This morning, continue travelling along the Evangeline Trail to **Annapolis Royal**. The town offers a

captivating blend of heritage and charm that has made it a favourite stopping place along the Evangeline Trail.

See the impressive Heritage Tapestry, which depicts 400 years of the area's history at **Fort Anne National Historic Site**. At the **Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens** visitors can enjoy 10 acres of beautiful, tranquil gardens, including several theme gardens, collections, and displays spread along more than one mile of winding pathways, most of which are wheelchair-accessible.

Visit the reconstruction of the Habitation at **Port-Royal National Historic Site** – it was here that North America's oldest social club, "L'Ordre de Bon Temps" was established 400 years ago by Samuel de Champlain when a company of 15 men from France took turns preparing the gourmet dinners of the day.

The town of **Digby** overlooks the magnificent Annapolis Basin and the Digby Gut, which opens out into the Bay of Fundy. Digby is homeport of one of North America's largest scallop fishing fleets and the colourful scallop-draggers can be viewed at the floating marina on the waterfront, which is also lined with shops, cafés and restaurants.

Overnight: Digby