

# Atlantic Island Odyssey: Sable Island, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, and the Magdalen Islands Itinerary

[Link: Atlantic Island Odyssey: Sable Island, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, and the Magdalen Islands](#)

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## Tour Overview

Immerse yourself in the diverse habitats and wildlife of four Canadian provinces. Experience unique cultural landscapes influenced by the Mi'kmaq, Scottish, and Acadian people on our expedition Atlantic Island Odyssey: Sable Island, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, and the Magdalen Islands.

Set foot on mystical Sable Island, home to one of the world's largest breeding colonies of grey seals, legendary wild horses, and rare birds. Experience Acadian food, music, and crafts in Chéticamp—a bilingual Maritime town. Discover the rich cultural heritage and stunning red sandstone cliffs of the Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine. Explore Francois, Newfoundland: a charming fishing village with colourful buildings, warm hospitality, and a taste of coastal living.

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*This tour runs bi-annually, on every even year. Itinerary*

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## Itinerary

### Day 1: St. John's, NL, Canada



Welcome to St. John's—the vibrant capital of Newfoundland and Labrador. Board the Ocean Endeavour for an evening departure and sail out of the historic port, looking out for Signal Hill as you exit the world-famous Narrows. The charming houses of the Battery are always a hit with shutterbugs. Watch for icebergs, whales, and seabirds as you sail!

## Day 2: At Sea



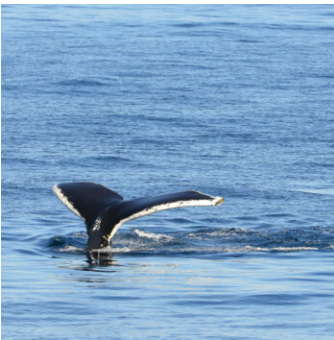
Listen to stories of the fascinating history and ecology of Sable Island as you sail towards its sandy shores. Enjoy workshops and presentations, watch a documentary, and get your binoculars ready to watch for marine mammals and seabirds in the rich waters of the northwest Atlantic.

## Day 3-5: Sable Island, NS



Be among the lucky few to set foot on Sable Island, a sandbar as long as Manhattan, but only about a kilometre wide. See the world-famous Sable Island wild horses, the largest grey seal colony in the world, and its many varieties of birds—including the endemic Ipswich Sparrow. Hike the island's sand dunes, take a Zodiac cruise along its shores, and learn first-hand about its fascinating human history. Due to the unique weather conditions here, we'll maximize opportunities for you to explore.

## Day 6: The Gully Marine Protected Area



Sail through the Gully, a marine protected area where the sea floor plunges two and a half kilometres into a submarine valley; it's one of the most prominent undersea features in eastern Canada. Learn about the significant coral communities and diversity of shallow and deep-water fish here, which draw whales and dolphins. Join our on board researchers out on deck to scan the waves for exciting sightings and to appreciate this abundance of marine life!

## Day 7: Cape Breton Island & Bird Islands



Immerse yourself in Cape Breton Island's natural history, from its diverse habitats and wildlife to its rugged landscape formed by geological forces. Explore the island's unique cultural landscape, shaped by Mi'kmaq, Scottish, and Acadian people. Discover the island's boreal forests and wetlands, home to majestic moose, black bears, and bald eagles. Take a Zodiac cruise around Bird Islands, a critical seabird nesting and breeding area with Canada's largest colony of great cormorants. Watch for black-legged kittiwakes, razorbills, Atlantic puffins, black guillemots, and even Leach's storm petrels.

## Day 8: Chéticamp



Call in at the fishing village of Chéticamp on the western shore of Cape Breton Island. Enjoy the busy fishing harbour, rug-hooking museum, shops, and restaurants that all offer a taste of true Acadian heritage. Hike the spectacular Skyline Trail at nearby Cape Breton Highlands National Park, world-renowned for its wildlife and scenery of rugged highlands and wind-swept coasts.

## Day 9: Charlottetown, PEI



Enjoy your free time while exploring Charlottetown. Wander through the historic downtown area, where the Charlottetown Conference took place and Canada's Constitution was born. Treat yourself to the best of local cuisine, including fresh seafood, produce, and craft beer, and experience the friendly charm of the locals. You could also opt for a guided cultural tour at Lennox Island Mi'kmaq First Nation. Learn the art of crafting beaded jewellery and woven baskets, make traditional bannock bread, and listen to stories passed down through generations.

## Day 10: Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine, QC



Spend the day exploring the robust Acadian heritage, culture, cuisine, and language of Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine (the Magdalen Islands). Admire the striking red sandstone cliffs that, although a part of Québec, are in fact geographically closer to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Meet some of the 12,000 or so friendly residents who call this archipelago home and be sure to browse the shops and restaurants for handicrafts, seafood, local wines, and beers!

## Day 11: Francois, NL



Experience the warm hospitality and adventurous spirit of Francois, Newfoundland—a quaint and picturesque fishing village, with colourful homes and buildings that offer visitors a glimpse into Newfoundland's coastal lifestyle. Explore the town, and hike to stunning lookout points and waterfalls. A day in Francois will stimulate your soul and remind you of the importance of good neighbours, stories, and music. After a day of adventure, head to the community hall for an oversized kitchen party with treats, drinks, and dancing. Rediscover a bit of your own spirit, through the essence of Newfoundland's culture in this charming and resilient community.

## Day 12: Saint-Pierre, France



Say your farewells to Atlantic Canada in the colourful town of Saint-Pierre, a delightful finale to your trip. Just off the shores of Newfoundland, lie the islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon—an official territory of the French Republic. Take a glimpse at the charming colourful houses with wooden balconies and narrow cobblestone streets as you disembark and head on your bus tour to the airport for your charter flight to St. John's, NL.

## What to Expect

Our small ship cruising programs allow you to experience the best of the natural world, while enjoying the comforts of our friendly floating hotel. The ship generally makes crossing between islands at night, so every morning you awake to new vistas and discoveries. Every day we offer a combination of interesting shore excursions and fun shipboard activities. You can choose which elements of the program you want to participate in.

This expedition cruise necessitates passengers to be in reasonably good health. Zodiac cruises and transfer times can be lengthy. You must be able to climb stairs between decks on the ship, as well as the external gangway stairs to transfer between the zodiac and ship.

Some of our shore landings will be 'wet', requiring waterproof boots. Once you have left the zodiac, you'll find our shore excursions accommodate both those who wish to enjoy a gentle stroll and those who prefer more active hikes. The excursion may involve walking over uneven or sandy terrain in variable weather conditions. Our onboard specialists will join us on these shore excursions to provide interpretation and narration to these wonderful landscapes and experiences. Each evening we will gather in the lounge to recount the day's events and share memorable stories. Our onboard musician will provide some lively entertainment during happy hour and the expedition leader will outline the following day's schedule. Our resource staff of naturalists, historians, and other guest speakers will give informative talks at various times throughout the voyage. Meals in the ship's dining room are a great opportunity to meet new friends and recount the day's adventures. Special diets can be accommodated with advance notice. Safety is also a top priority with Eagle-Eye Tours - our team has extensive experience in the field, and all of our Voyages are run in conjunction with operators with the highest safety standards. When the ship is underway, it is a wonderful time to join a naturalist on deck, take photos of the stunning scenery, or get caught up on some reading in the library.

Weather, ice, government regulations, and community requests may necessitate changes to the planned itineraries and/or the cancellation of certain shore excursions and enhancements. Published itineraries are examples only and we reserve the right to change or modify the itinerary and landing sites at any time prior or during an expedition. Changes will be communicated at your expedition orientation or during your onboard expedition briefings.

We know that everyone travels for different reasons. Over the years, however, we have found one common element among the guest who choose to travel with us - a thirst of knowledge and authentic experience. Knowing this drives us to ensure the highest quality learning experience on our trips, by taking time to carefully design each trip we offer.

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## What's Included

### Tour Price Includes

- Passage aboard the Ocean Endeavour
- Applicable taxes and credit card fees
- Complimentary expedition jacket
- Contribution to Discovery Fund
- Special access permits, entry, and park fees
- Expert expedition team
- Guided activities
- Sightseeing and community visits
- All Zodiac excursions
- Port fees
- Pre-departure materials
- Educational program
- Photo Equipment Trial Program
- Interactive workshops
- Evening entertainment
- All shipboard meals

### Tour Price Does Not Include

- Commercial and charter flights (\$495 USD from Saint Pierre to St. John's, NL on July 8)
  - Program enhancements/optional excursions
  - Gratuities
  - Personal expenses
  - Mandatory medical evacuation insurance
  - Additional expenses in the event of delays or itinerary changes
  - Possible fuel surcharges and administrative fees
  - Pre- and post-trip hotel accommodation
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