



Annapolis Royal from Granville Ferry (Melanson)

The colourful Annapolis Royal/Port-Royal Area is located in Mi'kmaqi, the ancestral lands of the Mi'qmaq who have been here for thousands of years. One of the oldest permanent European settlements in North America, the area has been welcoming visitors since 1604. In fact the Order of Good Cheer, North America's first social club, was started here in 1606. The same attributes that Champlain saw over 400 years ago continue to make this a "must see" destination for discerning travelers. Although quite safe and peaceful today, Annapolis Royal holds the distinction of being the most fought over tract of land in Canada. With over 130 registered heritage properties and 4 National Historic Sites, picturesque Annapolis Royal is one of

EXPLORE ~ Canada's Roots

Imagine over four centuries of history coming to life before your very eyes. The Mi'kmaq, Scottish, French, British, Acadian, Loyalist, New England Planter and African Canadian cultures intertwined to form a colourful mosaic unparalleled in the nation. Canada's roots are deep here. The area served as colonial capital for both the French and British before Louisbourg and Halifax. Even our province's name, Nova Scotia, (Latin for "New Scotland") is attributed to the Scottish attempt to colonize our area (1621-1632). The Scots also gave us our Nova Scotia Flag and Coat of Arms and built Charles Fort on the grounds where Fort Anne is located today. The rich Acadian (Cajun) story also started here when French families settled on our scenic shores in the 1630s. The Annapolis Royal/Port-Royal Area is known as the cradle of Acadie, and there are over 3,000,000 Acadian descendants worldwide.

EXPERIENCE ~ The Best of Both Worlds

Combine the rich, cultural heritage with access to the world-famous Bay of Fundy only 10 minutes away, and you'll discover an Explorer's paradise! Eco-tourism adventures abound amidst spectacular scenery, gardens, lakes, rivers, wilderness trails and a moderate climate tempered by the Gulf Stream. The region is also 1 of only 18 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Canada in recognition of its globally significant ecological and cultural landscape and commitment to sustainable development and conservation. Escape into nature, relax, and invigorate your body, mind and soul. Whether you prefer petals, pedals or paddles, are a history buff or nature lover, the Annapolis Royal Area offers the best of both worlds and a bouquet of adventures for all ages.

ENJOY ~ Award-Winning Hospitality & Amenities

Let the EXPLORER Visitors Guide introduce you to award-winning accommodations, unique shopping experiences, an array of artists and craftsmen, delightful dining, colourful gardens and art galleries, interesting museums, lively theatre, waterfront boardwalk, a multitude of fun-filled tours and attractions plus stately homes set amidst scenic vistas. Home of Canada's 2015 Garden of the Year, designated as one of the "Cultural Capitals of Canada" and winner of the "World's Most Liveable Small Community" (endorsed by the United Nations), Annapolis Royal has won numerous Provincial, National and International "Communities in Bloom" awards and was named by MacLeans' Magazine as 1 of the "10 Places You've Got to See in Canada in 2014". Come explore Annapolis Royal and let your spirit soar. What are you waiting for? After all....."Good Cheer" started here.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL - CRADLE OF OUR NATION

Sincerely,
Durline Melanson, Editor