

Newfoundland

Exploring the Accessible Wild

INTERNATIONAL
Wildlife
ADVENTURES

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From Vikings to Puffins

Highlights

- ★ World's largest population of humpback whales
- ★ North America's largest colonies of puffins and kittiwakes
- ★ View enormous gannet colonies up close
- ★ Visit Historic St. John's and other communities
- ★ See large numbers of moose, eagles, seals, caribou and more
- ★ Special intensive whale study week option available
- ★ See spectacular 10,000 year old icebergs



Salisbury Plain, South Georgia: Randy Green

Newfoundland's very name reflects its origin as the first known landfall of European settlers: Vikings settled 1,000 years ago at L'Anse aux Meadows on the northern tip of the island. Just five years after Columbus's Caribbean landing, John Cabot's ship dropped anchor at The Rock, as the island is affectionately known among locals. Ironically, in spite of its lengthy human history, Newfoundland remains largely wild and unpopulated, and an excellent spot for a wide variety of wildlife viewing.

The Rock's rugged southern coastline teems with bird life: great colonies of gannets, puffins, murres and others nest on the precipitous cliffs. Ocean currents provide needed nutrients for rich sea life, which in turn supports both the massive bird colonies as well as some of the highest concentrations of whales anywhere in the world. Giant icebergs from Greenland, composed of Pleistocene ice some 10,000 years old, ground themselves along the lighthouse-dotted coast. The unpopulated, rolling interior landscape provides sweeping views of unbroken boreal forest where moose and black bears are abundant. On mountaintops and even along the southern Avalon

Peninsula, heath and tundra supports a large population of caribou.

To the east and south of Newfoundland, the cold Labrador Current collides with the warm, north-flowing Gulf Stream. This mix of marine environments helps provide fertile grounds for what was once one of the richest fisheries in the world. Though humans have severely impacted the cod numbers in recent years, the area still draws more cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) than just about anyplace else in the world. In fact, some 20 species of these marine mammals make this area their summer home, including humpback (the largest concentration in the world), fin (the world's second largest animal!), pilot, minke, Orca and sperm whales, as well as harbor porpoise and white-sided dolphins. Nowhere else in the world is a better place than the southern Newfoundland coast to experience these fascinating mammals.

Newfoundland is one of the most accessible places in North America to experience nature little changed from centuries of settlement and our tours offer the best this country has to offer!

800.808.4492 or 575.524.0084
www.wildlifeadventures.com



Newfoundland Adventure



bears. The evening's destination is the Terra Nova National Park. We have a 90 per cent success rate at finding the moose, but bears are more elusive. **B,L O/N Trinity/Bona Vista**

Newfoundland Adventure

*This tour is designed to give you an overview of this enormous, enticing island. Anyone interested in bird life, whales and other wildlife in a pristine, but accessible, natural setting will enjoy this trip. It can be combined with our **Whale Study Week** for more in-depth time with the whales or **Viking Trail Experience**.*

Day 1: Arrival

Pick up at airport on arrival. Relax and get ready for the adventure. **O/N St. John's**

Day 2: Whale Watching and Puffins

Today begins with a boat ride featuring the world's largest summer time gathering of humpback whales, North America's largest puffin colony, and tens of thousands of other seabirds. The islands we visit are one of the planet's largest seabird reserves. After lunch, we visit one of the New World's earliest fishing villages. **B, L O/N St. John's**

Day 3, Avalon Wilderness Area

Whales, caribou, puffin and tern colonies, seals, pelagic seabirds and the occasional Antarctic seabird will be usually seen as we circle the Avalon Wilderness Area. Occasionally whales are lunge feeding on the beach -- and when this is happening we make that and the caribou herd the highlights of the day. **B,L O/N St. Brides**

Day 4, Bird Colonies-Sea Stacks and Lighthouses

The morning starts with a visit to the continent's third largest gannet colony. This site is also a breeding ground for thousands of other seabirds including breeding thick billed murrelets. We get great views of gannets, kittiwakes, and murrelets with their eggs and/or chicks. In season -- usually mid-July -- we enjoy some of land-based whale watching as the high sea cliffs allow us to watch the whales cavort around their northern coastal feeding grounds. We also show off our secret orchid patch and look for moose and black

Day 5: Trinity Bay

This morning we go to sea again to enjoy more of the ocean's wonders as we look for bald eagles and whales. In 2007, our company's naturalist established that sperm whale are consistently found during the summer in a portion of Trinity Bay. Afternoon walking the trails, experiencing what makes this area so special -- moose, osprey, orchids, shorebirds, lighthouses, wildlife, and coastlines of Bonavista and Trinity Bays. **B,L O/N Trinity Bonavista**

Day 6, Icebergs and whales

Explore more of the historic Bonavista/Trinity area. Icebergs, giant chunks of 15,000 year old Greenland glaciers, and more whales usually add to the day's photographic wonders. Stop at nearby settlements before returning to St. John's for the evening. **B,L O/N St. John's**

Day 7, Whales and wildlife

Travel to North America's most easterly point. We further explore the trails, museums, and attractions of historic St. John's. We try to fit in another boat trip to look for puffins and whales. **B, L O/N St. John's**

Day 8, Departure

Free time in St. John's until we take you to the airport. **B**

2017 Dates

June 4 - 11

June 11 - 18

June 18 - 25

July 9 - 16

July 16 - 23

July 23 - 30

July 30 - August 6

Price: \$3,100 CAD*, based on double occupancy. Single supplement **\$400 CAD**. Price includes transfers, all ground transportation, accommodations, meals as indicated. Price does not include: air from your home to Newfoundland, items of personal nature, and tips.

*7.5% (15% for Canadians)/Newfoundland Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) not included. **Prices subject to change due to currency fluctuations.**

Registration: To confirm your space on this tour, please send a deposit of \$500 to our office. Balance is due 90 days prior to departure.

Cancellation Policy: In the event you must cancel your reservation, refunds will be made according to the following schedule: Deposit 30% nonrefundable. 90 to 61 days prior to departure, 50% of total is nonrefundable; less than 60 days prior to departure, 100% nonrefundable.

Insurance: Because many advance logistical arrangements have been made prior to the running of this trip, we must adhere to the above policy. In light of this, we strongly recommend trip cancellation insurance.

Tour Leader: TBA

For questions or to register, call:

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or email Susie Green:

susieg@wildlifeadventures.com

Whale Study Week



Whale Study Week

The Whale Study Week is a great opportunity to participate in actual whale research. You need not be a whale researcher to participate in this trip – it is designed specifically for people who love whales and are very curious to learn more about them. Choose from four different weeks to participate in this program. We also offer this trip as an add-on to our Newfoundland Adventure. This is a great way to spend a week in the whales' world.

Day 1, Sunday: Arrival

Arrive, airport pick up, and short orientation tour. An informal evening presentation on whale biology and ecology is provided.

O/N St. John's

Day 2, Monday: Atlantic Whaler

Enjoy an introduction to the ocean during a 2.5 hour trip on the Atlantic Whaler and view puffins and thousands of other seabirds. We will review the marine ecology of the North Atlantic and prepare for our onboard assistance to local whale census and acoustic research.

O/N St. John's

Day 3, Tuesday: Humpbacks and Minke

We spend six hours aboard a Coast Guard-certified vessel, photographing and recording whales and their behavior. Typically humpbacks and minke are the most frequent sightings, but dolphins and fin whales are occasionally seen.

O/N St. John's

Day 4, Wednesday: Whale watching by land

Today we go whale watching from the land as we try to take in some of the range of the world's largest population of humpbacks. We'll have the rare opportunity to watch humpback whales right from the beach as they feed in the surf just yards from shore.

B,L

O/N St. John's

Day 5, Thursday: Study Boat

Another six hours on board our study boat watching the whales.

O/N St. John's

Day 6, Friday: Cape St. Mary

Today, we further study the richness of the Atlantic as we travel to the continent's third largest gannet colony. Thousands of other seabirds with their chicks add to the day as does some of the world's best land based whale watching. A farewell barbecue or group dinner is planned for our last night in Newfoundland.

O/N St. John's

Day 7, Saturday: Depart

If time permits before your flight, we will have some additional boat time for whale spotting.

2017 Dates

July 9 - 15

July 16 - 22

Price: \$3,400 CAD based on double occupancy. Single supplement \$300 CAD. Price includes transfers, all ground transportation, accommodations for six nights in downtown St. John's, meals where indicated, services of guide and all boat time. Price does not include: air from your home to Newfoundland, items of personal nature, and tips.

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Tour Leader



David Snow is a Newfoundland-born biologist and writer. His career as a biologist started as a student in 1979 as he spent two summers living and researching on the

Witless Bay Ecological Reserve, the continent's largest Atlantic puffin and kittiwake colony. In 1996 Dave was contracted by the province of Newfoundland and Labrador to write guides to the province's land mammals and seabirds. Today Dave leads nature and history/archaeology holidays around the province. As a hobby Dave continues to coordinate the ongoing census of Newfoundland humpbacks and has started a catalogue of dorsal fins for a new group of Orcas he has discovered off the Labrador coast.

For questions or to register, call:

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or email Susie Green:

susieg@wildlifeadventures.com

The Viking Trail Experience



The Viking Trail Experience

The Viking Trail Experience is a journey through time learning about a birth of a continent and the death of an ocean. Walk in the footsteps of the New World's peoples and explore the home of the first Vikings. The trip explores the nature and geology of Gros Morne National park, a United Nations World Heritage Site. L'Anse aux Meadows are North America's only known Viking settlement and Red Bay in Labrador was home to over 1,000 Basque whalers during the 1540's.

Day 1, Sunday: Arrival

Arrive Deer Lake airport, transfer to hotel. We begin our trip with an early evening light hike in Gros Morne Park where there are many wild flowers, lush forests, waterfalls, fjords and moose are always a possibility. **O/N Gros Morne**

Day 2, Monday: Gros Morne

Gros Morne provides one of the world's great geology lessons. Prince Edward noted, "What the Galapagos are to biology, Gros Morne is to geology." Morning travel will take us to Western Brook Pond for a 2.5 hour boat journey through a billion years of geological history. Afternoon will be beaches, dunes, scenery and perhaps a caribou or two. **B,L O/N Gros Morne**

Day 3, Tuesday: Gros Morne

Today we will travel to what will appear to be the center of the earth, The Tablelands,

where an 80 square kilometer slab of the earth has been shoved up on the land from deep beneath the ocean floor. **B,L**

O/N Gros Morne

Day 4, Wednesday: Labrador

Today we drive north to St. Barbe and the Labrador ferry. Enroute we will visit the Arches, where the ocean has carved tunnels in the limestone rocks. The highlight will be whales, seals, icebergs, puffins and pelagic seabirds. **B,L O/N L'Anse-au-Clair**

Day 5, Thursday: Red Bay

Visit the 16th Century's Whaling Capital of the World. Red Bay, is a little known part of the world where a population of over 500 Europeans lived when areas like Boston were still wilderness. If weather permits, we catch a boat to actual dig sites and walk in the foot steps of the Basques four centuries ago. A visit to Canada's second tallest lighthouse at Point Amour is planned in the afternoon. Another highlight will be the oldest burial mound in North America. **B,L O/N L'Anse-au-Clair**

Day 6, Friday: Labrador Straits

Exploring the Labrador Straits before returning to Newfoundland may take us to Quebec for a short stop. On return, we travel to the only authenticated Viking site in North America, L'Anse-au-Meadows. **B,L O/N St. Anthony**

Day 7, Saturday: St. Anthony

A stop in St. Anthony before returning to Deer Lake will give us time to visit the Maritime Archaic Indian exhibit at Port au Choix National Historic Park. This is the last archaeological site we will visit. **B,L**

O/N Corner Brook

Day 8, Sunday: Depart

Depart for home anytime. **B**



2017 Dates

June 4 - 11

June 18 - 25

July 2 - 9

July 23 - 30

August 6 - 13

September 3 - 10

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Tour Leader

Mark Tsang specializes in outdoor explorations of Newfoundland's Great Northern Peninsula and Southern Labrador. An avid photographer, Mark has sold many photos to international outdoor magazines. Mark is a fossil expert and great time traveler. He takes guests from 1,000 year old Viking settlements to fossil beds boasting the remains of 300 million year old trilobites. When Mark is not leading tours, he is skiing and a winter sports enthusiast.



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