

buildings from the 1700s and many others built during the 19th century. The Historic North End is located north of Dorchester Street.

SYDNEY POINTS OF INTEREST

1 St. Patrick's Church Museum is the oldest Roman Catholic sanctuary in Cape Breton. Built in 1828 with three-foot thick walls, the museum displays a variety of historic artifacts including the town's whipping post from the mid-19th century and a fascinating model of colonial homes and streets.

2 Jost House was also built in 1786 and is now a museum housing a marine exhibit.

3 Cossit House, built in 1787, is the oldest house in Sydney. Restored with period furnishings, the house offers a glimpse into the town's earliest history.

4 Center for Heritage and Science offers art exhibits and films as well as a display on the social and natural history of eastern Cape Breton.

Beyond Sydney

5 Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park lies at the southeast tip of Cape Breton Island. After the French were forced out of Nova Scotia in 1713, they established their headquarters here. Surrounded by a wall almost 2 miles long and covering an area of 50 acres, the construction of the Fortress took over 25 years. Completed in 1745, it was immediately overtaken by the British, but returned to the French three years later. The British gained control once again in 1758 and destroyed all remains of the Fortress in 1770. Declared a National Historic Site in 1928, Louisbourg is now Canada's largest historical reconstruction site. Painstaking research of documents, plans, and maps from the archives of France, England, Scotland, the United States, and Canada have made the Fortress a faithful reproduction of the original. You will learn the fascinating history of this period as costumed actors re-create the lives and activities of the original inhabitants.

6 Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Park is located in the village of Baddeck along the beautiful shoreline of the Bras d'Or Lake. Three exhibit halls tell the story of

Bell's life and contain the world's most comprehensive collection of his scientific and humanitarian achievements. Among its displays you will find personal momentos, photographs, medical and electrical devices, telephones, telegraphs, kites, and the HD-4 hydrodrome (the forerunner of hydrofoil boats). Bell spent most of his summers on the 25 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds. He died in 1922 and is buried on the mountain-top above his mansion.

7 Cape Breton Highlands National Park is one of the most scenic places in all of Canada with over 590 square miles of wilderness, wooded valleys, and steep cliffs. The main highway of the Park, the Cabot Trail, winds along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. As you journey to the top of the coastal mountains and descend through the zigzag switchbacks to the sea, you will enjoy some of the most spectacular vistas and natural beauty of the North American Coast.

8 Cheticamp is an Acadian fishing village located at the western entrance to Cape Breton Highlands National Park. The village was first settled in the mid 1700's as Acadians were expelled from the Nova Scotia mainland. The community is famous for its arts and crafts, most notably the hooked rug. A number of galleries, shops, and restaurants line the streets of the village.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Sydney and its surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour options, content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Most shops have set prices. Bargaining is not a custom in Nova Scotia.

Tipping: A 15% tip in restaurants and taxis is customary.

Local Cuisine: Many of Nova Scotia's restaurants are set in refurbished historic homes or quaint pubs. The main staple is seafood, including Mapleque oysters, Atlantic lobster, and Digby scallops. A variety of fresh berries and fruits are harvested locally and make for some mouthwatering desserts.

Drink Specialties: The Jost and Grand-Pré wineries produce local wine, but most restaurants include a list imports, especially from France. Regional and locally brewed beers are quite popular as well.

Did you know...

Nova Scotia's official Flower is the Mayflower.

Nova Scotia's official Bird is the Osprey.

Nova Scotia's official Dog is the Duck Tolling Retriever.

Nova Scotia's official Tree is the Red Spruce.

Nova Scotia's official Berry is the wild Blueberry.

SHOPPING FACILITIES The main shopping area is centered around Charlotte Street.

Stores are generally open from 9:00 am -5:00 pm, Monday through Saturday with extended hours Thursday.

The Mayflower Mall is located on Grand Lake Road (approximately 3 miles from the pier). The Sydney Shopping Center is located on Prince Street (approximately 1 mile from the pier).

Items of interest include antiques, gifts, crafts, hand knits, hand-made pottery, and jewelry. Unique to Nova Scotia is 'Cheticamp hooking' in which pure wool is hooked onto burlap backings in intricate floral designs. Items produced from this tradition craft include rugs, tablemats, wall hangings, and other household items.

LOCAL CURRENCY The unit of currency in Canada is the Canadian dollar. Canadian bills are available in denominations of \$5, \$10, and \$20. The \$1 and \$2 dollar bill is no longer used and has been replaced by a \$1 and \$2 coin. Other denominations of coins include 1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents, and 25 cents. While most retail centers and site seeing venues accept US dollars, the exchange rate will be high and your change will be given in Canadian dollars. It is advisable to exchange currency at banks located throughout the city.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The main Post Office is located on Charlotte Street.

There are a few public telephones available near the port. Phones work as they do in the United States. American coins are accepted in pay phones. Direct calls can be made to the states by dialing 1 or 0 followed by the area code and number. For local directory assistance, dial 411. For directory assistance outside the Sydney area, dial 1, the area code, and 555-1212. For international calls to countries outside the U.S. or Canada, dial 011, followed by the country code and number. To speak with an international operator, dial 00.

TOURIST INFORMATION There is a tour information service located on the pier.

TRANSPORTATION Local taxis will be available on the pier. It is recommended that a price is agreed upon with the taxi driver before leaving the pier.

