

# Stories



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## Authentic Island Experiences

Take part in Island life and take home some of our traditions. With over 70 Island experiences to choose from, you're sure to feel like an Islander before you leave! Learn to tong and shuck oysters, own a standard-bred racehorse for an evening, dig for clams and experience an authentic beach clambake, or make moonshine (legally!). These are just a few of our Authentic PEI Experiences:

### Oyster Obsession - The Table

**Culinary Studio** - Join local Island aquaculturist George Dowdle who will teach you all about oyster and quahog farming. You will get to experience a "day in the life" of an aquaculturist by visiting George's oyster farm and taking part in some of the daily tasks of farming oysters and quahogs. You will get to taste oysters taken straight from the water and learn how to shuck your very own oysters and quahogs. Then use your fresh catch to prepare delicious culinary delights back at The Table.

### Bannock and Clams - Lennox

**Island Mi'kmaq First Nation** - Using Mi'kmaq traditional methods, prep your bannock and cook it under the sand. Gather clams on the beach and cook them on an open fire. As the bannock cooks, listen to stories of what life used to be like growing up on Lennox Island.

### Jigs & Reels - Fiddling Fisherman

Look no further for a unique and intimate Island experience. Music brings people together, evokes emotions and memories. This is a music lovers dream opportunity. Get up close and personal with a talented musician on J.J. Chaisson's lobster fishing boat for a tranquil sail along Prince Edward Island's one-of-a-kind coastline.

### Island Flavours Culinary Bootcamp Culinary Institute of Canada -

Come and learn why this culinary experience was named, by the Canadian Tourism Commission, as one of Canada's Signature Experiences! With inspiration from here and abroad, chef will take you on a delicious culinary journey through PEI's local bounty – shellfish, beef, pork and, of course, PEI potatoes. Local products will be used in creating a flavourful menu that will include such things as; cooking a lobster like an Islander, incorporating seasonal fruit into recipes and enjoying all the seasonal vegetables we can find! Visit local farmers' market and shops to pick up ingredients. Finish off back at the Culinary Institute of Canada where we'll get on our chef whites and head to the kitchen for an afternoon of cooking and eating.



*Our PEI Authentic Experiences are the perfect chance to take part in Island life and meet the locals.*





# Events

Prince Edward Island is home to some of the most unique and exciting festivals in Canada.

EVENTS & FESTIVALS, FIREWORKS, LIVE MUSIC, THEATRE, AND CARNIVALS ARE JUST SOME OF THE EXCITING EVENTS TO ATTEND.

## Cavendish Beach Music Festival

July 5-7th, 2019.

The annual Cavendish Beach Music Festival is the largest multi-day music festival in Atlantic Canada, nestled in the region's premier family vacation destination. Country music celebrities like Taylor Swift, Eric Church, Kenny Chesney, Keith Urban, Zac Brown Band and Luke Bryan are among the dozens of artists to have graced this unique permanent stage overlooking the picturesque Cavendish Beach. The surrounding area features numerous family attractions, a water park, beaches, dining, camping and, of course, the home of Anne of Green Gables.



## Fall Flavours Festival

This month-long festival runs **throughout September** and highlights authentic Prince Edward Island tastes and traditions. Enjoy some of the most fabulous food experiences you can imagine, including Signature Events hosted by FOOD NETWORK celebrity chefs; delightful venues, entertaining hosts and one-of-a-kind experiences. Popular returning events include: Feast and Frolic, Toe Taps and Taters, and the PEI International Shellfish Festival boasting good friends, good times, good music and PEI's world-famous shellfish.

## Charlottetown Festival

The Charlottetown Festival kicks off in **early June and runs until mid-October** presenting some of Canada's finest performers, designers, playwrights, composers and directors in a professional showcase of musical theatre and comedy. The 2019 Festival will feature the 55th successive season of *Anne of Green Gables – The Musical*™, the hit musical *Mamma Mia!*, *Kronborg – the Hamlet Rock Musical*, and *Atlantic Blue*. The Confederation Centre of the Arts also hosts the *Young Company* in the courtyard every day at lunch. This is a free performance where kids can interact with the actors and always guarantees a great time.



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# Events

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HAS QUICKLY BECOME A HOT SPOT FOR FESTIVALS AND EVENTS, SO BE PREPARED FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE NON-STOP PARTY!

## Festival of Small Halls

Prince Edward Island's cultural scene is in full swing! Musicians, dancers, actors, storytellers and artisans are all displaying their talents and invite you to join in the celebrations. Follow the Festival of Small Halls into quaint community halls across the Island where big league performers return to the rural stages where they danced their first jig or plucked their first string. Test your dance moves at the 34th annual Rollo Bay Bluegrass Festival or release your inner artist with over 40 artisans who would love to be your personal hosts in their Open Studio Experiences. With over 60 festivals and events to choose from, it's a culture vulture's paradise.



## Cloggeroo - The Island Folk Festival

PEI's newest music festival, Cloggeroo – the Island Folk Festival has transformed the small town of Georgetown into a foot-stompin, rock n' rollin, crowd-pleasin' festival scene! From afternoon shows in the beautiful gardens (the largest public gardens in PEI) to headline shows on the waterfront – it's a good time for all. This festival continues to grow year after year, and 2019 will be no exception.

## L'Exposition agricole et le Festival acadien

A visit to L'Exposition agricole et le Festival acadien in Abram-Village provides a unique taste of Acadian culture. This annual event has been taking place for over 110 years and features top-notch Acadian-style entertainment, agricultural demonstrations, culinary events including authentic Acadian cuisine and lobster suppers, a parade, contests and much more!



## The World Acadian Congress/Congrès Mondial Acadien

**August 10-15.**

2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the Congrès Mondial Acadien. This is an international gathering that strengthens the Acadian communities throughout the world. Prince Edward Island will be hosting the congress for the first time in August of 2019 at the mecca of Island Acadian culture, Abram-Village. Musical performances, tintamarres and outdoor events will be held to celebrate this momentous celebration.







## Anne of Green Gables

Anne of Green Gables seems to get more popular every year and with the announcement of the Netflix series ANNE in 2017 more fans flocked to the Island to get a taste of Green Gables. The latest interpretation was created by a team of female powerhouses, a fact that Anne herself would love. Dreaming of the Lake of Shining Waters, running down a red clay road, or walking through the Haunted Wood and Lover's Lane? Although fictional, Anne of Green Gables is very real in the hearts and minds of Islanders and fans alike. We have attractions all over the Island dedicated to our beloved Anne and her author, Lucy Maud Montgomery. In Charlottetown, see *Anne of Green Gables – The Musical*™

at the Confederation Centre of the Arts or *Anne & Gilbert: The Musical* at The Guild. In Cavendish, drop into Green Gables Heritage Place, visit the Anne of Green Gables Museum in Park Corner, then hop over to Lower Bedeque and see the school where she taught. You can almost picture Anne hitting Gilbert over the head with a chalkboard! Feel the influence this Island had on Lucy Maud Montgomery, and you will understand why Anne was so enchanted by life here. Braid your pigtails and come explore Anne's land.

If you feel like diving into the rich history that explains how Anne became such a phenomenon, you have to start with Lucy Maud Montgomery. She was born on the

north shore of Prince Edward Island in 1874 and raised in Cavendish by her grandparents. It was here that she penned her most famous novel, *Anne of Green Gables*. You can visit her birthplace, where she married, where she taught, and learn how she was inspired by her Prince Edward Island surroundings to create *Anne of Green Gables*. New in 2019 will be the unveiling of extensive site renovations at Green Gables Heritage Place in Cavendish.



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# Outdoors



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**Prince Edward Island has endless possibilities for adventure.** Being an Island, it's no secret that the people here are passionate about outdoor adventure. With 1,600 km of coastline and the warmest waters north of the Carolinas, going out to sea for adventure is a wonderful place to start. Kayak through scenic Rustico Harbour, test your balance and try stand-up paddle boarding in Malpeque Bay's International Migratory Site, get your adrenaline pumping by kiteboarding, swim at our beautiful beaches, or climb aboard a boat to explore our marine life. Aquatic adventure isn't all that you will find on this Island though. There are many hiking, cycling, and mountain bike trails to get that adrenaline rush!

**Confederation Trail** - Prince Edward Island's (274 km) tip-to-tip trail was developed on abandoned railway lines and takes you into wetlands and hardwood groves, through quaint villages and along sparkling rivers. There is no better way to explore the natural beauty of Prince Edward Island than to walk, hike or cycle along the trails – each tailor-made for outdoor adventure.

**Scenic Coastal Drives** - Touring Prince Edward Island's three scenic coastal drives is a perfect way to explore the Island. With over 45 harbours scattered throughout the jagged coastline, colourful fishing villages, lighthouses, antique shops, and restaurants serving up the freshest of our delicious Island cuisine, there will always be reasons to stop and explore. Check out the storybook villages of Victoria-by-the-Sea, Cavendish, Georgetown, Souris, or Tignish.

**Arts & Heritage Trail** - Prince Edward Island's Arts & Heritage Trail will lead you across our five designated regions each with its own character and culture. Experience our Celtic and Acadian roots with the sounds of bagpipes and fiddles, kitchen parties and ceilidhs. Discover our countless festivals, such as the Festival of Small Halls, or the Indian River Music Festival. Visit art studios, museums and antique shops, and don't forget Anne of Green Gables! Note our new quilt board signs that have been custom-designed for each business and denote the Arts & Heritage Trail participants.





# Unique Accommodations



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND HAS A LARGE SELECTION OF ACCOMMODATIONS FROM CAMPING TO LUXURY INNS, BUT WE ALSO HAVE SEVERAL TRULY UNIQUE PLACES TO STAY AND RELAX.

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**West Point Lighthouse** - The 4-star West Point Lighthouse Inn features 13 contemporary rooms and the rare opportunity to stay in a lighthouse. Each room has a breathtaking view of the Northumberland Strait from the shore of West Point, Prince Edward Island. Eleven rooms also feature walkout decks, while The Keeper's Quarters and The Tower Room are located in a private guests-only section of the historic West Point Lighthouse Museum.

**The Rotating House** - Around the Sea Rotating House is located in North Rustico, Prince Edward Island. It is the world's first rotating house with luxury condo rentals. The home is two stories and 5,000 square feet. It is divided up into 4 condos; each 625 square feet. The rotating house overlooks the PEI National Park Beach, and because the house rotates throughout the day, each room has a stunning beach view. It's the perfect spot to relax when it's too hot outside, but you still want to see the water. Listen to the waves crash while feeling the ocean breeze. When you wake up, your view will be a little different, but still stunning!

**The Inn at Bay Fortune** - Prince Edward Island's first and only 5-star country inn! The winter of 2016 was a period of reimagining, redesigning and renovating guest rooms to reflect first-class comfort and artistic design. In 2017, a new dining room expansion was added along with a new deck, remodeling of The Inn's north courtyard bathrooms and a complete remodel of their south tower. Guest rooms are tastefully decorated by proprietor, Chastity Smith, using a blend of local art, treasured antiques and modern amenities creating a luxurious country-chic environment complete with seaside serenity.

**Treetop Haven** - Experience luxury while sleeping in the trees. Treetop Haven opened in Mount Tryon in 2017. A TreePod is a cross between a tree house and a pod, which is a geodesic dome, set up in the trees. There are two winterized pods that are open year round. There are three seasonal pods open from April until October. The TreePods are fully equipped with a kitchen, bathroom, barbecue, and a personal hot tub. This is the first of its kind for PEI.

**The Steeple House** - Located on the beautiful peninsula of Point Prim, The Steeple House is a reconverted church offering modern luxury in a historic setting. Sleep in the Bell Tower or enjoy your morning coffee on the rooftop patio with panoramic views.

**The Sydney Boutique Inn** - one of Charlottetown's most luxurious destinations. While traditions of the former 1857 Notre Dame Academy remain, 18 distinctive, elegant and timeless suites have been created to surpass the clients' expectations. All modern conveniences and amenities have been incorporated into the design. The property is located in the historic district of the city close to theatre, shopping, the waterfront and boardwalk. A 5-star inn with downtown convenience.

*Our miles of sandy beaches are some of the best in the world. Our rich culture and heritage offer much to be seen and explored.*





# Interesting Facts about Prince Edward Island

**PEI is the smallest province in Canada** with a population of 153,000. Although small, we host 1.5 million visitors yearly.

The Island boasts over **90 beaches**, each with its own special feature – white-sand beaches and dunes on the north side and red-sand and cliffs on the south side of the Island. It is common to have an entire beach to yourself.

The **Confederation Bridge** is an 8-mile engineering marvel that connects the Island to the mainland. It's the longest bridge in the world crossing ice-covered water.

There are **450 beef farms** on Prince Edward Island.

There are **52 lighthouses** on the Island; one for each week of the year and 38 that are still operational. Nine are open to the public and one even operates as an inn!

The Island is home to the world's most beloved red-haired orphan, **Anne of Green Gables**. The novel has sold more than 50 million copies and is translated into 18 languages. Listed on Indigo Books & Music Inc. Booklovers' Top Ten "Life-changing Books" of the past decade.

**Canada's #1 golf destination** with over 25 golf courses and the only Canadian province to host the Golf Channel's popular Big Break series.

The flavour of **oysters** reflects the water quality, minerals, salinity, and the type of nutrients available in the water. Prince Edward Island has a variety of different bays and coves that provide numerous distinct tastes and are distributed under a variety of brands, the most famous being Malpeque. Harvesting methods include the use of rakes and tongs.



The **Island's soil is red** due to the iron oxide which rusts on exposure to air – and great for producing potatoes! There are 89,000 acres of **potatoes** grown annually representing \$276 million in farm gate sales.

**Abegweit is the Mi'kmaq word for Prince Edward Island** and is often interpreted as "**land cradled on the waves.**" Other monikers include Garden of the Gulf, Canada's Food Island, The Island, and "the fairest land 'tis possible to see" (according to Jacques Cartier in 1534).



## Food Facts

PEI accounts for **80 percent of Canadian mussel production**, with more than 39.6 million pounds of mussels.



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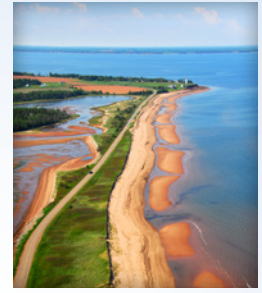
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