

Parker Tours

Providing motorcoach tours throughout the United States and Canada!

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NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

JULY 8-23, 2020

- NEW BRUNSWICK • NOVA SCOTIA • CAPE BRETON ISLAND
 - GREAT NORTHERN PENINSULA • LABRADOR COASTAL HIGHWAY
 - RED BAY • BATTLE HARBOUR • GROS MORNE UNESCO NATIONAL PARK
 - L'ANSE AUX MEADOWS • CORNER BROOK • ST. ANTHONY • PORT AU CHOIX
 - GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR • GANDER • TWILLINGATE
 - BONVISTA PENINSULA • PORT AU PORT PENINSULA
- AND MUCH MORE!**

PLUS LIVE ENTERTAINMENT --- MUMMERS, THE SHARECROPPERS, MORE!

TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 (July 8): We'll leave **Bangor** and travel **The Airline** (Route 9) to **Calais** where we'll cross the border to **New Brunswick**, and head down along the **St. Croix River** to picturesque **St. Andrews-by-the-Sea** for an included lunch at the **Harbour Front Restaurant**. After a short city tour, we'll travel the ocean route to **Moncton, New Brunswick**, where we will be at the **Hampton Inn** for overnight. Supper will be on your own tonight at a local restaurant.

DAY 2 (July 9): After breakfast (included), we'll travel to **Pictou**, the birthplace in 1773 of "New Scotland." After lunch (on your own), we'll rejoin the **Trans-Canada Highway** and hie on over to **Cape Breton Island**, crossing the historic **Canso Causeway**. Soon we'll arrive in **North Sydney**, where we will overnight at the **Hotel North** overlooking the **Cabot Strait**. Supper is included tonight.

DAY 3 (July 10): We'll have an included breakfast and then drive a short distance to where our bus will board one of the huge **Marine Atlantic** ferries (it's an ocean liner) and we'll off-load and venture to the passenger decks. We will enjoy live entertainment and lunch and supper will be on your own as we make our daylight crossing. Soon, we will see "**The Rock**" (as Newfoundland is known) appearing on the horizon. We will arrive at **Port aux Basques** and after off-loading, we'll drive a short distance to the **Hotel Port aux Basques**, our home for the night.

DAY 4 (July 11): After our included breakfast, we'll begin our first full day in Newfoundland by traveling through the **Long Range Mountains** and the **Anguille Mountains**. We'll pass through the **Codroy Pond area**

(this region has some of the strongest winds in Newfoundland) and **St. George's Bay** through the town of **St. George's**. We'll travel north on the **Trans-Canada Highway** through **Corner Brook** to **Deer Lake** and onto the famous **Viking Trail** to **Gros Morne National Park**, a **United Nations World Heritage Site** known for its exceptional beauty and unique geological features. We'll arrive at the quaint little outpost of **Woody Point** where our good friend **Mike Madigan** of **The Sharecroppers** and his wife, **Kathy**, will have an included lunch and entertainment ready for us. This is real, authentic Newfoundland food and entertainment, and watch for whales in the bay! Then we will take a side road which leads to the **Tablelands**, a geological wonder unlike anything you've ever seen! From there, we'll head north on the **Great Northern Peninsula** to the **Torrent River Inn** at **Hawke's Bay**, our home for the night. Sunset is late at these northern latitudes so there will be time after our included supper to explore the boardwalk and enjoy the splendor of this area.



The Pinware River in coastal Labrador.

DAY 5 (July 12): Today, after our included breakfast, we'll head to **St. Barbe**, where we'll board the **M/V Qajaq W** for a crossing of the **Strait of Belle Isle** to **Lourdes de Blanc Sablon, Quebec**. We'll be crossing the **Strait of Belle Isle**, known as "**Iceberg Alley**" so keep your camera handy as this is a good time of the year to see these

monsters (but don't worry, we won't be *that* close!). After landing, we'll travel from Quebec into Labrador, and after a short drive, we'll arrive at the **Point Amour Lighthouse**, where we'll visit one of the tallest lighthouses in Canada. We'll also have an included lunch catered just for our group by **Tourism Labrador**. Then it's back to **L'Anse au Clair** and the **Northern Light Inn**, our accommodation for the night. After our included supper, explore the walking trails or relax.



We may see icebergs such as this small one.

DAY 6 (July 13): Today, after our included breakfast, we'll head north to **Red Bay**, known as the first industrial complex of the New World. From there, we'll join the now-paved (as of 2018) **Labrador Coastal Highway**. It's an overland route, so we won't see much ocean, but keep an eye out for **wildlife** as this is wild sub-Arctic tundra country! Keep an eye out for **inuikshuks** as well. Eventually

we'll reach the tiny settlement of **Mary's Harbour** on **St. Lewis Inlet** where we will have lunch (on your own). Then we'll continue north to **Port Hope Simpson**, a tiny Inuit community on **Alexis Bay**. After a drive-through, we'll head back to **Mary's Harbour** where we will board a local ferry for a cruise out to **Battle Island**, an outpost north of **Cape Charles**. Watch for **icebergs**, **whales**, and **eagles**. We'll enjoy an included supper and settle into our comfortable accommodations for the night. Only nine people live seasonally on the one-square mile island, so there will be plenty of peace and quiet. Before turning in tonight, walk outside and see if the northern lights are shining. If it's clear, you may see the astounding phenomena of **aurora borealis** better than anywhere in the U.S. The northern lights are visible well over 200 nights a year at these latitudes.

DAY 7 (July 14): Today, after your included breakfast, you will be free to explore all that **Battle Island** and the settlement of **Battle Harbour** has to offer as we are here for the day. Or, if you prefer, relax on the front porch of your accommodation and watch the icebergs floating by on the **Labrador Sea** or in the **Battle Harbour Tickle**. This settlement has immense historical importance as it has been settled since the 1700s, and you will stroll streets once a stopping-off point for **Arctic explorers** and site of the **oldest surviving residence in Labrador**. You'll also see the unique **Grenfell Mission** cottage which housed a succession of physicians including world-renowned

Sir Wilfred Grenfell. Jan and Everett are frequent visitors to **Battle Harbour**, and will gladly take you on short tours of the tiny island, or you can join an escorted tour with one of the local folks. We've seen over 20 whales at one time on the west end of the island, so explore, explore! All meals are included while at **Battle Harbour**, and you'll meet **Daphne** and **Myrtle**, the head cooks who were born and raised on the island.

DAY 8 (July 15): After an included breakfast, we'll depart **Battle Harbour** and head back to **Mary's Harbour** where our bus will be waiting for us. We'll head south again and visit the **Red Bay National Historic Site** where an interpreter will tell us about remnants of the 16th century **Basque whaling station** and show us priceless artifacts in the museum. Lunch is on your own at the adjoining **Whaler's Restaurant** (and gift shop!). You'll also see a more modern **shipwreck** in **Red Bay**. There is also a tiny post office, so here's your chance to mail letters or postcards home from a very remote sub-Arctic post office! Then it's back to **Blanc Sablon, Quebec** where, late in the afternoon, we will catch the **Labrador Marine** ferry for the short trip back to Newfoundland. We'll head north again on the **Viking Trail** all the way to **St. Anthony** and our overnight accommodation at the **Haven Inn**.



The Tablelands, Gros Morne National Park.

Later in the day, we'll head to **Gunner's Cove** for an included buffet supper at the **Northern Delight Restaurant** and live entertainment with a uniquely Newfoundland group known as the **Mummers!** Then it's back down the **Viking Trail** (watch for moose and caribou in the late afternoon!) to **Plum Point** where we'll overnight at the **Plum Point Motel**.

DAY 10 (July 17): After an included breakfast, we'll head south on the **Viking Trail** to visit the **Port au Choix National Historic Site & Museum** and learn about the worldwide archaeological significance of this tiny outpost. We'll also visit the **Point Riche Lighthouse** on the windblown shore of the **Gulf of St. Lawrence** where whales and caribou are often seen (we saw about two dozen caribou there in 2019!). From there we'll head south with stops at **Western Brook Fjord Overlook** and **The Arches**, a spectacular ocean rock formation. Then it's on to **Rocky Harbour** and **Parson's Tourist Home**, where our good friend **Sid Parsons** and his family will have lunch (on your own) ready for us (be sure to try the "local tarts"). Then we'll visit the **Lobster Cove Lighthouse** for some dramatic views of **Bonne Bay**. Then we'll head south on the **Viking Trail** to the **Trans-Canada Highway** and east into the heart of the island of **Newfoundland**. We will overnight in **Gander** at **Sinbad's Hotel & Suites**. An interesting fact about **Sinbad's** is that you never know who you might see! With the international airport nearby, we've seen military folks from all over the world, diplomats and others. Supper is on your own tonight.



A view at Red Bay, Labrador.

DAY 11 (July 18): After our included breakfast, we'll travel east and then north on the **Bonavista Peninsula** through picturesque towns such as **Lethbridge**, **Trinity Bay** and **Trinity Bay North** to the town of **Bonavista**. The **Bonavista Lighthouse** is one of the most recognized sites in eastern Newfoundland. Here we'll see dramatic cliffs, **puffins**, **whales** and beautiful scenery. We'll stop for lunch (on your own) at **PK's Restaurant** in the town of **Bonavista**, then head back to the **Trans-Canada Highway**. Outside **Gander**, we'll stop at the **Silent Witness Memorial**, a very special spot at the end of a **Gander International Airport** runway where 256 U.S. military personnel were killed in a 1985 airplane crash. This will be a very moving experience as we walk the very path that the plane carved through the woods as it crashed. We overnight again at **Sinbad's Hotel & Suites** in **Gander**.

DAY 12 (July 19): This morning after an included breakfast, we'll leave **Gander** and travel north to the picturesque village of **Twillingate**. After reaching the north shore of **Hamilton Bay**, we'll travel from **Chapel Island** to **New World Island** and across to **South Twillingate Island** and **North Twillingate Island**. No ferry crossings here as the islands are connected by bridges. We'll visit the **Twillingate Museum**, housed in an old historic house. Then it's on to the historic **Twillingate Lighthouse**, literally at the end of the road. With sweeping views of **Notre Dame Bay**, this is a good spot to see whales and icebergs (and a nice gift shop, too!). Then we're off to **Lewisporte** for lunch (on your own), and then west on the **Trans-Canada Highway** to **Deer Lake**, where we'll return once again to the historic **Viking Trail**. But it's only a short distance this time to the fabulous **Newfoundland Insectarium**, where we'll also visit the **butterfly pavilion**. This stop is very popular with our travelers! Finally, it's only a short distance to the **Deer Lake Motel**, our overnight stop with an included supper. Tonight will be very special as we have a private performance of **The Sharecroppers**, an international known music trio of balladeers who will entertain and delight us with folk songs of **The Rock**.



Our bus a few years ago at Cape Bonavista.

DAY 13 (July 20): Today will be our last full day in **Newfoundland**, and what a trip it's been! After our included breakfast, we'll head south to arrive on the windswept **Port au Port Peninsula**, where we'll have dramatic views of the ocean. We'll stop at the largest wooden church in Newfoundland, **Our Lady of Mercy Historic Church** in **Port au Port West**, then view the old Arctic **Dew Line** radar domes. Then we'll make a full loop circuit of this beautiful peninsula, stopping at the halfway point to visit the **Mainland Cultural & Heritage Centre** (we'll also have an on-your-own lunch here). Then it's back to **Stephenville** and south through the **Codroy Valley** and skirting the **Anguille Mountains** into **Port-aux-Basques**, where our lodging for the night is the **St. Christopher's Hotel** overlooking **Cabot Strait**. Supper is included tonight as we reminisce about our time on "The Rock."

DAY 14 (July 21): After an included breakfast at **St. Christopher's Hotel**, we'll arrive at the **Marine Atlantic** ferry terminal for our crossing of the **Cabot Strait** to **North Sydney, Nova Scotia** (lunch is on your own). After the crossing, we'll overnight once again at the **Hotel North** in **North Sydney**. Supper is on your own tonight.

DAY 15 (July 22): After our included breakfast at the **Hotel North**, we'll head south to the **Alexander Graham Bell Museum** in **Baddeck, Nova Scotia**. This is a fabulous museum looking across to **Beinn Bhreagh**, the summer home of the Bell family. From there, we'll head south, crossing the **Canso Causeway** once again and heading west on the **Trans-Canada Highway** to **Moncton, New Brunswick**, where we'll overnight at the **Hampton Inn**.

DAY 16 (July 23): After an included breakfast, we begin our "homeward bound" day as we head west on the **Trans-Canada Highway**. We'll stop for lunch in **St. Stephen, New Brunswick** (on your own). Please have your Customs forms filled out before we arrive at the **U.S. Customs** and the border crossing at **Saint Stephen**. Depending on how long our delay is at the border, we should arrive in the Bangor area mid to late afternoon. And what memories we will have!

*Meals included: Breakfast, 16; Lunch, 4; Supper, 10
Total of 30 included meals*

*This is only a partial listing of all the fun things we will do!
But don't fear, we spread these activities out so you will have plenty of time for rest and relaxation.*

This is a trip for people of all ages ... we've had folks from 16 to 92!

And now ... the small print!
Venues, hotels/motels/inns subject to change.

The cost is \$3,495 per person based on double occupancy; \$3,995 single occupancy IF you reserve BEFORE March 15, 2020 (\$200 more per person after that date).

We ask for a deposit of \$250 per person at booking, with full payment due by May 15, 2020.
We will gladly set up a payment plan at no additional cost.

CANCELLATION POLICY

For cancellations received before April 15, no cancellation fee. From April 15 and April 30, there is a 50% cancellation fee; and for cancellations after May 1, there is no refund. We regret that requirement, but we have to make substantial deposits at our accommodations 60 to 90 days in advance, and they are not refunded!