



## **"IN SEARCH OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND SOUL" Tales of Survival and Celebration**

**August 6 - 16, 2011**

Newfoundland is like no place you've ever been. This remote and craggy piece of landscape gets under your skin. Rugged beauty co-exists with a brooding melancholy as the raw ingredients of rock, sea and sky combine in endless variation. But, in the end, it is the people — a unique maritime sub-culture — that work a special magic on those from away.

Carved out of the formidable granite that gives the island its nickname (The Rock), St. John's is a photographer's dream. Here, we will spend five days starting to unpack the social history of Newfoundland, meandering the winding lanes and by-ways with their candy-coloured clapboard houses. We will meet descendents of the English and Irish stalwarts, dreamers, and adventurers who originally settled Newfoundland. We will spend time at The Rooms, Newfoundland and Labrador's largest public cultural space, where history, heritage and artistic expression all come together.

On the overland way to Bonavista Bay, we'll visit coastal locations that could have been the setting for *Random Passage and Galore*. We will stay on the wind-swept Eastport Peninsula and attend Winterset in Summer, Newfoundland and Labrador's unique literary festival founded by author and political journalist, Richard Gwyn. It is a fabulous long weekend filled with readings by new and established authors, traditional music, and great homemade Newfoundland food. While there we can also walk heritage pathways over bluffs, marshes, cliffs, and fiords or visit archaeological digs on near-by beaches that show Aboriginal habitation 5000 years ago.

What is the Newfoundland soul? How is it produced? Is it found in isolation, struggle, weather, history, character or spirit? Come, breathe, look, listen and talk and you decide.

### **OUR ITINERARY**

#### **Saturday, August 6 Arrive St. John's**

Participants will make their own arrival arrangements. Please contact us for any assistance with your flights or information on arriving in St. John's. Please arrive in St. John's by 2.00pm so that you can join us for our walkabout in the city.

Newfoundland has been shaped by its relationship with the sea. Here we are at Cape Spear, the most Easterly point in North America with the frigid North Atlantic all around us. We'll get a beautiful overview from the top of Signal Hill and hear historic

tales of North America's oldest colony. We'll take a look at Quidi Vidi village, a battery originally built by the French in 1792 and then taken over by the British who rebuilt it to ward off any possible attacks by Americans. We'll celebrate the sea's bounty this evening over dinner.

*Overnight: Hotel Newfoundland, Harbour view rooms*

*Meals: Dinner*

### **Sunday, August 7                      St. John's**

Our literary discussions begin this morning. In the afternoon we'll visit The Rooms, Newfoundland and Labrador's largest cultural space, uniting the Provincial Museum, the Provincial Art Gallery and the Provincial Archives under one roof and is a portal to the many stories the province has to tell. We'll visit the Art Gallery and learn about its Space Based program, dedicated to advancing the work of visual artists in the province.

*Overnight: Hotel Newfoundland, Harbour view rooms*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Monday, August 8                      St. John's**

We'll continue with our second discussion this morning and continue with our explorations this afternoon. The province is affectionately known to Canadians as "The Rock". Newfoundland and Labrador has some of the most spectacular geology in the world and the Johnson Geo Centre, cut from the prehistoric rock of Signal Hill, is the best place to learn about the deep underground.

*Overnight: Hotel Newfoundland, Harbour view rooms*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Tuesday, August 9                      St. John's**

The grassy cliffs of Cape St. Mary's are home to the Ecological Reserve which protects hundreds of thousands of birds who breed and nest on the islands and coastal cliffs of this rugged landscape. The uncompromising terrain and maverick sea meet where huge breakers crash against imposing cliffs and rough pebbled beaches hurling the harsh salt spray inland. We'll take a long walk in this splendid landscape and learn about the unfolding of a complex and vivid history of the struggle to build and maintain a lighthouse at Cape St. Mary to guide navigators past its formidable headlands.

*Overnight: Hotel Newfoundland, Harbour view rooms*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

### **Wednesday, August 10                      St. John's**

Ferryland is where George Calvert, better known as Lord Baltimore, founded the Colony of Avalon in 1621. Today, we can peer over the shoulders of archaeologists as they uncover the foundations of houses and a cobblestone street built in the seventeenth century, and see some of the thousands of artifacts at the interpretation centre. There's a distinct Irish feel here, and with good reason. The Irish came to dominate this shore - first as summer workers for English and Irish fish merchants, then as permanent settlers as the eighteenth century wore on. Today, this area is known as the Irish heart of Newfoundland and Labrador and we'll get enjoy that as we visit the area today. There is a museum to visit, a lighthouse to hike to for views of whales and icebergs and a front porch to sit on and look toward the sea across a meadow - called The Gaze.

*Overnight: Hotel Newfoundland, Harbour view rooms*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

**Thursday, August 11****Drive to Eastport**

Today we head off to Eastport, home of the "Winterset in Summer" literary festival designed to celebrate the writers of our splendid province. During our stay here, we'll meet new and established authors and hear them talk about their writing with celebrity hosts, including founding host CBC Radio's Michael Enright. Events during our stay will be advised when the 2011 schedule is released – you can be sure there's lots here to pique your interest – from plays to music to author's readings.

*Overnight: A selection of bed and breakfast style accommodation*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

**Friday, August 12 - 14 Eastport: Winterset**

We'll spend a fabulous weekend filled with readings, fun, music, and great traditional Newfoundland food. Our Winterset activities conclude with the "Sunday Supper" that closes the Festival.

*Overnight: A selection of bed and breakfast style accommodation*

*Meals: Breakfast and one other meal is included each day*

**Monday, August 15 Eastport**

We'll conclude our stay in Eastport with a final wrap up discussion this morning, sharing our experiences of the readings we've participated in at the Festival. We'll enjoy a quiet afternoon of gentle coastal waters, great stretches of sandy beaches and old trails.

*Overnight: A selection of bed and breakfast style accommodation*

*Meals: Breakfast, Dinner*

**Tuesday, August 16 Depart**

This morning we make our way to the St. John's airport for departure flights.

*Note: Each evening, we will post the location of following day's discussions and talks and confirm any additions or changes to itinerary. We are a small group and will cover the material included below but we may decide together to alter the order depending on other opportunities and how we feel.*

**TOUR COSTS AND DETAILS**

**CAN\$2695 per person + HST, from St. John's**

**Deposit**

A non-refundable deposit of **CAN\$500** per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

**Single Supplement**

If you wish to have guaranteed single accommodation, the single supplement for this trip is an additional **CAN\$1195 + HST**. Please note that if you are travelling alone, and we cannot match you with a roommate, you will have to pay the single supplement for this trip. This will be collected at 90 days prior to departure.

### **Cancellation Policy**

All deposits are non-refundable. If you cancel within 90 days prior to trip departure, all associated trip costs are non-refundable. The tour price is quoted as a package. No partial refunds or credits will be given for services not used. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing.

### **Tour Cost Includes:**

- Shared accommodations in hotels as specified or similar
- Meals as specified
- Sightseeing with qualified guides
- Entrance fees to monuments and parks visited as a group
- All activities as described in the itinerary
- Hotels and local taxes
- Discussions as specified
- Texts and readings for the discussions

### **Tour Cost Does Not Include:**

- International flights
- Airport and departure taxes
- Airport transfers on arrival and departure
- Travel insurance
- Visa fees
- Excess baggage
- Items of a personal nature
- Additional arrangements due to any emergency or other situation

### **THIS TOUR IS LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS**

### **A note on accommodation**

The Hotel Newfoundland is a grand old hotel in the city centre. It offers all modern amenities and marvellous harbour views.

The Stay-a-Play cottages (or cabins, in local parlance) are modest, clean, spacious cottages with kitchen facilities only minutes from beautiful beaches. Each cottage is slightly different and not all bedrooms have private bathrooms. All bedrooms have only one large bed. Rooms will be assigned on a 'first come first served' basis. Please note that accommodation here is very modest.

### **Discussion Leader**

**Elayne Harris** is an insider-outsider, a native of Bonavista Bay who designs university outreach initiatives in Canada, France and Southeast Asia. Living in Vancouver and spending four months each year in Newfoundland, she is bi-coastal. From the time she was the director of Memorial University's unconventional but lauded extension service, she has been committed to lifelong learning outside the classrooms and away from institutional settings.

### **Host**

Ann Kirkland is the founder of Classical Pursuits

**Please note:**

1. The itinerary described in these notes is intended as an example only. In the event of weather changes, logistical arrangements, or special events, we may make changes in the published itinerary or the accommodations.
2. Worldwide Quest is a full service tour operator and will be pleased to arrange your flights for this tour.
3. The tour cost does not include extra expenses incurred because of weather and logistical delays, or delayed departures of chartered or scheduled aircraft.

**For additional information about Worldwide Quest's terms and conditions, please refer to the current Classical Pursuits brochure or website.**



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