

— Nova Scotia's —
SOUTH SHORE

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE EMPLOYEE RESOURCE BOOKLET



A white lighthouse with a dark lantern room sits atop a rocky cliff. The ocean is visible in the distance under a sunset sky with scattered clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and reflecting on the water. The overall scene is serene and picturesque.

Nova Scotia's South Shore

We're that special stretch along Canada's Ocean Playground where every turn in the road leads to a new adventure.

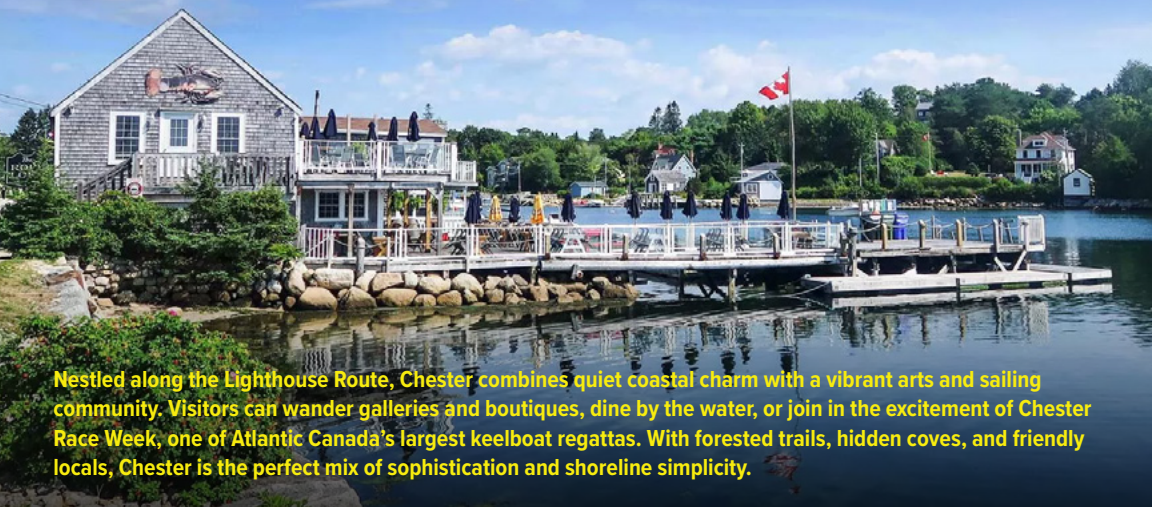
Where rugged Atlantic shores lead to serene seas.
Where history abounds and whispers your name.
Where days of forested hikes give way to campfire nights.
Where the doors in quaint village shops open to world class artisans, and local food & drink perfectly pair with the memories you make.

Where discovery and rediscovery will lead you back again and again.

- 1 Municipality of Chester
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- 5 Region of Queens
- 6 Town of Lockeport
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Municipality of Chester



Nestled along the Lighthouse Route, Chester combines quiet coastal charm with a vibrant arts and sailing community. Visitors can wander galleries and boutiques, dine by the water, or join in the excitement of Chester Race Week, one of Atlantic Canada's largest keelboat regattas. With forested trails, hidden coves, and friendly locals, Chester is the perfect mix of sophistication and shoreline simplicity.



Ruby's Trail

New Ross, NS

This woodland climb leads to sweeping views over New Ross and quiet forest paths dotted with local quirks like garden nooks, painted rocks, and the much-loved Twig's Chalet. It's a short, rewarding outing for fresh air and photos. The summit lookout gives a memorable inland perspective on the Chester area.



Mill Cove Beach

Mill Cove Shore Rd, Mill Cove, NS

Tucked between Fox Point and Northwest Cove, this low-key beach blends sand and rock with a small boardwalk and picnic tables. A freshwater stream flows into the bay, creating a gentle swimming area. It's a sunny, crowd-free stop ideal for a relaxed seaside break.



Foraged Florals

5491 Hwy 12, Harriston, NS

A small flower farm and studio offering seasonal workshops, foraging experiences, and nature-inspired florals grown with permaculture methods. Visitors can book summer workshops (June–August), from European hand-tied bouquets to wild foods and flower essences. Multi-day experiences, including an off-grid cabin stay and wood-fired pizza nights, make it easy to linger.

Town of Lunenburg



Anchored by the UNESCO World Heritage town of Lunenburg, this region is steeped in maritime legacy, boatbuilding heritage, and seafaring spirit. You'll find colourful waterfront streets, craft distilleries, and working shipyards preserving centuries-old techniques. Add to that rolling hinterlands, cozy rural roads, and the draw of artisanal experiences, and you have a region that feels both historic and alive.



Ironworks Distillery

2 Kempt St, Lunenburg, NS

Set in an 1893 marine blacksmith shop, Ironworks crafts small-batch rum, vodka, and fruit liqueurs using local ingredients. Tasting flights come with stories about the building and Lunenburg's working waterfront. It's a flavourful way to sip the town's heritage.



The Big Boat Shed

68 Bluenose Dr, Lunenburg, NS

Located on the historic Smith & Rhuland yard, this working space showcases wooden boat construction and repair. Visitors can watch craftspeople and apprentices keep Lunenburg's boatbuilding tradition alive. It's a hands-on window into the birthplace of Bluenose I and II.

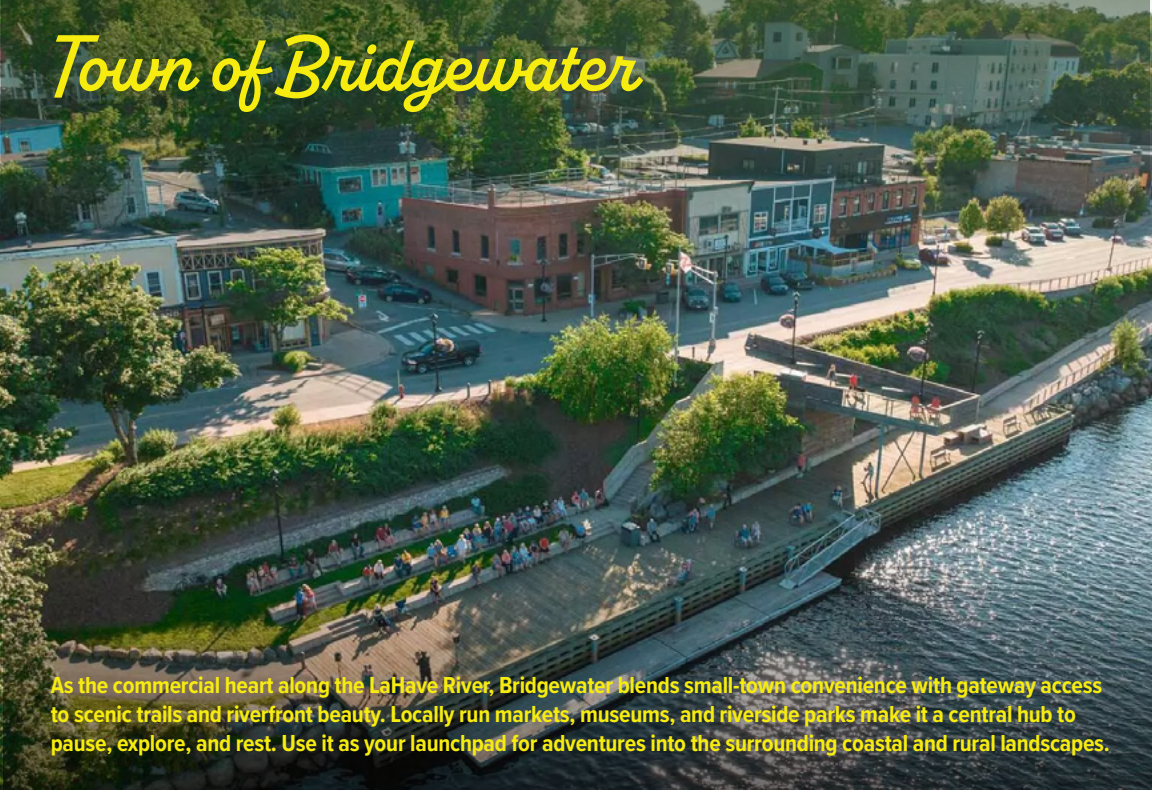


Berlin Wall Fragment – Lunenburg Legion

15 Zimmer St, Lunenburg, NS

An original section of the Berlin Wall stands outside the Legion, honouring the town's ties to German settlers from 1753. Brought to Lunenburg in the late 1990s, it's a striking symbol of division and reconciliation. This unexpected landmark adds global context to a small coastal community.

Town of Bridgewater



As the commercial heart along the LaHave River, Bridgewater blends small-town convenience with gateway access to scenic trails and riverfront beauty. Locally run markets, museums, and riverside parks make it a central hub to pause, explore, and rest. Use it as your launchpad for adventures into the surrounding coastal and rural landscapes.



Bridgewater Farmers' Market 123 Empire St, Bridgewater, NS

A community-run Saturday market (May–October) where local producers sell fresh food, crafts, and treats along the former Memorial Arena. It's a friendly spot to meet makers and sample the region's flavours. Coffee in hand, it's easy to spend a morning here.



LaHave River Trail Access: 441 King St, Bridgewater, NS

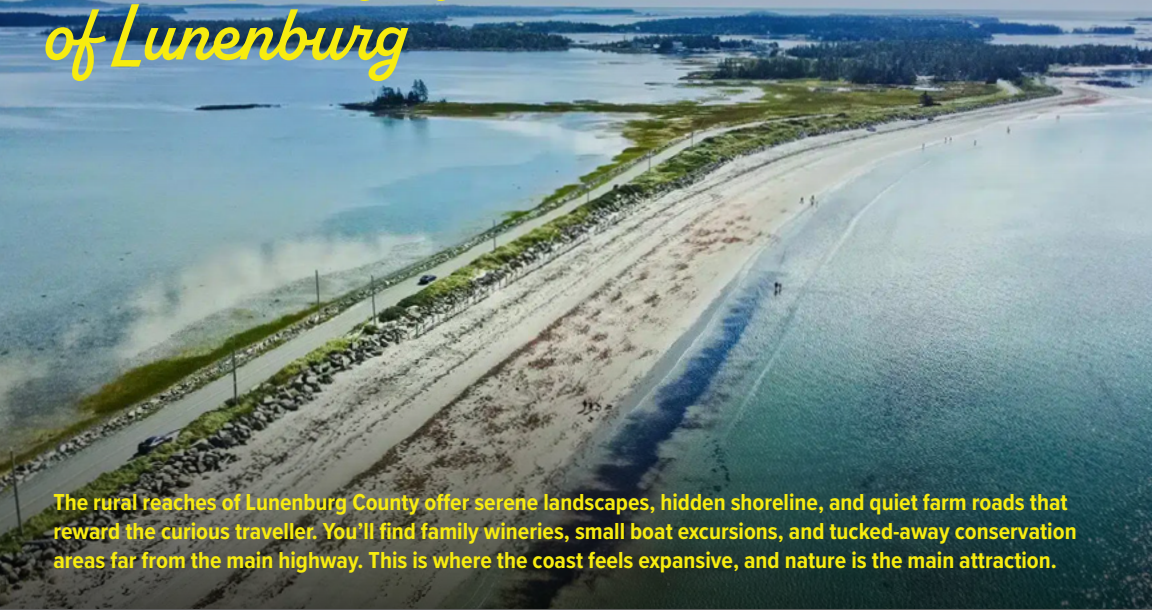
This multi-use trail follows the river through woods and neighborhoods, with several access points and way finding. Walk, run, or bike easy segments with plenty of water views. Parking is available along the route for short or longer outings.



Pijinuiskaq Park and Lookoff Downtown Bridgewater along the LaHave River, Bridgewater, NS

Named for the Mi'kmaw word for the LaHave River ("having long branches"), this riverside park honours Indigenous heritage. Year-round it hosts concerts and community events, with picnic spots and floating docks for paddlers. It's a central green space where locals and visitors gather by the water.

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg



The rural reaches of Lunenburg County offer serene landscapes, hidden shoreline, and quiet farm roads that reward the curious traveller. You'll find family wineries, small boat excursions, and tucked-away conservation areas far from the main highway. This is where the coast feels expansive, and nature is the main attraction.



Ransom's Coastal Zodiac Tour

29 Tanner Rd, Stonehurst, NS

Timed with the tides, this two-hour expedition zodiac tour explores coves, channels, and back passages near Blue Rocks and Lunenburg. Guides share stories of geology, wildlife, and regional history while scanning for seals, ospreys, and herons. It's a scenic, small-group adventure on the open water.



Fort Point Museum

100 Fort Point Rd, LaHave, NS

Once the capital of New France (1632–1636), this headland tells early colonial stories and overlooks the LaHave. Interpretive panels help visitors imagine Champlain's era and early mapping of the coast. A quiet beach behind the museum is known locally for sea glass.

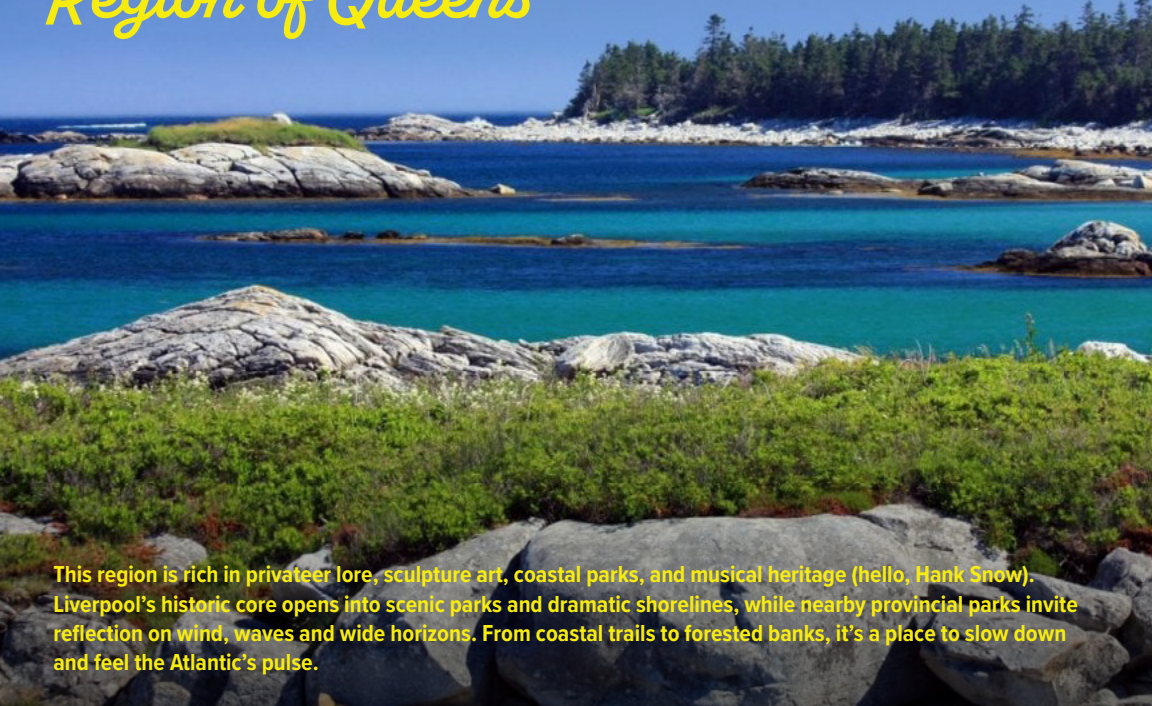


Oakland Conservation Area

1011 Oakland Rd, Oakland, NS

This public access site protects sandy shoreline and marsh (Sweet Marsh) with stewardship partners. A small oceanfront parcel and adjacent wetlands support birdlife and coastal ecology. It's a simple, natural stop for beachcombing and nature appreciation.

Region of Queens



This region is rich in privateer lore, sculpture art, coastal parks, and musical heritage (hello, Hank Snow). Liverpool's historic core opens into scenic parks and dramatic shorelines, while nearby provincial parks invite reflection on wind, waves and wide horizons. From coastal trails to forested banks, it's a place to slow down and feel the Atlantic's pulse.



Cosby's Sculpture Garden

141 Sandy Cove Rd, Brooklyn (Liverpool), NS

A woodland walk reveals whimsical, large-scale concrete sculptures tucked among pines and landscaped paths. The collection is always growing, rewarding repeat visits. It's an imaginative, photo-friendly detour just outside Liverpool.



Thomas Raddall Provincial Park

529 Raddall Park Rd, Port Joli, NS

Spanning more than 650 hectares, the park offers 11 km of coastal and forest trails, quiet beaches, and birding. Historic sites and interpretive panels add context to the landscape. It's a serene counterpart to nearby Kejimkujik Seaside across the harbour.

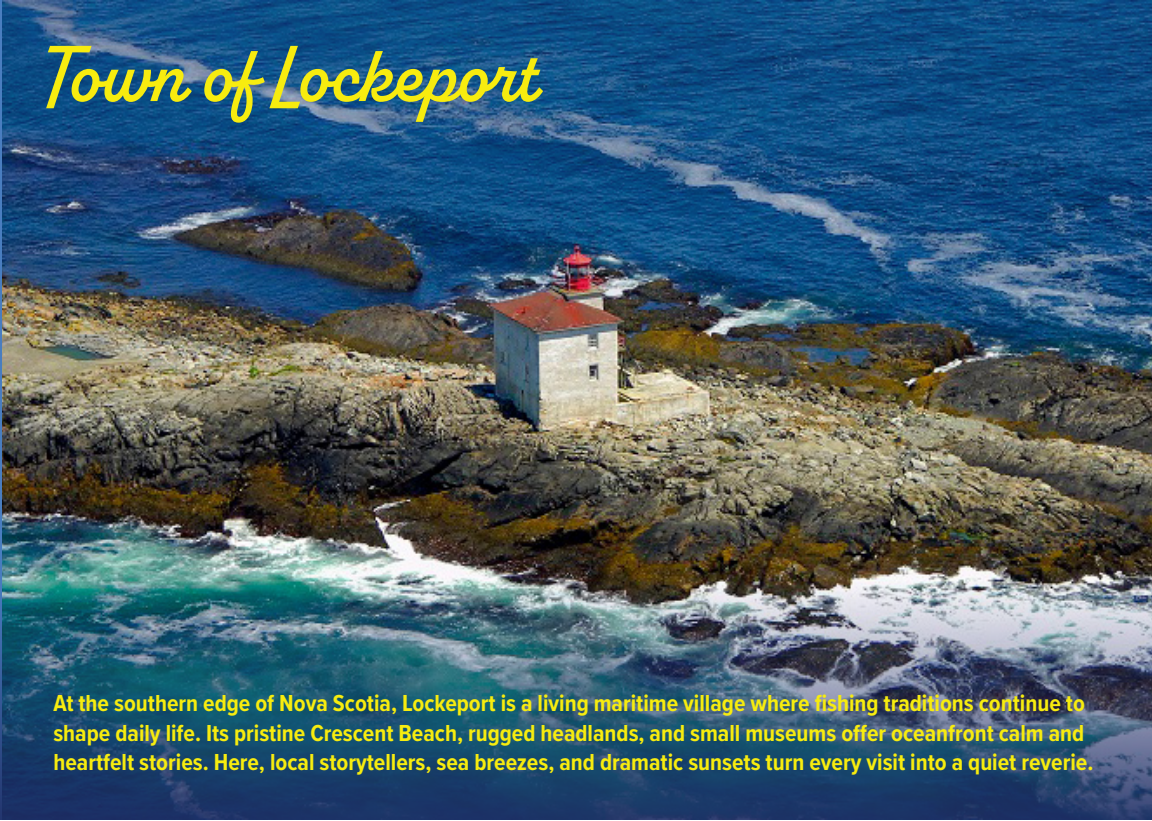


Fort Point Lighthouse Park

100 Fort Point Rd, Liverpool, NS

Built in 1855, this pre-Confederation lighthouse overlooks the Mersey River and harbour. Displays trace Liverpool's privateer past, and visitors can still hand-crank the foghorn. The park is open year-round with picnic tables, views, and seasonal access to the lighthouse.

Town of Lockeport



At the southern edge of Nova Scotia, Lockeport is a living maritime village where fishing traditions continue to shape daily life. Its pristine Crescent Beach, rugged headlands, and small museums offer oceanfront calm and heartfelt stories. Here, local storytellers, sea breezes, and dramatic sunsets turn every visit into a quiet reverie.



Little School Museum

29 & 37 Locke St, Lockeport, NS

An 1845 one-room schoolhouse preserved as a seasonal museum shares local stories and education history. Additions and a later marine annex reflect Lockeport's evolving community use. It's a compact, character-rich stop steps from the waterfront.



Crescent Beach

157 Locke St, Lockeport, NS

This one-mile arc of white sand, backed by beach grass and dunes, is Lockeport's signature view. It's perfect for swimming, beachcombing, and long shoreline walks. The beach famously appeared on Canada's 1954 \$50 banknote.



West Head Nature Conservancy

Tip of West Head Rd, Lockeport, NS

A protected headland of coastal barrens with a rugged footpath to sweeping ocean views. Birdlife is abundant, and on clear evenings it's a superb place for sunset watching. Look seaward for distant glimpses of Gull Rock Lighthouse.

Town of Shelburne

Municipality of Shelburne



Shelburne and its surrounding area weave together Loyalist history, cultural revival, rugged coastlines, and artisan spirit. From a thriving downtown to outer lighthouses and vineyards, it's a region that celebrates small-town energy and big coastal views. Expect friendly welcomes, rich storytelling, and a pace that lets you breathe in the sea.



District 33 Winery

4297 Sandy Point Rd, Shelburne, NS

A small, family-run vineyard and cidery on Jordan Bay, pairing coastal setting with small-lot wines and ciders. Tastings showcase the influence of sea air and local terroir. It's an easy, scenic stop along the Lighthouse Route.



The Emerald Light

151 Water St, Shelburne, NS

A downtown bistro offering a fresher take on comfort food, with Nova Scotia wines, local brews, and crafted cocktails. The atmosphere is warm and unpretentious, equally suited to brunch or dinner. Guests praise the friendly service and community-minded vibe.



Sandy Point Lighthouse

Sandy Point Rd, Shelburne, NS

At low tide, the sandbar opens a walkable path to this classic red-and-white light at the harbour entrance. It's a favourite for photos, birdwatching, and beachcombing for sand dollars. Picnic areas nearby make it an easy linger.

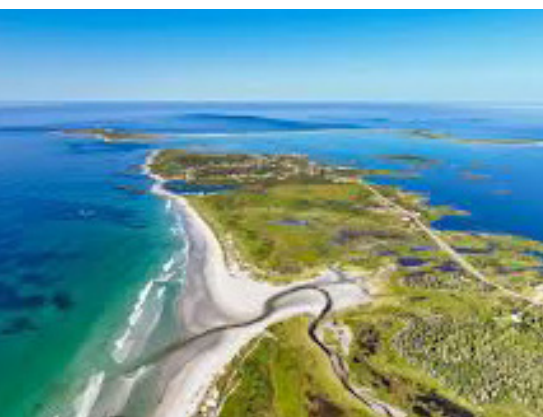
Municipality of Barrington

Anchoring Nova Scotia's southernmost coast, Barrington is a place defined by being the Lobster Capital of Canada. Home to Cape Sable Island, it offers remote beaches, birding hotspots, and a proud fishing legacy. Visitors can explore windswept Hawk Beach with its ancient drowned forest, or climb the replica tower at the Seal Island Lighthouse Museum. It's where the Atlantic roars, sunsets linger, and you taste the sea in every bite.



Capt. Kat's Lobster Shack 3728 Hwy 3, Barrington Passage, NS

A local landmark serving a wide range of lobster and seafood dishes in the heart of the Lobster Capital of Canada. The nautical dining room and live tank set a maritime scene. Friendly service and Nova Scotia pairings round out the experience.



The Hawk Beach 154 New Rd, The Hawk, Cape Sable Island, NS

Nova Scotia's southernmost beach features the 1,500-year-old drowned forest revealed at low tide. It's also part of an Important Bird Area, with frequent seabird sightings and views to Cape Sable Lighthouse. Summer washrooms and a boardwalk enhance an already remarkable shoreline.



Seal Island Lighthouse Museum 2422 Nova Scotia Trunk 3, Barrington, NS

Climb a five-storey replica light for panoramic views and explore exhibits about keepers, lenses, and navigation. Highlights include a second-order Fresnel lens and hands-on displays. The site anchors a small heritage complex along the Barrington River.