Reference Guide

Information on:

the Fortified Town, North Shore Trails, Lighthouse Area, Kennington Cove Area, and the Modern Community

2012

The Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site

For the most recent update to this document go to:

http://www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca/fortress_of_louisbourg_reference_en.pdf (English)
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Hello! Bonjour!

The Louisbourg area has the distinct pleasure of playing host to not one or two but three National Historic Sites: the Fortress of Louisbourg, Wolfe’s Landing, and Royal Battery National Historic Sites of Canada. The sites are operated by Parks Canada Agency in collaboration with Fortress Louisbourg Association, its cooperating association. These sites are commonly referred to together as “the Fortress of Louisbourg”. Unless a clear distinction is made, when the term Fortress of Louisbourg is used within this document the intended reference is to all three sites.

When considered collectively, they are large, diverse sites with approximately 40 square kilometres of land along 15 kilometres of seacoast. Their landscape varies from protected harbour shores and pristine sandy beaches to rugged rocky coasts and mossy forests. By providing an ever-changing and seemingly endless array of opportunities for visitors to have incredible experiences, collective efforts are focused on ensuring the Fortress of Louisbourg is held in a special place within the hearts and minds of people everywhere.

A highpoint of the Fortress of Louisbourg is the partial reconstruction of the 18th century French fortified town with its looming fortifications, elegant houses and gardens, and waterfront taverns. Another highpoint is the vast area of untouched cultural resources that visitors can wander among when they choose to experience the Ruins Walk. Meandering through the remains of this original 18th century town offers many people a truly unique experience.

This magnificent resource is North America’s largest historical reconstruction, where aspects of French colonial life between 1713 and 1758 are presented. In the 18th century, Louisbourg was a cosmopolitan town and major fishing centre situated on the trade routes between North America and Europe. Alongside the French majority lived Basques, Germans, English, Irish, Scots and Africans, with Mi’kmaw scouts and traders making occasional visits.

Beyond the reconstruction, the remaining four-fifths of the historic town stretch as gentle grass-covered ruins – a place for a rejuvenating stroll or for quiet contemplation of the past, present or future. Surrounding the historic town site is Canada’s largest undisturbed battlefield (1758). The remains of batteries, siege camps, redoubts, entrenchments, and sunken ships are a poignant reminder of the legacy of war. The conflicts at Louisbourg played a pivotal role in the formation of Canada and North America as we know them today. As you visit, you will walk where armies marched and stand where soldiers defended.

The Fortress of Louisbourg also offers Canadians and international visitors spectacular hiking trails, picnic areas and sandy beaches. With numerous choices, visitors can craft their own unique experiences. A few hours visit gives one some sense of the importance of these National Historic Sites. There are experiences to be had and places to explore that will reward those who devote several days to this special place. For more information:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Visit our Websites</th>
<th><a href="http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca/louisbourg">www.parkscanada.gc.ca/louisbourg</a> and <a href="http://www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca">www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca</a></th>
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<td>Follow Us on Twitter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Like Us on Facebook</td>
<td>English: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/FortressOfLouisbourgNHS">www.facebook.com/FortressOfLouisbourgNHS</a>  French: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/Parcscanada_NE">www.facebook.com/Parcscanada_NE</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Us by Phone</td>
<td>(902) 733-3552</td>
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Parks Canada Agency

On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada’s natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment in ways that ensure their ecological and commemorative integrity for present and future generations. We are committed to fulfilling this mandate and demonstrate this commitment in our work at the Fortress of Louisbourg.

Our Role

We are guardians of the national parks, the national historic sites, and the national marine conservation areas of Canada.

We are guides to visitors the world over, opening doors to places of discovery and learning, reflection and recreation.

We are partners, building on the rich traditions of our Aboriginal people, the strength of our diverse cultures and our commitments to the international community.

We are storytellers, recounting the history of our land and our people – the stories of Canada.

Our Commitments

To protect, as a first priority, the natural and cultural heritage of our special places and ensure that they remain healthy and whole.

To present the beauty and significance of our natural world and to chronicle the human determination and ingenuity which have shaped our nation.

To celebrate the legacy of visionary Canadians whose passion and knowledge have inspired the character and values of our country.

To serve Canadians, working together to achieve excellence guided by values of competence, respect and fairness.

Parks Canada plays a unique role in the tourism industry, clearly focused on meeting its mandate of protecting and presenting Canada’s natural and cultural heritage. Its efforts to draw visitors to national historic sites, parks and marine conservation areas relate to fostering public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of Canada’s special places while maintaining their ecological and commemorative integrity. Management efforts are focused on bringing people closer to Canada’s places of national significance. This is evidenced through the Fortress of Louisbourg Management Plan which provides a framework by which this vision is expressed.

When understood as a valuable community asset, the Fortress of Louisbourg also provides incredible opportunities for others. The very presence of this iconic place provides tourism operators, agencies and associations with the opportunity to further their own mandates - increasing tourism, providing vacation and recreational opportunities for visitors and so forth. Management values the collaborative work currently underway with tourism operators and
others and is dedicated to growing these opportunities on local, provincial, national and international levels.

The Fortress of Louisbourg Management Plan includes the use of archaeological and historical resources to provide unique experiential learning and visitor experience opportunities. It includes work to diversify the Fortress of Louisbourg’s product offer. It also includes work at the local and regional level to ensure long term sustainability. It considers the physical features and natural resources of Louisbourg Harbour which have brought people here and sustained people for centuries. The stories are shared to link the experience of the 18th century to our lives today in ways that work best for visitors.

**How to Find the Fortress of Louisbourg**

After crossing the Canso Causeway onto Cape Breton Island, you have two alternate routes:

1) Take Highway 105, the TransCanada Highway. At Bras d’Or, take Highway 125 to Sydney until you reach Exit 8; then turn right onto Route 22. This route will take you straight to the modern community of Louisbourg. Follow the signs to the Fortress of Louisbourg. Approximate travel time: 3 hours

2) Take Route 4, also called Highway 104. In Sydney River, take the turn-off onto Highway 125, then Take Exit 8, turning right onto Route 22. This route will take you straight to the modern community of Louisbourg. Follow the signs to the Fortress of Louisbourg. Approximate travel time: 2.5 hours

While some GPS units may suggest you leave Route 22 and travel along the New Boston Road (unpaved), we recommend that you ignore this suggestion and remain on Route 22. Given travel conditions, the Route 22 route is likely the shortest journey.
Fortress Louisbourg Association

Founded in 1976, the Fortress Louisbourg Association is a not-for-profit, charitable, cooperating association of the Fortress of Louisbourg. As a cooperating association, it enhances and supplements many visitor experience opportunities. The capacity of the Fortress of Louisbourg to offer such a wide array of programs, services, and opportunities for experiences to our visitors is due in large part to the collaborative relationship that exists between Parks Canada and the Fortress Louisbourg Association. Visitors will experience the full benefits of this partnership as they select which opportunities they wish to experience from a full menu of choices.

In addition to contributions that enrich our daytime offer, the Fortress Louisbourg Association leads the after-hours programs. These offerings allow visitors access to special events and pre-arranged activities when Parks Canada operations are closed.

Some key areas of the Fortress Louisbourg Association’s work include:

- **Visitor Experiences** at the Fortress of Louisbourg including enhanced animation programs and retail offerings at the King’s Bakery, restaurants, café, and boutiques.

- **Lycée de Louisbourg Programs**, set to be officially launched during 2013, making possible a wide variety of learning and experiential opportunities such as: customized group offerings, cannoneers’ school, dinner theatre, public archaeology, team building programs, meetings and conferences, murder mystery experiences, lantern tours and other special events. Unique dining experiences are also part of the Lycée de Louisbourg’s menu of offerings. Some of these opportunities are available during the daytime hours while others are available as after-hours programs.

- **Membership Programs** which provide training and learning opportunities through programs such as the apprenticeship program, children’s animation program, drummers and fifers program, along with the opportunity to dress in full costume and experience becoming an 18th century character.

- **Partnering Opportunities** which raise the profile of the Fortress of Louisbourg and strengthens relationships with the community. Recent examples of partnerships include: Atlantic Canada Geocaching Society, Bonjour Louisbourg Welcome Tourism Destination Group – a team of the Louisbourg Economic Development Society, the Cape Breton Bikefest Society, Destination Cape Breton, Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation and the Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia.

- **A Community Organization** which works with other groups and agencies with compatible objectives. This includes work with: the Cape Breton Heritage Connection, the Cape Breton Trail Society, the Louisbourg Economic Development Society, the Louisbourg Playhouse, and the Race through Time.

For further information, please contact Fortress Louisbourg Association:

www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca  Phone: (902) 733-3552
How the Year Unfolds

Parks Canada uses three distinct terms to describe the calendar year in relation to service delivery. These terms define the available level of service within National Historic Sites, Parks, and Marine Conservation Areas. These terms are shoulder season, peak season, and off-season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time of Year</th>
<th>Term Describing Level of Service</th>
<th>Hours of Operation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Day to June 30th</td>
<td>Shoulder Season</td>
<td>Open 7 days per week – 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1st to Labour Day</td>
<td>Peak Season</td>
<td>Open 7 days per week – 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Labour Day to Thanksgiving Day</td>
<td>Shoulder Season</td>
<td>Open 7 days per week – 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Thanksgiving Day to Pre-Victoria Day</td>
<td>Off-season</td>
<td>Open Monday to Friday – 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. excluding holidays</td>
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</tbody>
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Opportunities to experience the Fortress of Louisbourg’s quiet streets during the off-season allow visitors to imagine life in the toughest of conditions almost 300 years ago. While there are no services available, an off-season visit may provide the best opportunity for visitors to experience the stillness of the streets, take in the beauty of the exterior architecture of the buildings, or simply enjoy the treasures that life’s quietest moments may bring.

For those seeking quiet opportunities yet perhaps desiring some services, visiting during the shoulder season is recommended. Visitors have the opportunity to enjoy great solitude in an inspiring setting with beautiful visuals as they stand on our history-laden grounds. The Fortress of Louisbourg is an ideal place within which to walk, reflect, and ponder on life long ago, at present, or into the future.

Peak season brings a different kind of magic on-site as costumed people add life to the streets and the homes. A foggy day cloaks the site in mystery and creates scenes and images not to be forgotten. A cold day with wind and rain may draw visitors to the warmth of a welcoming fire or to the cozy inn for a warming bowl of soup. A hot day shows the town and its various gardens at their brightest. On summer feast days colour and pageantry break the routine of daily life as the townspeople promenade in their finery. Chores are the order of the day on summer and fall mornings. With the rooster’s crow comes bread from the ovens that supplies both soldiers and hungry visitors.

During the peak season Louisbourg’s inhabitants, who are happy to share their stories, can be found working the forge, tending the gardens and running the kitchens. The beat of drums and the chime of the garrison clock order the soldiers’ day. The sound of a cannon marks midday. Music might be heard from a waterfront tavern. Children play games in the streets, while the sentry at the gate challenges those who wish to enter the walled town. A public punishment gathers spectators. Sheep run through the streets, called home by the stable hand. Each hour offers something unique and real.

When the Fortress of Louisbourg is closed, programs and services are provided through the Fortress Louisbourg Association after-hours programs. Enhanced programming throughout the day, evening, or overnight is also provided by the Fortress Louisbourg Association.

Whether it’s the bustling street or the solitude of the shore, a visit to the Fortress of Louisbourg offers many opportunities for memorable experiences.
Visitor Experience Opportunities Available - Shoulder and Peak Seasons

The Fortress of Louisbourg is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during the shoulder season (Victoria Day to June 30th and from the day following Labour Day to Thanksgiving Day). During peak season (July 1st to Labour Day) the site is also open seven days per week. The level of service increases as the site moves from shoulder season to peak season; entry fees change to reflect the increased offer. To experience the fullness of the Fortress of Louisbourg, it is recommended that you visit during the peak season when the level of service is at its highest point and most of the offers are available.

There are two different ways to access the fortified town. One method is to access through the Parks Canada Visitor Centre which is open during specific times of the year. The second method is to access through Gate 2, by personal vehicle. Signs posted along the route clearly indicate whether visitors should enter from the Parks Canada Visitor Centre or continue past the Visitor Centre and enter through Gate 2.

Beginning in 2013, please note that during SPRING SHOULDER SEASON (Victoria Day to June 30th) visitor services and accessible buildings increase as the number of visitors increase. Some costume animation begins later in June. During FALL SHOULDER SEASON (day after Labour Day to Thanksgiving) Visitor Services, open buildings and animation decrease as the number of visitors decrease.

Entry Fees and Passes - The Parks Canada Visitor Centre

During peak season, access to the site is by bus, departing from the Parks Canada Visitor Centre located on Route 22 just past the modern community of Louisbourg. Watch for the Fortress of Louisbourg sign on the right that points to the Parks Canada Visitor Centre and enter there.

[GPS Coordinates: North 45° 54.834', West 059° 58.838' or Coordinates: 45.913900, -59.980633]

As you proceed up the Parks Canada Visitor Centre entry road, please keep to the right and continue driving until you reach the parking lot that has been indicated for current use. The Centre opens at 9:30 a.m. daily. If you arrive earlier, please park in Lot #1 or Lot #2 as they are closest to the Visitor Centre. If you have accessibility issues, it is best to use Lot #2. If you are entering on foot, following the road to the left offers you the shortest route to the Visitor Centre. Please be mindful of oncoming traffic while walking.

If you are travelling by bike, a limited number of rental lockers for helmets and back packs are available at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre during peak season. Bicycle stands are available in Lot #1.

Staff are available to discuss the most appropriate entry fee for you and your family or group. For further information on entry fees and passes please refer to the “Further Information to Support Your Visit” section within this Reference Guide.

During peak season, Parks Canada Visitor Centre staff will provide you with a site map. These maps will correspond to panels embedded in crates around the site that provide location information. See an example near the bus pick-up area of the Parks Canada Visitor Centre. Numbers on the map and on the crate panels correspond to small numbers placed inside the door frames of each building inside the fortified town. These numbers are also found within brackets throughout this document as particular locations are referenced. (See Appendices for Site Maps).
While you are waiting for the bus, please feel free to browse in the boutique, explore the exhibit area, or enjoy the magnificent view of the fortified town across the harbour from the balcony. Accessible washrooms are available as well as baby change stations.

Buses to the fortified town depart regularly; their departure is announced throughout the Parks Canada Visitor Centre. Once on the bus, you will be transported through time to a world that is very different from today. As you listen to the audio introduction we invite you to look at the harbour, the coastline, and the skyline of the fortified town. Soon, you will step into a new old world - yours to discover - unique and real.

Please remember to look for and follow the signs regarding parking. If attendance warrants, the Parks Canada Visitor Centre may open earlier or stay opened later in the season. Alternatively, other parking arrangements may be made and duly posted.

The Fortified Town

During peak season (July 1st to Labour Day) you will be bussed along the northern shore of the harbour to a reconstructed fishing proprietor’s home, Desroches House (#1), situated close to the fortified town. (Please remember that this is the location where you will get back aboard your bus after your visit). On your way to the Dauphin Gate (#2) take some time to stop inside the Desroches House (#1), where you will hear interesting tales of the cod fishery, before continuing on your way into the Fortress of Louisbourg. But be warned, France and England are at war and the sentry guards are wary of spies. You will be stopped at the Dauphin Gate (#2) and questioned by the soldiers before you can gain entry - but it’s all in fun. Take the opportunity to stop once again, this time to explore the inside of this demi-bastion, before continuing on your journey. While you are most welcomed to walk all of the streets, please know that the area beyond the Ordonnateur’s Residence (#50) and Rue St. Louis has no buildings that are open to visitors.

If you would like an orientation to your 18th century Louisbourg experience, visit us at the Lartigue House (#10) for a brief overview of the site and Louisbourg’s history. Our friendly guides will assist you to make the most of your visit by pointing out the various features and services we offer. Be sure to ask about any special activities of the day and inquire as to which buildings are animated with costumed interpreters. Then, you are off to explore at your leisure. During the peak season we offer nine animated areas with costumed interpreters, seven exhibits, five gardens, daily guided tours, military demonstrations, street scenes and theatre, food services in three areas, and much more. Please note that not all buildings are opened to the public as some are set aside to accommodate staff and storage needs.
After-Hours

During times when the Fortress of Louisbourg is closed, the site strives to live up to its reputation as a highly valued community asset by helping to ensure accessibility is maximized. Such accessibility to visitors is provided through special events and programs offered after-hours through the cooperating association, the Fortress Louisbourg Association. This incredible collaboration between Parks Canada and the Fortress Louisbourg Association allows enhanced opportunities for unique experiences to be available for visitors. Canadians are therefore afforded an extended opportunity to experience their national historic sites. International visitors, as well, benefit from additional access.

Those who experience the Fortress of Louisbourg in the evening or after dark often remember the stars, the silence, and the enchantment of this wonderful place. Special events take place year-round. In summer there are late afternoon and evening opportunities for dining, theatre, or a murder mystery tour. Walking the dark streets by the soft glow of lantern light is a truly unique and oftentimes eerie experience.

Throughout the year, groups can pre-arrange events that meet their particular needs and interests. Phone (902) 733-3552.

Ruins Walk

A must-have experience for those who wish to wander among the rich and truly untouched cultural resources of the Fortress of Louisbourg, the Ruins Walk offers visitors an incredibly unique opportunity. The Ruins Walk is a 2.3 kilometre (1.44-mile) trail through the remains of the original 18th century town. Accessible from the reconstructed town (starting at #31A), a voice box at the trail head panel orients visitors to the Ruins Walk and works. The voice box is operated by continuously turning the handle. Interpretive panels along the trail provide information on significant features. Please note that the footing is uneven. The views can be spectacular; the opportunity to walk among so much of what was can be a fascinating part of any site visit. The experience of the Ruins Walk helps visitors to place the interpretive experience of the reconstructed town in its proper context.

Visitors are welcome to rent a hand-held Explora unit. These units provide in-depth stories and images to promote better understanding of the parts of the Fortress of Louisbourg that haven’t been reconstructed and the environmental changes that threaten them. The hand-held units can be rented by paying the applicable fees at the Benoist Boutique (#42) or the De la Plagne House (#34).

Kennington Cove Area

Kennington Cove Road

If you continue straight from Gate 2 you will find yourself on Kennington Cove Road. From June 15th to October 15th this road provides vehicle access to beautiful walking trails and unsupervised beaches. Drivers are reminded to use caution on this narrow dirt road. Please do not exceed the 30 kilometre speed limit, as posted. Due to conditions, this road is normally closed to vehicular traffic during the remainder of the year, however it continues to lend itself nicely to refreshing hiking and ungroomed snowshoeing or cross country skiing activities.
Unsupervised Beaches

The Wolfe's Landing National Historic Site (Kennington Cove area) is adorned by two spectacular beaches. They are located along the Kennington Cove Road. The first beach, where James Wolfe landed in 1758, is Kennington Cove. The second beach found at the end of the road is called Anson’s Cove. There are a limited number of parking spaces available at each beach. A short walk through the woods is required to access Anson’s Cove.

 популяр during the warmest days of summer and fall, these unsupervised beaches offer rustic services such as outhouses and picnic tables. During the summer, special events are organized by a number of different groups and organizations. The Bonjour Louisbourg Welcome Tourism Destination Group, the Cape Breton Regional Municipality, and our community volunteers are but a few examples. See the Louisbourg Economic Development Society website, www.experiencelouisbourg.com, for further details. To connect with the Bonjour Louisbourg Welcome Tourism Destination Group please contact us at (902) 733-INFO/(902) 733-4636.

Rip tides are known to occur at the unsupervised beaches. Therefore, caution should be used at all times, especially when swimming. Users of the beaches and facilities do so at their own risk.

There may be special events that take place at the beaches where supervision of the beaches is provided. Please contact us for details of activities and services offered to learn if supervision of the beach is part of any special event.

Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in our unlicensed public places.

Stewards of Our Locations

Responsible behaviour and respect for fellow users and the environment will help ensure that Parks Canada and the local community can continue to make its sites, trails, and beach areas accessible to visitors.

We encourage you to work with us to minimize negative impacts on our environment.

When on our trails and beaches, please be responsible and join with us in caring for our environment. Take your garbage with you. Our wildlife will benefit from your good stewardship. Other visitors and our future generations will be thankful.

Accessing the Fortified Town during the Shoulder Season and Off-season

From the day after Thanksgiving Day to the day before Victoria Day, the Fortress of Louisbourg moves into its off-season period. During this time, access is possible Monday to Friday between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The fortified town is closed for holidays during the off-season. Access is also possible during the off-season by pre-arrangement through the Fortress Louisbourg Association. Our pricing structure reflects this quiet time of year.

The Royal Battery National Historic Site and the Lighthouse Trail portion of the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site are open 365 days per year!

During the shoulder season (Victoria Day to June 30th and again from the day following Labour Day to Thanksgiving Day), the site is accessible seven days a week from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. When visiting during this time you will be greeted by an attendant at Gate 2 who will provide you with directions to parking, and the McLennan Centre (#33). At the McLennan Centre you will pick up your Visitor Pass and a site map. Your Visitor Pass is a sticker that must be visibly displayed on your outerwear.

To access the fortified town during the shoulder season or the off-season, drive along Route 22 through the modern community of Louisbourg. Bypass the Parks Canada Visitor Centre (as this is open only during the peak season unless signage otherwise indicates) and follow the road along the harbour. As you arrive at the end of the pavement, bear right and drive along the gravel road until you reach our grey Gate House to your left with a sign indicating Gate 2. The total distance from the Parks Canada Visitor Centre entrance to Gate 2 is 3.3 kilometres (two miles).

Travelling this route provides you with an opportunity for an amazing drive. Experience the beautiful ocean vistas and views of battlefields and fortifications as you approach the fortified town. If your timing is just right, you may also be fortunate enough to catch sight of the bald eagle that seems to have chosen the large boulders by the ocean as a favorite landing spot. Please proceed to the King’s Garden (# 32) where an attendant will be available to assist with your parking needs.

Of special note are the two adjacent stone buildings with copper roofs. These are the original Museum and Caretaker’s House. Built in 1935, these buildings are Federal Heritage Buildings. The McLennan Centre (#33), as the museum is known today, is used for special programs and events. Washroom facilities (non-accessible) are located in the Caretaker’s House.

When you have pre-arranged to be on-site during these quieter times, take the opportunity to walk along the deserted streets, among the ruins, or on the quay. Please be mindful of winter or spring conditions. Wearing comfortable footwear and layered clothing for rain or shine will help ensure your visit is most enjoyable. During these times of the year, you may see repairs and maintenance work being completed and, at times, archaeological work being done.

Winter and spring activities include geocaching, audio guided tour (devices are available for rent though pre-arrangements may be required), walks through the reconstructed town or ruins, and occasional special events. Call us at (902) 733-3552 for the most current information or to pre-arrange customized opportunities that meet your needs.

**Visitor Experience Opportunities Available Year-Round**

**Hiking Trails**

Our walking trails, which help tell the stories of Louisbourg, are located outside the walls of the Fortress of Louisbourg including areas across the harbour and along the shores of the North Atlantic. Use of these trails is at your own risk. These trails are not maintained during the Off Season.

Accessibility of the trails varies as some of these trails are within gated areas. The gated trails include the Mi’kmaw Trail and Wolfe’s Redoubt Trail. The Simon’s Point Trail is also gated and
somewhat difficult to access when the gate is closed. There are no gates to consider when accessing the Lighthouse Trail or the Royal Battery Trail. The following trail descriptions are listed in the order that you would happen upon them as you approach the Fortress of Louisbourg.

**Lighthouse Trail**

Located across the harbour from the Fortress of Louisbourg, the Lighthouse Trail runs along the coastline offering visitors of all skill levels the opportunity for an enjoyable experience. With unsurpassed vistas, this walk of 2.05 kilometres (1.28 miles) leads visitors around a looped trail with interpretive panels explaining the area’s significance including its flora and fauna. Beyond this loop is a rugged trail currently being developed by the Coastal Connections Trail Association, an association solely dedicated to this Lighthouse Trail. This rugged section is wet in places and sturdy footwear is recommended. For those who desire to offer some financial support to this Trail Association, you will find a trail head sign erected each spring and a donation box that enables supporters to contribute to the cost of maintaining the Lighthouse Trail. There are also small wooden donation boxes available at various businesses within the modern community.

To access the trail year-round, locate and travel along Havenside Road, situated in the modern community of Louisbourg and follow the “Lighthouse” signs. You will note the iconic lighthouse situated on this site. This is the site of the first lighthouse in Canada (1734). Interpretive panels help explain the history of this pivotal spot.

**Mi’kmaw Trail**

Located across from the Parks Canada Visitor Centre, the Mi’kmaw trail offers a looped 351 metre (0.22-mile) wooded walk with interpretive panels describing Mi’kmaw history and culture. Parking is available a short distance away at the Royal Battery Trail. The trail head is marked with a trail head sign. At the top of the trail is a look-off that affords you a panoramic view of the harbour. To access this trail when the Parks Canada Visitor Centre is closed, please park at the Royal Battery Trail entrance on Route 22 and walk to the trail head.

**Royal Battery Trail**

Located on Route 22 just past the entrance to the Parks Canada Visitor Centre, this short 678 metre (0.42 mile) looped walk skirts the outline of a major French defence work, the once impressive Royal Battery. Given the nature of this trail, there is no actual trail head. Interpretive panels and a spectacular view of the harbour, the Fortress of Louisbourg, and the lighthouse combine to offer memorable visual experiences for many visitors. Parking is available. Open daily year-round.

**Wolfe’s Redoubt Trail**

Located near the Parks Canada Visitor Centre, across from the exit of Lot #5, this short 178 meter (0.11-mile) accessible trail leads to an earthen-work redoubt built under the command of General James Wolfe during the second siege. Parking is available a short distance away at the Royal Battery Trail. The trail head is marked with a trail head sign. To access this trail during the shoulder season or off-season, please park at the Royal Battery Trail entrance on Route 22 and walk to the trail head. Total length in and back: 356 meters (0.22 miles).
Simon’s Point Trail

Located two kilometres from Gate 2 down the Kennington Cove Road, Simon’s Point Trail offers a short but rugged 804 meter (0.5 mile) walk to the mouth of Freshwater Brook and the ocean. It travels through the area once used by attackers in both sieges. There is limited parking available along the roadside. There is no trail head sign on this trail. Total length in and back: 1.6 kilometres (1 mile). When Kennington Cove Road is closed due to conditions, an additional two kilometre (1.25 mile) walk along Kennington Cove Road is required to gain access to this trail.

Trail Accessibility via Kennington Cove Road

It is important to know that the Kennington Cove Road is not always easily accessible. Weather, variable road conditions and time of year are some factors that affect accessibility. During times when the road is gated, please be mindful of the extra distance required to access some of these trails.

Louisbourg 300

In 1713, the French founded Île Royale (present day Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton Island). For fifty years the Fortress of Louisbourg and its people were caught amid the struggle for continental control. The many stories and cultural influences that emerged from this chapter of Canadian history still carry great relevance and meaning today.

In 2013, Parks Canada will salute 300 years of Louisbourg. Through food, music, dancing, a bustling harbour, merging cultures, markets, muskets, fifes and drums we will celebrate this special anniversary and the many links Louisbourg’s story has with our region and the world.

Exciting activities are being planned for Louisbourg 300! Here’s a snapshot of a few of the events:

CultureFête – A cultural event celebrating food, fashion, music, dance, stories and songs from various global cultures. CultureFête will honour and embrace all cultures with connections and legacies linked to the historic 18th century Louisbourg. CultureFête will take place at the Fortress of Louisbourg from July 25 to 28, 2013.

LouisRocks! Concert Series – Louisbourg will rock with the sounds and styles of many types of music. From baroque to contemporary, watch as musicians perform on one of the most phenomenal backdrops in Canada – the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site!

Louisbourg sous la lune! – Experience the Fortress after dark. Moonbeams and lantern glows are the only sources of light at the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site. When the sun sets, laughter and song still echo through the streets as visitors are entertained during one of many after-hours productions – from dinner theatre and storytelling nights, to wine tasting and murder mystery tours.

Louisbourg 300 will be a great opportunity to forge new partnerships and reconnect with individuals and communities that have ties to the story of Île Royale.
These celebrations also mark the launch of new programs and initiatives at the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site. Join us in 2013, as we bring renewed festivity and merriment to the streets of 18th century Louisbourg.

To learn more or to become involved contact Ida LeLièvre, Project Coordinator, Louisbourg 300 at (902) 733-2280 or ida.lelievre@pc.gc.ca. You can also visit our website at www.parkscanada.gc.ca/louisbourg.

**Further Information to Support Your Visit**

**Accessibility**

While its surroundings are accessible to all visitors, it is important to note that the reconstructed 18th century buildings within the fortified town are not fully accessible.

The exhibit area in the Parks Canada Visitor Centre, which leads to the bus platform, is a sloping ramp that is covered with industrial grade carpet. There are non-continuous handrails on one side of the ramp. Caution should be used by those who are in wheelchairs or by those with other mobility issues. Assistance is recommended.

During times when the Parks Canada Visitor Centre is open, upon request, a bus is available that accommodates manual wheel chairs. Please feel free to indicate to an attendant if you require this service.

There is a lot of walking within the Fortress of Louisbourg boundaries. You will surely encounter some rough terrain, loose gravel and steep inclines. Period construction techniques create limited accessibility to some buildings. Many of the doorways are wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair but in some instances the turning radius is not sufficient for a wheelchair once inside the building. Although parts of the Lighthouse Trail and Wolfe’s Redoubt Trail are accessible, loose gravel and inclines may create mobility challenges.

We are unable to provide mobility aids such as wheel chairs, however rentals are available as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harding Medical</td>
<td>1158 Grand Lake Road, Sydney</td>
<td>(902) 567-1144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawton’s Rehab Equipment Centre</td>
<td>124 Pitt Street, Sydney</td>
<td>(902) 539-7304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICair Cape Breton</td>
<td>1151 Grand Lake Road, Sydney</td>
<td>(902) 539-2050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We can arrange for you to access the site in your personal vehicle via Gate 2. This will minimize some of the walking. Please feel free to speak with our staff about your options. Given their knowledge of the site, they are available to help you choose what might work best for you or someone you assist.

For more information on site accessibility, visit the Canadian Paraplegic Association’s website at: [http://www.thespine.ca/resources/transportation_travel/](http://www.thespine.ca/resources/transportation_travel/) or phone: 1-800-566-1887.
After-Hours

Concerts, dining, dinner theatre, murder mystery tours, overnight experiences, special events and more are available at various times during the shoulder and peak seasons. Special packages of experiences can also be pre-arranged for groups throughout the remainder of the year. For information on our offers, check the following websites: www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca or www.parkscanada.gc.ca/louisbourg or phone (902) 733-3552.

Animals: Domestic and Wild

Our National Historic Sites are home to heritage breeds of domestic animals and many varieties of wildlife. Please do not feed the domestic animals unless you receive the food from animation staff. Visitors are prohibited from feeding wildlife or treating them as pets. Visitors are not allowed to touch the wildlife as their survival and health, as well as our own, depends on the distance we keep from them. Please do not feed the wildlife.

Archaeology

The Fortress of Louisbourg is one of Canada’s largest archaeological sites. The reconstruction of one-fifth of the original town in the mid-20th century was informed by archaeological and historical research to provide the most authentic details possible. You can see many of the artifacts unearthed during the excavations in the typology exhibit in the King’s Bastion Barracks (#28).

With the reconstruction complete, the current focus of archaeological work is on maintenance and on areas where archaeological resources are threatened by coastal erosion (rescue archaeology). Our Public Archaeology program provides visitors with the opportunity to participate in a real archaeological excavation during two five-day courses offered every August. New artifact kits available to interpreters allow visitors to hold our shared history in their hands.

As time goes on, we continue to develop and consider new ways we can share the richness of our archaeological resources – human and material – with our visitors and the community in general. The reconstruction of the fortified town, together with work done to understand our vast and still untouched culture resources has meant that Louisbourg has built an outstanding knowledge base in the area of archaeology. Added to this knowledge base is a vast collection of fascinating materials – our cultural resources. The Fortress of Louisbourg is dedicated to finding new ways to celebrate, share, and make these resources more readily accessible to all who are interested.

Parks Canada strives to protect our cultural resources - the physical remnants of human activity - in our places of national significance. Please do not disturb areas that are vulnerable or remove any artifacts from the earth or other locations. If you find something interesting, please make a note of its location and inform a staff person. We have trained specialists who know how to respond to such situations. We value your cooperation in helping us to preserve our cultural resources for future generations.

Archaeology of the Sieges

The remains of military camps constructed by the British during the 1758 siege of Louisbourg endure on the landscape, extending in a broad arc around the Fortress of Louisbourg and around the Louisbourg harbour. Often, only the masonry foundations of the siege structures that housed the 15,000+ troops and their earthen defensive works remain in the forested landscape.
During the 18th century, the forest was cut back around Louisbourg; the wood providing fuel and building materials for the community. The forests then returned after the British abandoned the Fortress of Louisbourg in the 1760s. Between the late 18th century and the early 20th century, the area was lightly settled and as a result, the 18th century cultural landscape remains relatively intact. However, these sites are repeatedly impacted by forest regeneration cycles. As trees grow, their root structures expand and extend in and around the sites, dislodging the archaeological features as they grow, mature and fall.

The siege sites are unique and valuable resources that must be protected. So far, over 450 sites have been identified on the Louisbourg landscape. A number of sites that best represent the size and type of the different encampment structures have been identified and slated for conservation. In order to provide long-term protection of these representative sites, Parks Canada has developed and is implementing strategies that work with nature to manage the forest in those areas. Short lived tree species prone to blow down are being replaced by native shrubs and long lived tree species to provide long term protection for the archaeological ruins.

The combination of siege features and preserved 18th century topography provides rare record of an internationally significant 18th century battlefield. A number of these sites will be kept clear of vegetation and strategies for providing interpretation and public access to these sites are under development.

Currently, the sites are connected by a trimmed corridor to provide access for equipment to support the conservation project. Due to the fragility of the structural remains and presence of young seedlings and plants, access into the camps is currently limited to pre-arranged guided walks by Louisbourg archaeology staff.

**Arriving via the Water**

The harbour floor and its entrance are rich in underwater cultural resources and are, therefore, protected resources. The remains of wharfs, ship wrecks and items of French colonial life surround the Fortress of Louisbourg. Unstable banks, sometimes containing archaeological resources, aren’t suitable for boat landings because of safety and preservation concerns. Currently, there is no wharf for accessing the shore at the Fortress of Louisbourg. Anchoring requires a special permit. Please call (902) 733-3552.

**Automated Teller Machines (ATMs)**

There are no ATMs at the Fortress of Louisbourg, however there are some available to you in the area. In Catalone, you will find an ATM at the Irving garage. In the modern community of Louisbourg, you will find an ATM at the Louisburger, Main Street; Peck’s Convenience Store, Wolfe Street; and the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) on Main Street. Major credit cards are accepted at all of the retail outlets within the Fortress of Louisbourg and at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre.

**Bus Service**

Bus service to and from the Fortress of Louisbourg operates through the Parks Canada Visitor Centre. Buses leave from the Parks Canada Visitor Centre parking lot. This service is available during the peak season. Depending on the traffic volume, buses may be available as needed during the shoulder season. The buses run on an ongoing basis throughout the day, picking up visitors from the site at the bus loop at Desroches House (#1). The last bus of the day leaves the site at approximately 5:00 p.m. After hours and during both the shoulder season and the off-season access to the site is by personal vehicle via Gate 2.
Child and Child-Like Focused Opportunities

A wide variety of fun activities are available for the young and the young-at-heart. Parks Canada’s Xplorers program sends participants on a hunt that engages their discovery skills. Geocaching is growing in popularity and can be enjoyed on-site by children and family groups. Use the hand-held Explora unit and discover the Ruins. In the King’s Bastion Barracks (#28) there is a fun room where you can play as a soldier. Try on part of a costume at the De Gannes House (#24), or join in with the street games, dancing and singing. Help with the running of the sheep as they are moved to new pastures. Take a walk with the geese. Play a new video game and get a feel for archaeology. Climb up the ramparts to take in the view but be sure not to walk along the walls. When it is time for a rest, enjoy a delicious meal in one of our period restaurants. For information on how to become involved with our children’s animation programs contact the Fortress Louisbourg Association at (902) 733-3552.

Remember that for safety reasons you must stay off the walls!

Costumes - Period Style Clothing

Two-thirds of our interpretive staff dress in period-style clothing which are faithful reproductions of colonial garb. Our Curator of Textiles researches patterns, fabrics, and extant descriptions as well as preserved originals to create the clothing that brings the class, gender and occupations of the 18th century into tangible reality. Our staff are pleased to discuss the authentic details and individual variations of the costumes they wear.

These costumes will not be the only costumes you see on-site. The Fortress Louisbourg Association also prepares costumes for the use of staff and volunteers. And, we have unique and interesting re-enactors and others who come to the site dressed in their own period-inspired costumes. The attire that people wear often inspires lots of questions and comments. Most people on-site are more than willing to engage in conversation about the items they wear or carry.

Dining

During the peak season (July 1st to Labour Day) you can immerse yourself in an 18th century dining experience, available daily, at the Hôtel de la Marine (#44) and Grandchamp’s Tavern (#47). For those who prefer a modern experience L’Épée Royale Café (#43) offers a cozy stop for hot and cold beverages and a variety of pastries. Groups can pre-arrange a dining experience by calling (902) 733-3552. The daily fare varies with the season. Please check in advance for menu options and our ability to accommodate any special dietary requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates and Times</th>
<th>Period Dining Experience (Modern Day Experience)</th>
<th>Dining Establishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1st to August 25th  (Doors open at 10:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Lower Class (Less Formal Dining)</td>
<td>Grandchamp’s Tavern – #47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1st to August 25th  (Doors open at 11:00 a.m.)</td>
<td>Upper Class (More Formal Dining)</td>
<td>Hôtel de la Marine – #44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Dates and Times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates and Times</th>
<th>Period Dining Experience (Modern Day Experience)</th>
<th>Dining Establishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26th to Thanksgiving Day (Doors open at 10:30 a.m.)</td>
<td>Lower Class (Less Formal Dining)</td>
<td>Hôtel de la Marine – #44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1st to Thanksgiving Day (Doors open at 10:00 a.m.)</td>
<td>Café</td>
<td>L’Epée Royale Café – #43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Diving**

The harbour floor and its entrance are rich in underwater cultural resources and are protected. The remains of wharfs, ship wrecks and items of French colonial life surround the Fortress of Louisbourg. Diving is only available with permission of the Harbour Master.

**Entry Fees**

The entry fees for the Fortress of Louisbourg change depending on whether you access during the day or after 5:00 p.m. They also vary depending on the particular time of year you visit. The process and location for receiving these payments also varies throughout the day and throughout the year. Yet the one thing that never changes is that your entry fees support our ability to provide outstanding visitor experiences at the Fortress of Louisbourg.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time of Year</th>
<th>Type of Visitor(s)</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Payment Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shoulder Season - Victoria Day to June 30; and Post-Labour Day to Thanksgiving Day; and Off-season - Post Thanksgiving Day to Pre-Victoria Day</td>
<td>Senior (65 and Over)</td>
<td>$6.05</td>
<td>Pick up your Visitor Pass at the McLennan Centre (#33) or De la Plagne House (#34).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adult (17 to 64)</td>
<td>$7.30</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth (Six to Sixteen)</td>
<td>$3.65</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children (Infant to Five)</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family or Group*</td>
<td>$18.10</td>
<td>Please be sure to display your Visitor Pass on your outerwear at all times while on-site.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Group:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per Child</td>
<td>$2.15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per Child with Heritage Presentation Special Program</td>
<td>$3.15</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial Group (Per Person)</td>
<td>$6.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak Season - July 1st to Labour Day</td>
<td>Senior (65 and Over)</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td>Parks Canada Visitor Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adult (17 to 64)</td>
<td>$17.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth (Six to Sixteen)</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Children (Infant to Five)</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Family or Group*</td>
<td>$44.10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Group:</td>
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<td>Per Child</td>
<td>$4.90</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per Child with Heritage Presentation Special Program</td>
<td>$5.80</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial Group (Per Person)</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The site also offers seasonal rates as follows:
1. Seniors (65 and Over) – $29.90
2. Adults (17 to 64) - $35.20
3. Youth (Six to Sixteen) - $17.60
4. Family or Group* - $88.20

*Family or Group includes up to seven people, with a maximum of two adults, visiting a national historic site.

Discovery Passes are also sold at the Fortress with rates as follows:
1. Adult-$67.70
2. Senior-$57.90
3. Youth-$33.30
4. Family of Group**-$136.40

**Family or Group includes up to seven people arriving together in a single vehicle.

For information on paying for after-hours programs please visit the Fortress Louisbourg Association website: www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca or phone us at (902) 733-3552.

**Explora**
This new hand-held technology, equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS), directs you along a tour notifying you when you happen upon different points of interest. Through videos, sound, photos, quizzes and text you will hold in the palm of your hand the stories about the “rest of Louisbourg” as you walk through the actual remains of the fortified town. To rent one of these units, please visit us at Benoist Boutique (#42) or De la Plagne House (#34).

**Free Day for Visitors**
On Canada Day the fortified town buzzes with activity. It is the kick-off of our peak season for animation programs and visitor experience opportunities. To celebrate, no entry fees are charged! If you plan on visiting during Canada Day remember that thousands of others have the same plan and line-ups can be long. It is recommended that you come prepared for a wait to get on-site from the Parks Canada Visitor Centre.

**Furnishings**
Our buildings are furnished with a wide variety of furniture and daily-life objects. Some are precious originals. Others are antiques from the 18th century. The majority are reproductions. All of the furnishings are in place to help visitors connect with the past.

**Gardens**
The ornamental and potager (kitchen) gardens that you see throughout the Fortress of Louisbourg are replicas of original gardens. The style and types of herbs and vegetables planted reflect gardens of the 18th century. Much of the produce is used in our restaurants and in our cooking programs within the animated houses. If you have a keen interest in gardening, our gardens and animals interpreters are available to speak with you about traditional techniques and points of interest. They might even put you to work!
Genealogy
Parish records and court documents from 18th century Louisbourg have been digitized and placed in a searchable database. A computer kiosk is available at the Lartigue House (#10) and at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre so that you can search for any relatives who may have lived here in the 18th century.

Geocaching
Hunt for caches and learn fascinating facts about Louisbourg. You can rent one of our pre-programmed Global Positioning System (GPS) units and search, using satellite co-ordinates, for nine different caches. The units are available at the De la Plagne House (#34) during both shoulder and peak seasons and through special arrangements with Fortress Louisbourg Association during the off-season.

Trade items are not permitted in caches. Instead, a message or story about the unique location where the cache has been placed is included in the cache for you to find. Geocachers who want to place a cache must meet with a Parks Canada geocaching resource staff person to obtain an authorization seal prior to placing a cache. Please contact us at (902) 733-3552 for more information.

Guide Service
Regular guided tours are offered during the peak season. As well, private guide services can be arranged, for a fee, by phoning in advance. If interested, please call (902) 733-3552.

Historical Research
Thousands of archival documents pertaining to 18th century Louisbourg still exist in French, British and North American archives. Parks Canada historians have studied these records to guide the rebuilding of the fortifications and homes of Louisbourg. They continue to use them to understand how the community functioned politically, economically, and socially and to understand the events that occurred from Louisbourg’s founding to its final fall and abandonment.

In Case of Emergency
Our staff are prepared and ready to assist in emergency situations. If you need assistance, staff are posted in the following areas during peak season: Lartigue House (#10), De la Plagne House (#34), restaurants (#43, #44, and #47), and the Parks Canada Visitor Centre. Staff may also be found throughout the site in animated areas, in the streets and gardens, and at the Guardhouse (#27) and King’s Bastion Barracks (#28).

In Case of Fire
Should a fire alarm sound, please exit buildings as calmly and quickly as possible. Staff are trained to direct visitors to a safe area and to check for possible fires. For the safety of all concerned, we require that you cooperate with any instructions you are given.

First Aid
A number of our staff are trained in First Aid. Should you need medical assistance, please alert one of our staff who will provide care or help you access the care that you require.
**Information Desk**

We have a number of ways to provide you with the information you need. During the peak season, we are set up to provide general site information at the Lartigue House (#10). On entering the Lartigue House, you will see a large map depicting the site and all it has to offer. As well, guide staff will be available to meet your orientation needs.

We also have an Information Desk located in the De la Plagne House (#34). This information desk is available during our shoulder and peak seasons. Here you can inquire about the latest changes in daily programming, what special activities may be happening and which buildings have animation. This location is also our **Lost and Found Centre** so if you’ve lost an item or a person please check here and the attendant will help you. The McLennan Centre (#33) is available to meet your information needs during the shoulder season. During the off-season, please contact 733-3552.

Directional crates are strategically placed throughout the fortified town. These crates also serve to orient you to your present location and help you find your way to the next desired stop. We also serve to meet your information needs through the general helpfulness of our well informed staff. Please feel free to direct your questions to any of our staff.

**Languages**

Fifty percent of our staff and volunteers are bilingual (English and French). Being greeted with “Hello, Bonjour” is a message we wish to convey to our visitors that we can serve you in either English or French. If the staff person who greets you does not speak your language, he or she will connect you to a colleague who has this capacity. Some members of our staff speak other languages as well. If you have a particular language requirement, feel free to let us know and we will see if we have the resources to meet your request. You can reach us at (902) 733-3552. All of our printed material is available in both of Canada’s official languages (English and French). Some material is also available in other languages.

**Local Services**

Following is a list of some services that were available in the modern community of Louisbourg at the time this Reference Guide was prepared. Please note that some of these services are available on a seasonal basis only. For up-to-date information please phone (902) 733-INFO/ (902) 733-4636, or go to [www.experiencelouisbourg.com](http://www.experiencelouisbourg.com).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodations (Bed &amp; Breakfasts, Cottages, Inns, Motel, Suites)</th>
<th>C@P Site</th>
<th>Churches</th>
<th>Convenience Stores</th>
<th>Doctor’s Clinics</th>
<th>Dog Day Care</th>
<th>Gift Shops</th>
<th>Hair Stylist</th>
<th>Laundromat</th>
<th>Liquor Store</th>
<th>Museum</th>
<th>Pizza Shops</th>
<th>Police/Fire Services</th>
<th>Post Office</th>
<th>Restaurants</th>
<th>Theatre</th>
<th>Welcome Centre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Gas stations are located along Route 22 before the modern community of Louisbourg.
Meetings/Conferences

Looking for a unique place to hold a meeting for a company, board, or other group? The Fortress of Louisbourg provides a setting, second to none, with experiences not offered anywhere else. We can customize a day, two days, or more any time of the year. In the fortified town a number of buildings of various capacities are available. Period buildings with 18th century experiences, as well as spaces with modern-like amenities can be adapted throughout the year to address your needs.

Imagine a small board meeting in a room where grand plans were made, a town was created, and issues of great magnitude were resolved in the 18th century... with no technology to distract you. Take notes with quill and ink. Feel the safety of a soldier at the door. Or perhaps, for your group, technology works. We can also accommodate that need. Ask us about the technology we have available including our state of the art screen and sound system. Accomplish your meeting goals and then come out for the noonday cannon firing to celebrate. Enjoy a walk through time to Grandchamp’s Tavern (#47) for the Soupe de Poisson or other 18th century-like fare. Savour a unique place and time in a way that meets your group’s needs and goals. For your meeting and conference needs contact us at (902) 733-3552.

Parking

Parking sites vary both with the time of year you visit and with the particular part of our site that you are visiting. When visiting the Fortress of Louisbourg during peak season parking is available in the Parks Canada Visitor Centre. During the shoulder season and off-season, parking is available on-site. To access this parking proceed to Gate 2 in your personal vehicle. Please remember that when the site is closed it is only accessible through participation in a special program or event arranged through the Fortress Louisbourg Association.

Please note that we are not able to accommodate parking of motor homes and recreational vehicles on-site at any time of the year. For information on where to park these vehicles, please phone (902) 733-3552.

For information regarding parking availability on our hiking trails or unsupervised beaches, please refer to the Hiking Trails or Unsupervised Beaches section of this Reference Guide.

Passes for Parks Canada’s National Historic Sites, Parks and Marine Conservation Areas

We offer several types of special passes that allow the purchaser repeat visits for a one-time fee. Please ask the attendants at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre for further details or to acquire these passes.

- **National Discovery Pass**: For adults, seniors, families and youth. Once purchased, this pass allows for unlimited entry to each National Park, National Historic Site, or National Marine Conservation Area across Canada for a 12-month period from month of purchase. Upgrades are available at our site. If you wish to purchase a pass for a gift please inform our receptionist at the time of purchase.

- **Fortress of Louisbourg Seasonal Pass**: For adults, seniors, families and youth. This pass will allow for unlimited daily visits for a 12-month period from date of purchase. If you are planning to visit our site more than twice during a season this pass is an economical way to do so.
• **Ambassador Pass**: For adults, seniors, families and youth. If you have purchased a ticket and plan on returning one or more times with guests you can request an Ambassador Pass. This pass will grant you **free admission** for any visit during the calendar year of purchase when you return with paying guests.

• **Ambassador Junior Pass**: This pass is for children from Grades Primary to Six. Upon purchasing a pass to visit the Fortress of Louisbourg the child(ren) can request an Ambassador Junior Pass which grants them **free additional visits** during the calendar year if they bring a paying customer. School groups are informed about these passes when booking tours.

**Pets**

Guide/service animals are welcome within the fortified town and may be transported on our buses. All animals must be leashed and managed by their owners for the safety and comfort of all visitors while on Parks Canada property. This includes while you are on our walking trails and at our beaches. If travelling with a pet, please call in advance to discuss your pet care options. **Leaving pets in a parked vehicle during your visit is strongly discouraged as it can be harmful to the animal.**

**Recycling**

Parks Canada values the environment and is committed to minimizing any negative impact by practicing responsible waste management and recycling reusable materials. Please join us in our commitment to a clean environment by dividing your garbage into recyclable and disposable waste and placing it in appropriate containers available at locations throughout the site. These locations include:

- McLennan Centre (#33)
- Ordonnateur’s Residence (#50)
- Benoist Boutique (#42)
- De la Plagne House (#34)
- Accessible Public Washrooms (#20A)
- Lartigue House (#10)
- King’s Bastion Barracks (#28)
- Des Roches House (#1)

Please note that clean paper products and clean plastics and cans go into separate receptacles. Public green bins are not yet available for organic composting therefore not yet available at the Fortress of Louisbourg.

**Shopping**

Our boutiques are operated by the Fortress Louisbourg Association. During our peak season we have two boutiques to serve you: one of these is located at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre and carries a full range of souvenirs while the other, located within the fortified town, carries items such as books, other printed materials, and unique reproduction items. See the Fortress Louisbourg Association website at [www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca](http://www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca) for further information or to shop on-line.

**Washrooms**

Two accessible washrooms are available at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre during the peak season (July 1st to Labour Day). Within the Fortress of Louisbourg, accessible washrooms are located near the public well on Rue Toulouse (#20A) and in the Grandchamp’s Tavern (#47). Other washrooms within the fortified town are located in the King’s Bastion Barracks (#28), at the McLennan Centre (#33), on the second floor of the Ordonnateur’s Residence (#50), and on the second floor of Hôtel de la Marine (#44). Baby change stations are located at the Parks
Canada Visitor Centre, on Rue Toulouse (#20A), and in the King’s Bastion Barracks (#28) washrooms. During the shoulder season, washrooms at King’s Bastion Barracks (#28), Rue Toulouse (#20A), and McLennan Centre (#33) are available for use. During the off-season, there are no accessible washroom facilities available. The only washroom available for use is located at the McLennan Centre (#33).

**Weather**

The Fortress of Louisbourg is located on the Atlantic Ocean and therefore we experience frequent fluctuations in the weather. With a shift in the wind, a hot sunny day can turn cold and foggy with plummeting temperatures. Since much of your visit requires walking outside, you will be more comfortable if you dress for variable conditions and temperatures and wear comfortable footwear. If you forget your jacket at home, our boutique staff at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre as well as Benoist Boutique (#42) would be happy to sell you warm sweaters and outerwear. During the peak season, shelter can be found throughout the Fortress of Louisbourg in many locations. Animated buildings may, from time to time, have a cheery fire to help warm you. Shelter is much more limited in the shoulder season and the off-season so please dress accordingly.

**Wi-Fi**

Our period restaurants (#43, #44, and #47) offer free wireless internet connection (Wi-Fi). So, too, does our McLennan Centre (#33) for meetings and conferences. Please connect to SSID “Museum”, or SSID “PublicWiFi”. No password is required.

**Volunteering**

The Fortress of Louisbourg enjoys the presence and contribution of volunteers year-round. We have re-enactor volunteers who augment our interpretation programs on weekends and during special events. These volunteers also help with outreach and promotional activities. Some have their own period costumes and others use costumes provided for them. We also have volunteers who support our theatre programs, special events, archaeology programs, and much more.

We commit ourselves to preparing people for their voluntary contribution through training programs and equipment acquisition. Our Volunteer Program is managed jointly between Parks Canada and the Fortress Louisbourg Association. Contact us by phone at (902) 733-3552 or check out the Fortress Louisbourg Association website at [www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca](http://www.fortressoflouisbourg.ca) to learn more about volunteer options available to you.

**Xplorers**

This interactive discovery book, suitable for youth ages 6 to 11, offers a host of fun activities for youth to explore while visiting the Fortress of Louisbourg. Complete four of the activities and you will earn a memento of your visit. Books can be picked up during the peak season at the Parks Canada Visitor Centre and at the Information Desk in De la Plagne House (#34). For further information visit us at: [http://www.pc.gc.ca/voyage-travel/xplorateurs-xplorers.aspx](http://www.pc.gc.ca/voyage-travel/xplorateurs-xplorers.aspx)
Appendix One
Fortress of Louisbourg Site Map – Peak Season