

SAINT JOHN ON THE BAY OF FUNDY

DISCOVER THE SPIRIT OF SAINT JOHN

Unspoiled natural parks with views carved by the Bay of Fundy. Steep, history-lined streets bustling with Maritime charm. Uptown arts, dining and entertainment inspired by the passion of the region. Whether it is through the people you meet, the places you visit, or the sights you see, the spirit of Saint John is always clearly in view. Cruise – Drive – Fly. Saint John, on the Bay of Fundy.

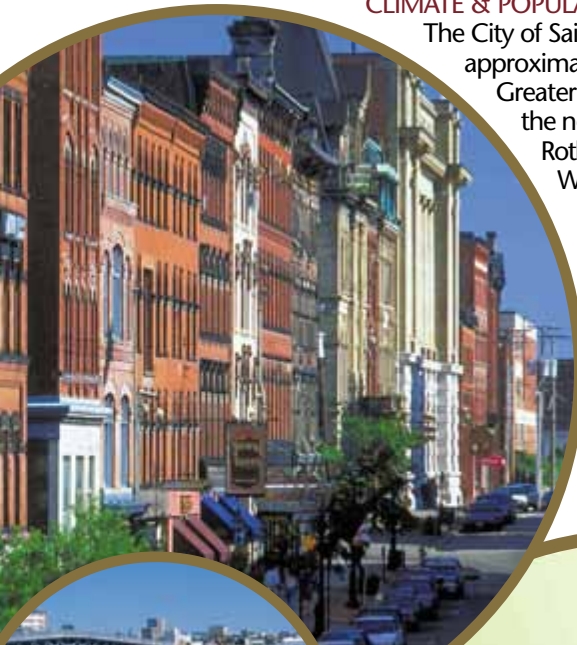
Saint John is located on the Bay of Fundy at the mouth of the St. John River.

- Toronto, ON 2hr flight
- Ottawa, ON 2hr - 50 min. flight
- Montréal, PQ 1hr - 30 min. flight
- Halifax, NS 40 min. flight

CLIMATE & POPULATION

The City of Saint John has a population of approximately 70,000, and 120,000 in Greater Saint John, which includes the neighbouring communities of Rothesay, Quispamsis, Grandbay-Westfield and St. Martins.

Saint John's temperature averages approximately 22°C or 72°F and 25°F in winter.



TOP ATTRACTIONS

REVERSING FALLS

Where the Bay of Fundy's highest tides in the world meet with the St. John River forcing it to flow backwards twice daily. There are two restaurants overlooking the water, a gift shop, observation decks, trails along the water, a theatre and harbour cruises. For information and tide tables – (506) 658-2855
For restaurants, theatre and boat tour – (506) 635-1999
www.TourismSaintJohn.com

SAINT JOHN CITY MARKET

Experience Canada's oldest continuing farmers' market, where the roof, built like a ship's inverted hull, reflects our shipbuilding past! Visit merchants at colourful stalls proudly displaying local produce, meat, fresh seafood and handcrafted items. See artists at work or have a bite to eat in one of the many eateries featuring local and ethnic foods. Open – Monday to Saturday. (506) 658-2820 www.sjcitymarket.ca

THE NEW BRUNSWICK MUSEUM

Whales, ships, fossils and fine art surround you at the New Brunswick Museum, located in Market Square. Treasures from New Brunswick and the world are interpreted in stunning world-class exhibits. Visit the "Hall of Great Whales", the Fundy tidal tower or the family discovery gallery, unique gift shop, guided tours. (506) 643-2300 www.nbm-mnb.ca

DON'T MISS EXPERIENCES

CARLETON MARTELLO TOWER

National Historic Site (506) 636-4011 www.pc.gc.ca

FUNDY TRAIL

Spectacular tour along the Bay of Fundy in St. Martins (506) 833-2019 www.fundytrailparkway.com

HARBOUR PASSAGE

A walking trail along Saint John's Inner Harbour (506) 674-4278 www.sjwaterfront.com

M.V. VOYAGEUR II RIVERBOAT

Cruise the St. John and Kennebecasis Rivers (506) 738-8484 www.sjmarina.ca/voyageur

REVERSING FALLS JET BOAT & HARBOUR TOUR

Witness the phenomenon of the Reversing Falls (888) 364-8987 www.jetboatrides.com

WATER STREET DINNER THEATRE

Music, fun and great food (506) 648-2325 www.waterstreetdinnertheatre.com

PHOENIX DINNER THEATRE

A lively, interactive evening of great food and music. (506) 693-8720 www.phoenixdinnertheatre.com

PRINCESS OF ACADIA FERRY

Saint John to Digby Nova Scotia (888) 249-7245 www.bayferries.com

SAINT JOHN 2010 TRAVEL MEDIA GUIDE

TOP FIVE STORY IDEAS

The “Original City”

Saint John, Canada’s first incorporated city, (Est.1785) is raising the curtain in 2010, to celebrate its 225th anniversary, with events showcasing the cultural capital of Canada. www.saintjohn225.com

Saint John Rocks!

With a billion years of geological history, fascinating rock formations, and fossil finds referenced by Charles Darwin, Saint John could soon have the first UNESCO designated Geopark in North America. From the site where two continents collided, to the Reversing Rapids, the proposed Stonehammer Geopark would include sites such as the Irving Nature Park and New Brunswick Museum, becoming part of a system of protection, education and sustainable development resulting in major economic and tourism impacts to the region. www.nbm-mnb.ca

7 Wonders of the World

Known for its tall tides, the Bay of Fundy has made it to the top 28 finalists vying to become one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature. The Bay was voted Canada’s ONLY finalist in the contest, and is attempting to become one of the TOP 7 in the WORLD in 2011. www.new7wonders.com

Cruising Along

Since the first cruise ship was blown off course in a hurricane into Saint John Harbour twenty years ago, the cruise industry is thriving, with a new \$11-million waterfront terminal welcoming over 210,000 visitors May-October, worth an estimated \$25-million. Carnival is the most frequent visitor, with 26 calls carrying 100,000 passengers. www.sjport.com

Unconventional Meetings

Explore colourful historic streetscapes, the natural beauty of the bay, and the comfort and convenience of the “Inside Connection” pedway, linking two major hotels and convention centre, all within steps. New developments include a new 110-unit Chateau hotel, bringing the total number of guestrooms to over 1800 city-wide, a multimillion dollar convention centre refurbishment, and a new cruise terminal on the waterfront serves as an off-site venue. Whether convention goers kick up their heels at a Maritime “Shin dig” or experience a “Saints and Sinners” tour of local historic churches, a one-of-a-kind experience awaits delegates in Saint John.

CONTACT US

Tourism Saint John

Tel: (506) 658-2990 | Toll Free (North America): 1-866 GO FUNDY (463-8639)
P.O. Box 1971, Saint John | New Brunswick Canada E2L 4L1
visitsj@saintjohn.ca | www.tourismsaintjohn.com

Tourism New Brunswick

Tel: (506) 444-5793 | Fax: (506) 453-7127
www.tourismnewbrunswick.ca

We have... Digital images | Tourism DVD | Tourism literature | Maps

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES

Girlfriend Getaways

The ebb and flow of the world's highest tides forcing 200 billion tonnes of water in and out of the Bay of Fundy, is said to have a magical effect on beauty and wellness. Paddle and pamper with a Fundy kayaking adventure followed by a relaxing spa treatment with hot stones and seaweed from the bay.

www.innonthecove.com www.gofundyevents.com

Box Maker

Hampton craftsman Brent Rourke is one of only a few artisans in Canada who is continuing a 200 year tradition of making Shaker boxes sought after all over the world, including one made especially for President Obama. You can watch the master craftsman at work at his woodworking shop just outside of Saint John. The boxes were originally constructed by Shakers in 18th century, who lived a disciplined way of life and strived for perfection. www.shakerboxesnb.com

Canada's First Museum

Discover many treasures at the New Brunswick Museum including one of the most significant British paintings on exhibit in North America. The Death of General Wolfe, by James Barry depicts the battle on the Plains of Abraham which resulted in the shift of power to the British in 1759.

With Acadian records dating back as early as the 1600s, many visitors come to trace their roots. See painstakingly restored ceramic vessels made by hand from New Brunswick clays 1500 to 2000 years ago. The First Nations people of New Brunswick, the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy, began manufacturing pots used for storing, carrying and cooking, over 3000 years ago.

Tour the workshop where aviation originated. Wallace Turnbull never flew a plane, but he invented the variable pitch propeller in Saint John, which revolutionized air travel. www.nbm-mnb.ca

Little artists – Big talent!

Saint John Arts Centre children's art workshops. An array of programs are offered, from woodcarving to pottery and creative writing as well as NB College of Craft and design workshops in photography, clay jewellery making, weaving and illustration. www.saintjohnartscentre.com

Family Fun

Whether taking a thrilling Jet Boat Ride through the Reversing rapids, reminiscing about days gone by on an old fashioned river cruise the MV Voyageur II, or visiting Rockwood Park and the Cherry Brook Zoo, there are plenty of fun things for families to do around Saint John. www.tourismsaintjohn.com

Bay of Fundy Treasure Hunter

Jump aboard the Princess of Acadia Ferry and bring tales of marine life, geology, remarkable tides, and historic shipbuilding to life! Bay Ferries and the New Brunswick Museum have partnered to give travellers between Saint John and Digby, Nova Scotia a unique experience, with costumed animators playing music, telling stories, and displaying artifacts and historic photos.

www.nbm-mnb.ca

Wine Tasting

Wander the vineyard and savour the sun dappling the vines at The Gillis of Belleisle Winery about an hour's drive from Saint John. Enjoy a picnic lunch as you sip wine in the pergola. Try the new seasonal fruit wines such as apple and cranberry. www.gillisofbelleisle.com

Photography Workshops

Take a creative workshop with renowned photographer Freeman Patterson, recognized around the world and author of many best selling instructional photography books. www.freemanpatterson.com

SIDE BAR

It's Saint John, NOT St. John's!

Different spelling, different place! Saint John is often abbreviated like St. John's Newfoundland, which has caused its share of mix-ups. To add to the confusion, the proper way to spell the St. John River is to abbreviate it! The truth is there ARE many similarities between the two cities, but the best way to tell the difference? Come for a visit!

Weird Stuff We Eat

It is a popular family tradition on the Bay of Fundy to have lobster instead of turkey, and chicken bones for Christmas dinner. These pink cinnamon candies have dark chocolate in the centre and were invented by Ganong Chocolate factory based in St. Stephen, NB, Canada's oldest candy company (founded in 1873).

Dulse is considered a Maritime Delicacy.

The leafy sea vegetable grows on the shores of the Bay of Fundy. Handpicked and sun dried, it adds a light salty taste to seafood chowder, salads, and seafood dishes and it's considered a healthy snack, high in potassium and iodine.

Fog – Nature's Air Conditioning

When the cold air from the Bay of Fundy mixes with the hot summer temperatures, the air becomes saturated and the water condenses, forming fog. Saint John has an average of about 70 fog days a year. During the summer, the combination of sea breezes and occasional fog make for a refreshing change of climate for hot and weary travellers from the United States.

Happy Campers

A recent study has found Saint John to be one of the happiest cities in Canada. According to Stats Canada, the quality of life and the warmth and friendliness of people is a key reason why Saint John tops the list.

Whale Sightings Guaranteed

The skeleton of Delilah, a Northern Right Whale, is among the giants featured in the spectacular Hall of Great Whales at the New Brunswick Museum. None of the large whales is closer to extinction than the Right Whale. Delilah's granddaughter is one of only several hundred alive today, which summer in the Bay of Fundy. www.nbm-mnb.ca

Soaring Again

The once endangered mighty Bald Eagle is making a comeback along the St. John River. After nearing extinction a quarter-century ago, the largest bird of prey in Canada is thriving in New Brunswick. More than 250 species of birds can be spotted during migration at the Irving Nature Park in Saint John. Pick up a bird checklist for the tidal marsh, just minutes from the city centre. www.ifdn.com

FAST FACTS

- Known as the anchor of the Bay of Fundy, Saint John has some of the highest tides in the world, rising as tall as a four-storey building or about 28 feet. Located at the mouth of the St. John River, the Reversing Falls is one of the area's top attractions, where you can witness the powerful tides push the 450-mile long river backwards twice daily. One hundred billion tons of water cascade through the mouth of the Bay from the Atlantic Ocean every 12 hours. This volume is double the daily flow of all the rivers of the world.
- Saint John was named by French Explorer Samuel de Champlain on St. Jean Baptiste Day June 24, 1604.
- After the American Revolution 14,000 British Loyalists fled the colonies and settled in Saint John making it the first official city in Canada incorporated in 1785.
- In the mid-1800's over 30,000 Irish immigrants fled the potato famine with dreams of a better life, but many arrived with typhoid fever and was quarantined on Partridge Island, now one of the city's 22 national historic sites.
- Tower Hill cemetery below Carleton Martello Tower is known as the original Irish Famine cemetery and the final resting place of 4000 souls. The cemetery overlooks Partridge Island, the main immigration entry point between 1846 and 1850. According to local folklore, it was not originally a cemetery, but disguised as one to dissuade polite soldiers from attacking the Tower by the most direct route.
- The Great Fire of 1877 destroyed over 1600 buildings, including the entire business district. Loyalist House survived the fire because servants put wet towels and sheets around it to ward off flames. The characteristic flat roofs of many Saint John houses were built to prevent fires jumping from house to house.
- The Great Harry Houdini performed at the elegant 1913 Imperial Theatre, which later fell into disrepair until the local community raised funds to bring it back to its original grandeur.
- Over 20,000 people have been laid to rest at the Loyalist Burial Grounds, since the landing of the United Empire Loyalists in 1783. The site became a memorial garden after its closure as a cemetery in 1848. Legendary industrialist K.C. Irving established his first Saint John business on Union Street adjacent to the grounds in the Golden Ball Building. Over time the gardens fell into a state of disrepair, until 1994 when the Irving family refurbished the grounds as a gift to the people of Saint John, and created the magnificent Beaver Fountain, depicting the hard work, enterprise and tenacious resolve of the city's founders and those who followed.
- Rockwood Park features 13 manmade lakes and encompasses 870 hectares or 2,200 acres, making it one of the largest urban parks in Canada just five minutes from the Uptown. It was designed by Downing Vaux, the son of the partner of Frederick Law Olmstead who designed Central Park in New York City.
- Saint John is home to Moosehead Breweries, Canada's oldest independent brewery. In 1867, the Oland family opened their first brewery, and Moosehead is now distributed in 15 countries, with the 6th Oland generation still working in the family business.
- The 600 acre Irving Nature Park is just minutes from the city centre and features breathtaking coastline and sandy beaches along the Bay of Fundy and over 20 km of marked hiking trails.

SAINT JOHN FIRSTS

- First incorporated city in Canada, created by Royal Charter in 1785.
- Saint John had the first river cable ferry invented by William Pitt, installed on the Kennebecasis River near Saint John in the early 1900s.
- Amelia Earhart flew from Saint John to Ireland in 1932 with a copy of the local newspaper, the Telegraph Journal, becoming the first woman in history to fly solo across the Atlantic.
- First Common law market in Canada, created by Royal Charter 1785.
- First biscuit factory in Canada, established in 1801 (Rankin Biscuits).
- First chartered bank in Canada, 1820 (Bank of New Brunswick).
- First YWCA, established in 1870 by Mrs. Agnes Blizard, in a house on Germain St.
- Mid 1850s invention of the Long Reacher skate by James Whelpy advanced the nineteenth century speed skating tradition.
- First public museum opened in 1842. Known today as the New Brunswick Museum, it was originally called the Gesner Institute after its founder Abraham Gesner, a Nova Scotia born doctor credited with the invention of kerosene.
- First wire nails in Canada, manufactured by Penders Ltd., 1891.
- First soda crackers in Canada, manufactured by T. Rankine & Sons, Church Street, 1823.
- First National Historic Streetscape in Canada, Prince William Street, designated in 1981.

DID YOU KNOW?

The ceiling of the **Saint John City Market** resembles the inverted hull of a ship. When it officially opened in 1876, Saint John was one of the world's leading shipbuilding centers, and the hand-hewn timbers and dove-tailed joints have stood fast for more than a century. Fortunately, the Great Fire of 1877 left the market building undamaged.

The natural phenomenon of the **Reversing Falls** is caused by a head-on collision between two mighty bodies of water, the St. John River and the powerful Bay of Fundy. Twice daily in this grand theatre of nature, the river flows backwards, as the force of the tides slowly rise above the level of the river, forcing it to flow upstream. At low tide, the river plunges over an underwater ledge and through a narrow gorge, to create cascading falls on its way to the ocean. There are only 30 minutes every six hours, when the current is calm and tranquil at slack tide, and boats can navigate through the falls safely.

The **Three Sisters Lamp** is in direct line with the steeple of Trinity Church, so that sea captains were once able to navigate their way safely into the Saint John Harbour at night. Three red gas lamps, visible for three miles seaward, were stationed at the end of Prince William Street. If the three red lamps appeared individually, sailors would know they were heading straight into the harbour, however if only one or two could be seen, sailors knew they needed to alter their course.

PRESS TOUR ITINERARY

- Lace up your walking shoes and step back in time as you explore Canada's first city, established in 1783. Historical references are on every corner in Saint John, from the former home of traitor Benedict Arnold, to North America's oldest **City Market** whose ceiling resembles the inverted hull of a ship. See artists at work and shop for fresh produce, seafood, and locally made crafts only a few steps from Canada's shortest, steepest main street. Go antique hunting in uptown shops, or discover more than 2000 artifacts at **Barbour's General Store**. Have a rest at John Hooper's, "People Waiting" or the "Time Piece" sculpture at Market Square.
- Take a self-guided walking tour to learn about how many of Saint John's buildings were built from stone quarried in New Brunswick, including the oldest stone church in North America. Did you know Saint John has the largest contiguous collection of Italianate and Second Empire buildings in Canada? See gargoyles spitting coins, and Victorian- era homes. Visit **Loyalist House** which survived the Great Fire of 1877, and stop by the **Old Number 2 Engine House Museum** to learn how volunteer brigades battled blazes with hand pumpers. www.tourismsaintjohn
- **MORNING** **Historic Uptown Walking Tour**
Loyalist House, City Market, Loyalist Burial Ground, Sydney Street Courthouse, Firefighters Museum, Imperial Theatre, King Street, Germain Street, Historic Trinity Royal Preservation District, Princess Street, Prince William Street.
- **NOON** **Lunch**
Market Square, City Market, Uptown Quality Block
- **AFTERNOON** New Brunswick Museum
Reversing Falls Tour
Jet Boat Ride
Rockwood Park
Irving Nature Park
Shopping
- **EVENING** Harbour Passage
Market Square Boardwalk
Dinner Theatre
Imperial Theatre
Uptown nightlife

BEST PLACES IN SAINT JOHN TO...

- Get a morning caffeine fix - Java Moose - With 140 locally roasted varieties including the Fog horn and Explorer
- Take in a cultural performance - Imperial Theatre – est. 1913, more than 200 events per year, 900 seats
- Buy a staff thank you gift – Handworks Gallery - one-of-a-kind NB-made fine art and jewellery.
- Jog - Harbour Passage - 4.5 km of cranberry waterfront walking trails.

...as Ranked by **PROGRESS MAGAZINE**

DAY TRIPS

- Saint John is a great base to set off on a day adventure. Visitors can play a round of golf or hike 26 km of trails at **Rockwood Park**, one of Canada's largest parks right within city limits. Jump on one of many free cable ferries to the **Kingston Peninsula** where rolling farm fields and weekend country markets feature home churned butter and handmade quilts. Don't forget to make a wish as you cross the **kissing bridges** of King's county, the covered bridge capital of Atlantic Canada.
- Kayak the caves at high tide in **St. Martins**, walk on the ocean floor at the **Hopewell Rocks** at low tide, or go whale watching and stroll the waterfront boutiques in the small resort town of **St. Andrews**; all about an hour's drive away. A fall foliage tour will reveal plenty of picturesque photo ops when the leaves are ablaze. Visit the most photographed lighthouse on the Bay of Fundy, Swallowtail in **Grand Manan**, or tour Roosevelt's cottage on **Campobello Island**.
- Known as the least commercialized point on the Bay of Fundy, the **Fundy Trail Parkway** is just 45 minutes from Saint John. Featuring one of the longest pieces of undeveloped oceanfront between Newfoundland and Florida, the final link from Fundy National Park to St. Martins will soon be connected. Stunning views of cliffs, beaches, and tidal flats along an 11 km drive where you can experience majestic tides and breathtaking flora and fauna by car, bike, and kayak or on foot. Spot rare right whales, cross the suspension bridge, and visit the Hearst Family Lodge. www.fundytrailparkway.com

LOCALS KNOW...

- Best place to see the tides – Falls View Park
- Best sliding hill – Saint John Airport
- Best place to sip wine – Happeez Wine Bar
- Best way to visit ten art galleries uptown – Saint John Gallery Hop
- Best place to shuck an Oyster – City Market
- Best lobster dinner – Steamers Lobster Company
- Best donair – Greco Pizza
- Best Fish & Chips – Deluxe French Fries
- Best Lobster Rolls – Billy's Seafood, Lord's Fish Market, Grannan's Restaurant, McDonalds
- Best place to see and be seen – Market Slip
- Best place to watch 3 cruise ships turn around in the harbour – Fort Howe
- Best wave watching – Saints Rest Beach
- Best way to experience the Reversing Rapids – Jet Boat Ride