



# SAINT JOHN EXPLORER

NEWS FROM THE TOURISM & HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY OF GREATER SAINT JOHN WWW.TOURISMSAINTJOHN.COM

## Fall 2009

### FIRST FOOD FEAST-IVAL TO BE HELD IN DOWNTOWN CORE "CHOP CHOP"

Many restaurants located in the downtown core are gearing up for their involvement in Saint John's first ever feast-ival for foodies titled "Chop Chop." The festival will take place the week of November 1-7, 2009. This event will feature over twenty restaurants allowing one to eat like a king and save like a pauper. There will be considerable discount prices at some of the finest dining establishments in the city.

During this week, each restaurant will be offering up tempting and irresistible specials. Choose from a delicious 3-course dinner for \$30; a lighter, but equally tantalizing 2-course lunch for \$12; and an exclusive 'chop chop' special for \$10. Each establishment will be featuring something unique so be sure to check out their website or give them a call directly to find out what they are 'chopping up' for the day.

Reservations Recommended. Visit [www.uptownsj.com](http://www.uptownsj.com) for more information, or call 506.633.9797

**CHOP CHOP**

SAINT JOHN'S 7 DAY  
"FEAST"IVAL FOR FOODIES  
November 1 - 7 2009 [Sun to Sat]

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| 3 Course Dinner         | \$30 |
| 2 Course Lunch          | \$12 |
| AND FOR Chop Chop Plate | \$10 |

ALLEY GRIA  
BEATTY & THE BEASTRO  
BIG TIDE BREWING CO.  
BILLY'S SEAFOOD CO.  
BOILERWORKS  
CHURCH STREET STEAKHOUSE  
GRANNAN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT  
HAPPINEZ WINE BAR  
LEMONGRASS + PEPPER'S PUB  
MEXICALA ROSA'S  
OPERA BISTRO  
SAINT JOHN ALE HOUSE  
SEBASTIAN  
SENSE OF TOKYO  
SHUCKER'S RESTAURANT + BAR  
STEAMERS LOBSTER CO.  
TACO PICA  
THANDI  
THE BRIGANTINE  
THE WILD CARROT CAFÉ  
URBAN DELI  
VITO'S DINING ROOM + LOUNGE

RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED  
For more info: [www.uptownsj.com](http://www.uptownsj.com)

UPTOWN SAINT JOHN PUNCH

### TOURISM SAINT JOHN MEDIA PROGRAM

This has been a busy season for visiting Travel Media writers. The Editor of Glow Magazine from Toronto was in the city this month and will be featuring a Saint John spa story in an upcoming issue. Sally Cummings from Tourism Saint John has also been working with a writer from AOL who has been writing a series of short articles about Saint John attractions online. Another nationally acclaimed feature writer, Richard Carroll from California, visited Saint John in September. He writes for AAA Home and Away and many more publications. Saint John was also featured in the September issue of Association News magazine, and Family travel expert Luisa Frey visited in the Carnival ship at the end of August, and was thrilled to take the Jet Boat Ride and visit many other local attractions which are featured on her blog: [www.teentraveltalk.com](http://www.teentraveltalk.com).

### TOURISM TALK

**Tourism Saint John launches new website**  
If you've been to tourism Saint John's new website, you may have noticed some pretty significant changes. The website has been completely revamped from the style and layout right down to the events calendar. Please visit our new website at: [www.tourismsaintjohn.com](http://www.tourismsaintjohn.com). Should you have any questions or concerns please send us an email at [visitsj@saintjohn.ca](mailto:visitsj@saintjohn.ca). Your questions and comments are greatly appreciated. Two of the city's Visitor Information Centres (Reversing Falls VIC and Highway # 1 West VIC) will close for the season on Monday, October 12. Barbour's General Store will stay open on days when a cruise ship is in town until November 2. The City Hall Visitor Information Centre will remain open, Monday to Saturday, year round.

### **Tourism Association of Canada to hold national conference in Saint John**

The Tourism Association of Canada (TIAC) will hold Canada's Tourism Leadership Summit in Saint John on November 2 – 4, at the Saint John Trade and Convention Centre. This national conference will include the CTC's Annual Public Meeting, National Awards for Tourism Excellence ceremony, and a strong program of guest speakers, plenary sessions and workshops. Let's extend a warm Saint John welcome to these visitors.

---

### **HIGHLIGHTS IN HOSPITALITY**

#### **Saint Johners' become cruise passengers**

The roles reversed as Saint John experienced its first ever boarding of a cruise ship on the Queen Mary 2, September 6, 2009. Eighty happy New Brunswickers booked with Freedom travel and boarded the ship for a two day sail to New York with two nights in the "Big Apple" and one night in New Hampshire. In 2010 Freedom is offering three opportunities to experience the Queen Mary 2. There are also two sail dates with Carnival. One begins with the cruise starting in New York and disembarking in Saint John. The other is starting in New York, sailing into and out of Saint John with disembarkation in Halifax (motorcoach to New York and from Halifax). This is a great opportunity to sail into our own city and experience it as a visitor!



#### **Marco Polo Cruise terminal: Rising Venue**

In her inaugural season, The Marco Polo Cruise Terminal is gaining a reputation as the marquis waterfront event facility in Saint John. The Marco Polo Cruise Terminal has also hosted a variety of successful events. The Saint John Board of Trade: "Big Splash" event as well as the Fundy Food Festival were amongst those successful events held at the terminal. The large, bright

space adjacent to the harbor has plenty of parking. It also has a small catering kitchen to help make it an ideal, new, off site facility in downtown Saint John. For information please contact: [port@sjport.com](mailto:port@sjport.com) or phone (506) 636 4869.

#### **UNB renovates and expands.**

There are four significant projects planned and underway at the UNBSJ campus. The Canada Games Stadium is undergoing refurbishment. Two new buildings including the New Brunswick College's Allied Health facility and the new University Commons building are planned for construction. There will also be a building expansion for the Dalhousie University's New Brunswick Medical program. Renovations around the existing facility have also been done with close to a dozen classrooms and boardrooms being fully renovated to include new furniture and up to date audio and visual equipment.

#### **Chipman Hill Suites renovations**

Chipman Hill Suites is pleased to report that Phase one of their Chipman Hill project (located at 76 Union Street) is now open. This includes five suites, all with queen or king bed and airpool tub, and their new corporate offices as well as a guest registration area. Phase two of this project (located at one Chipman Hill) will be open later this fall. This includes eleven suites over four floors as well as guest common area.

#### **Saint John's port wins international award**

Saint John was recognized as one of the top cruise destinations at this year's Seatrade Insider's Cruise Awards in Hamburg, Germany. Saint John was awarded the title: Transit Port of the Year. The inspiration for the nomination and win stemmed from the Bay of Fundy experience. The image of high and low tides as well as being able to walk on the ocean's floor set Saint John apart from the other destinations making it a unique and exciting place to visit.

#### **Acadian Games to land in Saint John**

The Acadian Games will take place next summer in Saint John. The dates have been finalized from June 30 - July 4, 2010. Should you have any questions, please contact Michel Côté at 658-5581.

### **Bay of Fundy makes top 28**

The Bay of Fundy has made it to the top 28 in this year's seven Natural Wonders online vote. In recent weeks, it has been ranked within the top 14 making it a popular choice in the competition. The vote will continue until next summer when the top seven will be announced. Please check out the website and help us ensure that The Bay of Fundy makes it into the top seven. You can cast your vote by visiting: <http://www.vote7.com>



### **Rockwood Park names new Mascot**

It's official! A name for the new Rockwood Park Mascot has been chosen. With over 750 entries, the winning name is LILY-LOU. Thanks to seven year old Austin McKillop for helping to name Lily-Lou.

### **Boy wins half his weight in chocolate**

Ten year old Logan Burke of Quispamsis was the proud winner of 40 pounds of chocolate from the Ganong Chocolatier Shop in St. Stephen, NB. Bay Ferries, operator of the Princess of Acadia, partnered with the Chocolate Museum and the Ganong Chocolatier to create a prize package like no other. The contest was open to children ages 13 and under who traveled aboard the Princess of Acadia between July 27 and August 28, 2009. These children had the chance to win half their weight in chocolate. Enjoy your chocolate Logan!

### **Irving Nature Park season ends**

The Irving Nature Park gates, along with their information kiosk, will close for winter on Friday, October 30 at 6:00pm. Programs however will continue throughout the winter. Check their web site ([www.jdirving.com](http://www.jdirving.com)) for event updates.

---

## **NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

### **New restaurant additions**

Over the past few months, Saint John has had the privilege of becoming the new home for some cutting edge restaurants and bars. The newest bar and lounge to hit Saint John is called **Alley Gria**. They offer Mediterranean tapas cuisine. It is located on 123 Prince William Street in the alley between the old Bank of New Brunswick and the old Post Office building.

**Big Tide Brewery** also opened its doors this past August. It is the only micro-brewery in Saint John. They offer a great menu with unique cuisine featuring an English pub flare. Their brewmaster creations are one of a kind and offer a great variety. Come in and enjoy the open atmosphere. They are located on Princess Street. The **Urban Deli** opened its doors over the summer. Their bestseller is the Montreal Smoked Meat sandwich on rye bread. "All our meats are fresh not processed AND we have a smoker. We smoke things such as; ribs, turkey, pork, salmon, garlic, salt and pot pies," says owner and operator Elizabeth Rowe. The Urban Deli is located at 68 King Street. Check out their menu online at <http://urbandeli.ca/> The popular coffee chain: **Starbucks** will open a new location in Brunswick Square this November.

### **Inn on the Cove welcomes new chef**

Inn on the Cove welcomed aboard their new chef, Gregory Dickeson this past summer and has since received rave reviews. Dickeson has had the privilege of working in St. John's Newfoundland cooking up a storm in some of their up-scale sea side restaurants. If you would like to book a reservation at the Inn on the Cove Tide's Table restaurant please call 672-7799. The dining room is open Wednesday thru Saturday.

### **Saint John welcomes new spa: Nakai**

Nakai Spa opened its' doors to the public this past June. Its location is at the East Point Shopping Center. Owners Robert Pejsa and Melanie Lang have created a spa environment much like you'd see in a big city but with an added Saint John urban flare. This is the third spa the couple has opened with locations in both Moncton and Halifax. For more information on Nakai visit: <http://www.nakai.ca/>



### Java Moose: New Store, New Look

Java Moose recently opened the doors to its newest location in the Lancaster Mall on the West side. After much thought, Owners Glenn Mclean and Randy Pedersen decided to evolve the brand's image. The new changes allow for the coffee shop to feel like a place where anyone can feel comfortable walking into, and won't feel rushed out. The new look is modern, fun, friendly and is inspired by Canadian landscape.

### New Brunswick up for National Tourism Awards

Thirteen of the finalists from New Brunswick are in the running for national awards in tourism excellence at this year's TIAC leadership summit. These awards recognize those people, places, organizations and events that have gone above and beyond to offer a superior tourism experience to travelers in Canada. "The finalists are excellent examples of the vision and innovation that will ensure a strong future for New Brunswick's tourism industry," president of TIANB Joanne Bérubé-Gagné said. "It's important to look to the future to determine how we will further develop and ensure the growth of our industry, but it is aloof capital importance to acknowledge the accomplishments of ambassadors who are constantly redefining the standards of excellence!" The awards will be presented at a gala dinner November 3, 2009, during Canada's Tourism Leadership Summit being held this year here in Saint John.

## Mark your Calendars:

**Happinez offering introduction to wine courses:** Offered once a month. For further details, please visit the Happinez website at [www.happinezwinebar.com](http://www.happinezwinebar.com).

### Lorenzo Reading Series

John Bemrose- The Last Woman- Oct 9, 7pm  
 Colin McAdam- Fall Monday- Oct 19, 7pm  
 Linden MacIntyre- The Bishop's Man- Oct 26, 7pm  
 All held in Ganong Hall Lecture Theatre, UNB Saint John.  
 Admission Free. For more info contact: The University Bookstore 648-5540 or Inprint Bookstore 648-2315 or email: [sjbooks@unbsj.ca](mailto:sjbooks@unbsj.ca)

### Tanners Inn Historical walks

The Tanners Home Inn will host a slew of historical walks from now into the winter season due to popular demand of previous walks held by the Inn. For complete details on these walks, please visit their website at [www.tannershomeinn.com](http://www.tannershomeinn.com).

### Opera Bistro events:

Octoberfest Party: Oct 9, 6:30pm  
 Girls Night Out: Nov 9, 6:30  
 Please call (506) 642-2822 for further details

### Opera Bistro and Inprint presents "Books at the Bistro"

Harry Bruce's Page Fright: Foibles and Fetishes of Famous Writers  
 October 17, 11:45- 2pm.  
 Lorrie Bell Hawkins' Jolicure Cats -October 30, 11:45- 2pm.  
 Tickets: \$ 55.00 (lunch, book and all taxes included). Please call to reserve seating: Opera Bistro – 642.2822 or [eat@operabistro.com](mailto:eat@operabistro.com)  
 Inprint Bookstore – 648.2315 or [sjbooks@unbsj.ca](mailto:sjbooks@unbsj.ca)

### City Market Events:

Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup> get your face on at The City Market between 12 – 5pm. Artist Nate Guimond will paint your look for Halloween, FREE. All ages' welcome. Donations to the Inner City Youth Ministry would be gladly accepted

### Upcoming Market Square Events

Mayor's Tree Lighting – Atrium & Loyalist Plaza Nov 27<sup>th</sup>  
 call 658-2912  
 Children's Wish Foundation Walk for Wishes Oct 17<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2pm  
 call 632-0099  
 Holiday Kick-off Party, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> call 658-3600

**57<sup>th</sup> Annual Santa Claus Parade-** Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm

*Got some news about your business that you'd like to share with the local tourism industry? Please send it to us so we can be sure to include it in our newsletter, which reaches over three hundred tourism and hospitality partners in the region.*

Email: [visitsj@saintjohn.ca](mailto:visitsj@saintjohn.ca)

Editor: Erin McKay

Tourism Saint John (506)-658-2990