

Top 10 Hidden Gems in PEI & NS



Top 10 Hidden Gems in Prince Edward Island & Nova Scotia

Whether you have been to PEI & NS before or are visiting for the very first time, it's always nice to find those "hidden gems" – those places which are really special, cool, beautiful or delicious, which the average visitor (and even some locals) don't necessarily know about.

We're not sure why it's nice to know about something that somebody else doesn't, but there's something about it that makes knowing that much more special.

If you are one of "those people" who like to be the one to tell that unique story, share that cool reel or show that amazing food pic to those who can only dream about the experience, then this list is for you. Just don't tell anybody else.

Top 10 Hidden Gems in Prince Edward Island

1. Greenwich Dunes Floating Boardwalk

A unique floating boardwalk through wetlands leading to majestic dunes and a quiet beach. The trail features interpretive panels and ends at a spectacular beach that's often uncrowded.

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/pe/pei-ipe/visit/greenwich>

2. Knox's Dam

A peaceful, lesser-known waterfall and fishing spot along the Montague River. This relaxing location is ideal for picnics, birdwatching, and catching trout in season.

<https://insearchofsarah.com/knoxs-dam-pei>

3. Ride Solar

Experience a solar-powered dinner cruise on North America's largest solar-powered boat or a solar-powered "pedal bus" food & drink excursion in Charlottetown (& Halifax). Comfortable social seating, no noise or diesel fumes, food & drinks on the harbour or beautiful waterfront. Have fun while saving the planet.

<https://ridesolar.com>

4. Point Prim Lighthouse

PEI's oldest lighthouse with stunning views and a round brick tower. You can climb to the top for panoramic ocean views and visit the adjacent café for local fare & one of the best seafood chowders in the province.

<https://pointprimlighthouse.com>

5. The Table Culinary Studio

A fine dining experience in a rural church, offering local, seasonal tasting menus. Guests are invited into the kitchen for part of the preparation, making this a culinary adventure. Quaint, friendly & delicious – The Table is a special

<https://www.thetablepei.ca>

6. The Bottle Houses

Magical structures built entirely from glass bottles in Cap-Egmont.

Explore a whimsical garden and discover how one man's dream turned into a glowing art display. Despite being an iconic piece of PEI history, it is still a little-known gem to the tourists visiting PEI.

<https://www.bottlehouses.com>

7. The Lobster Trap Lounge

The rebirth of the first licensed bar in PEI after Prohibition ended in 1948, this outdoor seafood and cocktail lounge is located at the Port of Charlottetown and is home of “the original PEI lobster cone” – a delicious twist on the traditional lobster roll where fresh buttered lobster is served with mac n’ cheese, bacon & then topped with melted butter & chives in a flaky pastry cone.

<https://www.lobstertraplounge.com>

8. Orwell Corner Historic Village

A living museum recreating life in a 19th-century PEI village. Costumed interpreters, farm animals, and hands-on activities bring history to life for all ages. Well-priced and fun for the whole family.

<https://orwellcornervillage.ca>

9. Basin Head Provincial Park

Famous for its “singing sands” and beautiful beach. A great place for swimming, jumping off the bridge, or visiting the nearby fisheries museum. The sand actually squeaks when you walk on it & this beach was voted the #1 beach in Canada in 2014 by Vacay.ca.

<https://pointseastcoastaldrive.com/places/basin-head-provincial-park-beach>

10. West Point Lighthouse Inn

Sleep inside a working lighthouse on PEI's west coast. This one-of-a-kind stay offers ocean-front access and a small interpretive museum.

<https://westpointlighthouse.com>

Top 10 Hidden Gems in Nova Scotia

1. Balancing Rock (Digby Neck)

A gravity-defying basalt column standing vertically on the edge of St. Mary's Bay. The short trail and staircase lead to dramatic ocean views and this natural wonder.

<http://www.digbytrails.ca/balancing-rock.html>

2. Blue Rocks (near Lunenburg)

A quiet, scenic fishing village known for its bright dories and turquoise waters. A favourite for kayakers, photographers, and artists seeking peace and beauty.

<https://lunenburgregion.ca/entries/thing-to-do/blue-rocks>

3. Glenora Distillery (Cape Breton)

North America's first single malt whisky distillery, nestled in the Mabou Highlands. Offers guided tastings, traditional music, and overnight stays in a Highland-inspired inn.

<https://glenoradistillery.com>

4. Burntcoat Head Park

The site of the world's highest recorded tides on the Bay of Fundy – up to over 53 ft. Walk the ocean floor during low tide or explore the red sandstone cliffs and sea caves, but don't get wet when the tide is coming in!

<https://www.burntcoatheadpark.ca>

5. Tangled Garden (Grand Pré)

A magical herb garden and artisanal jam shop with lush greenery and labyrinthine paths. Try unique preserves like lavender jelly or explore the garden's edible landscaping.

<https://www.tangledgarden.ca>

6. Cape Chignecto Coastal Trail

A rugged multi-day hike with towering sea cliffs, wilderness camping, and sweeping views. Ideal for experienced hikers wanting to explore Nova Scotia's remote natural beauty.

<https://parks.novascotia.ca/park/cape-chignecto>

7. Sable Island (via charter)

Home to over 500 wild horses & the largest grey seal colony in the world. Hike along sand dunes to see wild horses, unique bird species, and a grey seal colony. Accessible by plane or boat, it's an unforgettable eco-adventure for nature lovers.

<https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/ns/sable/visit>

8. Kejimikujik Seaside

The coastal sister park to Keji National Park, with white sand beaches and seal sightings. A peaceful alternative to busier beaches, perfect for day hikes and ocean picnics.

<https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/ns/kejimikujik/visit/seaside-bord-de-mer>

9. Crystal Crescent Beach

A series of three stunning white sand beaches just outside Halifax. Less crowded than other city beaches, with a backcountry trail to Pennant Point.

<https://novascotia.com/listing/crystal-crescent-beach-provincial-park>

10. Hop Scotch Dinner Club (Halifax)

A buzz-worthy fine dining spot by Top Chef Canada finalist Steph Ogilvie. Known for creative tasting menus and a cozy, upscale setting in Halifax's north end.

<https://www.hopscotchdinnerclub.com>



