

Quilting and Needlework in Newfoundland August 25-September 04, 2010

The Experience: Come join us on our 12 day journey through Newfoundland . Visit tiny Outport Communities to experience our famous hospitality as we meet with local quilters, rug hookers, the Conche Tapestry makers and embroiderers. Along the way we will learn about the history, explore the geology, feast our eyes on the scenery, taste new foods, experience the culture, language, music and laughter that truly is Newfoundland and Labrador. This is the best, most comprehensive tour available. It is a complete immersion in the culture and daily life of this province. Its easy pace makes it enjoyable. Its encounters make it unforgettable.

Day One: August 25

Arrive at Deer Lake Airport on the West Coast of Newfoundland and drive through the beautiful Humber Valley in all its splendor to Corner Brook, nestled in the arms of the sheltered Bay of Islands. Tonight we will have an opportunity to meet and greet Newfoundland quilters from the Long Range Quilter's Guild and have our first Show and Share of the trip.

Overnight Corner Brook. Tea/Coffee and Newfoundland berry tarts

Day Two: August 26

Today we will travel through beautiful Gros Morne Park, stopping for lunch in St. Paul's Inlet overlooking the mountain ranges of Gros Morne Park. This afternoon we are on our way to learn about the ancient people of Newfoundland at Port au Choix where European settlers are really the newcomers. *Overnight Plum Point. Breakfast, Midday Meal, Welcome Dinner.*

Day Three: August 27

This is a most exciting day as we travel to Conche to meet the ladies who worked on the French Shore Tapestry. Based on the concept of the Baieux Tapestry, this 216 foot long Scottish Linen has been embroidered in the tapestry/Baieux stitch to depict and celebrate the history of the west coast of Newfoundland known locally as the "French Shore". Designed by artist Jean Claude Roy this incredible piece of work is an absolute must.

Tonight we will visit with the "Advent Quilters" who sew for charity and cancer patients. They will be our "Fabric" charity for our trip. Potluck dinner with the ladies tonight, a show and share and a surprise project.

Overnight Plum Point. Breakfast, Midday Meal & Dinner.

Day Four: August 28

This morning travel to the tip of the Great Northern Peninsula to visit the Viking Village at L'Anse aux Meadows. Lunch enroute. Later today we will visit the Grenfell Mission and have a demonstration of Grenfell Mat Hooking and a visit to one of the largest and most beautiful art installations in the province. We will also have an opportunity for a fabric fix when we visit Dunphy's corner store and discover where the locals shop for fabric, wool and rug hooking supplies.

Overnight St. Anthony. Breakfast & Dinner.

Day Five : August 29

Today we head south to beautiful Gros Morne Park once more. Along the way we will stop in Hawkes Bay for a visit with Quilters from the area where we hope to have a “Show and Share” and an opportunity to visit another fabric source in an unlikely location. Overnight in Shallow Bay where we may have an opportunity to enjoy some local theatre tonight. *Overnight in Cow Head. Breakfast & Midday Meal.*

Day Six: August 30

This morning we take a delightful boat tour across beautiful Bonne Bay in Gros Morne to enjoy the day on the other side of the Park. After lunch today in Woody Point, we will visit with a group of local hookers at Molly Made Studio who show us their work and how they do it. Then it's on to the Discovery Centre in the Park to learn about one of the geological wonders of the world, the tablelands. Later a beautiful drive through Gros Morne to Rocky Harbour where we spend the night. Tonight we will have a chance to meet with local quilters for a show and share. *Overnight Rocky Harbour. Breakfast, Midday Meal*

Day Seven: August 31

This morning we leave the Viking Trail and take a leisurely trip to the central Newfoundland logging town of Grand Falls-Windsor. Here we visit the Exploits River to watch the Atlantic Salmon make their way up one of the fishways on this massive river system. Then it is on to Lewisporte to visit a local craft shop. Here we will enjoy a "Mug Up". We then travel to Gander, the "crossroads of the world." Tonight we visit with local quilters and have a presentation of some of the finest quilting in the Island. *Overnight Gander. Breakfast & Midday Meal.*

Day Eight: September 01

This morning we are off on the "Road to the Isles", before traveling across "Tickles and Runs" to spend time on beautiful Twillingate Island. This is one of Newfoundland's oldest and most interesting fishing communities. Along the way we will stop and visit with quilters and enjoy a fabric fix at a local quilt shop in a tiny fishing village on one of the many islands connected by causeways to Newfoundland. Later today we travel to Terra Nova National Park where we spend the night.

Overnight Port Blandford/Clareville. Breakfast & Midday Meal.

Day Nine: September 02

This morning we start our day by stopping in Clareville to visit Mercer's Marine Store where you can buy anything from a needle to an anchor. They also offer a selection of fabric and lots of wool for knitting. From there we travel on to visit Cape Spear National Historic Park, the most easterly point of land in North America before heading into St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland and Labrador. Here we will stop for Fish 'n Chips on George Street, one of the most famous locations in St. John's

Overnight St. John's. Breakfast & Midday Meal.

Day Ten: September 03

This morning we are off "around the Bay" to visit with local quilters and make a stop at Piecemakers Quilt Shop in Manuels before going on to Cupids which is celebrating its 400th anniversary in 2010 making it the oldest English settlement in Canada. After lunch we will visit Creative Passtimes in Bay Roberts for more fabric, no doubt.

Then it's on to one of the most photographed fishing villages in Newfoundland where we can chat with the fishermen take lots of photos and learn a little about the local fishery before returning to St. John's for the night. Tonight we meet with Guild members for a show and share.

Overnight St. John's. Breakfast and Lunch

Day Eleven: September 04

This morning we will tour historic St. John's, the oldest city in North America. This trip includes a visit to Cabot Tower and Signal Hill where we can view the famous "Narrows" and admire the architecture of old St. John's.

At the Anglican Cathedral we will have an opportunity to see some of the exquisite embroidery on their altar frontals. This afternoon is left free. This evening we share our farewell dinner. After dinner this evening we will have a visit with members of the Eastern edge and Cabot Quilters guild for a final "show and share."

Overnight St. John's. Breakfast and Dinnerr.

Day Twelve: September 05

All good things must come to an end and so we bid a fond farewell to our newest yet oldest Province. As you fly homeward it will be with many delightful memories of an authentic Newfoundland experience that will be recalled for years to come.

Transfer to St. John's Airport.

OPTIONAL

Extra days can be added at your request at the beginning or end of the tour.