

# The Island in Brief

THIS SECTION is full of things you need to know or might like to know about Prince Edward Island. You will find details about our environment, taxes, health information and so on, plus our “Nice to Know” feature with fun insider info.

Being surrounded by water is no deterrent to visiting the Island. It actually makes the trip that much more fun. You have three exciting transportation choices when travelling to PEI. Refer to our full-size highway map for suggestions on getting here.

## LOOK BOTH WAYS BEFORE CROSSING THE STRAIT

Whichever mode of travel you choose, you will notice that Prince Edward Island’s crescent shape is perfect for a grand circuit tour. Start in the east arriving by ferry at Wood Islands, loop your way around East Point, then all the way to North Cape in the west, before departing by the dramatic Confederation Bridge (see everything in between). Wood Islands is the gateway community to scenic and lively eastern PEI. Or, reverse the procedure and begin at the Confederation Bridge. In either case, keep in mind that the bridge and ferry tolls are paid



Confederation Bridge  
Photo by BRIAN MCINNIS

only on departure or, as we like to say, “only if you decide to leave!” Have fun and happy touring!

## Northumberland Ferries

Departing from Caribou, Nova Scotia and Wood Islands, Prince Edward Island, on a schedule of about every hour and a half from May to late December, the car ferries offer a pleasant respite. The 75-minute trip, spent casually enjoying a chat and a snack, lounging on the deck soaking up the sunshine and sea air, and enjoying some traditional “music on deck,” is often considered a holiday highlight. For details and additional information, check online [www.peiferry.com](http://www.peiferry.com). For detailed sailing schedules, call 1-888-249-7245.

## By Air

Air Canada offers direct flights from Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa and Toronto on a year-round basis. These cities have daily flights throughout the year with additional flights added during the summer. See [www.aircanada.com](http://www.aircanada.com) for current schedules, bookings, or more information.

WestJet Airlines provides direct flights from Toronto on a year-round basis. Daily flights are offered from May to November. Visit [westjet.com](http://westjet.com) for more details.

Sunwing Airlines offers direct flights from Toronto two days per week on a seasonal basis. For the most up-to-date information and schedules see [www.flysunwing.com](http://www.flysunwing.com).

Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines offer direct seasonal service from three cities in the United States. Delta provides service from Boston and New York between June and September. Northwest has direct flights from Detroit July to September. More details and current schedules can be found at [www.delta.com](http://www.delta.com) and [www.nwa.com](http://www.nwa.com).

For more information about flying to PEI, please visit the Charlottetown Airport on the web at [www.flypei.com](http://www.flypei.com).

## The Confederation Bridge

A 13-kilometre engineering marvel, the Confederation Bridge is a quick, convenient and fascinating way to arrive on the Island. Connecting from New Brunswick, the toll bridge brings you to the town of Borden-Carleton and the Gateway Village visitor centre and shopping complex. Find more information about the Confederation Bridge by visiting their website at [www.confederationbridge.com](http://www.confederationbridge.com).

## By Train

Try out the Easterly Class and immerse yourself in Maritime culture along the way! Travel by train as far as Moncton, New Brunswick and continue on to Prince Edward Island by bus or rental car. See [www.viarail.ca](http://www.viarail.ca).

## By Cruise

Several major cruise lines stop in the port of Charlottetown each year, so consider arriving by sea! Visit [www.historiccharlottetownseaport.com](http://www.historiccharlottetownseaport.com).

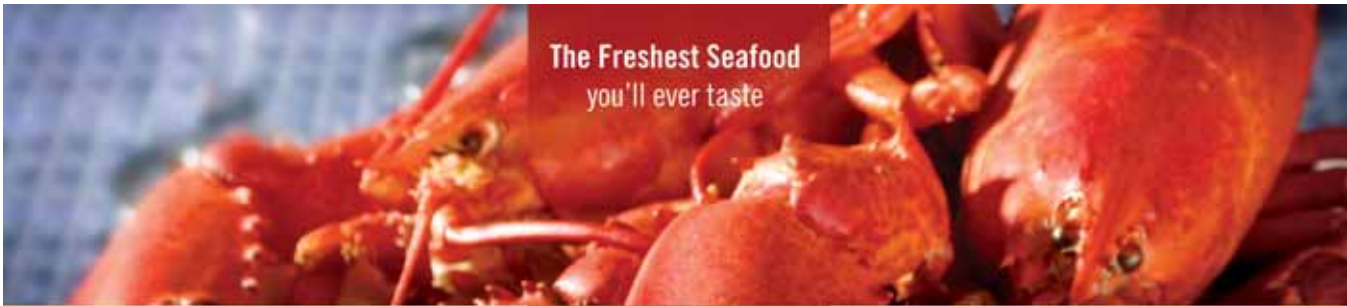
[gentleisland.com/bookonline](http://gentleisland.com/bookonline)

## OUR ONLINE RESERVATIONS SERVICE

You can conveniently book accommodations online at [gentleisland.com/bookonline](http://gentleisland.com/bookonline). Or call direct to the operators listed in this Guide; many have toll-free numbers, emails and websites to help with bookings. Our website [gentleisland.com](http://gentleisland.com) provides detailed searches that can select property lists by price range, star rating, category or other features. And of course you can call day or night 1-800-463-4PEI to talk with an operator about accommodations in PEI.



Northumberland Ferries  
Photo by BARRETT & MACKAY



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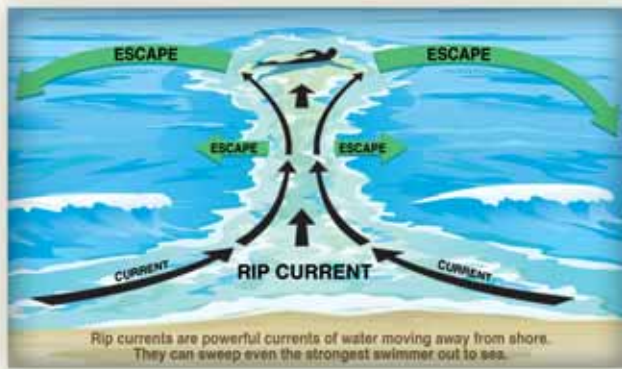
\*Flights operated by Delta Connection® carrier, Comair

**BE BEACH SAFE**

On our Island province you are never far from the ocean and one of our numerous spectacular beaches. From the red sand beaches on the south shore to the white sand beaches on the north shore, Prince Edward Island offers a variety of unique and enjoyable beach experiences.

Enjoying the warm waters surrounding the Island is a very popular activity. To fully enjoy your beach experience please follow these tips:

- always swim in supervised beach areas.
- ensure your children are supervised at all times.
- never swim alone. Always swim with a buddy and watch out for each other.
- do not consume alcohol or drugs before or while swimming. Alcohol and drugs impair your abilities and judgement.
- weaker swimmers and young children should wear



a properly-sized life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD) at all times.

- pay close attention to surf conditions. Waves and currents can make water more dangerous than usual.

Swimming in the ocean is very different from swimming in a pool or lake. The strength and force of even small ocean waves can surprise beach goers who are unfamiliar with the power of the sea. When particular surf conditions are present at some of our beaches, rip currents can occur.

Rip currents are powerful and can pull people away from shore. Even the strongest swimmers can get into trouble if caught in a rip current. Do

not panic if this happens to you; relax and swim parallel to the shore to get out of the current; then swim back to shore. Do not attempt to swim back to shore against the current; it is too strong. Ask your lifeguard for more information when you arrive at the beach.

PEI National Park beaches provide lifeguard service. Supervised Provincial Park beaches include: Jacques Cartier, Cedar Dunes, Chelton Beach, Northumberland, Cabot Beach, Northumberland, Cabot Beach, Basin Head, Red Point, and Panmure Island.



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JUNE 7-11, 2009



Central Bedeque  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER

### OUR FRAGILE DUNES

Whenever possible, stay on designated paths and stairways to the beach to help protect the fragile dune systems. Our white sand beaches are known for their spectacular natural sand dunes. But they are as fragile as they are beautiful. Over the years, we have come to understand the need to respect these natural habitats for rare plants and wildlife by not disturbing the dunes. In an effort to keep this

stunning natural resource intact, clearly marked access points to the beach have been designated. Please don't play on the dunes; there are plenty of places to play on the beach and the eco-system will thank you.

### GETTING CONNECTED

Prince Edward Island has 41 Community Access Program (CAP) sites where you can connect to the internet or check your email while on vacation. For a list of sites

go to [www.peicaps.org](http://www.peicaps.org). Using the computers at the CAP sites is either free or very affordable. Access to other business services such as faxing, scanning or rentals is also available.

### HEALTH INFORMATION

Non-Canadian citizens should obtain or extend their health insurance coverage before leaving home. Hospitals are located in Alberton, O'Leary, Tyne Valley, Summerside, Montague, Charlottetown and Souris. Health clinics can be found in O'Leary, Summerside, Charlottetown, Kensington, Hunter River and Montague.

### CHILD FIND

The PEI Amber Missing Child Alert was implemented in PEI in 2003. When an Amber Alert is activated, any sightings can be reported by calling the number provided. For the safety of the child, do

not approach or intervene. Child Find PEI can be reached at 1-800-387-7962.

### EMERGENCY CALLS

The Island's province-wide 911 Emergency Response System is capable of linking visitors with translators in 140 different languages. It is important that you can identify your location when calling 911 from a cell phone. For emergency service, dial 911 anywhere in Prince Edward Island.



Charlottetown  
Photo by GREG VAUGHN

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**HOSTELLING**

PEI has two hostels. For more information check The Index (page 201) under the heading Accommodations, or at PEI Visitor Information Centres.

**AGRI-TOURISM**

Get to know a bit more about our thriving agricultural industry by visiting some of our markets and farm B&Bs, or challenge yourself in a corn maze or try a hay ride! See [gentleisland.com/agritourism](http://gentleisland.com/agritourism) for information on visiting farms on the Island.



Potato Fields, Vernon  
Photo by ANN MACNEILL

**HOW'S THE WEATHER?**

Spring is comfortable. Late May and June are alive with colour, and temperatures range from 8 to 22°C (46 to 71°F).

Summer is hot, but rarely very humid. The daytime temperatures are usually in the 20s (70s) and can go as high as 32°C (90°F). The water at the beach is nice for swimming in July and August.

Autumn is clear and bright. September afternoons can be quite warm, evenings are cool. Temperatures usually range from 8 to 22°C (46 to 71°F).

Winter is crisp and clean. Temperatures usually range from -3 to -11°C (26 to 11°F).

**BILINGUAL SERVICE**

In our Island Guide you will find the symbols  French services and  some French services to designate operators who offer French and English service. Check the listings of



Visitor Information and Destination Centres



individual operators for information on bilingual service. We also publish a French-language *Island Guide*; just phone 1-800-887-L'ÎLE or visit us at [www.douceurdelile.com](http://www.douceurdelile.com).

**SHOPPING AND BANKING**

You will get great value for your vacation dollars in Prince Edward Island. For up-to-the-minute exchange rates, use the handy conversion tool on our website [gentleisland.com/\\$](http://gentleisland.com/$).

Keep in mind that PEI does not charge provincial sales tax on clothing and footwear. Most major stores are open daily (including Sundays from

late May to the end of December).

When purchasing Anne of Green Gables souvenirs, look for the trademark logo which shows that the product has received approval from the Anne of Green Gables Licensing Authority. Anne of Green Gables is a trademark and a Canadian official mark of the Anne of Green Gables Licensing Authority.

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Montage  
Photo by BRIAN MCINNIS



### HELP FOR YOUR TOURING

Visitor Information ( ? ), Destination ( ? ), and Welcome Centres are located across the Island. Friendly counsellors are ready to help you plan your itinerary or give you the scoop on the latest local activities. Our website [www.gentleisland.com](http://www.gentleisland.com) has an excellent search tool with touring itineraries and maps as well as links for more than a thousand listings. Above all, don't worry about getting lost; just remember, this is an island and you can never go too far astray!

### RUBBER TO THE ROAD

Planning a visit to PEI by motorcycle? Be sure to check out [www.motorcyclepei.com](http://www.motorcyclepei.com) for an up-to-date resource with printable pages. The creators, who are experienced motorcyclists, have put together a useful reference tool giving details about exciting touring and motorcycle events held throughout the season, accommodations and much more. If you have specific

questions, just email these motorcycle touring enthusiasts at [info@motorcycle.com](mailto:info@motorcycle.com).

The Island is a special treat for people who travel here by recreational vehicle as the roads are quiet and there are many parks and campgrounds equipped for RVs. Check the campground listings (see *The Index*, page 201) as well as [www.gentleisland.com/parks](http://www.gentleisland.com/parks) for more details.

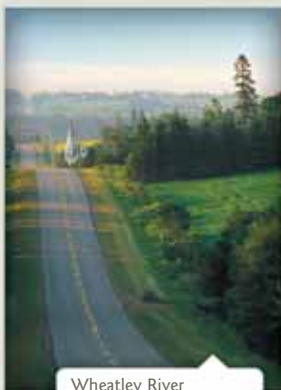
If you are travelling to PEI by bicycle, the Confederation Bridge offers a 24-hour load-and-go shuttle service. There is an \$8 toll for bicycles when leaving the Island. And Prince Edward Island's quiet, scenic roads are perfect for touring at a "bicycle pace."

### SMOKING / DRINKING

Smoking is prohibited in PEI's public places. The legal drinking age on PEI is 19. Beer, wine and liquor are sold at 18 outlets across the Island, which are open Monday through Saturday year round, and are also open Sundays, May to December. For more information see [www.peilcc.ca](http://www.peilcc.ca).

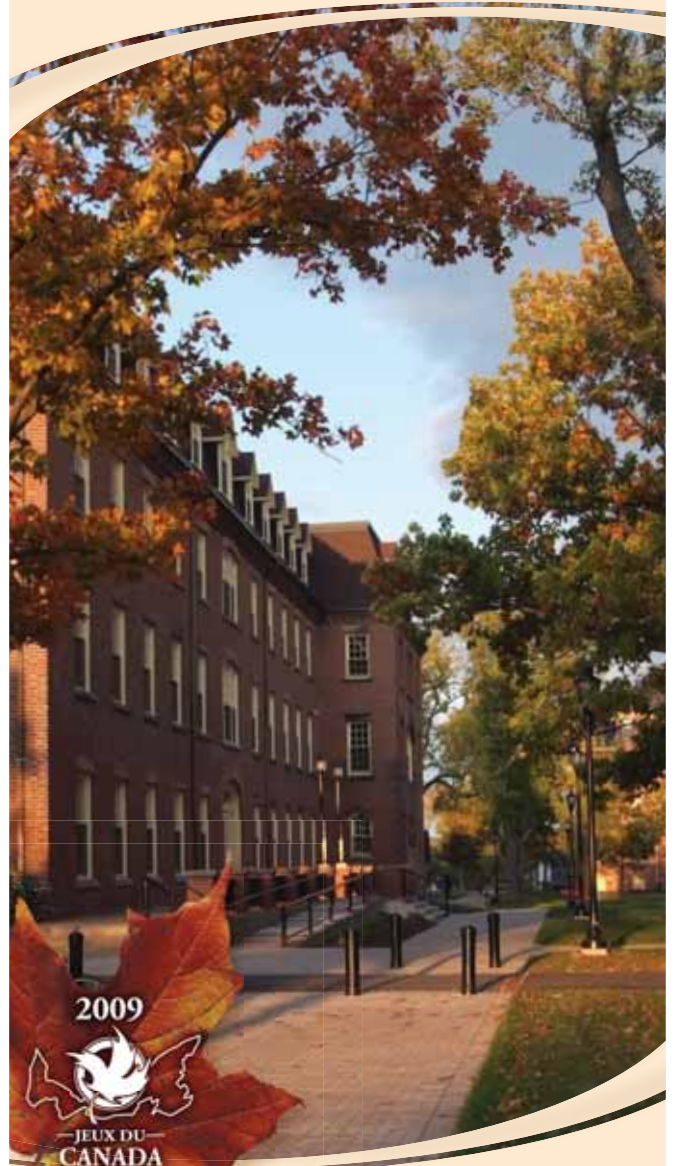
### PEI SPAS

While we might feel a trip to PEI is like a big spa experience, there are several professional spa services available on the Island. Rodd Hotels & Resorts offer spa services. Or choose the Atlantis Health Spa in Summerside, the day spa at the Delta Prince Edward in Charlottetown or Chez Shea Kinkora Country Inn & Spa.



Wheatley River  
Photo by BARRETT & MACKAY

# UPEI UNIVERSITY of Prince Edward ISLAND



We invite you to visit the University of Prince Edward Island, a collaborative learning and research environment and a vital component of the PEI community, and, this summer, a site of the 2009 Canada Games!

Join us at the W. A. Murphy Student Centre for a free guided tour of our historic campus. 11 a.m., Monday–Friday, June 15–August 28, 2009

call 1.902.620.5103 visit [upei.ca](http://upei.ca)

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**SCENIC HERITAGE ROADS**

Many of the Island's unique, traditional red-clay roads are protected by the Scenic Heritage Road program. A drive down Jack's Road, John Joe Road or the Klondyke Road will be like a drive directly into the past. A required buffer zone means that many have a canopy of trees. All are unpaved (so don't attempt a drive too early in spring). Look for the brown two-tree symbol (🌳🌳) on the highway map. Find out more on the [gentleisland.com/heritageroads](http://gentleisland.com/heritageroads) website or pick up a brochure at a Visitor Information Centre.

**SIGNS TO WATCH FOR**

To help protect the unspoiled beauty of the province, PEI has an official signage program. Tourism operators register their businesses to be included in standardized informational signs placed along our roads. Look for these bright blue information signs.



St. Catharines  
Photo by BARRETT & MACKAY

**RULES OF THE ROAD**

In Canada, the metric system is used for road speeds and distances. Radar detectors are illegal on PEI and will be confiscated. Seatbelts are required for adults and safety restraints for children. Bicycle helmets are mandatory for all cyclists on Prince Edward Island roads and on the Confederation Trail.



**PEI CONVENTION PARTNERSHIP**

PEI Convention Partnership provides the complimentary resources you need when planning conventions, business meetings, executive retreats or special events on the Island. The staff can assist in obtaining proposals for accommodations and meeting facilities, as well as all the supplementary services. For information visit their website at [www.seasidesocial.com](http://www.seasidesocial.com),

email [info@seasidesocial.com](mailto:info@seasidesocial.com) or call their toll-free line 1-800-955-1864.

**GOLF ACROSS THE ISLAND**

Prince Edward Island courses offer a complete range of affordable and accessible golf experiences. Nine- and 18-hole courses are located across the province. Several new courses have opened in recent years, and the total now numbers 34. Golfers can book their tee-off times online at [www.golfpei.ca](http://www.golfpei.ca).

Golf season on the Island runs from May through October. Guaranteed tee-off times can be arranged by calling the courses directly.

Our 2009 *Genuine Island Experiences* brochure has 27 golf packages priced from an amazing \$84. For the online version of Prince Edward Island packaged vacations check [gentleisland.com/easy](http://gentleisland.com/easy).

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**PEI Golf Courses**

- Avondale Golf Course  
651-4653
- Belfast Highland Greens\*  
659-2794, page 181
- Brudenell River Golf Course  
1-800-235-8909, page 181
- Calloway Golf Divine Nine  
1-800-235-8909, page 181
- Dundarave Golf Course  
1-800-235-8909, page 181
- Eagle's View Golf Course\*  
962-4433, page 181
- Peakes Tee Golf Course\*  
583-2632, page 181
- Seal Cove Golf Course\*  
962-2745
- Beaver Valley Golf Club  
1-877-351-4653, page 181
- Rollo Bay Greens\*  
687-1586
- The Links at Crowbush Cove  
1-800-235-8909, page 181
- Countryview Golf Club\*  
675-2800, page 141
- Dog River Golf Links  
675-2585, page 141
- Glen Afton Golf Club  
1-866-675-3001, page 141
- Strathgartney Highlands\*  
675-4410, page 141
- Canadian Golf Academy  
1-888-698-4653, page 155
- Fox Meadow Golf Club  
1-877-569-8337, page 155
- VistaBay Golf Course\*  
569-2252, page 155



Brudenell River Golf Course  
Photo by CLIVE BARBER

- Andersons Creek Golf Club  
1-866-886-4422, page 99
  - Forest Hills Golf Course\*  
963-2887, page 98
  - Darnley Greens Golf Course\*  
1-866-836-4355
  - Green Gables Golf Course  
963-2488, page 98
  - French River Golf Course  
886-2098, page 98
  - Red Sands Golf Course\*  
1-877-886-3344, page 98
  - Serenity Valley Golf Course\*  
886-2098
  - Rustico Resort Golf Club  
1-800-GOLF-PEI, page 99
  - Glasgow Hills Resort & Golf  
1-866-621-2200, page 98
  - Stanhope Golf & Country Club  
672-2842, page 99
  - The Eagles Glenn Golf Course  
1-866-963-3600, page 98
  - Line Road Triple Challenge\*\*  
314-5782, page 99
  - Summerside Golf Club  
1-877-505-2505, page 72
  - Mill River Golf Course  
1-800-235-8909, page 72
  - St-Felix Golf & Country Club  
1-877-311-2328, page 71
- \*9-hole courses  
\*\*3-hole course

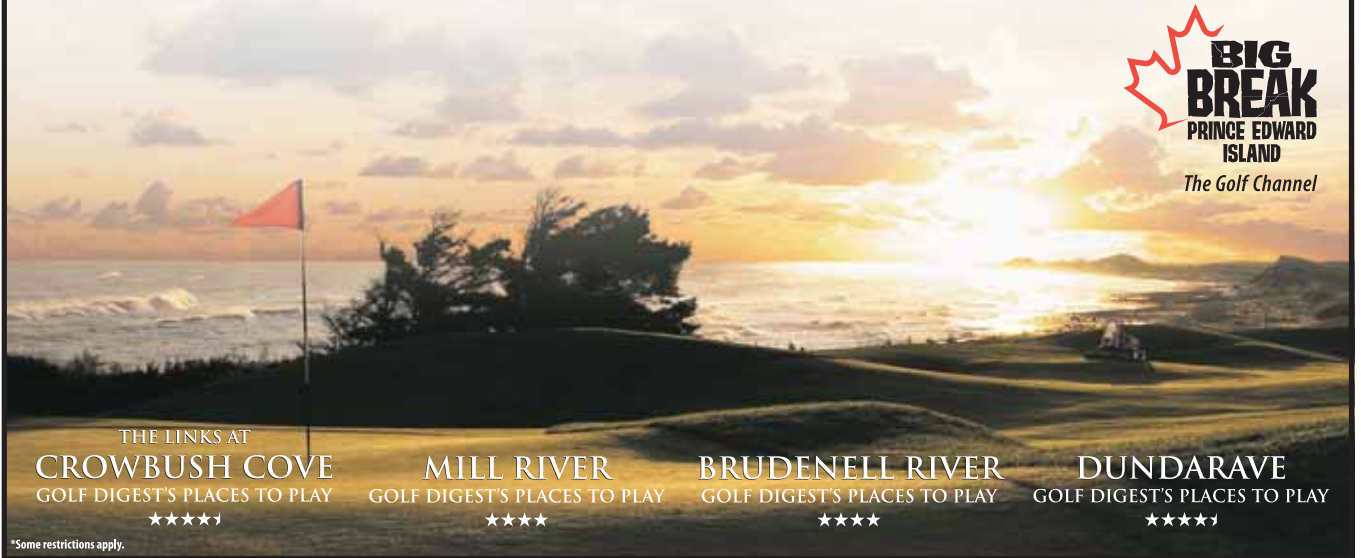


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\*Some restrictions apply.



**NICE TO KNOW!**

**AKA.** *Abegweit* is the Mi'kmaq word for Prince Edward Island, often interpreted as "land cradled on the waves." Other monikers include Garden of the Gulf, Million-acre Farm, Kentucky of Canada, The Island!, and "the fairest land 'tis possible to see" (according to Jacques Cartier in 1534).

**Lobster lore.** In PEI, lobster is fished in May and June and from mid-August to October.



Lobster fishing, Rustico  
Photo by GREG VAUGHN

A "canner" is a small but legal-size lobster used for canning. Lobster sold for fresh consumption is "market lobster." A "cork" is a hired hand on a fishing vessel, especially a lobster boat. At one time, lobster was considered poor man's food.

Lobsters are naturally red in colour caused by a carotenoid pigment similar to that found in carrots. Some Island farmers put crushed lobster shells on their fields as fertilizer.

**Other shellfish.** Male mussels are a light creamy colour while female mussels are a yellowish rust. Each year, PEI mussel farmers harvest more than 37 million pounds of delicious mussels bound for markets around the world. The rows of buoys seen in many Island bays mark the miles of mussel lines suspended just beneath the surface.

Oysters really are good for you – a great source of protein,



Lady's Slipper  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER

and high in zinc! Malpeque Oysters may be grown anywhere in PEI. More and more, growers are branding the oysters according to the local source, such as Colville Bay or Raspberry Point. Can you tell the difference?

**Beach bits.** Swimming at PEI beaches is comfortable due to the presence of the gulf stream and the very shallow shelf, which allows the water to heat up quite nicely. Water

temperatures can reach 20°C (70°F) in July and August.

- some Island beaches are host to the nesting sites of the endangered Piping Plover.
- marram grass holds our beautiful, delicate sand dunes in place.
- PEI's coastline measures 1760 km (1100 miles).
- Naufrage was named after several shipwrecked sailors who settled in the area (Naufrage is the French word for "shipwreck").

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THROUGH THE  
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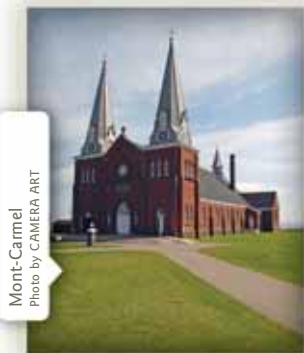
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Mont-Carmel  
Photo by CAMERA ART

- our “singing sands” at Basin Head make a squeaky noise due to high silica content.
- carrageenan, an extract from Irish moss found on PEI shores, is used in ice cream.

### CHURCHES ON PEI

If you are interested in attending a church service while on the Island or if you like to explore church architecture and stained-glass art, please visit our website at [gentleisland.com/churches](http://gentleisland.com/churches). Or feel free to drop by any of our Visitor Information Centres across the Island where our knowledgeable counsellors will be happy to assist you.

### FINDING YOUR PEI ROOTS

Many of our visitors are searching for their ancestors, and the Island has many resources to assist with that process. There are sites such as the Dalton Centre Museum in Tignish, the Acadian Museum in Miscouche, and the Alberton Museum and Genealogy Centre where visitors can research their roots. The provincial headquarters is located at

the Public Archives in Charlottetown.

A quick “genealogy” search of our government website [gentleisland.com/findyourroots](http://gentleisland.com/findyourroots) reveals many resources for those looking for information prior to visiting.

Are you getting together with family this year? Please call (902) 368-5540 for information on our Reunion Assistance Program.

### HERITAGE RIVERS

PEI now has two Canadian Heritage River systems; one at Hillsborough River area and the other in the Three Rivers area of Cardigan, Brudenell and Montague. The river systems have been recognized for their rich cultural history. Brudenell Point was the site of an early French settlement and the birthplace of one of PEI’s Fathers of Confederation, Andrew A. MacDonald. The Hillsborough River offers a varied set of experiences, from insights into the rich oyster fishery to the wildlife and birds of the river system, to the historical and cultural features of the area.



Bonshaw River  
Photo by BARRETT & MACKAY

# UPEI UNIVERSITY of Prince Edward ISLAND



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call **1.800.606.UPEI** visit **upei.ca/tours**

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**FISHING AND HUNTING**

If you are planning a fishing or hunting excursion, call (902) 368-4683 for information on licenses and other advice.

**DIG YOUR MEAL**

Many of PEI's shores are blessed with natural stocks of clams. Whether your preference is soft-shell clams, quahaugs or bar clams, there may be a "fishy" opportunity for you.

While a recreational licence to fish clams is not required, there are season, size and possession limits, and some areas are closed to shellfish harvesting. Soft-shell clams and quahaugs must be at least 50 mm (approx 2") in length and bar clams must be at least 102 mm (approx 4") in length



Clam Bake, Summerside  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER

for harvest. A recreational fisher cannot have in possession more than 300 clams, of which not more than 100 are bar clams and 100 are quahaugs. Specific questions on resource issues should be directed to the Department of Fisheries and



Confederation Trail, Morell  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER

Oceans at (902) 566-7812.

Please be mindful that this resource is also a vibrant commercial fishery on PEI and conservation is important.

**OUT OF THE SEA AND OVER THE COALS**

The PEI Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture performs seafood cooking demonstrations at locations all over the Island during the summer months. This tourist-friendly program, known as "Out of the Sea and Over the Coals," is publicized on the radio, newspaper and through our Visitor Information Centres.

**ON THE TRAIL**

Prince Edward Island is the first province to complete its section of the TransCanada Trail. The Confederation Trail was developed on abandoned railway lines more than a decade ago. The Trail is surfaced with finely crushed rock dust and is quite smooth and almost flat, making it easily negotiated on foot or by bicycle. The full tip-to-tip

distance on the Trail (Tignish to Elmira) is 274 kilometres. The Trail passes along the sea shore, by farm pastures and woodlots, and through many small communities as it links the opposite ends of the Island.

The Confederation Trail is a true all-season attraction as it is turned over to snowmobilers in winter. Bright plum-coloured gates mark the various entry points. There are several interesting branch trails that lead to places like Souris, Montague and Borden-Carleton. Visit [gentleisland.com/trailmap](http://gentleisland.com/trailmap) for a downloadable trail map or request the Confederation Trail map from our Visitor Information Centre (toll free).

An excursion on the Confederation Trail is a must-do for your vacation, whether you walk a small section in one of our cities or cycle the whole tip-to-tip distance. Keep in mind that on the Trail, or on the road, bicycle helmets are mandatory for cyclists.

The *TransCanada Trail Guide Prince Edward Island* charts the Confederation Trail in great detail. *Canadian Geographic* publishes this guide to PEI's section of the TransCanada Trail. Written by Sue Lebrecht, the 260-page guide covers services, flora, fauna and history, and provides maps in a section-by-section format.

**GREEN ISLAND**

As a small island province, Prince Edward Island depends on the land and the sea as the basis for its three primary industries – farming, tourism and the fishery. All three of these industries are interdependent, and all are contingent on a healthy environment where crops flourish, shellfish thrive, and visitors reap the scenic benefits. The Island has a turbulent history when it comes to land ownership. From the moment property rights were seized from absentee landowners, Islanders have taken issues surrounding land use and stewardship seriously. The residents of PEI are aware that all this hangs in a delicate balance, and the provincial government and the Island community are taking measures to protect what they believe to be a special and magical place.

The Prince Edward Island Government is taking the lead in implementing a Sustainable Resource Policy aimed at protecting and enhancing the agricultural and forestry resource. Some of the programs



Cornwall  
Photo by ANN MACNEILL

and legislation currently in place include:

- legislation relating to crop rotation and riparian buffer zones.
- the PEI Food Trust, supporting sustainable growing and harvesting practices. For more information, see their website [www.foodtrustpei.com](http://www.foodtrustpei.com).

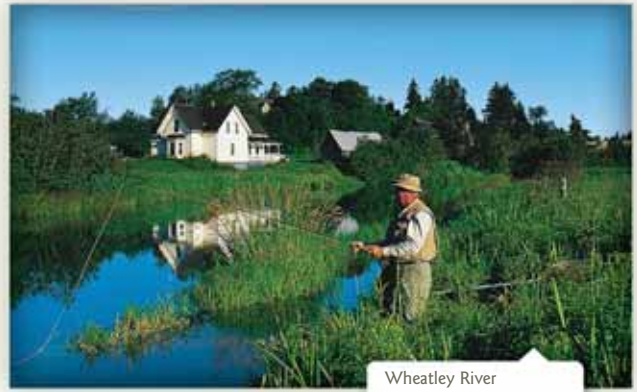


- programs to protect the Piping Plover, a bird at risk of extinction. When visiting PEI beaches, we thank you for respecting the marked nesting areas and signs that protect this endangered shorebird.
- the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program that provides support to communities to enhance streams and forests.
- the Young Environmentalist Program that hires students to work on stream enhancement, erosion control, etc.

- the annual Women's Institute Roadside Cleanup.
- anti-littering laws that administer fines up to \$50,000.
- support for the Island Nature Trust, which protects and manages natural areas through land acquisition, conservation, habitat restoration and education.
- the Green Power Program which sells power generated at the Atlantic Wind Test Site (North Cape) and East Point.
- land use and land ownership controls such as limitations to land ownership by residents, corporations and non-residents; subdivision controls; and protection of endangered Island landscapes by the L. M. Montgomery Land Trust. See [www.landtrust.ca](http://www.landtrust.ca).

Information on these and other programs can be obtained from Island Information Services or from [www.gentleisland.com/green](http://www.gentleisland.com/green).

Would you like to help keep the Island green? With



Wheatley River  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER

a \$30 donation you can do just that! You'll receive a 25-square-metre mapped piece of woodland from Island Nature Trust and a certificate stating that the land will be held in your name forever. To learn more about this, visit the Trees in Trust website [www.treesintrust.com](http://www.treesintrust.com).

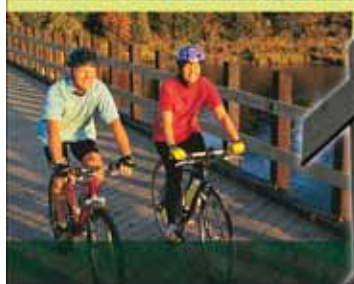
#### BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

As of 2008, most beverage containers sold in PEI, with the exception of dairy products, now carry a deposit

and are worth a cash refund when returned to one of the province's nine licensed depots. This includes pop and beer cans and bottles, juice and water bottles, wine and liquor bottles and tetra packs. Resources from this system will be used to ensure containers are properly recycled and will fund projects that protect and enhance Prince Edward Island's environment. See [www.beveragecontainers.pe.ca/](http://www.beveragecontainers.pe.ca/) for more details on this new program.



Osprey  
Photo by ANNI MACNEILL



# Confederation Trail

See where it takes you...

Follow the trail from tip to tip on Prince Edward Island. Experience spectacular scenery and discover the heart of the Island around every turn.



[www.gentleisland.com/nathan](http://www.gentleisland.com/nathan)

Let your journey begin on PEI's Confederation Trail, call Nathan

1-800-463-4PEI

**WASTE WATCH**

Prince Edward Island is proud to announce that the Waste Watch program is province-wide. This system of recycling and composting aims to reduce solid waste by 65%. When you visit the Island please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the green and black containers (bins) as well as our blue-bag system. See the website [www.iwmc.pe.ca](http://www.iwmc.pe.ca) for more information.

**INTERESTING SITES**

Take some time to “amble” across our province in typical Island style (which would mean, in no big hurry). You could find yourself exploring the past at historic sites; reflecting as you wander through the International Children’s Memorial Place (listed on page 140); strolling up Great George Street to visit Province House National Historic Site; enjoying a sunny day at Basin Head Fisheries Museum or taking in any number of our museum and heritage sites. Visit [www.gentleisland.com/sites](http://www.gentleisland.com/sites) for more great ideas.

**PUBLIC NATURAL AREAS AND WETLANDS**

Our Island is rich in public lands which are open to the public for hiking, biking, tours, outdoor education, hunting and fishing, where permitted. 33,000 hectares are set aside and managed for a combination

of economic, social and environmental goals.

Within the Public Lands, approximately 60 natural areas have been set aside to conserve and protect sensitive ecological sites. These sites may contain rare or threatened plant species, critical habitats for birds or animals, or unique ecological features.

We are also very proud of the almost 100 ponds and wetlands that are both natural and man-made habitats, rich in terms of biodiversity and critical to the survival of many species. Signage around PEI will direct you to these valuable natural resources.

For more information call (902) 368-6450.

**RUNNING AND CYCLING**

You can be active on our Gentle Island. If you enjoy running or cycling, take in a local 5k or 10k run, or participate in a cycling event while visiting us. On the road, or the trail, there are many organized amateur races and fun events for all levels of participants. Try the PEI Marathon in October! For the running event schedule see [www.peiroadrunners.ca](http://www.peiroadrunners.ca), for cycling [www.cpei.ca](http://www.cpei.ca).

**GLBT TRAVELERS**

A number of Prince Edward Island accommodations are GLBT friendly. For a listing of these properties, please visit [www.purpleoofs.com/canada/princeedwardisland.html](http://www.purpleoofs.com/canada/princeedwardisland.html).



St. Ann  
Photo by DAVID FALCONER

**HOLIDAYS**

- New Year’s Day (January 1)
- Islander Day (February 9)
- Good Friday (April 10)
- Easter Monday (April 13)
- Victoria Day (May 18)
- Canada Day (July 1)
- Civic Holiday (August 3)
- Labour Day (September 7)
- Thanksgiving Day (Oct 12)
- Remembrance Day (Nov 11)
- Christmas Day (December 25)
- Boxing Day (December 26)

**RODS, BIKES AND AUTOMOBILES**

PEI hosts a remarkable series of car shows running from May to September. Collectors, fans or anyone who loves cars will want to take in one of these shows:

- Vintage Vehicle & Street Rod Show (Charlottetown, May)
- Summerside Summer Shake Up Rod Run (June)
- Show and Shine (Brudenell in July)
- British Car Days Across the Bridge (Rustico in July)
- Mustang Show & Shine (Charlottetown in July)
- Dunstaffnage Summer Slam (in early August)
- Vettefest (Charlottetown in September)
- Island Rally (Brackley Beach in early September)
- Muscle Car Weekend (Oyster Bed Bridge, TBA)

Call our toll-free line 1-800-463-4PEI or visit our website [www.gentleisland.com/autos](http://www.gentleisland.com/autos) for details as the dates approach.

**TUNE US IN**

Tune in to weather and travel information on a local PEI radio station. FM: C102.1; CFCY 95.1; K-Rock 105.5; Magic 93.1; Ocean 100.3; CBC RadioOne 96.1; CBC RadioTwo 104.7; CBAFT 88.1

Visiting amateurs are welcome to use VHF facilities on PEI. Charlottetown: VY2CS - 147.99/39; VEICRA - 146.07/67; VEIHI - 146.34/94. Summerside: VEICFR - 146.25/85; VEIUE -147.72/12.

**QUICK PEI FACTS**

- population - 138,000
- cities - Charlottetown and Summerside



Oyster Bed Bridge  
Photo by LOUISE VESSEY

- time zone - Atlantic
- soil - red, due to iron oxide which rusts on exposure to air
- land area - 280 km (175 miles) from tip to tip. Total land area 5,656 sq km (2,184 sq mi)
- provincial bird - Blue Jay
- provincial flower - Lady’s Slipper



Cape Wolfe  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER

- provincial tree - Red Oak
- major industries - fisheries, agriculture, tourism
- daily newspapers - Guardian, Journal-Pioneer

**WHAT IF IT RAINS?**

Just in case you have a rainy day, here are some ideas for nice dry indoor activities:

- sign up for a hands-on craft making experience. Visit our *Once in a Lifetime* page [www.gentleisland.com/lifetime](http://www.gentleisland.com/lifetime) for choices. Try Metal Magic,

Play in Clay, then make some sea splash soap!

- visit a museum, but not just any old museum: wind energy, potatoes, seaweed, lobster fishing or an interactive history of the creation of Canada—just a few fun and dry places to visit.
- take in a matinee of *Anne of Green Gables—The Musical™*
- how about black light mini golf?
- follow a studio tour of craft shops across the Island.
- visit the Art Gallery at the Confederation Centre of the Arts, or any of the 12-plus galleries across the province.
- head east and check out the Island’s two distilleries or do a winery tour.
- take afternoon tea in a charming tea room.

**NIGHT LIFE**

Don’t fall asleep after a full day of fresh Prince Edward Island air! There are so many choices for nighttime



Fredericton  
Photo by ANN MACNEILL

entertainment, you may find yourself hopping from one spot to another in the same evening. To plan your night on the town, we recommend consulting the free monthly paper, *The Buzz* ([buzzon.com](http://buzzon.com)), available at many Island outlets, including Visitor Information Centres. You will find current listings for theatre, music, nightclubs, ceilidhs and restaurants. And City Cinema’s cozy theatre runs films all year long (schedule in *The Buzz*).

**GENUINE ISLAND HOSTS**

Look for this logo across the Island if you want to meet some of the best trained and most hospitable tourism operators anywhere. Our Genuine Island Hosts want to treat you like the special guest you are. Go ahead test their knowledge of PEI—bet you can’t stump them!



PEI Marathon  
Photo by JOHN SYLVESTER



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TRAVEL THAT TOUCHES  
**ALL OF YOUR SENSES.**

Discover in *Easterly* class a complete on-board **Maritime Learning Experience** with hosted activities events.

To learn more about the **Maritime Learning Experience** in *Easterly™* class, available during the summer months, or the *Comfort sleeper™* class, all year round, contact VIA Rail Canada at 1 888 VIA-RAIL (1 888 842-7245) ☎ TTY 1 800 268-9503 (hearing impaired) or visit [viarail.ca](http://viarail.ca).



A MORE HUMAN WAY TO TRAVEL



**CANADA GAMES  
COME TO PEI!**

From August 15-29 Prince Edward Island will be buzzing from tip to tip as Canada's top young athletes and artists converge here to compete and perform in communities from Alberton to Souris. Visit [www.2009canadagames.ca](http://www.2009canadagames.ca) for updates.



**BUY PEI**

Prince Edward Island really is just like one very large garden, and bonus—it is surrounded by an ocean full of lobster, oysters, mussels and other fish products. Be sure to look for locally produced items when you shop—why not visit a few Farmers' Markets, or pick up your supper at a roadside

stand? And some of our restaurants have been making extra effort to present menus made up of fresh Island foods. See the *Taste Our Island Award* winners on page 33 plus take a look at these four finalists: Dalvay by the Sea, Dayboat, The Pearl Cafe, and Victoria Village Inn. Visit [www.peifarmfresh.ca](http://www.peifarmfresh.ca) for a list of roadside markets and some farm tour ideas.

**MARINAS**

Marinas on Prince Edward Island are found at Charlottetown (the Yacht Club and Quartermaster Marine), Victoria, Alberton, Summerside, West Point, Borden-Carleton, Montague, Cardigan, Brudenell, Murray Harbour, Souris, Georgetown and Wood Islands.

**HERITAGE PLACES**

Prince Edward Island has been designating Heritage Places across the province and a

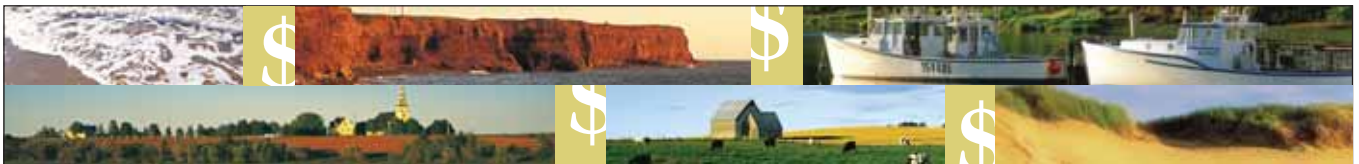


PEI National Park  
Photo by BARRETT & MACKAY

new website maps out the locations of the various sites which include historic buildings, homes, roadways and even cemeteries. Visit [www.peihistoricplaces.ca](http://www.peihistoricplaces.ca) where you can zoom in on locations across the Island to learn more about the province's important historic places. The site even offers heritage collector cards and has a few free posters available.

**VISIT US IN WINTER**

It's true that PEI is very popular in spring, summer and fall, but have you ever considered visiting us in winter? You should consider snowmobiling the Island from tip to tip, staying in a winter cabin, skating on a rink at Green Gables or joining us for the many carnivals and events. See [www.walkandseacharlottetown.com](http://www.walkandseacharlottetown.com) for details on the kid-friendly Jack Frost Festival in February.



In Prince Edward Island

**“A PICTURE IS WORTH  
A THOUSAND DOLLARS”**

Enter your photos in the new Prince Edward Island  
{ PICTURE THE ISLAND PHOTO CONTEST }

for a chance to win the \$1000 grand prize.  
Visit our website for contest rules and details including  
other prizes and how to enter.

[www.gentleisland.com/photocontest](http://www.gentleisland.com/photocontest)



The Gentle Island



# For six days, **Chef Michael's** kitchen is an entire island.



Join us at Fall Flavours, an Island-wide fine food festival with over 100 culinary events highlighting authentic Island tastes and traditions all in a sea of sunflowers. Take in one of many Interactive Taste Workshops from the gourmet to the traditional like the art of pickling and preserves, or cheese and wine pairing. Better yet, join local hosts and pick potatoes, dig clams, catch lobsters or harvest oysters.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Direct to the Source Product Experiences
- Interactive Taste Workshops with local artisans & The Culinary Institute of Canada
- Chef's Gala Dinner
- Farm Day in The City
- Taste Our Island Feast
- Organic Harvest Meal
- Brewmaster's Dinner
- Beer & Wine Festival
- Winemakers Dinner
- Prix Fixe Restaurant Menus featuring Island products

September 29th to October 4th, 2009

All-inclusive "Fall Flavours" getaway packages available at [fallflavours.ca](http://fallflavours.ca) or call 1-800-955-1864



# Symbols & Ratings

REST ASSURED! Tourism operators in PEI are committed to the quality and cleanliness of their properties. Islanders take great pride and time to ensure your accommodation or camping site is comfortable and well maintained.

All accommodations and camping sites listed in this Guide have been inspected to ensure they meet the province's and industry's standards. Before booking a property not listed in this Guide, please confirm that it is licensed and inspected.

Look for a posted license prior to check-in. It is your assurance that cleanliness and standards of comfort have been met. Our [www.gentleisland.com](http://www.gentleisland.com) website is updated regularly. New properties are added throughout the year, as they are licensed.

Information contained in this Guide has been supplied by the operators and the accuracy of descriptions is not guaranteed. Details included in listings are meant to assist consumers in making choices. Rate information, for many properties, is presented as a low to high range. The low rate is often the lowest off-season rate available and listings will contain the phrase "Prices include off-season

rates." If only one rate is shown, then it is the high rate and off-season rates are available directly from the property.

Prices are listed in Canadian dollars. Prices listed on the [www.gentleisland.com](http://www.gentleisland.com) website can be adjusted to display in the currency of your choice. Cancellation and deposit policies are set by the individual operator. Always check these policies prior to booking.

**The area code for all of Prince Edward Island is 902.**

Within each of the colour-coded regions, accommodations are listed alphabetically according to their rating category. Most listings show a *Canada Select* rating, which is based on a set of nationally accepted standards. If you stay at three-star properties elsewhere in Canada, you will find PEI three-star properties comparable. Ratings measure a property's facilities, services, quality and amenities. The rating program is voluntary and some operators choose not to participate; an unrated property does not imply low standards.

Based on consumer research, the *Canada Select* program



Within each of the colour-coded regions, accommodations are listed alphabetically according to their rating category. Most listings show a *Canada Select* rating, which is based on a set of nationally accepted standards. If you stay at three-star properties elsewhere in Canada, you will find PEI three-star properties comparable. Ratings measure a property's facilities, services, quality and amenities. The rating program is voluntary and some operators choose not to participate; an unrated property does not imply low standards.

- 1 Touring Region Location
- 2 Touring Region (colour coded)
- 3 Community Name (alphabetical)
- 4 Map Coordinates for Community Name
- 5 Name of Establishment
- 6 Accommodations Rating and category
- 7 Symbols
- 8 Telephone and Contact Information (at start of listing)
- 9 Description of Establishment

- 11 Listings Category
- 10 Rates and Dates of Operation (at end of listing)

recently revised the criteria it uses to assess accommodation properties and determine star ratings. Some accommodation operators have chosen not to include certain amenities newly required to maintain or achieve certain star ratings. This does not mean these establishments have reduced the quality of service to their guests. Please read the descriptions to ensure the amenities you are looking for are available at the property you choose.

**Categories and star definitions:**

- Resort (R)** – Destination properties which offer extensive recreational activities, on-site dining and private bath as well as many additional services.
- Cottage (C)** – Self-contained units offering private baths and cooking facilities (or provisions for dining on site). Units may be detached or linked, and include houses and housekeeping apartments, suites and condos.

**Bed & Breakfast/Hospitality Home (B&B)(HH)** – Private residences. Guest room is private, bathroom may be shared or private. Breakfast is available at B&Bs and often at tourist/farm/guest homes. Includes Breakfast Inns, which tend to be larger Bed & Breakfast properties.

**Inn (I)** – Properties offer breakfast and an evening meal on premises, and private en suite bath facilities. Some may use the term "inn" as part of their property name, but are actually categorized as B&B (or Breakfast Inn) according to the rating system.

**Hotel/Motel (H/M)** – These properties offer private bath and a range of guest facilities, services and amenities.

**CAMPING SELECT**

Campgrounds are rated using a two-tier system: *facilities/services (F)* evaluates entrance,

**CAMPING SELECT**

**CAMPING SELECT**

**The objectives of the Tourism Industry Association of Prince Edward Island are:**

- to advance the tourism industry in Prince Edward Island
- to strive for continued development and improvement of tourism facilities and services offered to the public
- to create a wider interest in the tourism industry among the general public in Prince Edward Island

Look for this logo in this Island Guide which signifies businesses committed to the objectives of the Tourism Industry Association of Prince Edward Island.

25 Queen Street, 3rd Floor  
Charlottetown, PEI C1A 7N7  
Tel: 902-566-5008 Fax: 902-368-3605  
tiapei@tiapei.pe.ca  
www.tiapei.pe.ca

store, restrooms, roadways, grounds, security, laundry, and general quality; *recreation* (R) evaluates programs, activities and recreational facilities, and is scored separately. *Camping Select* is a voluntary rating program in which some operators choose to participate.

### STAR RATINGS

Highest ratings on PEI:

- Cottage ★★★★★
- B&B ★★★★★
- Inn ★★★★★
- Hotel/Motel ★★★★★
- Resort ★★★★★
- Campground/RV Park ★★★★★



Access Canada is a four-level standard used by roofed accommodation operators to meet the needs of mature travelers and people with disabilities. The *Access Canada* program

is voluntary. Participating establishments have agreed to provide a minimum number of rooms at their *Access Canada* level. Please contact the establishment directly to ensure your specific needs can be met.

In PEI, 25 properties have chosen to participate in the program. The following is a brief description of the *Access Canada* levels:

- A1** seniors with normal aging limitations of hearing, vision and agility, and mild disability.
- A2** persons with mild hearing, visual impairments, and stamina, strength and agility limitations.
- A3** persons with moderate hearing and visual impairment or persons who are independent wheelchair users.
- A4** persons with severe hearing or visual impairment, persons who are deaf or blind, and persons who are dependent wheelchair users.

### SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- |  |                            |                |
|--|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>AE</b> American Express   | <b>DC</b> Diners Club      | <b>V</b> Visa  |
| <b>BA</b> Bank Americard   | <b>MC</b> MasterCard       | <b>B</b> bath  |
| <b>o/n</b> overnight   | <b>S</b> shower            | <b>m</b> metre |
| <b>km</b> kilometre  | <b>(u)</b> unserviced site |                |
| <b>(2w)</b> site with water and electrical hookups   |                            |                |
| <b>(3w)</b> site with water, electrical and sewage hookups   |                            |                |
| <b>(5w)</b> site with 3w hookups plus cable and telephone  |                            |                |
| <b>hsk</b> housekeeping unit – provides bedding, utensils, dishes, refrigerator and stove or hotplate (for light housekeeping) |                            |                |
| <b>A1</b> Access Canada Rating (A1, A2, A3, A4)  |                            |                |
| <b>♿</b> Accessible for persons with disabilities  |                            |                |
| <b>♿</b> Limited accessibility. Contact re: specific needs   |                            |                |
| <b>🍴</b> Food served   |                            |                |
| <b>🚭</b> Non-smoking   |                            |                |
| <b>🍷</b> Licensed to serve alcohol   |                            |                |
| <b>🏊</b> Pool, indoor or outdoor   |                            |                |
| <b>🏖️</b> Beach within 200 metres  |                            |                |
| <b>🐕</b> Pets welcome, usually on leash  |                            |                |
| <b>🚲</b> Cyclists welcome, properties offer cycling necessities  |                            |                |
| <b>🌬️</b> Air-conditioned establishment  |                            |                |
| <b>📶</b> High-speed internet access  |                            |                |
| <b>🏠</b> Genuine Island Host   |                            |                |
| <b>🎨</b> Arts and Crafts demonstrations  |                            |                |
| <b>FR</b> French services  |                            |                |
| <b>FR</b> Some French services   |                            |                |
| <b>🍁</b> Open off season: before June 15 and/or after Sept 15  |                            |                |
| <b>★</b> Canada Select and Camping Select rating   |                            |                |
| <b>TAPE</b> Member, Tourism Industry Association of PEI  |                            |                |



# Canada's Accommodation Rating Program

Quality Tourism Services Inc. 375 University Avenue  
Unit 1B, Mid-Town Plaza Charlottetown, PE C1A 4N4  
Phone: (902) 566-3501 Fax: (902) 566-3575  
E-mail: qts@qts.pe.ca



Atlantic Canada  
Opportunities  
Agency



Agence de  
promotion économique  
du Canada atlantique



★
★
★
★
★

Whether you are looking for a resort or a bed and breakfast, you'll find the answer in our stars. Use the Canada Select Accommodation Rating Program to help you select a property that best suits your preference while enjoying Canada. Based on consumer research, Canada Select assesses and rates properties to assure they will meet your expectations. All participating properties must meet rigorous cleanliness and maintenance standards that are uniformly administered.

Accommodations are rated within six different categories; Bed and Breakfast; Cottage; Inn; Fishing & Hunting; Hotel/Motel; Resort. The Canada Select sign is your assurance of quality, at more than 5,000 participating accommodations across Canada.

#### Star Definitions

- ★ Modest accommodations meeting the Canada Select standards of cleanliness, comfort and safety.
- ★★ Moderate accommodations with additional facilities and some amenities.
- ★★★ Above average accommodation with a greater range of facilities, guest amenities and services available.
- ★★★★ Exceptional accommodations with an extensive range of facilities, guest amenities and services.
- ★★★★★ Luxurious properties. Among the very best in the country in terms of the outstanding facilities, amenities and guest services provided.

1/2 stars are awarded to properties whose physical attributes reflect an enhanced level of quality

Ratings are issued and should be compared within the appropriate categories.

Benchmarks outlining specific facilities and services within each category star rating may be found at [www.canadaselect.com](http://www.canadaselect.com) or by contacting your local Canada Select office.