

ROM

Newfoundland Circumnavigation

September 11 to 22, 2026

A ROMTravel Art, Culture and Nature Trip
Small Ship Expedition



Figure 1: L'Anse aux Meadows. © D. Gordon E. Robertson, Wikimedia Commons, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported, 2010.

A Letter from Virginia Van Vliet

A Voyage Through Time: Explore Canada's Coastal History and Cultural Heritage

Join fellow Museum patrons on a remarkable 12-day journey that brings the history, culture, and natural beauty of Newfoundland to life. Sailing onboard the small ship "Ocean Nova", beginning and ending in St. John's, this curated itinerary offers a deep dive into the stories, landscapes, and communities that have shaped the North Atlantic region for centuries. From ancient Norse settlements to living Indigenous cultures and remote fishing villages, each destination is an opportunity to engage with the past and the present in meaningful and memorable ways.

Step Into History, Guided by Experts

This enriching voyage includes a visit to France's last foothold in North America, Saint Pierre, along with such UNESCO World Heritage sites as Gros Morne National Park and L'Anse aux Meadows, the first known presence of Europeans in the Americas and the only authenticated Viking site on the continent. You'll explore places that are rarely accessible to the public, including the isolated outport of Francois, and learn about the vibrant Mi'kmaq culture in Miawpukek. In the company of knowledgeable guides and fellow cultural enthusiasts, you'll experience a thoughtful, immersive exploration of Atlantic Canada's diverse heritage.

Travel with Purpose, Return with Perspective

Designed for those who value education, preservation, and meaningful travel, this expedition is more than a trip. It's a journey of discovery. We invite you to travel alongside fellow Museum supporters as we sail through history, one breathtaking coastal stop at a time.

Virginia Van Vliet



Figure 2: An iceberg in the water. © Mark Edward Harris, 2017.

Virginia Van Vliet Biography

Virginia is a past Co-Chair of ROMTravel, a ROM Trustee and a ROM volunteer. Virginia is excited to be coordinating this remarkable journey to the east coast of Canada.

ROMTravel Exclusives

Enjoy the company of a small group of friendly, like-minded fellow travellers.

Get personalized service from your dedicated ROMTravel Coordinator, Virginia Van Vliet.

Enjoy a pre-departure Expedition Orientation.

Reconnect and reminisce with fellow travellers at the Fall ROMTravel Reunion.

ROMTravel Contact Information

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Our Travel Provider: Adventure Canada



Adventure Canada is an award-winning family run travel company with more than 35 years' experience specializing in small ship cruises to the world's more remote coastlines. They engage, educate, and entertain by connecting people to each other and to the land through travel. Adventure Canada's pioneering approach to expedition cruises and small group experiences emphasizes wildlife, culture, learning, and fun.

Awards

TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Award

Cruise Vision Award

TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence

Best Adventure Cruise Line

Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth

Solo Travelers Choice Award

Certified Safe Travels Operator

Adventure Canada has been awarded a Safe Travels certificate by the World Travel and Tourism Council and the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario. This accreditation recognizes us as a global leader in our adopted health and hygiene protocols and

confirms our commitment to putting the safety, health, and security of our clients, staff, and crew before all else.

Trip Itinerary Overview

Date: September 11 to 22, 2026, aboard the “Ocean Nova” with a capacity of 78 guests.

Canadian residents may opt to use Adventure Canada’s in-house exchange rate (fixed quarterly) and pay for their voyage in Canadian dollars. Contact Adventure Canada for more details.

Cost: From \$9,595 USD per person, single, double or triple occupancy, depending on cabin category.

Single Supplement: Not available.

Flights not included:

- Flight to and from your home and St. John’s, NL

Trip Starts St. John’s, NL, Canada.

Trip Ends St. John’s, NL, Canada.



Figure 3: Francois. © Dennis Minty, 2010.

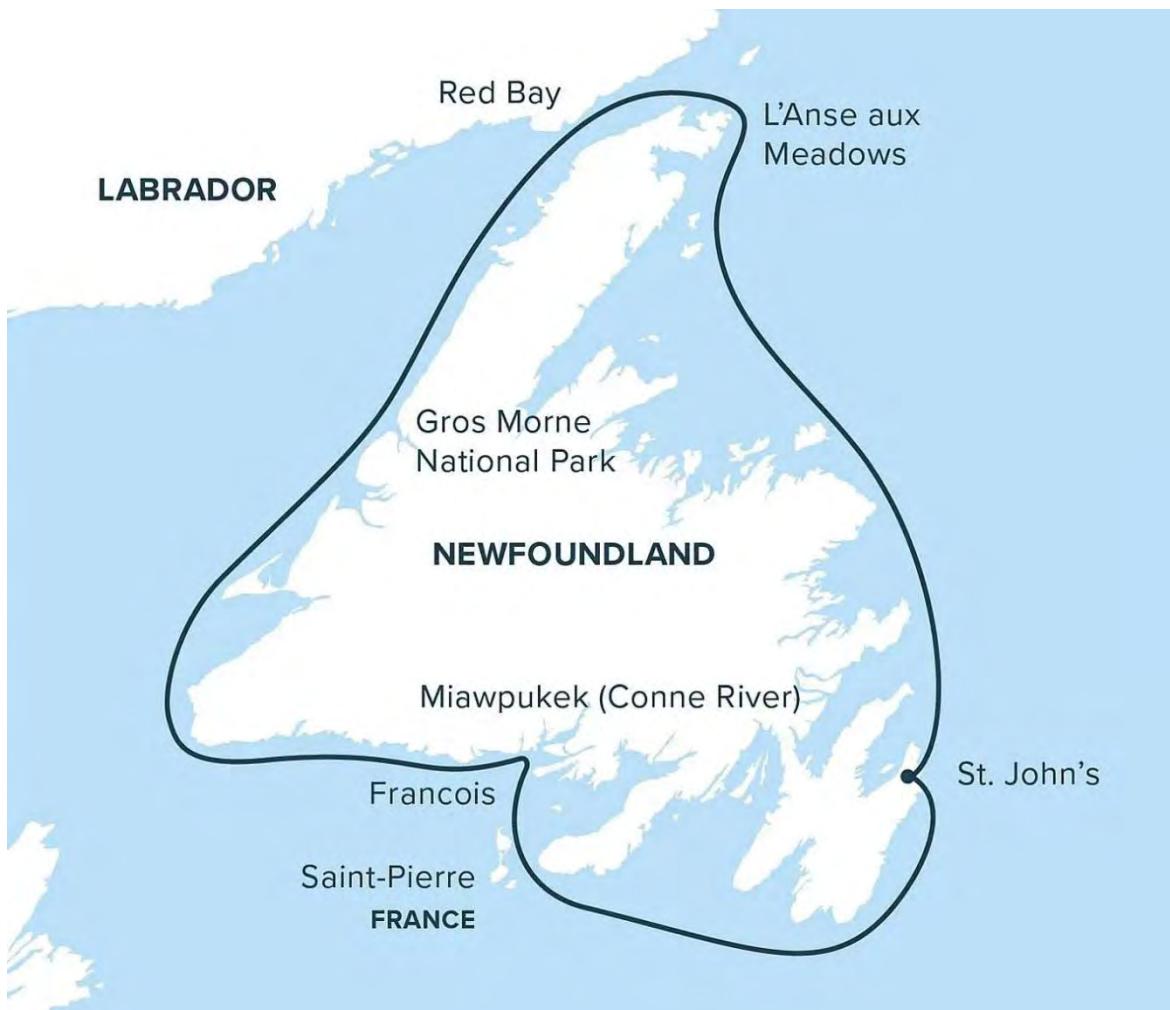


Figure 4: Map of Newfoundland, showing our planned route and ports of call.

Day 1 St. John's, NL, Canada

Day 2 Saint Pierre, France

Day 3 Miawpukek (Conne River)

Day 4 Francois

Day 5 Southern Coast

Day 6 and 7 Gros Morne National Park and Woody Point

Day 8 Red Bay

Day 9 L'Anse aux Meadows

Day 10 and 11 Northeast Coast

Day 12 St. John's, NL, Canada

Highlights

- Revel in Newfoundland's world-famous culture and hospitality.
- Enjoy authentic Newfoundland [music and arts](#) daily.
- Experience life in remote outports and fishing villages.
- Visit North America's only authenticated Norse [Viking settlement](#) at [L'Anse aux Meadows](#).
- Enjoy a warm Mi'kmaq welcome in Miawpukek First Nation.
- Get a taste of Europe on the French island of [Saint Pierre](#).
- Visit three UNESCO World Heritage sites: Red Bay, L'Anse aux Meadows, and Gros Morne National Park.
- Admire the spectacular geology at [Gros Morne National Park](#), where the Earth's mantle actually protrudes through the crust to form the unique mountainous formations of the Tablelands.
- Savour local dishes and meet the fishers and growers who make it happen through Adventure Canada's signature "[Taste of Place](#)" culinary program.

Daily Itinerary

Day 1 St. John's, NL, Canada

Begin your Adventure

Welcome to St. John's, Newfoundland's historic, vibrant capital. Sailing out of the port of St. John's, Signal Hill keeps watch as we exit the world-famous Narrows. The charming houses of the Battery are always a hit with shutterbugs. Watch for whales and seabirds as we sail!

Day 2 Saint Pierre, France

Visit European Shops and Cafés

Explore Saint Pierre, the last bastion of France's colonies in North America, and is still a French territory today. The colourful and charming shops and residences of the town of Saint Pierre reveal the island's unique historical character.

French food, wine, clothing, and culture are all on offer here. The sweets at the local cafés and bakeries are in high demand. Saint Pierre offers a taste of European living, just a short sail from the coast of Newfoundland.



Figure 5: Saint Pierre. © Mike Beedell, 2016.

Day 3 Miawpukek (Conne River) Experience Mi'kmaq Culture

The First Nations community of Miawpukek became a permanent

settlement sometime around 1822. Before then, it was one of many semi-permanent camps used by the Mi'kmaq people, who had traditionally travelled nomadically throughout the east coast of Canada.



Figure 6: Birch bark canoe making, Miawpukek. © Newfoundlandguy, Wikimedia Commons, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International, 2009.

Since its establishment as a reserve in 1987, Miawpukek has successfully bridged traditional knowledge and contemporary practice. We will receive a formal welcome from local leaders and have a chance to explore this special community.

Day 4 Francois **Kick up a Jig at a Kitchen Party**

The wild and windswept coast of southern Newfoundland is home to a few remaining outport communities. Experience the warm hospitality and adventurous spirit of Francois, a quaint and picturesque fishing village, with colourful homes and buildings that

offer visitors a glimpse into Newfoundland's coastal lifestyle.

Explore the town and hike to stunning lookout points and waterfalls. A day in Francois will stimulate your soul and remind you of the importance of good neighbours, stories, and music.

After a day of adventure, head to the community hall for an oversized kitchen party with treats, drinks, and dancing. Rediscover a bit of your own spirit, through the essence of Newfoundland's culture in this charming and resilient community.



Figure 7: Kitchen party, Francois. © Dennis Minty.

Day 5 Southern Coast **Explore Scenic Coastlines**

There are many choices of unique bays and coves to explore via Zodiac or land excursions. Along the coast, the geology is outstanding, and the plant life is gorgeous. We'll be on the watch for wildlife, too. We'll make the most of every chance to explore this beautiful and remote coast.

Day 6 and 7 Gros Morne National Park and Woody Point

Hike through Incredible Geology

Gros Morne National Park's Tablelands, a 600-metre (1,967-feet) plateau, forms one of the world's best examples of exposed mantle. Normally found below the Earth's crust, the mineral-rich rocks support very little life, making the Tablelands an eerie landscape.



Figure 8: Gros Morne National Park. © Dennis Minty, 2002.

Various walking and hiking options will be available. Views of Bonne Bay are spectacular. Gros Morne's interpretation centre is excellent, and the town of Woody Point is a delight to discover.

Day 8 Red Bay

Soak in Basque Whaling History

The Red Bay Basque Whaling Station became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2013. Basque whalers operated out of the Red Bay harbour in the 1500s. This was North America's first export industry.

At the interpretation centre at Red Bay, we will find tools, personal items, and navigational instruments recovered from the wreck of the whaling ship San Juan. The ship was lost in a storm in 1565 and found centuries later submerged in the harbour. We'll visit nearby Saddle Island to learn the history of the whaling industry.

Day 9 L'Anse aux Meadows

Immerse Yourself in Viking Archaeology

L'Anse aux Meadows, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is the only authenticated Norse settlement in North America. The archaeological remains found here in 1960 date to approximately 1000 CE. Amazingly, the location was first established by a close reading of the Viking sagas.



Figure 9: Entrance to a sod house, L'Anse aux Meadows. © D. Gordon E. Robertson, Wikimedia Commons, Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported, 2010.

Today, a superb interpretation centre and several reconstructed Norse-style sod buildings make L'Anse aux Meadows a must-see for any visitor to Newfoundland.

Day 10 and 11 Northeast Coast Visit Picturesque Villages and Charming Communities

The northeast coast of Newfoundland is known for the dozens of picturesque villages that dot its rocky shores, and we'll find harbour in one of these unique communities. Upon arrival, we will enjoy a characteristically warm Newfoundland welcome.

Photographers will have their work cut out for them, as they capture all the special charm of classic island communities and stunning coastlines.



Figure 10: Long Point Lighthouse, Twillingate.
© Jim Sorbie, Wikimedia Commons, Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic, 2017.

Day 11 St. John's, NL, Canada Wave a Fond Farewell

On the final day of our expedition, we will sail back through the Narrows and into St. John's harbour. We will say our farewells and the expedition team will be on hand to assist you with luggage and transportation arrangements.

Expedition Costs

All costs are per person in United States Dollars. Canadian residents may opt to use Adventure Canada's in-house exchange rate (fixed quarterly) and pay for their voyage in Canadian dollars. Contact Adventure Canada for more details.

Single Supplement: Not available.

All cabin category costs are per person and based on double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

Cabin Category 6 \$ 19,595

Single occupancy

Cabin Category 5 \$ 14,595

Cabin Category 4 \$ 13,595

Cabin Category 3 \$ 12,795

Cabin Category 2 \$ 11,595

Cabin Category 1 \$ 9,595

Triple occupancy

How to Book

To reserve your space contact Adventure Canada at 289.326.4781 or 1.800.363.7566 extension 225 or email Lauren Clewes at groups@adventurecanada.com.

Adventure Canada is a registered Ontario company, licensed to sell travel packages through the Travel Industry Council of Ontario (TICO). Adventure Canada is required to keep all customer deposits in Client Trust Accounts and may only use the funds

once the trip has begun, or to make a deposit to an operator on behalf of the client. Our Client Trust Accounts are subject to audit by a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) on an annual basis and are regularly inspected by TICO auditors. Adventure Canada's TICO Registration Numbers 4001400 and 50021860

Expedition Cost Includes

- Passage aboard the “Ocean Nova”.
- Applicable taxes and credit card fees.
- Complimentary expedition jacket.
- Special access permits, entry, and park fees.
- Expert expedition team.
- Guided activities.
- Sightseeing and community visits.
- All Zodiac excursions.
- Port fees.
- Pre-departure materials.
- Educational program.
- Interactive workshops.
- Evening entertainment.

- All shipboard meals.
- Internet access.

Not Included

- Flights to and from St. John’s NL.
- Program enhancements and optional excursions.
- Gratuities.
- Personal expenses.
- Mandatory medical evacuation insurance.
- Additional expenses in the event of delays or itinerary changes.
- Possible fuel surcharges and administrative fees.
- Pre-trip and post-trip hotel accommodation.

Expedition Jackets (Complimentary)

You will receive a complimentary expedition jacket to keep you protected from the elements. Designed specifically for expedition travel, your jacket is waterproof and windproof. This jacket is yours to keep as a coveted and useful memento of your adventure.

Specials and Incentives

League of Adventurers Loyalty Rewards Program

Exploring with Adventure Canada just got better with our exclusive loyalty program: The League of Adventurers. The number of people who keep travelling with us continues to grow and, in response, we want to thank our returning clients by offering special rewards and benefits. As a past traveller you are automatically a valued member of the League and eligible for special rewards.

- Save 5% when booking your second to fifth shipboard expedition operated by Adventure Canada.
- Save 10% when booking your sixth or more shipboard expedition operated by Adventure Canada.

Plus

- League of Adventurers welcome package.
- Early notifications of upcoming promotions and events.

Terms and conditions apply.

Multi-Trip Promotion

Receive 30% off the cabin cost when you book more than one Adventure Canada expedition (excluding Antarctica) in the same calendar year. Can be combined with the Free Single Supplement and League of Adventurers Loyalty Rewards Program.

Save 30% under 30

Save 30% on the cabin cost for travellers under thirty years of age. Can be combined with the Free Single Supplement and League of Adventurers Loyalty Rewards Program.

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Figure 11: Boats pulled onto the shore. © Dennis Minty, 2007.

ROMTravel is organized by ROM's Department of Museum Volunteers to provide support for the Museum. ROM is an agency of the Government of Ontario.

Alternate accessible formats are available upon request.

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