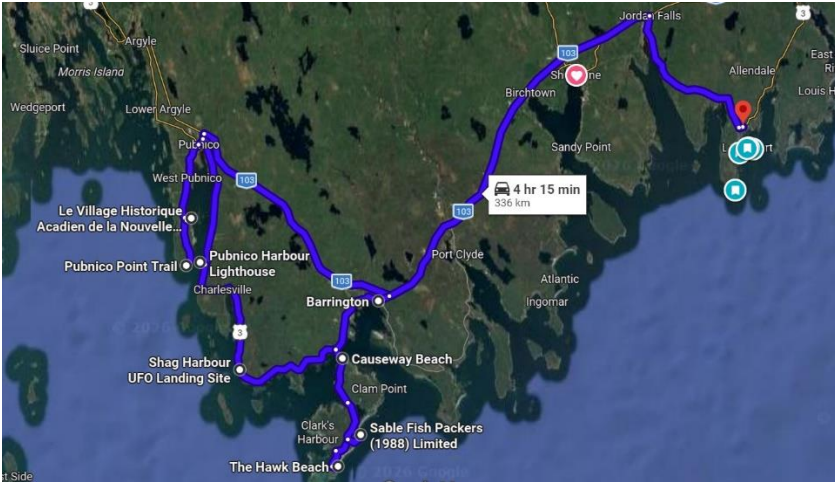


# Acadian Heritage, Lighthouses & Cape Sable Island



<https://maps.app.goo.gl/pwpTmPFMd8gM52dN7>

## A South Shore Nova Scotia Day Trip from Lockeport Campground

**Distance:** Approximately 336 km / 209 miles

**Driving time:** Approximately 4 hours 15 minutes

**Recommended:** Full-day excursion

**Highlights:** Acadian culture • Coastal trails • Fishing villages • Lighthouse • Shag Harbour • Cape Sable Island • Beaches • Seafood

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## Start Your Day — Lockeport Campground

Leave **Lockeport Campground** and turn **right** onto **Highway 3**.

Follow Highway 3 toward the **Highway 103** and turn onto **Highway 103 South** toward **Yarmouth**.

Today's adventure takes you through some of the most scenic and historically interesting communities along Nova Scotia's South Shore.

## Stop 1 — West Pubnico Coastal Trail



## Pubnico • Coastal Scenery & Wind Turbines

Exit Highway 103 at **Pubnico** and follow **Highway 3**, then turn onto **Highway 335** toward **West Pubnico**.

Continue along Highway 335 to the end of the peninsula, where you will find the **Pubnico trail area**.

### Take a Short Coastal Hike



This is a wonderful place to stretch your legs after the drive.

The trail follows the coastline and offers beautiful views over the water. You will also see the impressive **wind turbines**, which have become part of the landscape of this region.

**Trail difficulty:** Easy

**Route:** Loop

**Walking time:** Less than 1 hour

**Visitor Tip:** Bring a jacket — even on a warm summer day, the coastal wind can make the trail feel considerably cooler.

Take your time and enjoy the fresh Atlantic air before continuing your journey.

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## Stop 2 — Le Village Historique Acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse

### Discover the Story of Nova Scotia's Acadians

After your walk, drive back along **Highway 335** toward the **Le Village Historique Acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse**.

This is an excellent stop for anyone interested in the and culture of the Acadian people.

### L'Acadie — A Story of Survival



history



The story of the Acadians began in the 1600s, when French settlers came to what was then known as Acadia.

Drawn by the rich land and abundant resources of the sea, these early settlers learned to make a life in their new surroundings. They developed close relationships with the Indigenous people of the region and learned how to survive through **fishing, farming and hunting**.

One of the most remarkable achievements of the Acadians was their system of **dykes**.

They transformed coastal marshlands into productive farmland, allowing communities to grow and prosper.

Fishing also became an important part of everyday life. Fish were caught, salted and dried so they could be preserved for later use.

Over generations, the Acadians developed their own:

- Music and songs
- Traditions
- Food
- Language
- Customs
- Strong sense of community



But their story was also marked by conflict.

Wars between Britain and France eventually led to the **Acadian Deportation**, scattering Acadian families across North America and Europe.

Despite this upheaval, Acadian culture survived.

Over the following generations, Acadians returned to their traditional lands and rebuilt their communities. Today, Acadian culture remains a vibrant and important part of Nova Scotia.

The Acadian people continue to celebrate their heritage through their **flag, music, stories, national anthem and National Acadian Day celebrations**.

### **More Information**

Visit the museum's website before your trip:

**[museeacadien.ca](http://museeacadien.ca)**

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## **Stop 3 — Lunch at The Red Cap Restaurant**

After exploring the Acadian village, it's time for lunch!

# The Red Cap Restaurant

## Pubnico, Nova Scotia

The **Red Cap Restaurant** has been a favourite destination for locals and visitors for more than **75 years**.

This is a great opportunity to experience traditional local cooking and some of the seafood that makes Nova Scotia famous.

### 🍷 What to Try

The restaurant is known for traditional dishes such as:

#### Rappie Pie

or, for seafood lovers:

#### Broiled Haddock with Lobster Sauce

The restaurant works with local fishermen and farmers to bring fresh seafood, meat and produce to the table.

They also offer local beer and wine.

**Campground Tip:** If you're travelling as a larger group, check ahead about dining-room availability.

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## Stop 4 — Pubnico Harbour Lighthouse

After lunch, continue on **Highway 335** and return to **Highway 3**, heading toward East Pubnico.



Follow the signs toward **Lighthouse Road**.

After approximately **13 km**, turn right onto Lighthouse Road and drive toward the end of the road.

Park and take the short walk to the lighthouse.

### Pubnico Harbour

Pubnico Harbour is a long, deep inlet on Nova Scotia's southern coast, between **Cape Sable and Yarmouth**.

The communities of **East Pubnico, Middle East Pubnico and Lower East Pubnico** are located along the eastern shore, with additional communities on the western side.

The harbour has long been closely connected with fishing and the sea

## A Lighthouse with History

Plans for a lighthouse at Pubnico Harbour were considered as early as **1848**.

In 1852, a petition was presented to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly requesting a lighthouse at Pubnico Beach.

The lighthouse was eventually completed in **1853**.

**Maturin Amiro** became its first keeper, receiving an annual salary of £35 plus a £15 fuel allowance.

The lighthouse helped guide vessels using the harbour and became part of the area's maritime history.

Today, the location provides a wonderful perspective of the coastline — and it's particularly interesting because you can look back toward the area where you enjoyed your coastal walk earlier in the day.

 **Great photo opportunity:** Look across the harbour and imagine the fishing and sailing activity that has taken place here for generations.

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## Stop 5 — Shag Harbour

Return to **Highway 3** and continue toward **Shag Harbour**.

And keep your eyes on the sky...

You might just see something unusual! 

## The Shag Harbour UFO Story



In **1967**, the small fishing community of Shag Harbour became internationally known because of a mysterious incident in the waters off the community.

On October 4, 1967, witnesses reported seeing a strange object in the night sky before it apparently entered the water near Shag Harbour.

The incident resulted in an extensive search involving local residents and authorities.

No conventional aircraft was ever officially identified as the object.

The story has since become one of Canada's best-known UFO mysteries.

Shag Harbour already had plenty of local legends involving the sea — including stories of **sea serpents, giant squid and ghost ships**.

The mysterious 1967 event simply added another fascinating chapter to the community's folklore.

**Fun stop:** Take some time to explore Shag Harbour and learn more about the famous incident.

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## Stop 6 — Cape Sable Island

Continue along **Highway 3** toward **Barrington Passage**.

At the traffic lights, turn onto **Highway 330** toward **Cape Sable Island**.

**⚠ Don't Confuse Cape Sable Island with Sable Island!**

Cape Sable Island is connected to the mainland and is easily accessible by road.

**Sable Island**, famous for its wild horses, is a completely different island located far offshore in the Atlantic.

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## Scenic Drive Around Cape Sable Island

Take your time driving around Cape Sable Island.

This is one of the best parts of the trip for simply slowing down and enjoying the scenery.

You'll pass:

- Small fishing communities
- Working harbours
- Coastal roads
- Rocky shoreline
- Beaches
- Atlantic viewpoints



### **Take Time for the Beaches**

Cape Sable Island is known for its beautiful beaches and spectacular coastal scenery.

If the weather is good, allow extra time to stop, walk along the shore and enjoy the Atlantic.

This is a place where there is no need to hurry.



Stoney Island Beach

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# Optional Seafood Stop — Captain Kat's Lobster Shack

When leaving Cape Sable Island, if you're still hungry for seafood, consider stopping at:

## Captain Kat's Lobster Shack

A casual stop for seafood and a great way to finish your Cape Sable Island adventure.

 **Website:**

<https://captkatslobstershack.weebly.com/>

**Tip:** Check current opening hours before setting out, as seasonal hours can vary.

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## The Journey Home

After Cape Sable Island, return to **Highway 3** and continue toward **Barrington**.

From Barrington, get back onto **Highway 103 North**.

Follow Highway 103 toward the Lockeport area and return to **Lockeport Campground**.

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## Welcome Back!

**We hope you had a wonderful day!**

Today's trip took you through some of the places that make Nova Scotia's South Shore so special.

You experienced:

FR **Acadian history and culture**

 **Atlantic coastal trails**

 **Fishing communities**

 **Historic lighthouses**

 **The mystery of Shag Harbour**

 **Cape Sable Island beaches**

 **Fresh Nova Scotia seafood**

From the traditions of the Acadian people to the stories of fishermen, lighthouse keepers and UFO sightings, this corner of Nova Scotia is full of history, character and beautiful scenery.

**Drive safely, take your time, and enjoy the scenic South Shore!**

 **Your Adventure Starts and Ends at**

**Lockeport Campground**

3318 Highway 3, Lydgate, Lockeport, Nova Scotia

**902-830-7091**

*Road conditions, attractions, restaurants and seasonal opening hours can change. Check ahead before leaving, especially outside the summer season.*