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Nova Scotia, 2nd (Bradt Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Virtually surrounded by the sea, the ocean's salty waters pulse through Nova Scotia's historic veins. This new edition of Nova Scotia delves deeper than any other guide to reveal the best of this fascinating province both on and off the beaten track. It includes detailed sections on topics such as wildlife, history, culture, sights and cuisine covering the best B & Bs, wineries, beaches, remote villages and top spots to see moose and seals while cycling and walking. David Orkin lives in the province.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Orkin makes a compelling case for Canada's second smallest province, where more Gaelic is spoken than in Scotland, and where you're as likely to spot a whale as a black bear. He punctuates generic guidebook information (history, geography, where to stay and what to do) with lively fact boxes on the region's quirky diversity, such as the history of the lobster-peg industry, or an account of the arrival, in 1899, of the province's first car....”

“Whale-watching from Digby Neck, sea-kayaking off Tangier and driving the Cabot Trail: three of the thrills waiting in one of Canada's most accessible and fascinating provinces. David Orkin's inspirational guide ranges from the capital, Halifax, to St Paul Island and the "Graveyard of the Gulf" (of St Lawrence), where 350 ships have been wrecked: "When fishermen came to St Paul in spring, they would find the frozen bodies of shipwreck survivors who had managed to scale the island's cliffs only to perish from exposure and starvation".

.....”

The Independent

David Orkin is a freelance travel writer whose work appears regularly in leading publications such as The Independent, Wanderlust, Food & Travel and Conde Nast Traveller. Shortly after completing the first edition of Nova Scotia, David and his family moved to the province. David can now enjoy life in Nova Scotia year round as an “insider”, but is also able to look at the province from the point-of-view of a visitor.

After returning from a ten day vacation from Nova Scotia I would highly recommend this guide to anyone planning a trip. Our trip was a combination of Camping in Cape Breton Highlands National Park and a few nights in small motels/inns along our travel routes. We found most of the guide to be very on point and found the restaurant guides particularly helpful in the more remote areas. The extra tidbits of information/history, etc were a nice little bonus. Could we have found a majority of the information online? Certainly. But traveling outside our country and having to rely on public wifi for internet access to decide where to go for dinner or what attraction to visit the next day is not something that appealed to us. We appreciated we could be in the car and plan interesting side trips or where to stop for lunch in two minutes..opposed to the time and hassle stopping to look for and using public wifi or racking up outrageous international data charges on our smartphones. Overall...pleased with purchase and felt it was worth price we paid.

The good news is the bad news--there's a huge amount of detail. As a result, it can be difficult to scan the information. I did find the regional aspect helpful, but would have liked more general information and less specific information regarding hotels and restaurants. As with all travel guides, another challenge can be how quickly they go out of date. Given the resources available using the Internet and Smart Phones, travel guides need to rethink their purpose and content. I use them for armchair browsing but do my serious planning online.

Along with a guide on Quebec, this is the most interesting travel read I've picked up. It does not compile a list of every hotel and restaurant as many books do. Rather, the author provides highlights of the best places to hit. He also tells some interesting tales, such as the one about Oak Island and its buried treasure. I found myself in many cases wanting to know more and going online. Thanks to him I learned about a couple of ship wrecks I had not known about. The maps are localized and specific to the area he is discussing at the time which is very handy. It means I don't have to flip back and forth to a main map. Mr Orkin has broken down the sections to "Where to Eat",

"History", and such. There are a number of colour photos in the middle of the book.

Excellent coverage of Nova Scotia which deserves a full guide to itself. So much to see and do there and David shared so many wonderful tips and history of the area. Loved it and highly recommend this book...and more people should discover Nova Scotia...a real gem that is not well-known enough to USA tourists.

I've looked at a lot of guide books on Nova Scotia, and this is by far the most informative of them all. Lots of detail, suggestions, and good maps. If you only buy one book for your trip to N.S., this should be it!

This guide did a good job of describing many of the small villages throughout Nova Scotia. the local background information I found particularly interesting. Based on our experience of the places visited, Orkin's write ups were reliable and on target. Restaurants and accommodation information was a bit thin. TripAdvisor was better at that.

Needs serious updating. This was the only guide I could find for this treasure of a place. The guide proved disappointing on several occasions due missing listings in several areas. Seems more geared to the camper. Our return trip by ferry from Yarmouth came about from the Internet not the guide that predates the ferry service. The overall format could be spruced up to make finding places and how to get there easier. Nova Scotia is a great destination!

We had a general guide to the Atlantic provinces but since we planned on spending most of our trip in Nova Scotia, we bought this as our second guide. I like it because it is very detailed. So I consider this our main guide for the biggest part of our trip .

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