WELCOME TO CAPE SPEAR
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
OF CANADA

You are now at the easternmost point in North America, surrounded by cliffs and spectacular waves. In the distance, you can also see St. John’s and Signal Hill National Historic Site, where Cabot Tower watches over the city like a sentinel. We invite you to come discover the many attractions that Cape Spear Lighthouse National Historic Site has to offer.

SPOTLIGHTING OUR PAST

Cape Spear Lighthouse was designated a National Historic Site of Canada for its age and architectural significance. Built in 1835 by the Colony of Newfoundland to signal mariners on the approach to St. John’s harbour, Cape Spear Lighthouse was in continuous operation from 1836 to 1955. The building has changed over the years, but when it was acquired by Parks Canada in 1975, it was restored to its 1835-1840 appearance. Take the time to explore the lighthouse with our guides and learn more about it, its keepers and their families, who guided the sailors and ensured their safety along the Newfoundland shore for more than a century.

A FORTIFIED CAPE

Did you know that Cape Spear played a crucial role during the Second World War? Fort Cape Spear contained a coastal defence battery and numerous other buildings. From 1941 to 1945, Canadian and U.S. troops occupied Fort Cape Spear. We invite you to explore the remnants of this significant period in history.

TIME WELL SPENT

There is plenty to do at Cape Spear. Spend an hour, or spend the day!
• Get your admission ticket and discover more than 170 years of history inside the historic lighthouse.
• View the lighthouse exhibit at the Visitor Centre.
• Tour the full site with our passionate and knowledgeable guides.
• Drop by the gift shop and get a souvenir of your experience at Cape Spear.
• Walk to the most easterly point in North America. It’s only five minutes from the parking lot and it’s wheelchair accessible!
• Sit on a rock, stare at the ocean and waves, breathe deep and simply enjoy your time at this unique place!
• Enjoy the wildflowers, but please touch with eyes and cameras only!

HOURS OF OPERATION

Facilities and Guide Services
Mid-May to mid-June
Wednesday to Sunday (closed on Monday and Tuesday)
10 am to 6 pm
Mid-June until first Monday of September
Daily 10 am to 6 pm
September to mid-October
Saturday to Wednesday (closed on Thursday and Friday)
10 am to 6 pm
Site is not maintained during winter

ADMISSION FEE

Includes access to the historic lighthouse, Explora and Xplorer programs and on-site guided interpretation (HST included)
Adult........$3.90 Family/Group (up to 7 people).........$9.90
Senior........$3.40 Commercial Group (per person).....$3.40
Youth..........$1.90 School Group (per student).............$1.90

FOR INFORMATION

Cape Spear Lighthouse
National Historic Site of Canada
P. O. Box 1268 St. John's, NL
(709) 772-5367
(709) 772-0284 (off season)
(709) 772-4210 (fax)
pc.gc.ca/capespear
cape.spear@pc.gc.ca
 ParksCanadaNL

Aussi disponible en français
Welcome to Cape Spear Lighthouse National Historic Site of Canada

Come see the most easterly point of land in North America! From this spectacular location, the lighthouse has guided the way for mariners entering and leaving St. John’s Harbour for over 150 years. Here, the light keeper’s duties have passed on from one generation to another through the Cantwell family. Cape Spear also took on a whole new significance during World War II, since a coastal defence battery equipped with two 10’ guns was built to protect the entrance of St. John’s Harbour. We invite you to stroll the walkways and explore the landscape. We hope you will enjoy your visit at the eastern edge of the New World.

1. Kiosk
   - This is where your experience starts!
   - You can also pay your admission ticket to visit the historic lighthouse at this point.

2. World War II Bunkers
   - Explore what remains of a coastal defense battery that was constructed here to protect the entrance to St. John’s Harbour during the Second World War.

3. Most Easterly Point
   - Where you stand now is either the beginning of Canada or its end! Can you spot a whale or an iceberg?

4. Visitor Centre/Gift Shop
   - Take some time to learn more about the lighthouse structure and lighting mechanism.
   - You may also have a peek at the souvenirs available at the Historic Sites Association gift shop.

5. Coast Guard Building
   - Have a look inside! There is an inspiring art gallery featuring more than 60 Newfoundland lighthouses by local artist Leslie Noseworthy.
   - (Separate admission fee - $1 applies)

6. Coast Guard Automated Lighthouse
   - Operating since 1955 (not opened to the public)

7. Historic Lighthouse
   - Step back in time and discover the life of a light keeper in 1839. We will guide you while you are exploring the lighthouse and its secrets.

8. Coastal Trails
   - The well renowned East Coast Trail crosses Cape Spear path. Take some time to explore the trail and admire the scenery. Stay on trails at all times; as appealing as the rocks can be, you never know when the next rogue wave will hit!

- Pets are welcome on site but must be kept on a leash
- Interpretation programs and guided tours
- Service available in both official languages
- Hiking trails
- Interpretation panels
- Panoramic views
- Picnic facilities
- Danger: rogue waves

TRAILS

- MOST EASTERLY POINT TRAIL - Easy
- EAST COAST TRAIL (from the main parking lot)
  - To Maddox Cove: 10.5 km (one way) - Intermediate
  - To Blackhead: 3.7 km (one way) - Intermediate
- LIGHTHOUSE TRAIL - Intermediate (stairs)