

# Travel Log – New Brunswick

08-07-2015

By the way nobody told us that it could rain in Canada in the summer which it did for most of our 3 plus hours drive to Saint John. Ludwig van Beethoven made the drive easier at least to the ear if not the rear.

When New Brunswick came before the almighty (probably late Friday afternoon) the Lord said: Sorry, all I have left is lots and lots of trees and one medium size river. This is not fair said New Brunswick. Look at what you gave Quebec: mountains, gorges, waterfalls and other good stuff. The Lord hesitated and said: OK I'll give you the Bay of Fundy with the high and low tide but I am not sure exactly how it works. You'll have to read the manual to figure it out. I think it is low in the morning and high in the afternoon and the river reverses or something. Are you happy now? So far we only saw the trees and the river and a bit of the low tide. But we were assured that by the time we leave we'll be singing New Brunswick's praise. All kidding aside Saint John the first town in Canada ( ! ) is beautiful. The architecture of the heritage homes is fascinating at times breath taking including the Shaarei Zedek synagogue.





Watch the before and after tide photos of the Reversing Falls.



This is the water level at low tide



This is the same from the same spot – High tide





<https://youtu.be/Y5PYR6hE504>



<https://youtu.be/OMUsvkpuy28>

The NM Museum had a unique exhibit about Moths. Did you know that in Canada there are 22000 species This artist replicated the liking of some of them in this collection.



We spend the evening on a boardwalk Cafe being entertained by Saint John's Idol singers.



We're having lots of fun but it is also hard work that few seniors our age would even try.



<https://youtu.be/s4MfWPguAuo>

09-07-2015

St. Andrews. The Mecca of Golf, home to the most prestigious Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews hosting the 2015 British Open scheduled to tee off in a few days.



That is not where we were today. We were in St. Andrews, New Brunswick. A quaint, once a fishing village and now a summer cottage resort town.





St. Martins. A place where we were married some 52 years ago and where we had one of our first pre-Alexandra all family vacation. We were not in any of these places today but we were in St. Martins, New Brunswick north of St. Johns on the scenic Fundy drive. Some lobster cakes and chowder later we are back for an afternoon rest.



In between we drove through the Irving National Park where we walked a mile and drove 10 on our way to St. Martins.



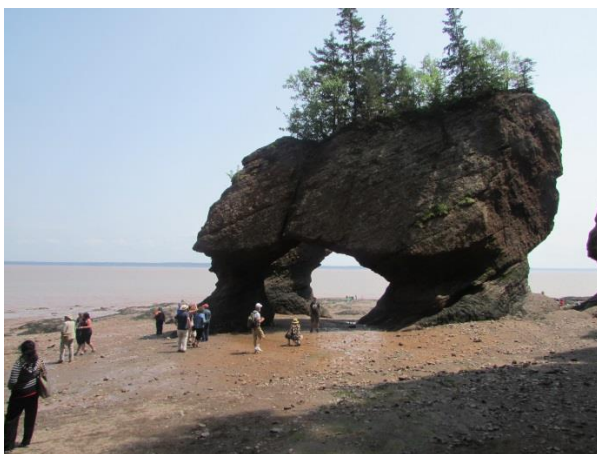
Driving long distances on traffic free, mostly flat and fast highways leaves a lot of time for thinking, contemplating and introspecting. It occurred to me that I should seek a second career as a driving instructor (Stop!). Just this week I drove more than 2000 kilometers. I have driven in many countries on multitudes of roads from crazy bad (Costa Rica) to incredibly smooth (like on this trip). I have driven on the Left and on the Right side of the road regardless of the country's official side. I drove through so many side roads that people with a good sense of direction will never have an opportunity to drive on, and (seriously) I did not have a single traffic violation in the past 12 or more years. I think that this automatically qualifies me as an instructor. But that's not all. Being a marketing consultant I plan to differentiate myself by focusing exclusively on a niche market and brand myself as "Go To" instructor. The market I am targeting is that of female teenagers, first time drivers like Erin (Stop!). Think about it. As a pre-senile senior the parents are assured of the safety of their child, females generally exercise more respect toward seniors and are generally better and safer drivers. I plan to call my school GrandPadre (for Grandpa Driver Education). What do you think?

10-07-2015

We heard a lot about and actually experienced the warm and friendly nature of the people in Eastern Canada. When we stop people to ask for directions which we do way too often they go out of their way. They are also quick to strike a conversation. Last night we were waiting on the boardwalk for a table to free up at an outdoor Bistro. 3 ladies at the nearest table on their 5th or 6th beer immediately invited us to join their table as they were just about to leave. Before too long we discovered that one of them has 2 sons of Bulgarian decent and the others best friend was Israeli and it was not the beer, I swear.

But there is something wrong going on in New Brunswick. We drove by an unusually high amount of "For Sale" signs in front of homes. There seems to be an exodus from the province or as one of the ladies at our table said: "we're dying here, there is no work"

Finally a Ahah moment. We finally hit the jackpot at Hopewell Rocks. This is a world-wonder. We first arrived at the low tide and will be back tomorrow for the high tide. We are told but would need to see it with our own eyes that by high tide the rocks will be covered by waters. One guy said all the way to the tree roots. New Brunswick - you did it, totally worth the "price of admission".





Did you get it?



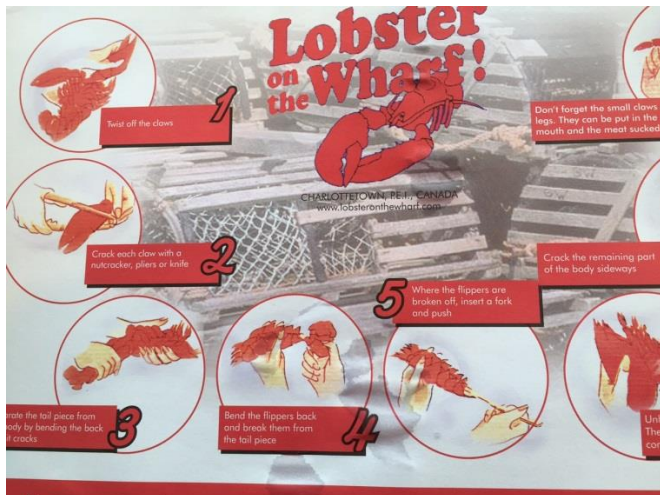


New Brunswicker (s) have a fascination with Pizza and Ice Cream parlours. They are everywhere. Urban and Rural. The cultural or heritage reasons for it will remain unknown.

The first Lobster dinner in Shediac, NB a town whose logo is a lobster and Gabriele the "best lobster in town" mom's verdict: a perfect 10.



You need to know how to eat a lobster. Eating Lobster 101:



No Canadian report can be complete without a comment about the weather. So far except for half day during a long drive – perfect: sunny and warm.

11-07-2015

The High tide advertisement was a little hyped up but still very impressive. We returned to Hopewell Rocks for the high tide and indeed it rose 40 feet (!) above the sea bed level we travelled on yesterday. More impressive than that was to see a vast area of the ocean floor fully exposed yesterday was all water.



Today we crossed the 3000 kilometer mark. We would like to officially apologize to the environment for burning so much fossil fuel. But this is the only way to see the country and its abundance and beauty. I bet Canada was in to see the almighty first thing on Sunday morning, probably before the opening.