

Digby Area Trails – prepared by the Digby Area Tourism Association

1. Just outside **Digby in Hillgrove**, you will find the **Acacia Valley Brook Trail and Extension**. A wonderful place to experience a “forest bath,” this 6 km loop will take you along babbling brooks and waterfalls, through a variety of wetland habitats and under huge old growth Acadian forest stalwarts such as hemlock and yellow birch. Starting in the easterly direction there is a limited mobility access section leading to a nice platform overlooking the brook. Further along are picnic tables. Lots of options.
Directions: From Digby, follow Highway 303 passing under Highway 101 and follow the Acacia Valley Road which becomes Ridge Road (Hillgrove). Turn left on Mill Road, just past the Digby airport. Park at the bottom of the hill, at the end of Mill Road, just after passing over a small bridge.
2. At the end of **Lighthouse Road**, a ten minute drive from **Digby** on the Bay of Fundy Shore, is beautiful **Point Prim**. The site has recently been developed to include a short limited mobility access trail leading from the gravel parking lot past the lighthouse and out to the shore. Along the way are two informative interpretive panels, one describing the history of the Point Prim Lighthouse and area and the other showcasing the natural history. On the west side of the lighthouse the trail branches to an area overlooking the rugged basalt coastline. This is a favourite spot to watch the sunset. There are picnic tables and benches. The site is maintained by the Friends of Point Prim. Donations are encouraged for the upkeep and maintenance of the trail and lighthouse site. There is a donation box at the entrance to the trail.
3. **Digby Rail Trails (Scallop Fleet View Trail and Basin Sunset Trail)** This trail is suitable for both hiking and cycling and starts right in Digby and follows along the water to Smith’s Cove. You can get onto the path at the south end of Queen Street, simply turn right onto the old railroad tracks and enjoy! Depending on how far you wish to go, you can get as far as the Bear River lighthouse (11 km one-way), or stop and relax at one of the beaches along the way. There are some beautiful views of Digby and the Digby Gut along the way as well.
4. **High Cliff Cove Trail, Gulliver’s Cove**. A 20 minute drive from Digby on Highway 217. Look for the trail signs at the Gulliver’s Cove turn off. The trail entry point is at the end of the road next to the old wharf. A 500 m hike to the shore reveals a picnic area and a spectacular view of the high basalt cliffs above the cove.

Long Island Trails (4 trails)

5. Balancing Rock Trail, Tiverton. A beautiful nature trail (1.7 km) that winds through bogs, wooded areas and ends with a steep descent over basalt ledge to the famous **Balancing Rock** on the shore of St. Mary's Bay. The trek to and from the shore and viewing platforms involves 235 steps. Caution must be used if you have health risks. The steps are slippery when wet. There are several interpretive panels at the entrance and along the trail, everything from the amazing geology to the unique plant life you will see. Picnic tables and toilet facilities next to the parking lot.
Directions: Follow Highway 217 to the end of Digby Neck at East Ferry; cross Petit Passage on the little car ferry to Tiverton. Balancing Rock is about 10 minutes from Tiverton on the left. The site is well signed.

6. **Althouse Trail and Lookoff, Tiverton.** This trail is an easy 10 minute walk (one-way) with scenic views of Petit Passage and Tiverton Harbour. After disembarking from the ferry, park in the parking lot at the wharf to the right. From there walk up the road, past the red gate and up the hill to the trail entrance. There is a short hike to the lookoff. A nice bench allows you to sit, relax and take in the great view. Back out on the road, a 10 minute walk further along will take you to a picnic area next to the Boar's Head Lighthouse.

7. **Put it all together with a Bay to Bay Long Island Buffet.** Spend a day or two on Long Island and take in four great little trails. The first is not far from the ferry landing in Tiverton; park at the wharf parking lot, turn right and head up the hill towards Boar's Head Lighthouse to the Althouse Trail, a few hundred metres on the right. A short trail leads out to a spectacular view of Tiverton and Petit Passage. It's worth the time to drive or hike to the end of the road to the lighthouse. The second trail leads to Nova Scotia's iconic **Balancing Rock**, a basalt column teetering next to St. Mary's Bay. This 1.7 km trail follows through bogs, wooded areas to the steep shore. It's great fun to descend the 235 steps to the viewing platform and a great workout on the return trip. Third is the **Central Grove Provincial Park trail** leading from the parking lot about 1 km to the Bay of Fundy shore. Mixed forest and beautiful wildflowers amid basalt outcrops take you down a gentle slope to the cobble at the shore. Relax on the viewing platform or beachcomb among the polished cobble stones. The fourth stop on the buffet of hikes is **Fundy View Trail** in Freeport. From the parking lot you can simply hike the short distance to the viewing platform, or continue on to the trail along the shoreline of the Bay of Fundy, including a hike out to Beautiful Cove.

Brier Island Trails

8. **Fundy Vistas.** Hike all the way around Brier Island (2 days worth of hiking)! Hike from Northern Light all along the coast on the North side of the Island past Western Light and over the **Nature Conservancy Trail** to Pond Cove on the southern side of the Island. From there you will have to wander the gravel roads that lead you back into the village of Westport. Be sure to visit the Joshua Slocum monument and enjoy the view of Peter's Island and Grand Passage.

Directions: Follow Highway 217 to the end of Digby Neck at East Ferry; cross Petit Passage on the little car ferry to Tiverton. Drive the length of Long Island to Freeport and take the car ferry across Grand Passage to Westport, then follow the signs to all the great hiking.

Spectacular Digby Area Trails on Private Land

1. **Mount Shubel, Sandy Cove.** A 25 minute drive from Digby on Highway 217. Just past the Digby Neck Fire Hall half way down the hill on the right is a private driveway (small cottage close to the road). The trail is on private land, but the owner welcomes respectful hikers, at your own risk. Park along the side of the driveway near the trail entrance. The climb is aided with ropes along the side and can be challenging. The view of Sandy Cove is worth the quest to find the trail and the steep hike up.
2. **TR Falls, Sandy Cove.** A 25 minute drive from Digby on Highway 217. In Sandy Cove, turn left on Sandy Cove Road, then right on Wharf Road. Park at the wharf. Walk back up Wharf Road, turn right on Sandy Cove Road, then left on Old Post Road. Walk 1 km to the last house. The entrance to the trail is past the house on the right. Hike down toward the shore. Use lots of caution around the falls. One of Digby County's highest waterfalls.