

# Shelburne County Beaches



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 barmuseumcomplex@eastlink.ca  
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- Barrington Woolen Mill Museum
- Old Meeting House Museum
- Seal Island Light Museum
- Cape Sable Historical Society & Genealogy Center
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**Museum Hours**  
 Mid-May to Mid-October  
 Open Daily 10am - 5pm

**Contact Information**  
 119 Old Birchtown Road  
 Shelburne, NS · BOT 1W0  
 Office: 902-875-1310  
 Museum: 902-875-1293  
 Fax: 902-875-1352  
 www.blackloyalist.com  
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# Beyond the Ordinary Beaches



discovershelburnecounty.com

3 Sunrise – Stoney Island Beach



### Visitor Information Centres

- Clark's Harbour 902-745-2586
- Barrington 902-637-2525
- Shelburne 902-875-4547
- Lockport 902-656-3123



### TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Shelburne County Tourism Association  
discovershelburnecounty.com

Photo Credits: Ken Chetwynd, Russel Crosby, Christine Curry, Marilyn Johnston, Kim Walker, Bird Studies Canada



### 1 The Hawk Beach Highway 330 - The Hawk, Cape Sable Island, New Road

The Hawk Beach has been scoured by the ocean for thousands of years, exposing a unique drowned forest, believed to be 1500 years old. In the distance The Cape Light, the tallest lighthouse in Nova Scotia, stands guard. Come and explore this mysterious wonder on Nova Scotia's southernmost tip, Cape Sable Island. Bring a picnic, your camera and experience something quite "Beyond the Ordinary".

- Facilities:** port-a-potty during the summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking  
**Parking:** roadside parking  
**Access:** path  
**GPS:** Lat 43.415975 - Lon -65.614321

Eastern Cape Sable Island Important Bird Area  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS016

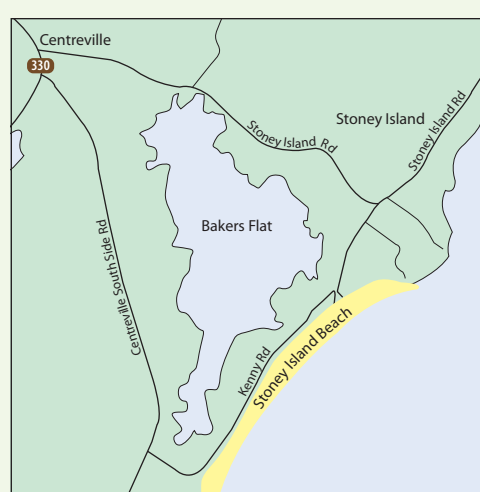


### 2 Daniel's Head Beach Hwy 330 South Side, Cape Sable Island Daniels Head Road

The beautiful 2.5 km long Daniel's Head Beach (locally known as South Side) is one of the most popular beaches on Cape Sable Island for walkers and photographers throughout the year. Migrating shore birds can be found feeding in the late summer and fall. Snowy Owls and Brant geese are common winter visitors as is the occasional nor'easter, making this a dramatic spot for watching the surf roll in.

- Facilities:** change rooms, outdoor toilet, and picnic area available during the summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming  
**Parking:** parking lot  
**Access:** boardwalk  
**GPS:** Lat 43.513249 - Lon -65.608507

Eastern Cape Sable Island Important Bird Area  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS016



### 3 Stoney Island Beach Hwy 330 Stoney Island, Cape Sable Island Kenny Road

Nearly 2km of white sand and rolling dunes make Stoney Island a favourite with local residents for swimming and picnicking during the summer. With its eastern exposure, it's a perfect beach for taking an early morning walk and watching the sun rise. Nearby Bakers Flat provides habitat for migrating waterfowl during spring and fall, and is a popular destination for Birders and Photographers.

- Facilities:** none (as of 2016)  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming  
**Parking:** roadside  
**Access:** path  
**GPS:** Lat 43.463583 - Lon -65.577334

Eastern Cape Sable Island Important Bird Area  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS016



### 4 North East Point Beach Hwy 330 Cape Sable Island McGray Avenue

Just across the Cape Sable Island Causeway from Barrington Passage, North East Point Beach is a local favourite for swimming, soaking up the sun, or catching a weekend boat race. You might see a dory row by, or even catch a ride in one. The causeway was completed in 1949 and replaced a coastal ferry service linking North East Point with the mainland.

- Facilities:** gazebo, picnic table, port-a-potty available during summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming, kayaking  
**Parking:** parking lot  
**Access:** boardwalk and trail  
**GPS:** Lat 43.513249 - Lon -65.608507

Barrington Bay Important Bird Area  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS018



### 5 Sand Hills Day-Use Provincial Park Hwy 309 Villagedale Barrington

Sand Hills white sand beach is backed by an ever-shifting dune system. Its wide sand flats warm at low tide making it a great place for swimming and snorkeling. Migrating shorebirds feed on the tidal flats, especially during late summer and fall. Bring the family for the day, and pack a lunch to enjoy in the large picnic area.

- Facilities:** change houses, picnic area, playing field, outdoor toilets, shower and water available when the park is open  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming, kayaking  
**Parking:** parking lot  
**Access:** groomed path, boardwalk, stairs  
**GPS:** Lat 43.530850 - Lon -65.554485

Barrington Bay Important Bird Area  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS018

## ENJOY OUR BEACHES

Some of Nova Scotia's most beautiful, dramatic, and natural coastline is found within Shelburne County. From the sheltered waters of Louis Head in the Sable River estuary to the open, white sand beaches of Cape Sable Island, an array of dynamic coastal ecosystems provide habitat for plants, birds and other wildlife. Several of our beaches are included in the international network of Important Bird Areas and are particularly special as they provide critical nesting habitat for endangered Piping Plover or are important stopover sites for migrating shorebirds during late summer and fall.

Shaped by winds, waves and tides, our beaches are a source of wonder to all who visit – spend a day or a week walking, kayaking, swimming, bird watching, taking photographs, star gazing or simply spending time in the beauty of nature.

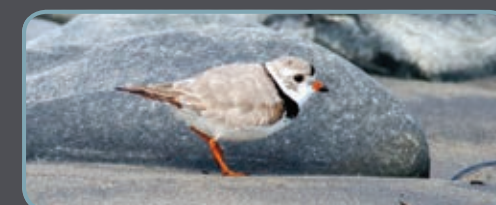
**Thank you for sharing our beaches** - Caring for beaches and dunes, cultivating respect for beach users and wildlife, nurturing biodiversity, and encouraging wise stewardship ensure that Shelburne County beaches will continue to be healthy places for people and wildlife far into the future.

### You can help by -

- respecting signs and signed areas marking sensitive habitat
- using designated access points
- keeping motorized vehicles away
- keeping pets leashed, and
- taking trash out - leaving only footprints.



From April to August, many Shelburne County beaches provide nesting habitat for endangered Piping Plover families. Watch for these signs and walk on the wet sand to avoid crushing eggs or chicks.



Please visit [pipingplover.ca](http://pipingplover.ca) and [facebook.com/ploverconservation/](https://facebook.com/ploverconservation/)



Shelburne County beaches and dunes are home to numerous plants and wildlife. Beach pea, bayberry, wild roses, and American dune grass help stabilize dunes, and provide shelter and food for birds and small mammals. It's not unusual to see deer or raccoon tracks along the wet sand, or hear the call of Willets, which nest in nearby salt marshes.



Motorized vehicles are not permitted on Nova Scotia beaches.  
Report problems to NS Department of Natural Resources 1-800-565-2224

The Shelburne County Tourism Association and its partners in the development of this guide, in no way assume liability or warrant the conditions, suitability or appropriateness of the routes described. Users of this guide accept all responsibilities and risks, inherent and not inherent, associated with its use.



### 6 Crow Neck Beach Baccaro Road Baccaro

The wild forces of the wind, tide and occasional storm constantly reshape this nearly 2 km long beach, a treasure for birders, walkers and photographers. The 45 foot high Baccaro Lighthouse is just minutes away, has an area for picnicking, and the view is breathtaking. Baccaro (from the Basque word bacalao meaning codfish) is the oldest place name in Nova Scotia and is the southernmost point of mainland Nova Scotia.

- Facilities:** none  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding  
**Parking:** limited roadside  
**Access:** groomed path and steep cobble  
**GPS:** Lat 43.468787 - Lon -65.470762

South Shore Important Bird Area (Roseway to Baccaro)  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS017

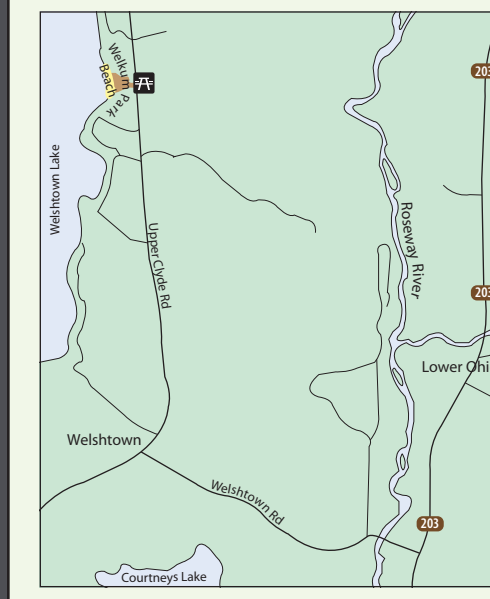


### 7 Roseway Beach Shore Road, Roseway Roseway Beach Road

The sights and sounds of the wind and surf greet you as you drive down the gravel road to Roseway Beach, located on beautiful Round Bay. Another local favourite for swimming and picnicking during the summer. Enjoy the beach year round for walking, birding, star gazing and photography - especially when the full moon shines on the bay. The fresh water channel separating Roseway from neighbouring Round Bay Beach is passable at low tide.

- Facilities:** port-a-potty during the summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming, kayaking  
**Parking:** small parking lot  
**Access:** boardwalk and trail  
**GPS:** Lat 43.602604 - Lon -65.347727

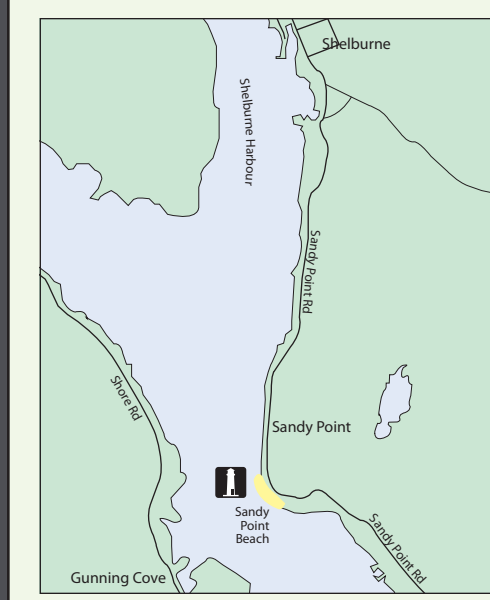
South Shore Important Bird Area (Roseway to Baccaro)  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS017



### 8 Welkum Park 8946 Upper Clyde Road Welshtown

Ten minutes inland from the Town of Shelburne, Welkum Park is a small day use park and beach on Welshtown Lake. With warm, fresh water it's a favourite family destination on a hot summer day. Municipality of Shelburne Recreation staff offer Red Cross swimming lessons, kayaking instruction and day camp programs during the summer. Registration information at [municipalityofshelburne.ca](http://municipalityofshelburne.ca)

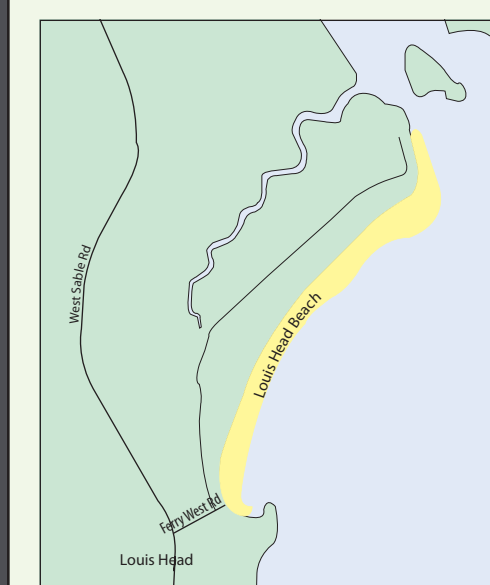
- Facilities:** change rooms, children's playground, port-a-potties, picnic tables, gazebos  
**Activities:** walking, photography, picnicking, swimming, kayaking  
**Parking:** parking lot  
**Access:** path  
**GPS:** Lat 43.8483 - Lon -65.4003



### 9 Sandy Point Beach 1586 Sandy Point, Shelburne Sandy Point Road

The beach at Sandy Point is accessible at low tide only but the view of Shelburne Harbour and the Sandy Point Lighthouse is a photographer's delight at any time. When the tide's out, a sand bar allows access to the lighthouse and, if you're there on the first or third Saturday of the month, you'll be able to enjoy a hearty breakfast at the Sandy Point Community Centre, also a popular location for weddings.

- Facilities:** washrooms, canteen available during the summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography  
**Parking:** parking lot  
**Access:** steep cobble path  
**GPS:** Lat 43.692007 - Lon -65.322682

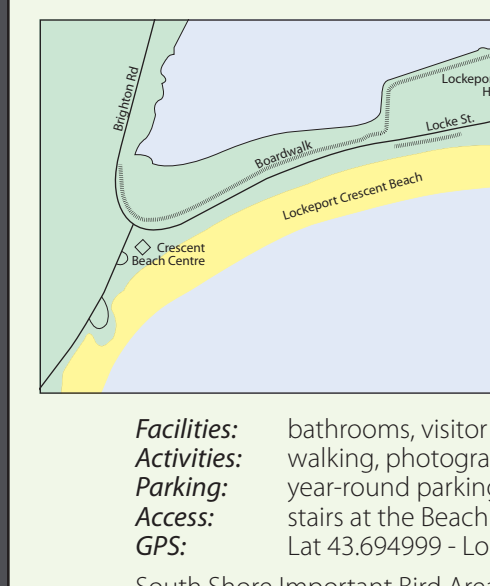


### 10 Louis Head Beach Louis Head Ferry West Road

On the east side of the Sable River estuary, Louis Head's stunning 1 km long white sand beach is popular with walkers and runners year round, and a place to gather for family picnics and swimming in the summer when the estuary's shallow waters are warmed on incoming tides. Watch for deer and raccoon tracks, and the migrating shorebirds that feed and roost on the beach during late summer and fall.

- Facilities:** port-a-potty during the summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming, kayaking  
**Parking:** small parking lot  
**Access:** path  
**GPS:** Lat 43.750574 - Lon -65.014220

South Shore Important Bird Area (Port Joli)  
ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS004



### 11 Crescent Beach Lockport Brighton Road

This spectacular 1.5 km sand beach is a focal point for surrounding communities, and was once featured on the Canadian fifty-dollar bill. Walkers and photographers are out on the beach and nearby boardwalk in almost any weather, and in the summer it's popular for swimming and picnicking. You can see Gull Rock Lighthouse located just offshore from the observation tower at the Crescent Beach Centre, also a perfect vantage point for watching the waves roll in.

- Facilities:** bathrooms, visitor information, look-off, change rooms, and shower during the summer months  
**Activities:** walking, photography, birding, picnicking, swimming, kayaking  
**Parking:** year-round parking at the Crescent Beach Centre  
**Access:** stairs at the Beach Centre  
**GPS:** Lat 43.694999 - Lon -65.123291

South Shore Important Bird Area (Port Joli) [ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS004](http://ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=NS004)