Hello. I’m Lyn Jarvis, Contributing Editor of *Across the Fence* and welcome to Maine’s Acadia National Park and unaccustomed as I am to getting up at 5 a.m., I wanted to be here, on top of Cadillac Mountain, to see the sun come up with all of you. People up here claim this is the first place in the U.S. where you can see the rising sun.

And they are partially right. Cadillac Mountain is the highest point along the North Atlantic at 1,532 feet, and with the configuration of sun and earth…these mountain top spectators WILL be the first to see sunrise March 6th through October 7th.

(music “Here Comes the Sun”)

For those who overslept, a warm coat over pajamas would have to do and they made it just in time for 6:14 a.m……

(music “Here Comes the Sun”)

With our early start, we had plenty of time to explore Acadia before heading to Canada’s New Brunswick province…those are the Cranberry Islands in Frenchman’s Bay. Aptly named, as wild cranberries grow throughout the 6,000 acre park. The Algonquin’s were among the first to harvest them and used the fruit for food, medicine, and as a symbol of peace.

As we descended Cadillac Mountain, the sun climbed higher, the temperature rose…making for a beautiful day…to drive around the 27 mile Loop Road, the best way to fully experience the beauty of our first National Park, east of the Mississippi, established in 1913.

Much of Acadia is composed of pink granite forged by massive glaciers that took 3 thousand years to recede leaving rugged coastlines and glacial lakes. A favorite stop is Thunder Hole where visitors can watch a dance between granite rocks and the Atlantic Ocean, and at high tide…a cold salt water shower. We opted for low tide.

Sand Beach is my favorite stop along the way. Controlled by Artic currents, swimming is not for the faint of heart…but for scenic splendor, it can’t be beat. You don’t find many places like this in Northern Maine and on such a rare autumn day we lingered, perhaps, a little longer than we should.
We have arrived at the most northern destination of our adventure, Hopewell Rocks, not far from Monkton, N.B. It’s about 9 in the morning and the water here in the Bay of Fundy is at high tide. About 6 hours from now the water will have receded, in some places as much as 40 feet, and we will be able to walk on the ocean floor among the rock formations that you can see sticking out of the water.

The tides in the Bay of Fundy are semidiurnal...meaning there are 2 high and 2 low tides each day, causing 115 billion tons of water to flow in and out of the bay, twice a day.

The Mi’kmaq people believed the enormous tides were caused by a giant whale splashing in the water...and they called this formation...the bear.

Modern day oceanographers attribute it to a coincidence of timing and location...the time it takes a large wave to move from the ocean to its inner shore here at Hopewell Rocks.

Eons of tidal force have sculpted these unique rock formations and topped with hearty vegetation, they are known as the giant flowerpots at Hopewell Rocks. We’ll be back at low tide, but for now...

With half the day to explore, we headed down the coast to Cape Enrage with some beautiful views along the way...that’s Nova Scotia across the bay. Because of a reef that extends into Chignecto Bay, at low tide, the water swirls and rages as the tides come and go—thus the name...Cape Enrage. We were fortunate to be here on one of those rare warm autumn days with no wind or fog...a perfect time to visit the oldest lighthouse on the New Brunswick mainland, built in 1847. It became automated in 1988 and the property quickly began to deteriorate and suffer from vandalism.

In 1993, however, some students, from Monkton, under the supervision of their physics teacher, began a long and dedicated restoration project and 11 years later, in 2004, the Canadian Coastguard...transferred ownership of the property to the Cape Enrage Interpretive Center dedicated to the students whose foresight and ingenuity saved this historic landmark.

Not many visitors are lucky enough to be at this remote place on such a spectacular day, and while filming, I heard someone say...”There’s Lyn.” I looked up to see Sandra Boardman, from and Pearl Bugbee, regular viewers of Across the Fence who, along with their husbands, were touring New Brunswick. Small world!

Our ride back to Hopewell Rocks took us past the Albert County Fair...how lucky could we get?

Nothing better than fair food...enjoying is my travel companions Ruth Nash and Barbara Baker...and Marco Ayala, who puts my video picture puzzle together for all of you to enjoy.
$20 bucks brings 10 coupons, 2 ears of corn and 1 ride on the tilt-awhirl with your favorite girl. Keep on walking down the midway, 3 eyed goats and games to play. Step right up, Carney says try your luck. You can tell the sweet smell of summer in the air…whole town shuts down, everybody’s going to be there. Down at the County Fair, big time, big top, big crowds, big hair… There’s nothing bigger all around the county anywhere than the county fair, woo

That was a lot of fun and we’re back at Hopewell Rocks now, and if you don’t remember…this is how they looked about 6 hours ago. Well, this is what they look like now…amazing isn’t it? At ebb tide, water as high as a 4 story building, rolls back to the Atlantic… And you really can leave your footprints on the ocean floor where just a few hours ago, boats and kayaks were meandering by the flowerpot rocks. It’s an awesome experience for everyone, especially children, who get to see, first hand, the forces of mother nature at work. Listed by Frommer’s Travel Guide as one of the best places in Canada to visit, Hopewell Rocks is a finalist in the New 7 Wonders of Nature contest.

Overlooking the famous Reversing Falls is Wolastoq Park in St. John. Meaning “Beautiful River” in the Maliseet language, the park features chain saw carved wood sculptures by Albert Deveau. Prominently displayed is Samuel de Champlain who, with his men on June 24th 1604, found the river and called it St. John and I quote from his journal,

“The men were not interested in exploring the river further as the reversing falls stopped the sailors and frightened them.”

“The water runs with such great force and swiftness that if a piece of wood be thrown in, it sinks, and is never seen again.”

And more than 400 years later, Champlain’s account of his sighting pretty much says it all.

You guessed it, the phenomenon of the reversing falls is caused by the tremendous rise and fall of Bay of Fundy tides as they charge to and from the ocean. (Rushing water sound out) (Sea and gull sounds in.)

Back at Hopewell Rocks we walked on the ocean floor and now… a step further…we will drive to Minister’s Island on the ocean floor. Folks along the Bay of Fundy are used to this sort of thing, but with 4 of us in the car and luggage, I was sure we would get stuck or lose the muffler.

The crossing, known as “the bar,” is a natural road that’s been in place for thousands of years, so why not expect a sea gull to fly by at eye level. Despite my fears, we made it to the 500 acre tidal island in Passamaquoddy Bay.

We adventured here to see the summer home of William Van Horne, builder of the Canadian Pacific…and here you see him at the completion of the coast-to-coast railway. He hired Howard
Maxwell, architect of Quebec City’s Chateau Frontenac, to oversee construction and the place was transformed into the finest Edwardian estate on the Canadian east coast. Now a National Historic Site, the Island is managed by the Van Horne Estate on Minister’s Island and is a popular place for retreats, weddings, and numerous social events.

“The tide is coming in,” warned our guide and everyone rushed to leave the Island... And no doubt about it, the shoulders of the road were not as wide as on the drive over.

(Add motorboat sound) Not long after reaching main land, “the bar,” our makeshift road was under several feet of water.

(Ferry boat motor sound in bg) If you get the impression, there is a lot of water up, your exactly right.

And this time, it was back to back ferry rides. This one from near Minister’s Island to Deer Island.

And from the opposite side of Deer Island, another ferry to Campobello, the Roosevelt family retreat since 1883. (Boat sound out) Franklin Delano Roosevelt, our 32nd President, spent summers here from the age of one through his adult life. For the president and his family the remoteness and tranquility was what they cherished, a welcome change from the turbulent political atmosphere in Washington. The estate was held by the family until 1952 when, Ellsworth, the 4th son, donated it to both United States and Canada and the Roosevelt Campobello International Park was established... The only one like it, as it is run by both the Canadian and American governments and equally staffed with workers from both countries.

Deborah Mitchell / Campobello Guide: over across the bay you can see Eastport meet the Roosevelt’s arrived in Eastport by train from New York then they would get on a boat and come across to the island. They only came in the summer July August and the first part of September. Eleanor came first and she brought the children. Franklin came through the summer when he could. They had a very relaxed lifestyle here. Eleanor like to serve tea in the afternoon either here in the living room or out in the screened in porch and she used a tea set like the Wedgewood set over on the table. They were very active here. They would go swimming sailing canoeing and they enjoyed having picnics.

This is the large and elegant dining room where the family made it a point to always try to enjoy meals together. And that large megaphone you see in the corner, was what Eleanor used to call the children when dinner was ready.

The most poignant room is this bedroom where Franklin Jr., who died at 7 months, was born...and in August of 1921, at the age of 39, FDR was stricken with polio and never walked again without assistance. The bridge from Campobello Island to Lubec, Maine built in 1964, is named in his memory and as we crossed...we reflected on how his life changed on that fateful August day.

I hope you have enjoyed our visit to northeastern Maine and New Brunswick, Canada. If you have 4 or 5 days and are looking for a place to go, I think you would really like it up here. It’s peaceful and quiet, the scenery is beautiful, and the people are very friendly. I can pretty much guarantee you are going to have a good time
And we can’t leave without showing you the West Quoddy Head lighthouse. Of the ones that I’ve seen up here, this is the most visually stunning. Thomas Jefferson authorized construction in 1806…it’s 49 feet high with 15 red and white horizontal lines and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Besides its beauty, the lighthouse is located on the most eastern point in the contiguous U.S. and is the closest to Africa that anyone can get here in the states. Do you suppose their red and white theme was by choice or chance? I’m Lyn Jarvis for Across the Fence in Lubec, Maine. Thank you for watching.

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