

## Lunenburg Seaside Craft School Creative Vacation

written by Pam Baker



The historic town of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia is one of the two UNESCO World Heritage sites in North America. You'll feel as though you've stepped back in time to a gentler place where craftsmanship was a thing to be revered. The town's boat-making traditions and proliferation of folk art are deeply inspiring as is its location on the sea, atop a hilly peninsula between two harbors.

The town is also home of the Lunenburg Seaside Craft School which offers week-long and weekend workshops in traditional crafts which have been passed down from generation to generation and most often involve natural materials indigenous to the area. The workshops are held during July and August and include Tile-making, Quilting, Rug Hooking, Dyeing for Fiber Artists, Clay Work, Studio and Plein Air Painting, Floor Cloths, and Basketry, all of which are taught by Nova Scotia's leading artisans.

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The historic Newtown School building houses many of the Lunenburg Seaside Craft School classes and was part of the original town that was formally established in 1753 as the first British Colonial settlement in Nova Scotia outside of Halifax. The early settlers were from various parts of Germany, Switzerland, and the Montbeliard region of France. The cuisine offered in restaurants and bed & breakfast establishments reflect a wonderful culinary blend of the town's cultural roots. The overall feeling is old-world fishing village

complete with pristine beaches, gorgeous lighthouses, and ancient festivals celebrated in the summer - not the least of which is the fabulous "Wooden Boat Festival."

**TIP #1: Best Money Bets**

All prices for the school are quoted in Canadian dollars. It is best to check conversion rates before you book classes or accommodations to avoid finding out upon arrival that you still have a balance due or that you have paid too much, especially true if you made advance payment by check or money order. The school accepts payment by personal check, money order, credit card or online via PayPal but fees must be paid in advance of your arrival. The school's fees do not include meals or accommodations so you will need to arrange for both yourself. Be forewarned: if you cancel less than 30 days from the start date of the class there will be no refund.

**TIP #2: Choose a Bed & Breakfast for best immersion in the local ambiance**

Most of the bed & breakfasts in the area are in historic buildings and only a stone's throw from "Old Town" and its great food, shopping, galleries and, of course, the beautiful harbors. A good place to find the B&B most suited to your needs is on the website [BBCanada.com](http://BBCanada.com).

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