

SIMPLY BREATH TAKING



Welcome to Signal Hill

Signal Hill is one of St. John's most popular landmarks due both to its compelling history and spectacular views of the city, Atlantic Ocean and the rugged coastline.

Originally known as the "Lookout" because of its strategic placement overlooking St. John's harbour, Signal Hill was advantageously used in defence, observation and signalling from the early 1700s to the Second World War. This site was also the reception point of the first transatlantic wireless signal by Guglielmo Marconi in 1901.

Exhibits throughout the site and visitor centre bring its communications, military and medical history to life.

For More Information

Signal Hill National Historic Site of Canada

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FACEBOOK: /SignalHillNHS

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Time to Connect

- Meet our guides at the visitor centre for new programs, guided tours and special event updates. Explore the centre and discover the site's rich military and communications history.
- Take a tour with our passionate and knowledgeable guides. Offered daily, (included in site admission fee).
- Hike the North Head Trail! Take a break in our famous red chairs and enjoy the view.
- Visit the Queen's Battery Barracks to learn about how soldiers lived and worked in the 19th century.
- Watch for whales, icebergs and seabirds from Ladies Lookout.

Hours of operation

June 1 to Thanksgiving Weekend

Daily, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

The grounds are open year-round.

Aussi disponible en français.

Experience

Musket Demonstrations

The year is 1862, and you just enlisted in the British Army. Where do you sleep? What do you wear? What artillery do you use?

Step back in time and experience life in service protecting Newfoundland. Take a tour of the historic Queen's Battery Barracks and sign-up to fire a historic musket yourself!

The Noon Day Gun

The Noon Day Gun at Signal Hill goes back to at least the 19th century and now you can be part of history, setting the cannon thundering! This quick-firing 3-pound Hotchkiss Gun was once at home aboard HMS Calypso, where it was used for gunnery practice by the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserve. Today, it can be found next to Cabot Tower, firing daily during the summer to signal the hour of noon to St. John's below.

Explore Signal Hill

1 Visitor Centre & Café



Be greeted by one of our Parks Canada guides who will introduce you to the visitor centre exhibits and let you know of any daily tours, programs, or special events taking place at Signal Hill. While you're there, enjoy a light snack or lunch in the Newfoundland Chocolate Company café! Enjoy the outdoors and take your lunch to one of the many places on Signal Hill to enjoy a picnic!

2 Performance Field



The performance field is a common special event and program location during the summer season at Signal Hill. Ask at the Visitor Centre for further information!

3 Queen's Battery Barracks



One of the many military structures built on Signal Hill during its history, the barracks sits near the Queen's Battery and was put in place to prevent enemy vessels from entering the Narrows. Meet our interpreters and learn about life in the barracks during the 1860s and ask about special programming held here.

5 Duke of York Battery & Noon Day Gun



The Duke of York Battery was part of the fortifications built on top of Signal Hill during the 1800s to act as a point of last retreat if the town was ever captured. The Noon Day Gun stands beside the battery and is fired on a regular basis during the summer seasons. At the Visitor Centre book your chance to fire the gun.

4 Cabot Tower



This iconic structure was completed in 1900 to commemorate both the 400th anniversary of John Cabot's discovery of Newfoundland and Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

Explore the communications history of the site at our second floor Marconi exhibit and learn about wireless technology. While inside, visit the Historic Sites Association gift shop.

If it's not too windy, climb the stairs to the top floor and take in the stunning 360 degree view!

