

FUN-SHARING GETAWAYS



Summer brings sun and fun and the lure of new Canadian vistas. But where to take your brood this season? We suggest five family-friendly holiday retreats from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. You'll be thrilled by their natural settings, agog at all the activities for kids and parents and pampered with fabulous food, service and amenities.

BY NICOLE PONS



C. Parent,
P. Hurteau
© Tourisme Québec

PLEASURE FOR ALL!

Gray Rocks is an 880-acre family resort overlooking picturesque Lake Ouimet and Mont Tremblant in Québec's Laurentian Mountains. Revel in the mountain air with a variety of activities: kids' programs, social programs and fantasy themed evenings; mountain hiking and biking; guided horseback riding, kayak, canoe, swimming and windsurfing. Gray Rocks is renowned for its tennis and golf—with the largest outdoor tennis complex in Canada (22 Har-Tru courts), and the Eagle Golf Academy's challenging 36-hole La Belle and La Bête courses. Young golfers 8-17 can join courses and supervised parties on the putting greens. The Matchpoint Tennis Academy offers two- and five-day courses for adults and juniors (ages 5-16) and organizes tournaments. The International Junior Tennis and Golf camp caters to ages 9-17.

Parents can enjoy dozens of ways to relax, while babysitters, day care and supervised summer camps entertain the kids. At the Kids Club (June 23 - August 26) they'll paddle canoes, swim, hike, learn games, theatre, crafts—and be happy as jungle monkeys!

You deserve a Cape Breton rail cruise

Pure magic! VIA Rail Canada's unique *Bras d'Or* rail cruise unveils the magnificent splendour that makes the shores of Cape Breton's Bras d'Or Lake so spectacular. This unique, all-inclusive, one-day rail journey offers first-class pampering, superb regional cuisine, friendly and informative guides, Celtic music, comfortable seating and a great view, particularly from the scenic dome car. It's the perfect way to take in all the charm of Nova Scotia. Ask us about special hotel and car rental offers in Sydney and in Halifax. Call today or visit our Web site.

Departures from Halifax to Sydney each Tuesday and from Sydney to Halifax each Wednesday from June to October 2003.



Book online, contact your travel agent or call VIA Rail Canada at
1 888 VIA-RAIL (1 888 842-7245) TTY 1 800 268-9503 (hearing impaired).

PEOPLE MOVING PEOPLE

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www.viarail.ca



VIA Rail Canada

SYMPHONY IN GREEN AND BLUE

Nestled in the verdant hills of Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island, the **Dundee Resort and Golf Club** overlooks the majestic Bras d'Or Lake. In this 500-acre wooded expanse, family vacations vibrate in harmony with nature. The unique recreational program celebrates physical activity, ecology and the environment. In July and August, children over six enjoy daily programs supervised by qualified leaders. Morning walks in the intoxicating air teach them about local flora and fauna; afternoons are for nautical activities (kayaking, canoeing, swimming, games). And they'll learn about the Celtic and Native Amerindian cultures that inspire this unique island.

Golfers! Treat yourselves to a variety of golf packages on 18-hole championship courses. After a bracing tennis match, or a kayak excursion on the Black River, collect your kids for a guided walk or nautical outing, or a silly sortie in a paddleboat or banana boat. Can you not be tempted by all this water? Learn to navigate on the superb yacht *Elsie*. And then, all good Cape Breton nights end with a rousing, fiddling Cape Breton ceili in the country barn, where feet of all sizes shuffle and swing in the fun!

FAMILY PARADISE

Kids and parents are guaranteed boatloads of fun at **Delawana Inn Resort** at Honey Harbour, Ontario, on a sheltered sandy cove on Georgian Bay. This Lake Huron resort received a five-star distinction from Hotel Fun 4 Kids (www.hotelfun4kids.com) for its nature awareness educational programs. Ecological forest walks with a naturalist, exploration of marshes, nocturnal observation of fauna and insects, visits to the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre—the list of family adventures is a mile long! The Very Important Kids (V.I.K.) programs with trained outdoor educators is enticing: camping on Royal island, day camp (games, crafts, hikes), Junior Golf School and Academy (ages 6-12) and mini-golf tournaments; three-day sailing school for kids 7-16, canoeing, kayaking, kite building, campfires, lessons in Amerindian history—and much more! Parents can top up with adrenalin thrills at the climbing and sailing schools, water skiing and evening kayak retreats.



© Kananaskis Mountain Lodge

PAMPERED ADVENTURE

Surrounded by majestic, steep peaks, Alberta's **Delta Lodge at Kananaskis** is a world-class resort in the heart of the Rockies. In this cozy and plush Shangri-La hovering at 1522 metres, your family will revel in nature and be treated like royalty. The Delta Lodge has been accredited by Child Friendly Calgary, a non-profit organization that promotes a better quality of life for children. Members of the Children's Club (ages 5-12) have mountains of activities, from crafts projects, outdoor games and basketball camp to mountain hikes, nautical activities, learning about Rocky Mountain history and culture. And with the family—guided nature interpretation walks, games and campfires with entertainment. Parents will love the golf, tennis, equitation, whitewater rafting, bicycling—and more! By the end of your stay, you'll appreciate the philosophy of the Lodge's program: finding peace and inner freedom of spirit through effort.

This summer, kids travel FREE!

Leave behind the usual stress of travel and make your trip part of the fun. We offer roomy trains, huge picture windows and other incredible summer offers. From May 24 to August 28, 2003, buy any Economy-class ticket (18 yrs+) and a child aged 2 to 11 travels free*.

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* Five-day advance purchase and other conditions apply.



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OUTDOOR ADVENTURE MECCA

On spectacular, lush Vancouver Island in British Columbia, the **Strathcona Park Lodge** specializes in wilderness courses, outdoor and back country adventures of all types for all ages and abilities. Specialized instructors direct activities oriented toward personal and leadership development. A family vacation here is a mind-blowing experience! By the breathtakingly beautiful shores of Upper Campbell Lake, you can choose your challenge: alpine hiking, mountaineering, backpacking, mountain biking, sailing and sea kayaking in Nootka Sound. Or create your own family package accompanied by a private guide, with canoe, climbing, camping, navigation courses, ecological ethics and more, according to your choice. With the Family Adventure package (each family member gets to discover their own strengths) you can learn forest survival techniques, orienteering, rappel down a vertical face, swing from tree to tree in the Low Ropes Course. For sure, your kids will never forget it! And neither will you! ■



© Strathcona Park Lodge

NEED TO KNOW

Dundee Resort and Golf Club (three hours from Halifax). Family Adventure Package (July-August, \$179 per family, two-room cottage; \$159 per family, one room). Numerous other packages (golf, sailing, ecoadventure). Open May-October, 1 800 565-5660, www.dundeesort.com.

Gray Rocks Mont Tremblant (90 minutes north of Montréal). Packages from \$130-\$190 per person, including room, meals and family activities. Tennis and golf are extra. 1 800 567-6767, www.grayrocks.com.

VIA Rail Canada's unique Bras d'Or land cruise unveils the magnificent splendour that makes the shores of Cape Breton's Bras d'Or Lake so spectacular. This is a unique, all-inclusive, one-day rail journey. For information, contact VIA Rail Canada at 1 888 VIA RAIL (1 888 842-7245) or visit www.viarail.ca.

Delawana Inn Resort Honey Harbour (90 minutes north of Toronto). Rentals of rooms, chalets, suites, cottages, and three-bedroom houses, with meals taken in the Royal Dining Room. Five-day package, two parents, one child, in chalet: \$1,059 per parent, including two meals a day and activities. Children under two are free. From 2-18, lodging is free, meals and activities from \$10-\$90. Taxes additional. Open May 17 - October 19. 1 888 335-2926, www.delawana.com.

Delta Lodge at Kananaskis (one hour southwest of Calgary). From \$118-\$350, two adults, breakfast included, adult activities and children's club. (403) 591-7711, www.deltalodgeatkananaskis.com.

Strathcona Park Lodge Campbell River (three hours from Nanaimo). Family Adventure package: six nights' lodging, meals, outdoor activities, \$829 per adult; \$595 per child 6-13 years. Alpine to Ocean packages (hiking and kayaking) departing from the Lodge. (250) 286-3122, www.strathcona.bc.ca.

ENJOY

Savour each moment as you wish. Enjoy your favourite summer sports. Discover the European style of the pedestrian village. Let the wave of the many festivals carry you! Renowned for its whirlwind of activities along with its sporting and cultural events, Tremblant truly embodies "joie de vivre".



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE GETAWAYS

Package includes a 3-activity Outdoor Passport which offers:

- Panoramic Gondola ride to the summit
- Choice of 2 other activities

2 NIGHTS
STARTING FROM

\$75*

*Price per person per night, including 3-activity Outdoor Passport. Min. 2 nights. Valid from June 20th to July 24th, 2003. Price quoted in CDN funds. Rates are subject to availability at the time of booking and may change without notice. Royalty and taxes extra.

Package includes a 5-activity Outdoor Passport which offers:

- Panoramic Gondola ride to the summit
- Choice of 4 other activities

5 NIGHTS
STARTING FROM

\$65**

** Starting price per person, per night based on dble occ. Min. 5 nights. Valid from June 21st to July 10th, 2003. Including an Outdoor passport of 5 activities. Price quoted in CDN funds. Rates are subject to availability at the time of booking and may change without notice. Royalty and taxes extra. Other packages available. Please enquire for details. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotion.

PLAN ON-LINE WWW.TREMBLANT.COM OR CALL 1 888 666-8008