

## Charles Summer 25 #6:

### New Brunswick Magic



The last time we meandered through New Brunswick, three summers ago, we discovered there was much more to experience than we had expected. And more than we had time to explore. So, on this trip, we decided to take the time to discover more of this province. Going to Grand Manan Island and stumbling onto Reversing Falls was a good start.

During our last trip, we discovered the Fundy Trail, but were only able to explore part of it. We were impressed by the way the trail was laid out, with many pull-outs that allowed us to view the spectacular coastline. We decided that on this trip, we'd take the time that the trail deserved, and get to parts we hadn't seen the last time.

So, we pulled up to the Provincial Park booth and happily paid for our visit to the Fundy Trail.

Our first stop was this waterfall, which we had been unable to get close to last time, because the stairs were unsafe.

We were looking forward to getting a closer look.



This time, there were stairs, but they came with warnings ...



And they weren't kidding!





But being the intrepid hikers we are, we braved it and made it to the falls without incident. It was (almost) worth the treacherous trip.



We would love to show you more shots of the incredible coastline along the Fundy Trail, but...



For the rest of the drive, this is mostly what we saw.



We got the odd glimpse of a view, reminding us of how much we had enjoyed this trip the last time.



But then...





Things cleared up a bit by the time we got to the Fundy National Park and had a nice overnight stay in Chignecto Park.



The next morning dawned with clear blue skies, which we were relieved to see, because we had big plans for this day. We had a lovely drive to our next destination...





I had read about Hopewell Rocks and was glad we were finally going to get a chance to see them up close and personal.



In the interpretive centre, they explained how the phenomenon of these “seastacks”, also known as “flowerpots”, were sculpted by Fundy’s massive tides.

I’d explain it to you ... if I’d taken the time to read all this. And even then, I doubt I’d have done it justice.





This shows how the continental drift brought Hopewell to the Bay of Fundy (I think.)



And I finally got to see a moose family there. (Fortunately, I was wearing the appropriate top.)



Once we were fully informed (okay, a little bit more informed than we were when we arrived), we headed out to see the rocks – ideally to stand among them on the beach.



The trail was well laid out, with lookout points along the way.



It looked pretty impressive ... although we couldn't actually see beach.



But we persevered, despite the warnings. (Intrepid once again.)



When we got to the spot, we discovered that our timing wasn't great. We were there at high tide, and there wouldn't be a low tide for another 6 hours. However, we got as close as we could to the magnificent rocks.











And then we trekked back up the stairs, happy with our reward.



Only to discover there was another one!





The pass you buy for Hopewell Rocks is good for two days, giving you the chance to experience the sight at both high and low tide. But we had more places to go.



And more sights to see.

Like the little-known New Brunswick Rudolph.



Jim bravely kept driving past the train museum...



And I bravely gave up the opportunity to explore the museum of William Henry Steeves, one of the Fathers of Confederation.





And as much as we were tempted to drive into downtown Moncton...



We drove past the exit.



We had a mission to experience one last moment of New Brunswick Magic.





Jim had been once before, in his youth. But I had only heard about Magnetic Hill. My father had told us about going there when I was a child.

I don't think it was quite as built up back then. It's now an amusement park with a village, a waterpark and a zoo!



But we were only there for one thing:





After paying our \$10, we followed the instructions...



We drove down the hill and stopped at the white pole.



Then Jim put Charles in neutral...



And whoa!



Still photos don't accurately demonstrate the phenomenon. (Even when cleverly presented to go "backwards" 🤔).



However, Jim has made one of his hilarious videos, which gives you a much better (and more entertaining) visual account of Charles seemingly being pulled uphill. Check it out on our Travels With Charles site.

Once we'd recovered from the magical experience, we drove through another of New Brunswick's famous covered bridges. This one was just barely high enough to let Charles through.



And just like that...

... We were in a whole new province!



Tada!