



## The Crystal Cavern - Underground Awe!

Probably the best-kept, open secret in Nova Scotia is The Crystal Cavern. Rivalling any natural cave system anywhere in the world, this deep cave on a remote section of Bay of Fundy shoreline contains giant crystals of smoky quartz, rose quartz and amethyst - even large grains of salt, amazingly enough! Glowing and sparkling in the light from headlamps, it's easy to believe that you've found the home of fairies and elves. To find this awesome underground wonder, turn off Highway 1 onto Highway 382 and proceed over the mountain to Gullible Cove.



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## Fossilized Human Footprints Rewrite NS History

Paleontologists and archaeologists from across Canada are racing to study and preserve what appear to be modern human footprints recently discovered in sandstone at Burntcoat Head, Hants County. Uncovered by the relentless action of the tides, initial carbon dating results indicate these prints are 2 million years old and show the same height, weight and gait of modern humans! This discovery, if confirmed, will predate the 1.5 million-year-old footprints found in Kenya, and places humans in a time and place where they have never been thought to be in prehistory. Attributed to Homo Beachus, the footprints are in imminent danger of being eroded and destroyed by tidal activity. While you might not be allowed to see the site firsthand right now, to find it take Highway 14 from Windsor to Brooklyn, then take Highway 215 around the shore almost to Noel. Check your April calendar before you go.



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## The Eruption Of 1922

Few people are aware of this today, but Cape Blomidon is actually a slumbering volcano, and it is still continually monitored by the Geological Survey of Canada. It last erupted in 1922, as shown in this photograph by Miss Leading of Wolfville. Fortunately, no lives were lost in that eruption and Blomidon has been asleep ever since then.



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**Looking for some ideas for outdoor adventures close to home?  
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keep up-to-date with the Excursions blog, then get out there!**



## Homegrown Trivia

1. How many alien bodies were recovered by navy dive teams during the Shag Harbour UFO Incident of October 1967?
2. Nova Scotia annexed what Caribbean islands in 1934?
3. Where in Nova Scotia can you find the ruins of an ancient Polynesian settlement?
4. In what year did Cape Breton become a Canadian province?
5. What NS county is home to the famous "Drunken Lake" - the result of fermented shoreline vegetation seeping into the water?
6. How many kilometres wide is the scenic Guysborough Canyon?
7. The Ingonish Desert can be seen from space. True or False
8. In what year did the space shuttle Discovery land on the airstrip at CFB Shearwater?

(Answers at bottom of page)

## What's New @ Scotianhiker.com

- Video of the hike around the Falls Lake loop at Moses Mountain, Highway 14, Hants County; also, a Twisted Trail vidclip!
- The March 28 Treasure Trek was won by Allan Pemberton of Curry's Corner, Hants Co.
- The Excursions Blog has more great outdoor ideas and commentary!



## Outdoorosophy

"[Hiking] is the best workout!... You can hike for three hours and not even realize you're working out. And, hiking alone lets me have some time to myself." - Jamie Luner

"If I could not walk far and fast, I think I should just explode and perish." - Charles Dickens



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This newsletter is free to take and will bio-degrade 30 minutes after reading, but remember that **this and every edition of the Scotian Hiker newsletter is available for download and printing on the website.** You will find the link to Newsletters on the home page; they are available as Adobe PDF files, which means you will need the free Adobe Reader to view and print them.

## What's Going On Out There!? Event Listings

- First Annual Invitational Fire-Walk, BBQ and First Aid Course, 5th Saturday of the month. Mavillette Beach, Digby County
- BASE jumping team tryouts taking place at Crowell Tower, Acadia University. Parachutes provided.
- Annual mallow harvest now underway at Hennigar Farms. Visit [www.hennigars.com](http://www.hennigars.com) to see video.



For more details on these events, please phone 1-800-APR-FOOL

**No joke! Visit [www.scotianhiker.com](http://www.scotianhiker.com) every Saturday morning at 10:00 AM AST for the latest TREASURE TREK! Don't miss out!**