Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site

# 2015 Activity Guide

Where Inventions Take Flight

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# How To Reach Us

## Alexander Graham Bell **National Historic Site**

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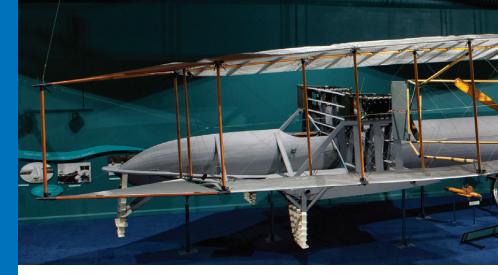
You Tube youtube.com/ user/ParksCanadaAgency

### **Hours of Operation**

May 15, 2015 - October 30, 2015 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### Museum Store and Tetra Café

The Alexander Graham Bell Museum Association operates the Museum Store and Tetra Café. The Association is a non-profit organization that helps to support the work of Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site. Products include books, kites, educational toys and souvenirs. A refreshing beverage and a snack from the Café enhance your enjoyment of the view of the spectacular Bras d'Or Lakes.



# Welcome to **Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site**

Imagine when global communication and travel as we know them were just a dream. How did we move from that reality to one where communication is instantaneous and globetrotting is an everyday event? Alexander Graham Bell was a communication and transportation pioneer, as well as a teacher, family man and humanitarian. He devoted his life to the benefit of humankind.

Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site is an architecturally unique exhibit complex where models, replicas, photo displays, artifacts and films describe the fascinating life and work of Alexander Graham Bell. Programs such as our White Glove Tours complement the exhibits at the Site, which is situated on 10 hectares of land overlooking Baddeck Bay and Beinn Bhreagh peninsula, the location of the Bells' summer home.

# In the Words of Bell, a Born Inventor

"Wealth and fame are coveted by all men, but the hope of wealth or the desire for fame will never make an inventor ... you may take away all that he has, and he will go on inventing. He can no more help inventing than he can help thinking or breathing. Inventors are born not made."

-Alexander Graham Bell



### Family Fun

- Relax in the "Discover" area, where families can enjoy a variety of activities and games.
- Take the Red Chair Challenge and find your Red Chair moment.
- Get your Xplorers booklet and see how many activities you can complete. Then take home your Xplorer souvenir!
- Borrow one of our colourful kites to fly in the cool Cape Breton breeze.



# Where Air Meets Water

A full-scale replica of the *Silver Dart* was built by the "Aerial Experiment Association 2005" in commemoration of the original's 1909 flight – the first powered, controlled airplane flight in Canada. The replica was flown by former astronaut Bjarni Tryggvason across Baddeck Bay in February 2009; now it soars high over the full-scale replica of Bell's *HD-4* hydrofoil! All-new exhibits complement these two wonderful examples of transportation history.

### Schedule of Special Events

July 1 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 31, August 1, 2 18	Canada Day The Bells of Baddeck Parks Day
August	Aviation Day
<b>September</b> 19	Harvest Home
<b>October</b> 12-16	Celtic Colours Bell Series

Visit our website for more information on all special events.



# Top 5 Things Not to be Missed!

- 1. Holding history in your hands on a *White Glove Tour*.
- 2. Flying a kite **you** built in our *Come Fly a Kite* workshop.
- 3. Viewing the beautiful Bras d'Or Lakes from our rooftop patio.
- 4. Catching a performance of the original music-drama *The Bells of Baddeck.*
- 5. Checking out the light-table map in the *Bras d'Or Lakes Biosphere* exhibit.

# The RED Chair Challenge NEW!

### Find your Red Chair moment

Seek out our red chairs and revel in a magical moment. Take the time to slow down, relax and enjoy stunning scenery so loved by Bell. Snap a photo, share your experience on Facebook and tag our page. facebook.com/AGBNHS #ShareTheChair #TimeToConnect

# Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922) - some key dates

- 3 March 1847 Born in Edinburgh, Scotland
- 1870 Bell family settles in Ontario
- 1871 Alexander moves to Boston to teach
- 7 March 1876 Telephone patented, Boston, Massachusetts
- 1877 Marries Mabel Hubbard
- 1885 Visits Baddeck for the first time, travelling from Washington DC with his wife and daughters
- 1886 Returns to Baddeck and begins purchasing land for his Beinn Bhreagh estate
- 1897 Succeeds his father-in-law as President of the National Geographic Society
- 1907 Aerial Experiment Association founded (Bell works with Casey Baldwin, Douglas McCurdy, Lt. Thomas Selfridge, Glenn Curtis)
- 23 Feb 1909 Silver Dart makes the first controlled powered flight in Canada (Baddeck, NS)
- 9 Sept 1919 HD-4 hydrofoil sets world marine record in trial run
- 2 Aug 1922 Dies at age 75, Beinn Bhreigh, Baddeck, NS
- 1952 Designation of Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site
- Today A time for you to discover the life and legacy of a genius



Program Schedule		
The Measure of a Man - Guided Tour	June July and August September and October	2:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. 11:15 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
The Bell Family Album - A Presentation in Photographs	June July and August September and October	3:15 p.m. 10:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m. 9:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m.
White Glove Tour	June July and August September and October	4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 2:30 p.m. 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.
Alec and I	July and August September and October	1:15 p.m. 2:00 p.m.
Tetrahedral Kite Workshop	July and August September and October - Weekends	4:00 p.m. 3:45 p.m.
Come Fly a Kite! Workshop	July and August September and October - Weekends	2:15 p.m. 2:15 p.m.
Put Yourself in the Picture - Children's Tour	July and August	11:15 a.m.
Experiments	July and August	10:30 a.m.

**The Measure of a Man – Guided Tour** – His mother's deafness, his father's scientific interests, his grandfather's encouragement - discover how these influences shaped Bell's personal and professional life in this exhibit tour, led by one of our knowledgeable guides. 30 minutes, \$3.90

*The Bell Family Album – A Presentation in Photographs* This family of photographers has gifted us with a legacy of images that illustrate stories about the Bells' lives at home and at work. Narrated by a member of our guide staff, come see these photos on the big screen! 30 minutes, \$2.40

*White Glove Tour* – The *White Glove Tour* goes behind the scenes, getting you up close and personal with Alexander Graham Bell's photos, mementos, gadgets and gizmos! You will be introduced to the Bell collection and the basics of museum conservation, and invited to scrutinize a selection of Bell artifacts.

30 minutes, \$7.30 - Limited to 6 people per tour

Please note: Some programs may be available only during peak season, although every effort will be made to accommodate curious visitors! Please call ahead for further information. Alec and I – Mabel and Alexander Graham Bell stood side by side, meeting the trials and tribulations of their lives together. Mabel's hearing loss brought her to deaf educator Alexander, and the rest is history. Led by a guide, you'll discover their story in this multi-media presentation, featuring artifacts and photographs from their time together. 45 minutes, \$7.30

**Tetrahedral Kite Workshop** – Build and decorate a four-celled tetrahedral kite, similar to those Bell used in his flight experiments. A great workshop for teens and families! 45 minutes, \$9.60 per kite

**Come Fly a Kite!** – Create, decorate and fly a kite that's yours to keep in our kite-making program. Discover the role kites played in Bell's experiments with flight and learn about his giant tetrahedral kite. 30 minutes, \$2.40

*Put Yourself in the Picture* – A dress-up tour for children that takes them back a century, and then some! 45 minutes, \$3.90

*Experiments* – Can water go uphill? Find out in our experiment program and help us perform simple experiments like those Dr. Bell did with his grandchildren. 20 minutes, free

# The Bells of Baddeck

The Alexander Graham and Mabel Bell Story A Music-Drama

# July 3 - August 2, 2015

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sunday August 2 - 7:30 p.m.

www.bellsofbaddeck.com

Tickets: \$32 Adults, \$28 Students/Seniors (Incl. HST) Free ticket required for children 5 and under Tickets available on-line and at Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site

# A bit of history...

Alexander Graham Bell had just turned 29 when he patented the telephone in Boston. This invention marked the beginning of a lifetime of innovative achievements, many of them inspired by his beloved home Beinn Bhreagh in Baddeck, NS, where he spent the better part of the second half of his life.

Some of Bell's most notable contributions were born at his Beinn Bhreagh laboratories, from the *Silver Dart* that achieved the first controlled powered flight in Canada and the *HD-4* hydrofoil that broke a marine speed record, to experiments in sheep breeding and kite flying. Bell was also one of the outstanding figures of his generation in the field of deaf education. When external demands on his time necessitated that he give up his role as a teacher, his concern for deaf people never lessened. He continued to contribute financially and lend his name to worthy causes. His story, in this spectacular Cape Breton setting, is filled with family, friends, associates, creativity, innovation and a magnificent family home still privately owned by his descendants.

Mabel (Hubbard) Bell played a vital role in her husband's career, providing him with both financial and moral support to pursue his diverse interests. It was Mabel Bell who inspired, founded and funded the Aerial Experiment Association which achieved heavier-than-air flight. Mabel Bell was primarily responsible for the management of Beinn Bhreagh, which provided work for men and women both in traditional service occupations and in jobs connected with Bell's experiments, such as production of thousands of tetrahedral cells for his massive kites. Mabel was deeply involved in village life, helping to establish the local public library and the Home and School Association, as well as The Young Ladies Club to promote sociability and the acquisition of general knowledge. This Club is one of her many legacies, still operating today under the same principles established in 1891.

Designated a national historic site in 1952 and opened to the public in 1956, Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site reveals the extraordinary heart and mind of a world-famous inventor whose genius helped shape the modern world. Feel his legacy come to life as you explore remarkable artifacts, photos and full-scale replicas that mark his masterful career as an engineer, inventor, scientist and humanitarian. Expect heart-stirring moments, including discovering the touching love story of Alec and Mabel Bell, the woman who inspired Bell's greatest invention, the telephone.



# Yours to Explore! Parks Canada in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

From the magic of living history to the place where the mountains meet the sea



and nearly 100 others across the country.

Purchase yours at our participating locations: Cape Breton Highlands National Park, Alexander Graham Bell and Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Sites, or online at parkscanada.gc.ca/pass



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Discover how the wireless age began! This site chronicles inventor Guglielmo Marconi's achievements in carrying out the world's first transatlantic wireless telegraph experiments in Nova Scotia at the turn of the 20th century.

Walk along the barren promontory to see the foundations of the station and towers that played a key role in the development of modern communication. See a model of the original Table Head station. Learn the history of telecommunications in the Wireless Hall of Fame. Tap out a Morse code message. You might even catch a volunteer operator sending messages around the world from the on-site amateur radio station.

Hours of operation: July 1st to September 7, 2015 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### How To Reach Us Marconi National Historic Site

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#### Visit Our Website

www.parkscanada.gc.ca/marconi

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How To Reach Us

Canso Islands and Grassy Island Fort National Historic Sites

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Home to the remains of an 18th-century fishing settlement and the ruins of a battle-ravaged stone fort, Canso Islands and Grassy Island Fort National Historic Sites welcome curious explorers upon their windswept shores to journey through the history that forged a nation. Travel to a time when remote fishing ports dotted the Atlantic coast and Britain and France vied for control of North America.

Begin your discovery at Canso Islands' Visitor Centre, viewing full-scale dioramas of 18th-century life and an enlightening short film. Hop aboard a boat bound for Grassy Island and hike a self-guided trail that leads through an area once renowned for its military importance and productive fisheries.

Hours of operation: July 1st to September 7, 2015 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.





Built on an isthmus, the 800-metre St. Peters Canal joins the Atlantic Ocean to the sparkling Bras d'Or Lakes, meandering along Battery Park, popular for boating, fishing, and picnicking.

The canal is the pride of the village of St. Peters, whose history can be traced back to a fortified 17th-century trading post built by French merchants. Its remarkable 15-year construction and evolution as a contemporary waterway opened up Cape Breton Island development. Today, you can enjoy interpretive exhibits and sail, cruise or paddle the canal.

Lock Hours of Operation: Variable; call ahead for further information How To Reach Us St. Peters Canal National Historic Site

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### Visit Our Website

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Canso Islands and Grassy Island Fort National Historic Sites

Where a remote fishing port once thrived



Historic gateway to an inland sea



