



Saint John, New Brunswick

Permanent Trail #246

Atlantic Director's Walk

5 Km

Rating 2B

**CVF Special Programs: Dock & Walk, Lighthouses, Community, Murals, Trans
Canada Trail**

This walk begins at the Market Square Complex in downtown Saint John. Passengers disembarking at Pugsley Terminal turn left and follow Water Street to the Market Square boardwalk; those disembarking at Long Wharf, turn right and follow Harbour Passage to the Market Square boardwalk.

1. Start point: **Market Square boardwalk**. At the end of the boardwalk there is a **moose statue** on your right and the unique **Hooper timepiece** (carvings of seated people) on your left.
2. Cross **St Patrick St** at pedestrian controlled light below pedway.
3. Turn right, follow the sidewalk in front of **City Hall**, the building with a coloured vertical embellishment, pass a bus shelter and **SPCA Horse Fountain**.
4. Cross the bottom of Chipman Hill, then bottom of King St (on left) to **Prince William St**. Walk the length of Prince William, facing traffic, leading to **St James St**. Across the street is **St Patrick's Square** with the **Three Sisters Lamp** (a navigational guide since 1848) and the **Celtic Cross** monument. **(0.7 km)**
5. Turn left onto **St James** for just one block.
6. Turn left again at **Canterbury** and follow it to Queen St.
7. Cross Queen and Canterbury. Follow **Queen St**, crossing Germain and Charlotte to **Queens Square**.
8. Visit the **Champlain Statue**, turn around and retrace your steps on **Queen St** to Germain St.
9. Turn right to follow the left hand side of **Germain St** for a Victorian stroll past homes, churches and businesses built after the 1877 fire. Perched atop a steep bank on the right is **Trinity Anglican Church**. **(1.9 km)**
10. Turn right up **King St**, Canada's steepest city main street, to Charlotte St.
11. Turn right on **Charlotte St** Follow it to the crosswalk and cross Charlotte to **Beatty & the Beastro Restaurant**.
12. Proceed along **King Square South** (across the street from the park itself), and pass the Italian Renaissance style **Imperial Theatre** on your right.
13. Cross **Sydney St** at end of block. Turn left and pass **Old No 2 Engine House Museum**, then the neo-classical **Old Saint John County Court House** with its free standing stone spiral staircase
14. Cross to corner entrance of the **Old Loyalist Burial Grounds**.
15. Turn right to follow perimeter of grounds along **King St East** to the corner at Carmarthen St.
16. Turn left down **Carmarthen St** to bottom corner of the grounds and turn left to enter grounds here. Follow brick path bearing left diagonally through the grounds past the **Beaver Fountain** to wrought iron memorial gates at Sydney St. **(2.8 km)**
17. Use the pedestrian controlled light to cross to the corner of **King's Square**. Follow the path leading diagonally to the **bandstand and fountain**, then take a 90 degree turn right to follow the path diagonally to the corner of King North and Charlotte St (kitty-corner from the entrance to City Market).
18. Use crosswalks to cross King North and then Charlotte St to arrive at the **City Market**.
19. Go through the City Market (washrooms available). If closed, use either **North or South Market Street** to arrive at Germain St.
20. Turn right to go up **Germain St**, arrive at Union St. Cross Germain (left) to **Loyalist House**.
21. Follow **Union St** to Chipman Hill. Cross Union to **Peel Plaza**. **(3.3 km)**

22. Proceed along Peel Plaza passing the **Saint John Arts Centre** (on the left) housed in the Carnegie Building and the new **Police Station** on your right.
23. At **Carleton St** turn right and continue passing the now closed Shareii Zedek Synagogue (right) and 1824 **Saint John's Anglican Church** (left). Continue to the end of Carleton at Coburg St.
24. Cross Carleton (left) to face **Beaverbrook House** (now UNBSJ Electronic Commerce Centre).
25. Follow left hand side of **Coburg**, crossing Sewell St and arriving at Garden St.
26. Bear left down **Garden St** and cross Hazen to light and cross carefully to the copper-topped Millennium **Dome**. (4.0 km)
27. Go down Garden St (dome to your left) to remain on the left hand side of **City Road** (Millennium Dome Park on your left).
28. Continue along City Road (becomes **Station St**) under the highway overpass and later the pedway from **Harbour Station Arena**, which is across the street from you.
29. At the off-ramp (traffic lights), do not cross but bear left up hill, past blue "Mercantile Centre" bus shelter on left and arrive at Union St.
30. Cross Union to **St Patrick St**, proceed downhill past the **Canada Games Aquatic Centre** on left and pass under Market Square pedway.
31. Cross St Patrick St (right) using pedestrian controlled light to arrive back at timepiece statue at Market Square entrance. (5.0 km)

We hope you enjoyed your walk!

Samuel de Champlain & the St. John River

Samuel de Champlain was a cartographer by trade, exploring with expedition leader Pierre duGua, Sieur de Mons (or "De Mont"). They arrived at the mouth of the Saint John River in 1604 on the day of the feast of Saint John the Baptist, and named the river for this saint. The City of Saint John was not so named upon its founding. The part of the city where you start your walk was named "**Parrtown**" by the Loyalist founders. Note that the river is "**St. John**". The city is "**Saint John**" (spelled out). Not to be confused with "**St. John's**", which is the capital of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. The city across the Harbour (no bridges then!!) was at first "Conway", and then until the 1960's "Carleton". Now, it is the Saint John west.

The Tides

As a note of interest, while the Bay of Fundy boasts 58-foot tides, at this point in the Bay (Saint John) the tide is about half of that, or 28 feet. The bay essentially experiences two large "waves" or tides each day. In essence, the 28-foot wave (or tide) comes in (flow tide) gradually over 6-1/4 hours, then goes back out (ebb tide, another 6-1/4 hours), then in, then out. In all, the two "daily" tides (in and out twice) take about 25 hours, so whether you are watching or waiting for high or low tide, it's timing is about an hour later than the day before, then another hour later the next day, and so on.

The Reversing Falls

The Reversing Falls were noted by Basque explorers/settlers/fishermen before the Demont/Champlain arrival and naming of the river in 1604. Champlain's records mention the reversing rapids phenomenon. How do they work? When the Bay is at high tide, the Bay's water level is above that of the river, and the Bay is literally seeking to empty into the River, forcing the river back inland upstream). When the Bay's tides go back out, at a certain point the Bay's level goes below that of the river, and the river starts emptying into the Bay again. Twice daily, the two bodies of water (the river and the bay) are for about 20 minutes at about the same level. For this brief time the water is neither going up inland, or out to the Bay. We call this slack tide, and the Reversing Rapids look still, rather like a lake. There are only a few such "reversing" falls or "reversing rivers" in the world, but this one has the most impressive water level change, and is probably the most accessible for you to see. While in the city, why not 'get a little closer' to the rapids and experience their power with a fun and thrilling (and wet!) "jet boat ride"?

PT246 Saint John NB 5 km

