



DISCOVER CHARLOTTETOWN

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

OFFICIAL SNOWSHOEING GUIDE

Snowshoes in the City

Charlottetown, PEI

Welcome to our winter wonderland!
Discover Charlottetown has partnered with some of the city's best accommodations to provide you with complimentary snowshoes during your stay in PEI's capital.

This guide will help ensure you enjoy your snowshoeing adventures and find trails that are perfectly matched to your level of experience and desired trekking time.

We hope you enjoy your visit!

a product of



made with love



Welcome!

We want you to embrace your winter love and take advantage of this unique, fun way to explore our magical, snow-filled city and stunning Island countryside with our complimentary snowshoes. PEI's restorative qualities and culinary scene have long been a draw for visitors during the warmer months, but those that venture here in the winter experience an equally rejuvenating and delectable getaway. The fresh, crisp air; soft crunch of snow; and forests filled with the sounds of nature after a new snowfall are but a few of the delights that await you.

By making Charlottetown your home base, you can easily enjoy the best of both worlds - nature-filled trails mere minutes by car and the city's charming, historic downtown core at your doorstep. After all, you'll surely want to warmup with a delicious meal or beverage (or both) after your snowy sojourn!

TOP TIPS * for a stellar * *Snowshoeing* Adventure

Check the Weather

Yes, snow on the ground is pretty essential for snowshoeing, but you'll want to make sure the weather's conducive to enjoying your trek as well. Since the weather can change quickly, be sure you check for updates just prior to leaving, so you don't get stuck in a storm. Sunshine and relatively warm (for winter) temperatures are great for snowshoeing, though overcast skies are also well-suited to outdoor adventure.

Dress for Success

The secret to enjoying winter is dressing appropriately for it. And the secret to dressing properly can be summed up in one word - layering! By dressing in layers, you'll be prepared to layer up or down depending on the temperature and how much heat you're generating. You'll also want to be sure you bring/wear a pair of mittens or gloves, thick socks, waterproof boots, a hat that covers your ears, waterproof pants, a lined jacket, and sunglasses if the sun is shining.

Be Prepared

Snowshoeing can be as leisurely or vigorously aerobic as you choose, but regardless you'll want to carry a few essentials with you on your outing. Must-haves include a thermos of water, easy-to-pack snacks (e.g. granola bars), and sunscreen if it's sunny out. If you're trekking in the countryside, you will also want to bring along a compass and a flashlight.



HIGH FIVES TO ALL OF OUR
winter-loving partners!



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Note that during winter months access to some trails may be more challenging than others. Parking lots may not be maintained and washroom facilities may not be available. Some of these trails are more remote so people should be prepared for winter conditions. Exercise caution and use your own judgement when setting out on your snowshoeing adventure.

Within 15 Minutes of Downtown Charlottetown

- 1 **Beach Grove Trails** (3 km) - Located in the west part of the city, behind the Beach Grove Home, these nature trails are a popular retreat for city residents, offering wooded pathways and scenic views. 200 BEACH GROVE RD (EASY)
- 2 **Confederation Trail** - Linking the Island from tip-to-tip and traversing the capital city, the Confederation Trail's wide, flat and well-groomed trails are the perfect way to make an adventure out of travelling from the downtown core to midtown and uptown while getting acquainted with your snowshoes. If exploring on a Saturday morning, be sure to stop at the Charlottetown Farmers' Market alongside the trail's intersection with Belvedere Ave. Take note the trails are only open to snowshoers and walkers within the city limits. (EASY)

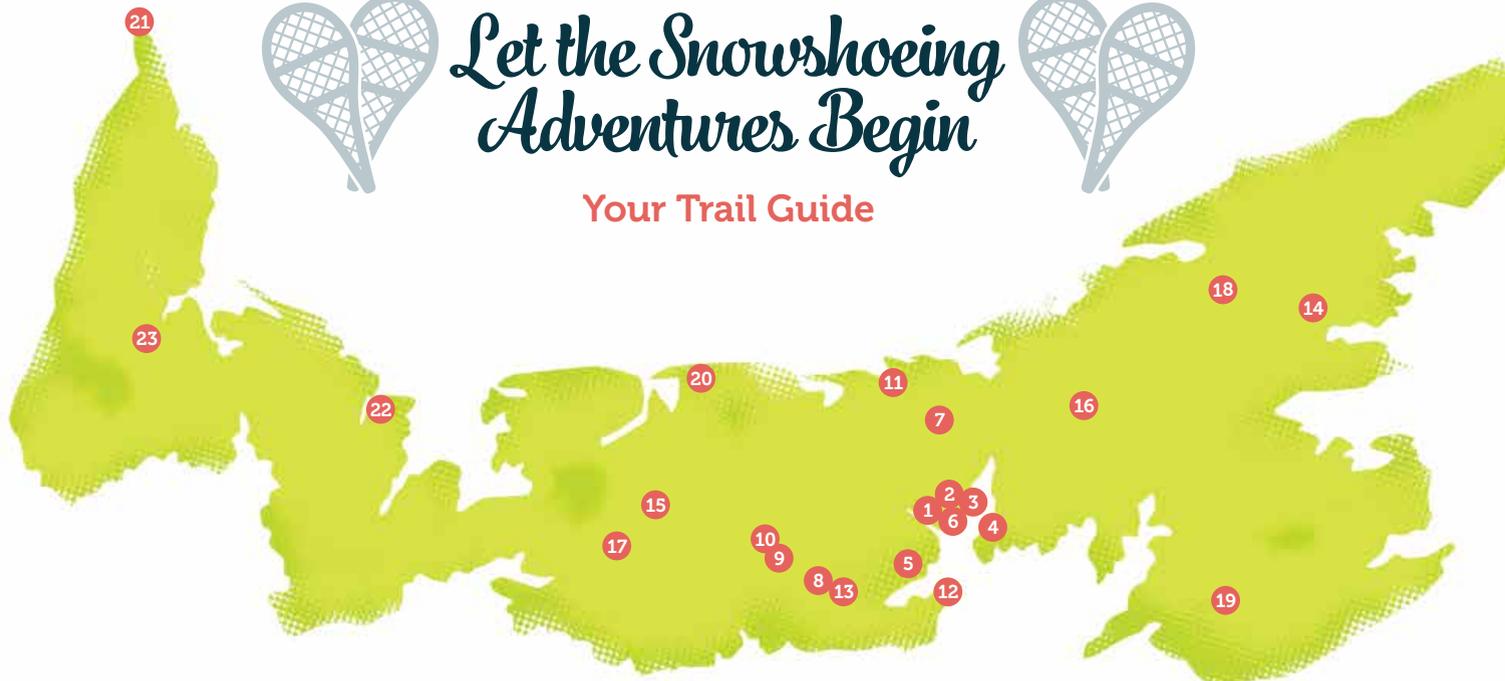
- 3 **Riverside Ride Trail** (4 km) - Located on the east side of Charlottetown, this narrow trail snakes its way through the woods along the Hillsborough River. (INTERMEDIATE)
- 4 **Robert L. Cotton Trail** - Located just across the Hillsborough Bridge in the neighbouring municipality of Stratford, the Cotton Trail is part of a 17-acre park built in memory of local businessman, Robert L. Cotton. 57 BUNBURY RD, STRATFORD (EASY)
- 5 **Terry Fox Trails** (2.5km) - Explore these easy trails situated at the Town of Cornwall's Terry Fox Sports Complex, then check out other indoor and outdoor activities taking place at the Complex. 85 HILLTOP DR, CORNWALL (EASY)
- 6 **Victoria Park Trails** - Located in Downtown Charlottetown, Victoria Park is a 40-acre expanse with easy trails through its forested areas and, after a fresh snowfall, along its beloved boardwalk. The perfect city respite for families and new snowshoers. (EASY)
- 7 **Winter River Trail** (6 km) - Located just a 15 minute drive from Charlottetown in the community of Suffolk, Winter River Trail includes a woods road, white spruce trees, gently rolling terrain and plenty of opportunities to view wildlife and waterfowl in the woods and along the Winter River as it opens up to Winter Bay. (INTERMEDIATE)



Let the Snowshoeing Adventures Begin



Your Trail Guide



Within 30 Minutes of Downtown Charlottetown

- 8 **Bonshaw Hills Provincial Park** (18 km of trails with many shorter loops) - Located 20 km west of Charlottetown, the Bonshaw woodland trails take advantage of scenic views and vistas of the West River and offer some of the hilliest wooded terrain in PEI. (EASY, INTERMEDIATE, DIFFICULT)
- 9 **Brookvale Demonstration Woodlot** (4 km) - Trails weave through softwood plantations on old field sites and mixed hardwood trails. (INTERMEDIATE)
- 10 **Brookvale Winter Activity park** (1, 2, 4 km) - The park has wooded trails designated especially for snowshoeing. There is a \$6 trail fee to use the trails if you have your own snowshoes. If snowshoeing or walking, please refrain from walking on the groomed cross country ski trails and ski tracks. The snowshoe trails are marked with orange flagging tape and the starting point is Brookvale Nordic Centre. (EASY, INTERMEDIATE)
- 11 **Bubbling Springs and Farmland Trails in Stanhope** (4 km) - Enjoy a trek through fields and mixed forest as you explore the Farmland Trail and watch for an archaeological site. And yes, you'll happen across a spring bubbling up from the ground along the Bubbling Springs Trail. (EASY)

- 12 **Port La Joye/Fort Amherst Trails** (6km) - Explore the newly-opened areas of an 18th century Acadian settlement and 19th century British farmlands, follow the Old Harbour Interpretive Trail to the remains of Fort Amherst or take in the stunning views of Charlottetown from the coastal paths. (EASY)

- 13 **Strathgartney Provincial Park** (6 km of trails with many shorter loops) - Located 20 km west of Charlottetown, Strathgartney offers scenic views and wooded trails for all levels. (EASY, INTERMEDIATE, DIFFICULT)

Within 45 minutes of Downtown Charlottetown

- 14 **Boughton River Trail** (9 km with shorter loops) - The trail is built in four interconnected loops, plus a short spur to a lookout to view the typical "drowned estuary" of the Boughton River. The trail winds through white spruce thickets, open hardwoods, river flats, steep ravines, and grassy meadows. (INTERMEDIATE)
- 15 **Breadalbane Nature Trail** (6 km with a shorter loop) - This trail follows a diverse terrain along a ravine and through the flood plain of the main and a smaller branch of the Dunk River. The trail is made up of two loops crossing at a central bridge. (INTERMEDIATE)

- 16 **Dromore Woodland Trail** (14 km with shorter loops) - The trail has an easy loop near the main trailhead and more difficult loops further on. It features numerous bridges over streams, boardwalks over wet areas, and clay steps cut into steeper slopes. The trail runs mostly through forested land although there are a few open areas. There are many stream crossings and much up and down terrain in portions. (DIFFICULT)
- 17 **Dunk River Trail** (3km) - This trail parallels the Dunk River and was developed by the community as an offshoot of the Scales Pond recreational park. (EASY)
- 18 **Forest Hill Trail** (10.4 km) - Located near Bridgetown in Kings County, this trail loops through extensive wooded areas and along two large ponds. (INTERMEDIATE)
- 19 **Gairloch Trail** (6 km) - The Gairloch site located near Belfast presents approximately 400 acres of the full range of typical woodland cover. The trail runs through and skirts dense white spruce thickets, as well as more open pine and hardwood copses, where ground pine and other club mosses abound. (INTERMEDIATE, DIFFICULT)
- 20 **Haunted Wood Trail at Green Gables Heritage Place** (.9km loops) - Take a peek around Green Gables Heritage Place in the snow and explore one of Anne Shirley's famous haunts. (EASY)

Further Afield

- 21 **Black Marsh Trail** (5.5km) - The trail winds through a forest, along the red capes, and across a vast bog. It is marked by twenty-five bilingual interpretive panels describing points of interest in more detail. Snowshoe under a giant whirring windmill, with a tower height of 80 metres, and be sure to watch for the North Cape Lighthouse. (EASY)
- 22 **Green Park Trail** (2.5km) - This trail is located in Green Park Provincial Park near the community of Tyne Valley in Western PEI, and includes seaside, marsh and wooded areas. (INTERMEDIATE)
- 23 **Trout River Trail** (5km) - A relaxing nature trail located near the community of Coleman in Western PEI. (EASY)

This list of trails is only a selection of the many snowshoe-friendly trails across PEI. For more trail information, maps, and inspiration visit www.DiscoverCharlottetown.com/Snowshoe