



Fort Point

Length: 2 km return

Time: 1 hr

Type: gravel path

Facilities: picnic tables, benches,
garbage cans

Closest Amenities: village of Guysborough

Rating: 1



Access Information: From the TC Hwy, take exit 37 to Monastery and Guysborough onto Route 16. Follow this road into the town of Guysborough onto Main Street. Travel to the very end of Main Street and you may begin your hike at this point.

Special Features: Sir Guy Carleton who was accompanied by a group of American Loyalists settled the town of Guysborough in 1784. The area encompassed in this hike was settled long before 1784 however. In the mid 1600's a French merchant named Nicolas Denys came to this area, known then as Chedaboutou, establishing a sedentary fishery as well as a French occupied fort. As was typical throughout Nova Scotia's past, this fortification changed hands between the French and the English many times during its existence. This area was at one time home to a large Acadian population and on this site there was a gristmill, lush gardens and a church; all are long since gone. The Mi'kmaq people also made frequent visits to this area long before any others, and benefitted from the rich marine resources of Chedabucto Bay. This trail is wonderfully historical and lends much to the imagination, in terms of cultural significance.

Description: When you begin this hike you may leave your vehicle at the end of Main Street in Guysborough. Initially the trail is a soft grassy path along the water's edge. There are many large old apple trees along this route that seem to blanket the path giving you a secluded feeling, as you make your way around into a quiet cove. It is this cove that marks the official head of the trail, where the path becomes a groomed gravel trek.

Following the shoreline you may see cormorants and other forms of waterfowl. It is also not uncommon to see large cranes. The view across the water is of a small island and a long bar of land that is believed to have once housed Denys' sedentary fishery. Today this is known as Hadley Beach. Beyond this bar of land is the opening to Chedabucto Bay. Once you reach the end of this trail you can look out over the raised point of land that was once occupied by the fort.

