

72  
HOURS

# LIVING ON THE EDGE

**St. John's** may be at the far east of Canada, but it's a hub of great music and shopping, and even better food

## DAY 1

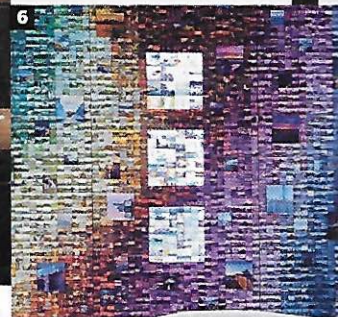
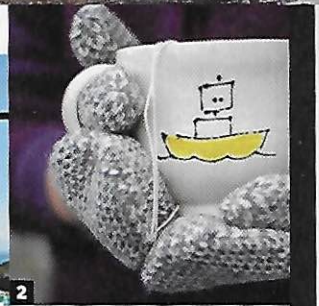
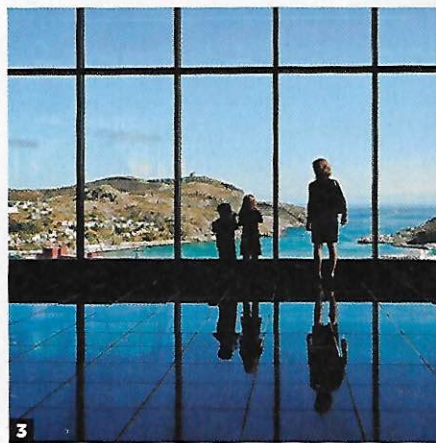
Check in at the stylish **Alt Hotel St. John's (6)** overlooking the busy harbour. Head to **Fixed Coffee & Baking** for partridgeberry squares and something caffeinated before an **Iceberg Guest boat trip (11)** to look for icebergs, humpback whales, puffins and seabirds.

If you return hungry, fine-dining institution **Raymonds** has tasting menus showcasing locally foraged and sourced ingredients, but head chef Jeremy Charles also helms buzzy **Merchant Tavern**, where vinegar pie with Tetley tea ice cream is a must. Do a music crawl along pub-packed **George Street**, taking a small detour to **Water Street** and the intimate **Black Sheep**, which features live bands daily.

## DAY 2

Start the day in **Quidi Vidi (1)**, a historic fishing neighbourhood, for brunch at **Mallard Cottage (5)**, where the cod cakes are divine and the cake table is delicious temptation. Wander over to **Quidi Vidi Brewing Co.** for their Iceberg Beer and to **Quidi Vidi Village Plantation (7)** to see artisans at work in tiny studios that double as shops.

Climb up to **Signal Hill National Historic Site** for a little military history, then hike the **North Head Trail** down rocky terrain back to the hotel. Linger over dinner at **Chinched (4)**, especially local mussels or charcuterie and the signature pig-ear "fries" tossed in buffalo sauce.



TOTE SOUVENIRS IN  
A HANDMADE BAG  
FROM LOCAL BRAND  
BISCAY BAY



**WHEN TO GO** Nothing is guaranteed, but May and June are usually best for icebergs. For puffins and whales, wait until July and August. **WHERE TO STAY** An overnight at The Alt Hotel St. John's, downtown's newest addition, includes a continental breakfast.

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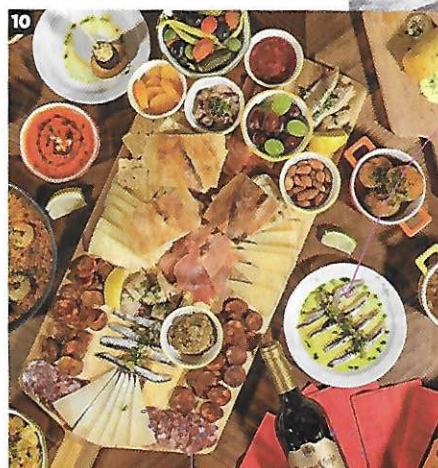
FIND YOUR OWN FAVOURITE JELLYBEAN ROW AROUND TOWN

**DAY 3**

Wake up before dawn to watch the sunrise from **Cape Spear Lighthouse** at the eastern edge of Canada, then explore **The Rooms (3)**. It's the province's largest public cultural space—and also has a wonderful café. Then find **Jellybean Row (8)**, which is slang for any cluster of colourful houses. The nickname stems from an iconic tourism campaign that used three Kimberly Row houses, but homes along **Prescott** and **Gower streets** are now the most photographed.



Next, browse the **Craft Council of Newfoundland & Labrador (2)**, a gallery and shop featuring work from artists across the province, plus bakeapple jam from **Dark Tickle Co. (9)**. Or shop **Posie Row & Co.**, a collective of local businesses housed in one four-storey building. If it seems strange to have a final East Coast meal at a tapas bar, order the *croquetas de bacalao* and *brandada de bacalao* made from local salt cod at **Boca (10)**, and it will all make sense. ■



BOCA TURNS LOCAL SEAFOOD INTO CLASSIC SPANISH TAPAS