



Tay Canal Tours

On the 180 year-old Tay Canal
UNESCO World Heritage Site

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Boat Tours Return to the Tay Canal

A UNESCO World Heritage Site

The recent arrival of guided boat tours on the Tay Canal this summer has revived a tradition – and popular entertainment - that dates back to the Perth area's late 1800s. This week, *Tay Canal Tours* announced the official commencement of their scheduled tours based out of Perth, operating along this historic waterway. The Canal was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2007, with the Rideau Canal system.

The narrated tours will visit some of the area's most important historic sites, through pristine countryside and the Tay Marsh, in Drummond/North Elmsley Township (optionally, longer tours are available to the Beveridge Locks, on Lower Rideau Lake). Amongst the historic spots viewed along the way are the site of the *last fatal duel in Upper Canada*, the original 1834 Tay Canal and its tow path, and the route taken by the first settlers to the 1816 Perth Military Settlement. The tour includes an extensive visit to the 'provincially significant' Tay Marsh, noted for its range of wildlife, including the black tern (species of special concern).

The Classic 24 foot tour boat, '*Blue Goose*', will provide two tours daily, at 10:00am and 1:00pm, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For the present, the 2 ½ hour tours leave from the docks at Last Duel Park, on Craig Street, in Perth. Reservations are required.

In addition to scheduled tours, custom and package outings will be offered for special occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, and family visits, on the Tay or Rideau system, or area lakes.

Tay Canal Tours is an enterprise of local citizens aimed at providing a means by which residents and visitors may enjoy and learn about the historic Tay River and Canal – a little-known jewel in the Perth and Drummond/North Elmsley Township community. Further information on the tours is available at www.taycanaltours.com, or by telephone at (613) 264 0094.

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