ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRES

Inverness County's cultural history is rich and diverse. A place of great creative energy, it is home to writers, visual artists, musicians and artisans who are inspired by the natural beauty and traditions of western Cape Breton. There are five Arts & Cultural Centres in Inverness County, each with its own focus, all well worth a visit. Many events take place throughout the year, especially in summer and fall. Check the contact numbers and websites for up-to-date information.

11 Father John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre
4248 Highway 105, Glendale

Marina MacIntyre (902) 625-1723
Mabel MacGillvray (902) 625-0898

Father John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre houses the Glendale Gaelic and Historical Society archives. As well you will find as a gift shop featuring local traditional crafts in this lovely 140-year old building. On site weavers display their beautifully woven tartans and offer workshops to visitors and locals. Internet access is available at this location. The Centre is operated by Glendale Area Community Cooperative. Activities can be found on Facebook.

12 The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre
5471 Route 19, Judique

(902) 787-2708 • www.celticmusiccentre.com

The Celtic Music Centre is home to extensive music archives dating back to the 1940's. You will find a gift shop specializing in music and tune books as well as an interactive exhibit room where you can have an 8-minute fiddle lesson. Workshops and ceilidhs are a regular event at the Centre.

13 Strathspey Place
Allan J. MacEachen International Academic & Cultural Centre
11156 Route 19, Mabou

(902) 945-5300 • www.strathspeyplace.com

Strathspey Place is a state-of-the-art performance centre with comfortable seating and excellent acoustics. The stage, dedicated to John Morris Rankin, is where you will see performances from ballet to jazz, to the best in Cape Breton traditional music.

14 The Inverness County Centre For The Arts
16080 Route 19, Central Avenue, Inverness

(902) 258-2533 • www.invernessarts.ca

Inverness County Centre for the Arts offers something for everyone. Here you can see beautiful art on exhibit in the gallery, browse in the Third Meadow Gallery Gift Shop, enjoy an evening of music in an intimate setting, learn art and craft techniques in the studio, or relax with a cocktail on the patio while watching the sun go down over the ocean.

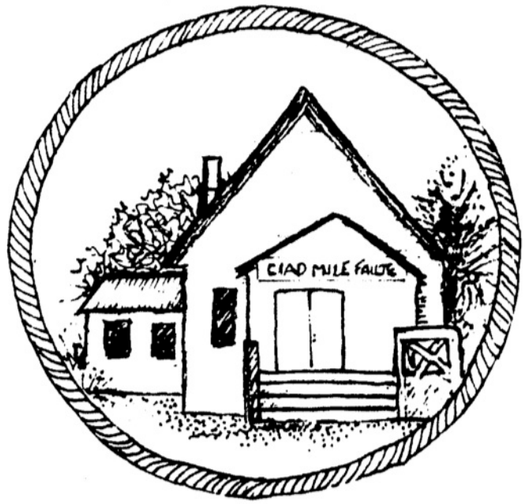
15 La Place Des Arts Père Anselme Chiasson
15118 Cabot Trail, Cheticamp

(902) 224-1876 • www.cheticamp.ca

La Place Des Arts Père Anselme Chiasson is in the heart of the Acadian region offering music and dance performances with a kitchen party atmosphere in a well equipped 357-seat theatre.

DANCING AROUND

Inverness County
Discover the Magic in the Masterpiece



EXPERIENCE
the traditional dance
and ceilidh culture
of Western Cape Breton

SUNSET SIDE of Cape Breton

Free Visitor's Guide
Available at Visitor Information Centres around the island or by request.

Email: information@invernesscounty.ca
Phone: (902) 787-2274

CelticHeart.ca Recommended Experience

Listing coordinated by
Inverness County Recreation/Tourism Department

Please note: all events are subject to change without notice.

SQUARE DANCES

The Cape Breton square dance and stepdance traditions were brought over from Scotland by the early Scots settlers and are intrinsic to Cape Breton culture. An evening spent at any of Inverness County's regular square dances is sure to be an unforgettable experience. Visitors are made welcome, and they will hear the music of some of Cape Breton's best known musicians.

1 West Mabou Square Dance
West Mabou Sports Club Hall, 2399 West Mabou Road, Mabou

SATURDAY: year-round
10 pm–1 am

Family Dance (all ages)
Admission $8, Canteen

The West Mabou Dance is famous for its indoor and outdoor dance floors and the ever-growing collection of framed photographs donated by musicians over the years.

Contact: Jimmy or Margie MacInnis (902) 945-2814

2 Brook Village Square Dance
Brook Village Parish Hall, 6432 Route 252, Brook Village

MONDAY: end of June to Labour Day weekend
9:30 pm–1 am

Adult Dance (age 19+)
Admission $7, Bar and canteen

The Brook Village dance has been running since Buddy MacMaster first started playing at dances.

Contact: Cathy Campbell (902) 945-2735

3 Scotsville Square Dance
Lake Ainslie Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall, 4550 Route 395, Scotsville

TUESDAY: July and August
10 pm–1 am

Adult Dance (age 19+)
Admission $7, Bar and canteen

Enjoy a night of lively music and dance with some of the county's best known musicians.

Contact: Michael Gillis (902) 756-2790 or
Mike Gillis (902) 756-2040

4 The Barn at the Normaway Inn
The Barn, 691 Egypt Road, Margaree Valley

WEDNESDAY: July and August
FRIDAY: mid-June, September to mid-October
8 pm Concert/Ceilidh, 10pm Dance

Family Concert/Ceilidh/Dance (all ages)
Admission Concert/Dance Combo $10/$15/$20,
Dance Adults $8, Student $4

Contact: (902) 248-2987 or www.normawayinn.com

5 The Glencoe Mills Square Dance
Glencoe Mills Hall, 628 Upper Glencoe Road, Glencoe Mills

THURSDAY: July to Labour Day weekend
10 pm–1 am

Family Dance (all ages)
Admission $8, Canteen

The Glencoe Mills dance has been running for decades and for many years was Buddy MacMaster's regular Thursday gig.

Contact: Irene Gillis (902) 945-2448 or
Ruby Campbell (902) 945-2213

6 South West Margaree Square Dance
St. Joseph's Parish Hall, 19678 Route 19, South West Margaree

FRIDAY: end of June to Labour Day weekend
10 pm–1 am

Adult (age 19+)
Admission $8, Bar

Some of the legendary Cape Breton fiddlers such as Angus Chisholm have played at this long running dance.

Contact: Lawrence MacLellan (902) 248-2180

CEILIDHS

A ceilidh (Scots Gaelic word pronounced kay-lee) is a gathering for traditional music, dance, stories, and songs.

7 The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre
See Arts & Cultural Centres for directions and contact info.

SUNDAY: year-round, 3 pm–6:30 pm
WEDNESDAY: July to mid-October, 7 pm–9 pm
MONDAY–SATURDAY:
June, July, August to mid-October, 11:30 am–1 pm

Family Ceilidh (all ages)
Admission $8 Sunday, $5 Wednesday
Bar and canteen

8 Mabou Community Hall
11538 Route 19 Main Street Mabou

TUESDAY: July & August, 7:30 pm–9 pm

Family Ceilidh (all ages)
Admission $7

9 Father John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre
See Arts & Cultural Centres for directions and contact info.

Every 2nd WEDNESDAY:
mid-June to mid-October, 7 pm–9 pm

Family Ceilidh (all ages)
Admission by donation

10 Inverness Fire Hall
15797 Route 19, Central Avenue, Inverness

THURSDAY: July to August, 8 pm

Family Ceilidh (all ages)
Admission $7

Contact: Alice Freeman (902) 258-2074 or
The Bear Paw Gift and Crafts Shop.

DANCING AROUND

Inverness County

Discover the Magic in the Masterpiece

SQUARE DANCES

1 West Mabou Square Dance
West Mabou Sports Club Hall, 2399 West Mabou Road, Mabou
2½ km along West Mabou Road, which turns west off Route 19, 2½ km south of the Mabou Post Office.

2 Brook Village Square Dance
Brook Village Parish Hall, 6432 Route 252, Brook Village
Route 252 turns east off Route 19 at the north end of Mabou and meets Route 395 just north of Whycocomagh.

3 Scotsville Square Dance
Lake Ainslie Volunteer Fire Department Community Hall, 4550 Route 395, Scotsville
Route 395 turns south off Route 19, not far from Southwest Margaree bridge, and meets Highway 105 at Whycocomagh.

4 The Barn at the Normaway Inn
The Barn, 691 Egypt Road, Margaree Valley
At Margaree Forks where Route 19 meets the Cabot Trail, go east towards the Trans Canada Highway until you reach Egypt Road on the left, near Lake O'Law. Follow the signs to Normaway Inn; 3½ km on Egypt Road.

5 The Glencoe Mills Square Dance
Glencoe Mills Hall, 628 Upper Glencoe Road, Glencoe Mills, across from St. Joseph's Church
There are several ways to get here. At Mabou, off Route 19 follow Mabou Ridge Rd.; from Brook Village via the Old Mull River Rd.; and from Judique, the Judique Intervale Road turns off Route 19, 4 km north of the Judique Post Office.

6 South West Margaree Square Dance
St. Joseph's Parish Hall, 19678 Route 19, South West Margaree
Approximately 23 km from Inverness Visitor Information Centre, 5 km from Margaree Forks

CEILIDHS

7 The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre
5471 Route 19, Judique
Next to the Judique Community Centre, across from Tartan Gardens.

8 Mabou Community Hall
11538 Route 19 Main Street, Mabou
Across from the Red Shoe Pub.

9 Father John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre
4248 Highway 105, Glendale
22 km from the Canso Causeway, next to St. Mary of the Angels Church.

10 Inverness Fire Hall
15797 Route 19, Central Avenue, Inverness
Across from the Royal Bank.

ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRES

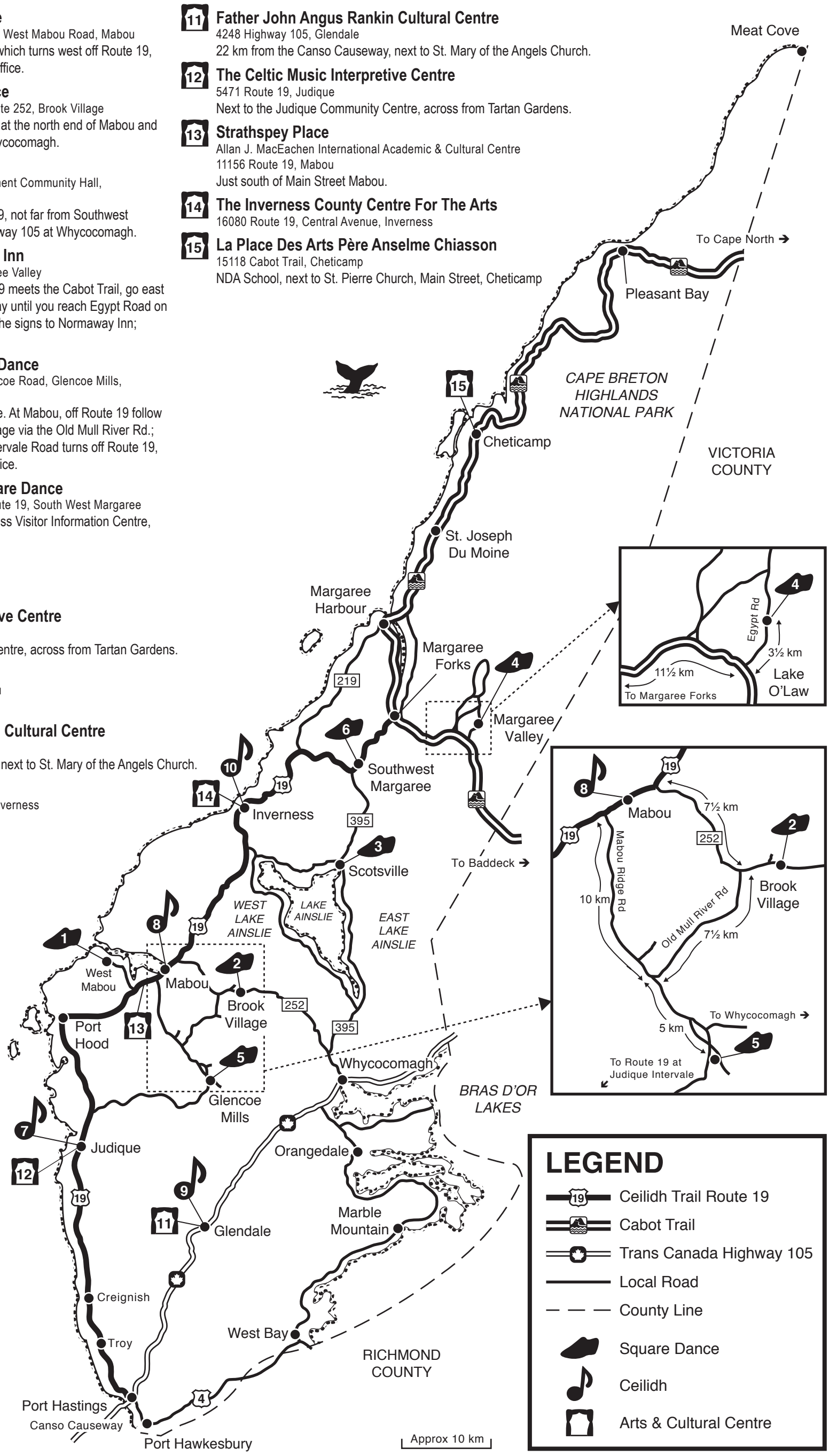
11 Father John Angus Rankin Cultural Centre
4248 Highway 105, Glendale
22 km from the Canso Causeway, next to St. Mary of the Angels Church.

12 The Celtic Music Interpretive Centre
5471 Route 19, Judique
Next to the Judique Community Centre, across from Tartan Gardens.

13 Strathspey Place
Allan J. MacEachen International Academic & Cultural Centre
11156 Route 19, Mabou
Just south of Main Street Mabou.

14 The Inverness County Centre For The Arts
16080 Route 19, Central Avenue, Inverness

15 La Place Des Arts Père Anselme Chiasson
15118 Cabot Trail, Cheticamp
NDA School, next to St. Pierre Church, Main Street, Cheticamp



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