

Trip 3 – Episode #15: Grand Falls and Twillingate

After crossing back over to Newfoundland from Labrador, we had the opportunity to revisit some of the beautiful landscapes we'd seen on our way up. Since there's really only one road to follow, we had no choice. But that was okay with us. Our first overnight stop was one of our favourites on the way north. The Arches.



We also drove through the Gros Morne area again, and saw some of the same dramatic scenery, but with a different kind of drama.



Fortunately, the fireweeds were still very much in bloom.



And as usual, the skies went from gloomy grey to brilliant blue and everything in between.





This was during the time when fires had been ravaging parts of central Newfoundland, and we were concerned about how things would be in Grand Falls – our next destination. But by the time we got there, the fires had been doused and all was well.

One of Grand Falls' claims to fame is that it's in the very centre of Newfoundland.

(Unfortunately, the photo of the sign was not perfectly centered.)



Its other claim to fame is that Gordon Pinsent was born here. And he's commemorated in a few ways.



And even more prestigious ...



This photo is actually from our visit here on July 1st, 2019. It was closed for the holiday, so we weren't able to go inside. This time, I forgot to take a photo of the outside.

Once we were inside, we saw lots of Pinsent memorabilia.



And, our timing worked out perfectly, as we were able to see the final performance of a new show, "Girls From Away".



The play, a work in progress, was fun, and we enjoyed meeting with members of the cast afterward. But even more fun was spending some time with the show's Stage Manager, our friend Kevin Olson. And of course, his theatre dog Penny.



Although difficult to find, the Sanger Memorial RV Park was quite nice.

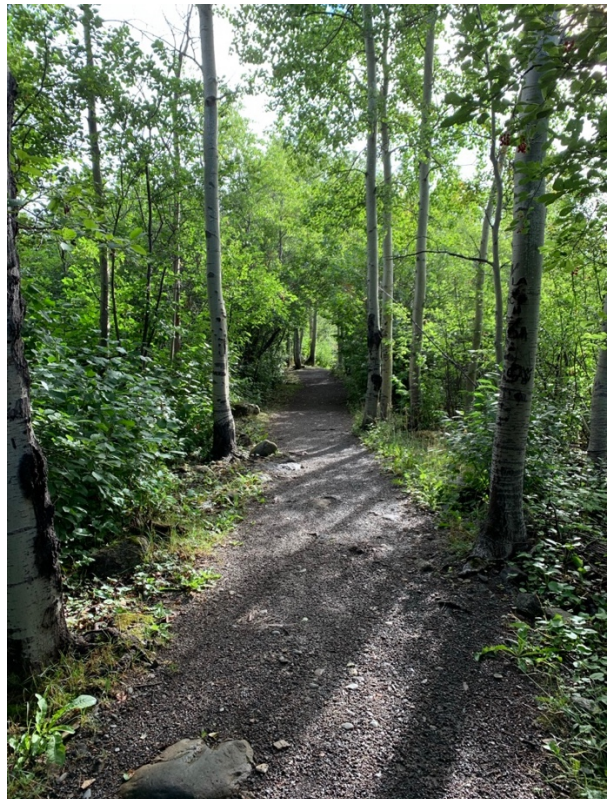


There was a torrential rain overnight that filled Jim's shoes, but the rain was welcomed by the community, because it ensured that there would be no more fires.



The next morning was beautiful and I went for a walk along the river toward the falls.







The falls (at least what I was able to see of them) were not all that “grand”, but it was a lovely walk nonetheless.



Our next stop was Twillingate, a place I'd heard of since I was in Grade 3 and learned the song "It's the Bye". I was pretty excited about the idea of finally seeing this place. As always, getting there was a huge part of the enjoyment.







Not only stunning scenery, but also typically entertaining Newfoundland signs.





And then, suddenly, there was a sign with two of the three names from the song!



And then all the colour and fun of Twillingate.





We stopped at Annie's for lunch, which was just as delightful as it looks.



Everywhere we looked there were bright, happy colours.



We continued through to Crow Head, north of Twillingate, where we'd heard there was a lighthouse and what was supposed to be a spectacular place to boondock.



The views from the lighthouse were incredible.







A path led
us to views
in a different
direction.



We were convinced that these splashes were evidence of whale activity, but after staring at it for quite a while, we had to accept that it was just water splashing on rocks.



Then we found our spot for the night (and much of the next day). What could be better for Jim than a place called ...



We couldn't believe our luck, being able to park here for free and enjoy this unbelievably beautiful land and seascape.







We walked down to the beach but weren't quite as brave as this guy. (There goes our intrepid status!)



Of course, as the sun began to set, the views kept changing.





The next day was glorious, and we set out for an actual hike.





If you look closely, you can see Jim in his hat, about halfway up this photo.





It was a great walk. Even Jim admitted it.

Somewhat sadly that evening, we left this beautiful spot to go to the famous Twillingate Dinner Theatre. The drive back was just as fun and colourful as the day before.





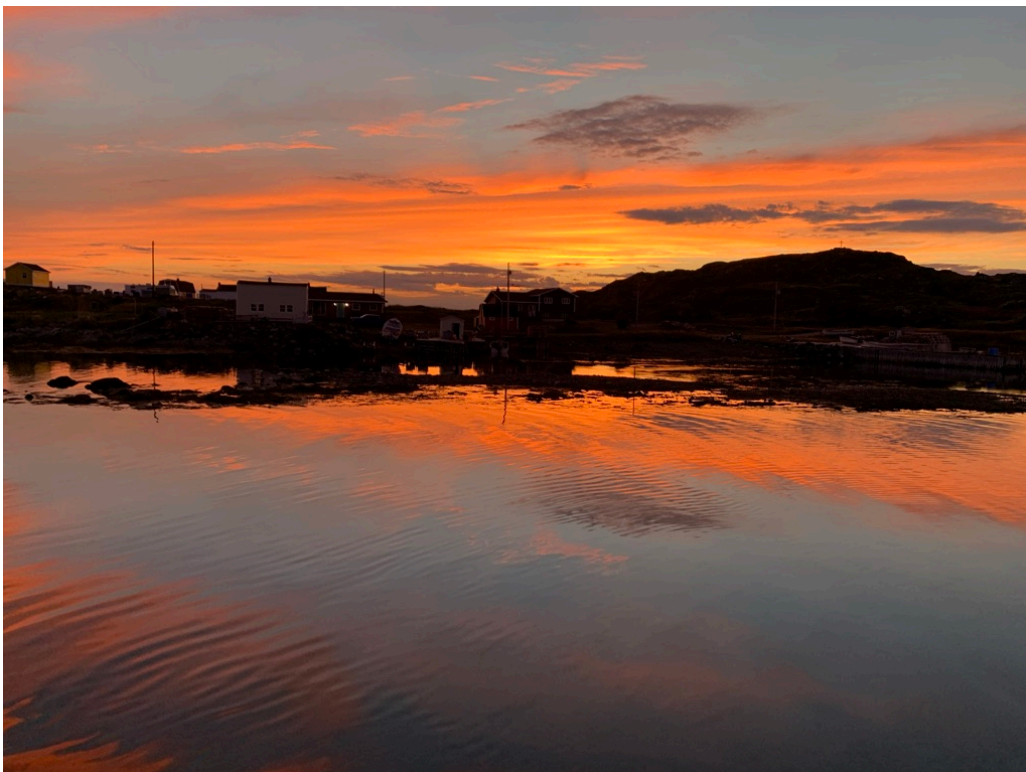
The dinner theatre was fun, and featured some fine musicians.



And we met a nice bunch of people - all from Ontario!



But the real star of the show was the sunset we saw during the intermission.





One of the perks of the dinner theatre was that we were able to park in their lot for free overnight. The next morning, I got up early and caught some great shots of this picturesque town.





We never made it to Moerton's Harbour or Fogo Island. But from now on, whenever I hear "It's the Bye", I'll have such beautiful memories of Twillingate.