

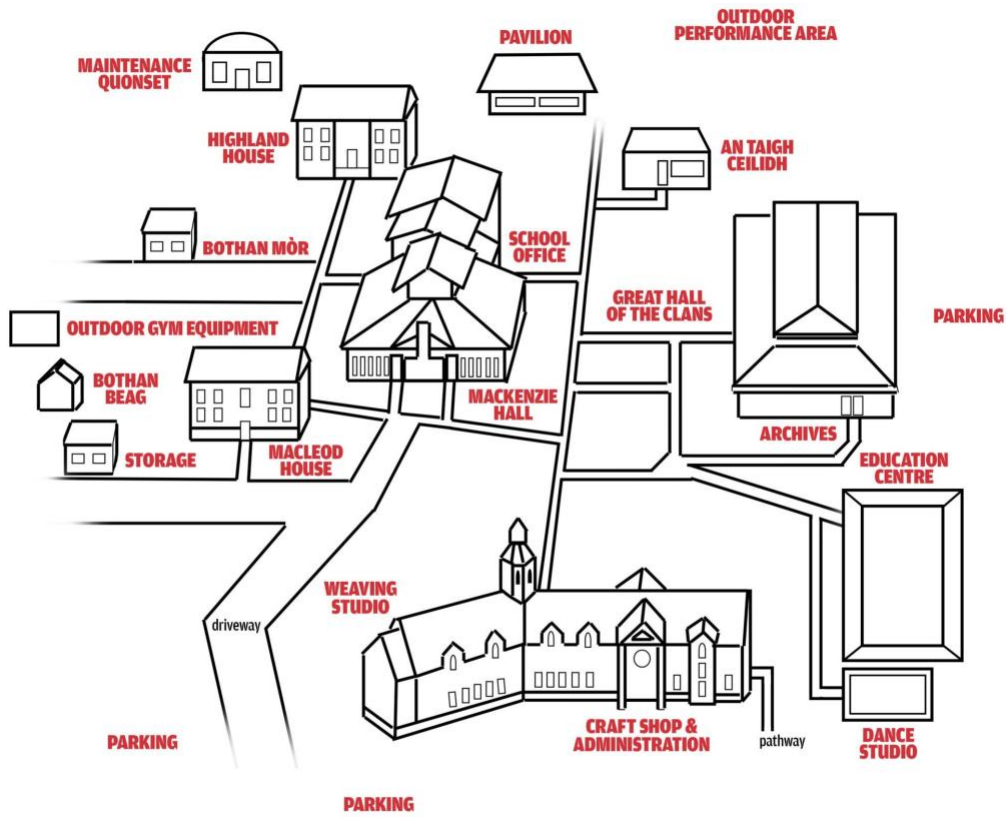
# A Celtic Blue Knight Friendship Weekend

## June 20 - 22, 2025

**The Gaelic College**  
**51779 Cabot Trail, St. Anne's, Cape Breton**

A unique experience with a million-dollar view  
Centrally located on Cape Breton Island  
Start of the Cabot Trail  
Full catering and bar services  
Ample parking available  
Wireless Internet  
Craft shop on site  
Minutes from village of Baddeck





## Accommodations - 46 rooms

### Mackenzie Hall

Includes guest rooms, cafeteria and upstairs common area (18 rooms - no elevator)

Room cost - \$99 no tax

1st floor:

7 guest rooms (Queen bed + full bath + 2 single beds)

2nd floor:

8 guest rooms (Queen bed + full bath + 2 single beds)

3 guest rooms - Loft area (Queen bed + full bath)

## *Mackenzie Hall*



## Macleod House & Highland House

Both houses include guest rooms, common area and kitchenette (fridge, microwave, coffee maker)

Room cost - \$75 no tax

### Macleod House - 14 rooms (no elevator)

1st floor:

5 guest rooms (Double bed + full bath)

2nd floor:

9 guest rooms (2 single beds + full bath)

### Highland House - 14 rooms (no elevator)

1st floor:

4 guest rooms (Double bed + full bath)

1 guest room (2 single beds + full bath)

2nd floor:

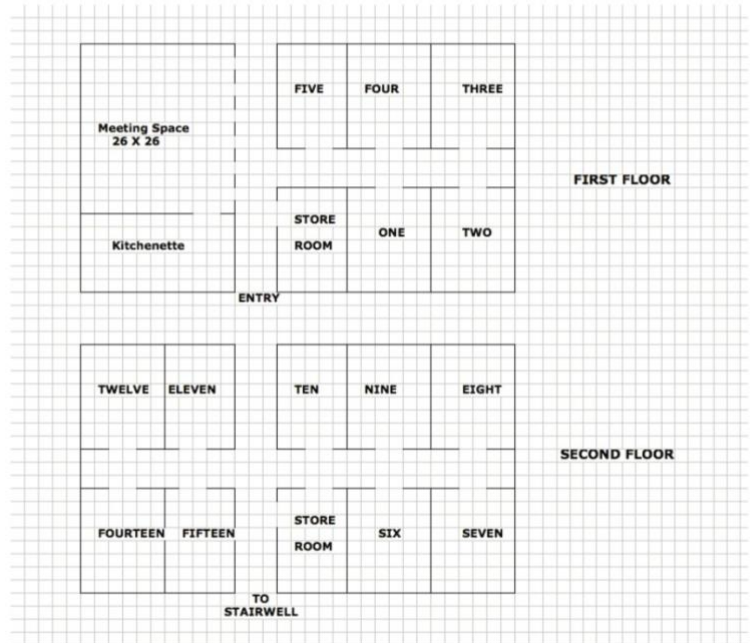
8 guest rooms (2 single beds + full bath)

1 guest room (Double bed + full bath)

## *MacLeod & Highland House*

### Room Bookings

Gaelic College contact (Gail) will take the accommodation bookings for our group. She will provide a rooming list and all the keys in envelopes (with receipts) to Trish for distribution during Friday registration





# Cead Mile Failte 100,000 Welcomes

## Friday

### Registration

Registration set up in Mackenzie Hall

- One table - Registration, pick up room keys (with receipts), gift bags, t-shirts, tickets for silent auction, etc.
- Second table - Local brochures featuring information/activities available for members during their stay on Cape Breton Island

### Silent Auction

Tables will be set up just inside MacKenzie Hall for the silent auction. These will be later moved to the Great Hall of the Clans for Saturday night banquet

### Hospitality Suite

Hospitality Suite hosted in MacKenzie Hall (Large room with tables and chairs already set up)

- Bar Service provided by Gaelic College in MacKenzie Hall (2 drink tickets included in each gift bag - TBD)
- Food trays to be provided by Gaelic College Kitchen (i.e., veggies, charcuteries, sweets, cookies, etc.)
- BBQ set up outside next to MacKenzie Hall (BBQ and food to be provided by Blue Knights i.e., hamburgers/hotdogs/buns/condiments/water/pop/potato chips)
- Bonfire to follow (Fire pit and wood on site)



## Saturday

### Mackenzie Hall - Breakfast



- Cafeteria style buffet breakfast in MacKenzie Hall (7am start)

- Breakfast options include: scrambled eggs, bacon, hash-browns, toast, cold cereal, tea, coffee and juice

## Cabot Trail Ride



- Starts and ends at the Gaelic College (Total drive time 3 hours/ total distance 200 kms)
- See Appendix for details
- Lunch at Keltic Lodge, Ingonish Beach
- “I rode the Cabot Trail” Pins available for purchase at Craft Store on-site

## Great Hall of the Clans - Saturday Banquet

- Welcoming bagpiper
- Tables to be set up with linens and chair covers
- Auction items moved from MacKenzie Hall and setup in the Great Hall

### Dinner

- Choice of lobster, roast beef or stuffed chicken (lobster to be purchased locally by Blue Knights, cooked on Friday and provided to the kitchen staff on Saturday)
- All other food provided by the Gaelic College Kitchen
  - Greek salad, chopped salad, potato salad, rolls and tea/coffee
  - Dessert: Cheesecake bar and one other dessert option
- Bar Service provided by the Gaelic College
- Memorial for Heaven 1 members
- Audio equipment available for live auction



## Mackenzie Hall - Celtic Music

- Buddy MacDonald and Cape Breton Fiddler Rachel Davis
- Bonfire next to MacKenzie Hall



***“I enjoy doing my own material, but also feel at home doing old pub music, sing along tunes and getting the audience as involved as possible ...old Irish, Scottish, Canadian, American folk music is what I do and it works.***

***I was born and grew up on Cape Breton Island Nova Scotia, in a rural setting where culture is strong and music is important, and it is that format that I follow ...entertain is what I do ...”***

## Sunday

### Mackenzie Hall - Breakfast



- Cafeteria style buffet breakfast in MacKenzie Hall (7 am start)

- Breakfast options include: Pancakes, sausage, cold cereal, tea, coffee and juice OR Breakfast casserole with hash-browns, cold cereal, tea, coffee and juice



## APPENDIX

### Friendship Weekend Ride - Tentative Ride Schedule

Total drive time 3 hours

Total distance 200 kms

9:30 am

#### Ride meeting

- Present ride route and any issues
- Hand out detailing stop points, instructions with route numbers and distances

10:00 am

#### Ride begins

- Leave Head of St Ann's Bay along the shore on route NS30 for 26 kms
- Come to a stop at Barachois Pond
- Turn left and continue along route NS30 toward Cape Smokey
- Ocean is on your right and visible most of the time, mountains on your left

First stop (84 kms/approx. 1 hour and 10 minutes from start point)

- Look off point on Cape Smokey
- Large, paved turnout overlooking the ocean and a great spot for photos
- 20-minute stop

Travel continues along route NS30 towards Keltic Lodge

- 20-minute ride through Parks Canada roadways
- Large restaurant, paved parking and view of the ocean

12:00 pm

- Lunch

13:30 pm

- Mount up and head back towards St. Anne's and the Gaelic College on route NS 30
- Total drive time approximately 1 hour 30 minutes (depending on traffic)

15:00 pm

- Arrival back at Gaelic College

#### Notes:

- Numerous vendors and crafters to visit along the way back to the Gaelic College
- Road conditions: Very good with 2 exceptions where sections are paved with broken surfaces
- Full tank will be adequate to return. Fuel is available in Ingonish just before the Keltic Lodge
- Weather is unpredictable. High winds/heavy rain may cause us to cancel ride
- Riders should dress warmly and bring extra clothing for stops
- Road assistance requirements:
  - Left turn on route NS30 at Barachois Pond
  - Group merging back on the road following stop at Cape Smokey look-off
  - Leaving Keltic Lodge roadway will require a left hand turn to get back on NS30 to head back to St Anne's
  - Turn back into the Gaelic College parking lot (cross traffic turn)

## **Registration Costs:**

### **2025 Friendship Weekend**

- \$175 CDN per person
- \$150 US per person
- Accommodations as per college - \$99. CDN per night and booked through the college. (There are expected to be rooms available before and after the event if you wish to come early or stay on for a bit)
- Blue Knights Cape Breton Friendship weekend "T" Shirts will be available, once final designs are completed, they will be posted. "T" Shirts must be ordered in advance.