



HALIFAX CITADEL

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
OF CANADA

Meeting & Event Facilities





For more information about bringing your meeting or event to the impressive backdrop of the Halifax Citadel, contact us:

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past and present

From business meetings to conferences, weddings and concerts, since 1995 the Halifax Citadel National Historic Site of Canada has provided a unique backdrop for a wide range of gatherings.

Steeped in history and complemented by modern-day conveniences, the Citadel boasts a central location and one of the best views of Halifax the city has to offer. Complete with friendly, bilingual staff, this versatile facility offers the setting and service to make yours an event to remember.

The History of the Halifax Citadel

From the time of its founding in 1749 through the 19th century, Halifax was one of four principal overseas naval stations in the British Empire. To defend Halifax, British military authorities built a series of fortifications in and around this strategic port—a system now known as the Halifax Defence Complex.

Completed in 1856, the present Citadel was a key part of the Complex and the fourth in a series of forts since

1749 to occupy the hill overlooking the harbour. This fourth Citadel was garrisoned by the British army until 1906 and guarded the landward approaches to the Naval Dockyard. Constructed originally with smoothbore cannon technology in mind, the Citadel quickly became obsolete with the introduction of powerful rifled guns in the 1860s.

After 1906, the fortification provided barrack accommodations and acted as a harbour defence command centre for the Canadian army. During the Second World War, it was used as a temporary barracks for troops going overseas and as the centre for anti-aircraft operations for Halifax. The Citadel was the “last view of the country for so many thousands outward bound and the first landmark to those who returned.”

In 1951, the Government of Canada declared the Citadel a national historic site. Today, operated by Parks Canada in partnership with the Halifax Citadel Regimental Association and restored to its mid-Victorian appearance, it provides a piece of living history for millions of visitors and a unique setting for a wide range of events throughout the year.



the north magazine

Capacity: 120 standing, entire building

Upon its completion in 1856, the Halifax Citadel housed two magazines for the storage of gunpowder. Forty years later, to better serve the changing needs of the garrison, the **North Magazine** was replaced by a new brick structure, built atop the original granite foundation. It was then utilized as a sergeants' mess. The North Magazine remained in service as a soldiers' recreation facility and canteen until the end of World War II.

Today, with its high brick walls, period paintings and fine woodwork, it is an elegant, flexible space for friends and colleagues to meet.

With exposed beams, a high ceiling and a brick wall, the **Garrison Room** is a favourite for dinners, weddings and business gatherings.

Together or individually, the **Naval** and **Artillery** rooms serve as ideal backdrops for executive meetings and breakout sessions alike.

Various combinations of the rooms, in conjunction with the building itself, provide a wide variety of options through which to comfortably host larger receptions, conferences or workshops.

Included in your rental fee:

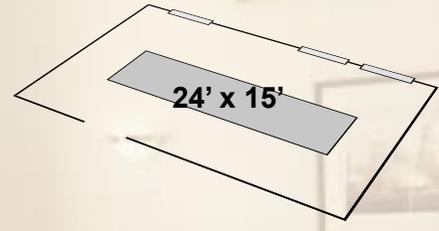
Tables (6' round, 5' rectangular), banquet chairs (60), white linens, skirting, set-up, tear-down and cleaning of the facility. Additional services can be negotiated.



20' x 40'

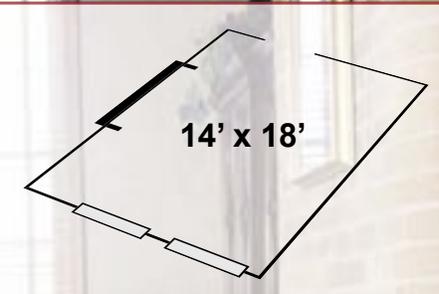
Garrison Room

Capacity: 80 standing
60 seated theatre style
48 seated at round tables



Naval Room

Capacity: 12 seated boardroom style



Artillery Room

Capacity: 8 standing
8 seated

the soldiers' library

The Soldiers' Library was established in 1840 to "encourage the Soldiery to employ their leisure hours in a manner that shall combine amusement with attainment of useful knowledge." The Library underwent renovations in 1860 and, with the addition of an adjoining recreation room and refreshment bar, was transformed into a soldiers' club.

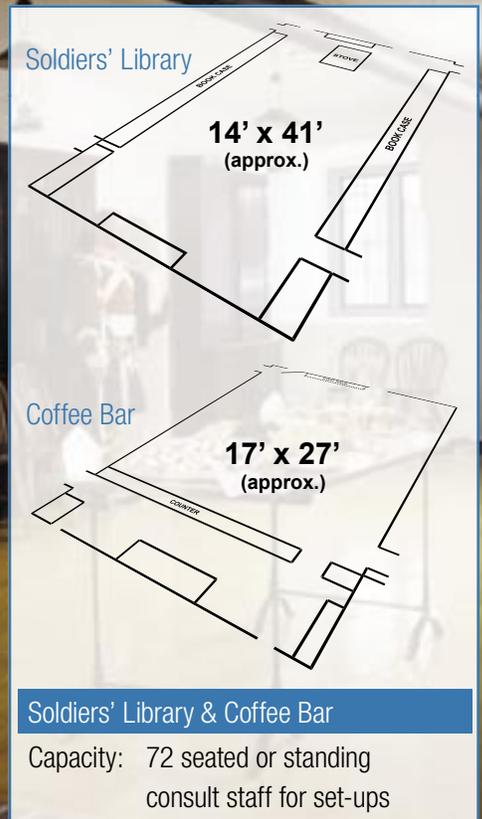
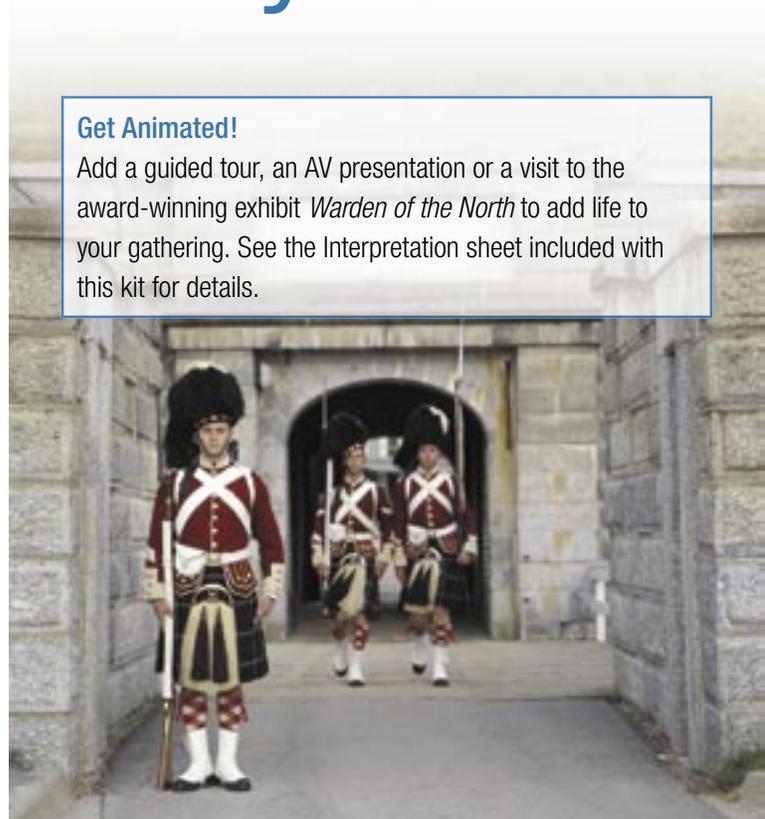
Today, with its book-lined walls, period furnishings and reproduction artefacts, the Library offers a unique, intimate setting for dinners, meetings or receptions.

Included in your rental fee:

Tables and chairs, set-up, tear-down and cleaning of the facility. Additional services can be negotiated.

Get Animated!

Add a guided tour, an AV presentation or a visit to the award-winning exhibit *Warden of the North* to add life to your gathering. See the Interpretation sheet included with this kit for details.



Soldiers' Library & Coffee Bar

Capacity: 72 seated or standing
consult staff for set-ups

the north front casemates

Located within the very thickness of the fort's massive walls, the **casemates** offer a unique backdrop for your gathering.

The basic, 19th-century character of these rooms (used together or separately) can be transformed to create an ideal atmosphere for a variety of events.

Be it a wedding, dinner, reception, product launch or business meeting, each event is equally at home in this versatile space.

Six casemates are available, four of which connect to allow for your event's fluid movement from space to space.

Included in your rental fee:

Rectangular tables, up to 60 chairs, set-up, tear-down and post-event cleaning. Additional services can be negotiated.

North Front Casemates C26, C27 (each)

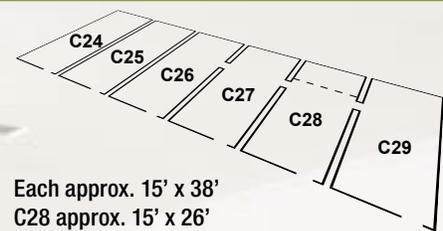
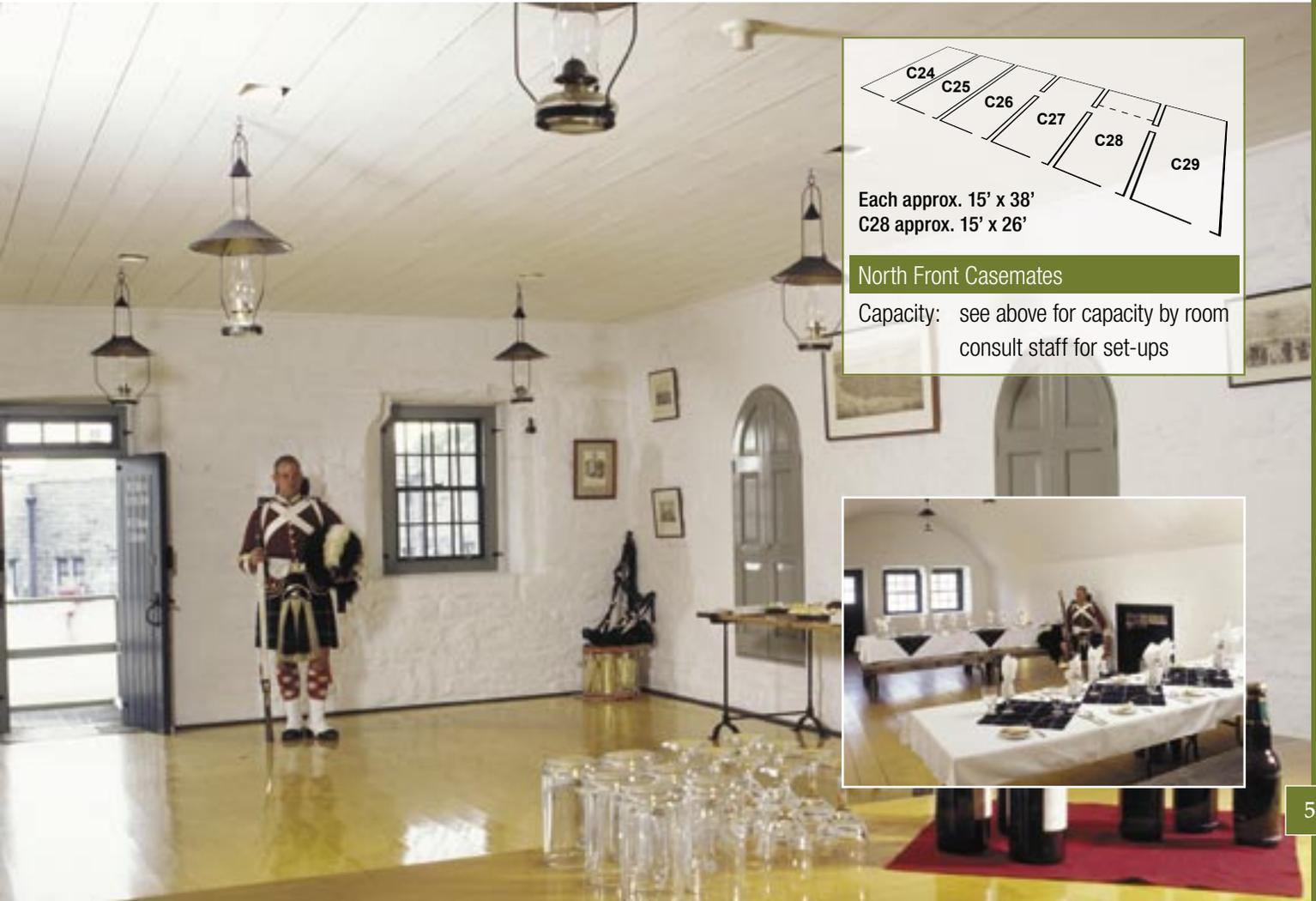
- 27 seated at 6' round tables (3 tables of 9)
- 22 seated boardroom style with a head table
- 60 seated (rectangular tables)
- 70 seated theatre style (with head table or lectern)
- 80 standing with up to 4 rectangular tables and 20 chairs
- Diagrams of the above set-ups are available

North Front Casemate C28 (smaller room)

- 36 seated (rectangular tables)
- 52 seated theatre style (with head table or lectern)
- 65 standing with 2 rectangular tables and 10 chairs
- Diagrams of the above set-ups are available

North Front Casemates C24, C25, C29

- For capacity, please consult staff.



Each approx. 15' x 38'
C28 approx. 15' x 26'

North Front Casemates
Capacity: see above for capacity by room
consult staff for set-ups



the garrison grounds

A natural amphitheatre

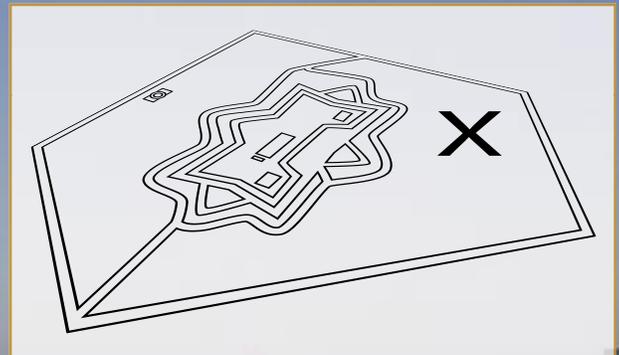
Warm breezes, sunshine, grass underfoot... outdoor events are simply part of summertime.

Located at the foot of the Halifax Citadel, the **Garrison Grounds** offer a spacious and central location for festivals, concerts or other outdoor events. With a range limited only by the imagination, this flexible, natural amphitheatre can accommodate a variety of events, including concerts, with attendances ranging from a few hundred to up to 30,000.

Available for an additional fee: security, parking, power and water. Consult staff for details.

The 78th Highlanders at the Halifax Citadel

Positioned in a corridor or more traditional formation, members of the 78th Highlanders pay compliment to your VIPs and guests upon arrival or departure. Positioned along the procession, they can also serve as landmarks or guides to help invitees find prescribed destinations.



The Garrison Grounds

Capacity: up to 30,000



the parade square

Imagine your event under canvas and sky, surrounded by the rich history and mighty walls of the Halifax Citadel.

Combined with rooms within the fortification or using the **parade square** alone, transform your dinner, reception, trade show, product launch or gala into a unique, tented event.

Included in your rental fee:

Security, accessible parking and ample washrooms provided. Additional services are also available for a fee. Tent rentals can be facilitated but are not available through the Halifax Citadel.

Feel Free to Bring Dinner With You

Off-site caterers are welcome. Consult staff for details.



The Parade Square

Capacity: approx. 3,000 tented



add life to your event

Add some pomp and circumstance to your gathering with any one or a combination of these interpretation options:

- A kilted soldier of the 78th Highlanders standing guard, resplendent in scarlet doublet and black-feathered bonnet, rifle in hand, black boots glistening
- The lilt of a bagpipe in the distance, serenading the setting of the sun as your guests step through the walls of the fort and onto the parade square
- Pipes and drums, military re-enactments, sentries, Guards of Honour and foot and arms drill demonstrations

Sentries, bagpipers and knowledgeable guides are just some of the authentic touches added by the Halifax Citadel Regimental Association to bring the military garrison “back to life.”

For additional information and prices see the interpretation sheet included with this kit.

The Citadel After Hours

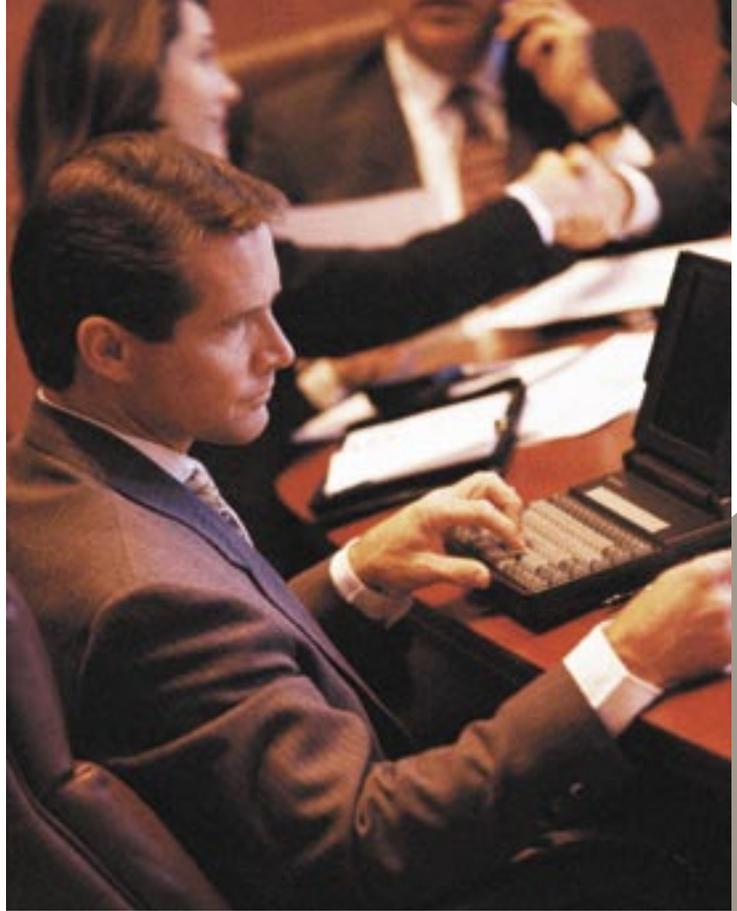
Hear the skirl of the bagpipes; watch the shadows grow as day gives way to night above the stone ramparts; experience a ghost tour. These are just some of the offerings of this 19th-century jewel.

technology

Complementing the past with the present:
we have the technology

The Halifax Citadel boasts the conveniences you would expect of a modern event facility.

Included in your rental fee are: AV screen, speakerphone, extension cords and power bars, power outlets and conveniently located phone jacks. Options such as overhead projector, flipcharts, white boards, TV, VCR, CD player and Internet access are available for an additional fee.



technology, action, security

action!

Ideal settings for filming, photography or theatre

Once the key element in the defence of Halifax, today's **Halifax Defence Complex** offers a myriad of opportunities for film, photography or theatre.

Composed of the **Halifax Citadel, Prince of Wales Tower, York Redoubt, Georges Island** and **Fort McNab**, the Complex

offers a unique combination of historic infrastructure, natural beauty and views of the surrounding area.

Whatever you're looking for—be it an historical backdrop or a natural setting—these five national historic sites have plenty to offer.

For rental information, please contact 902.426.1995.

security, loading access

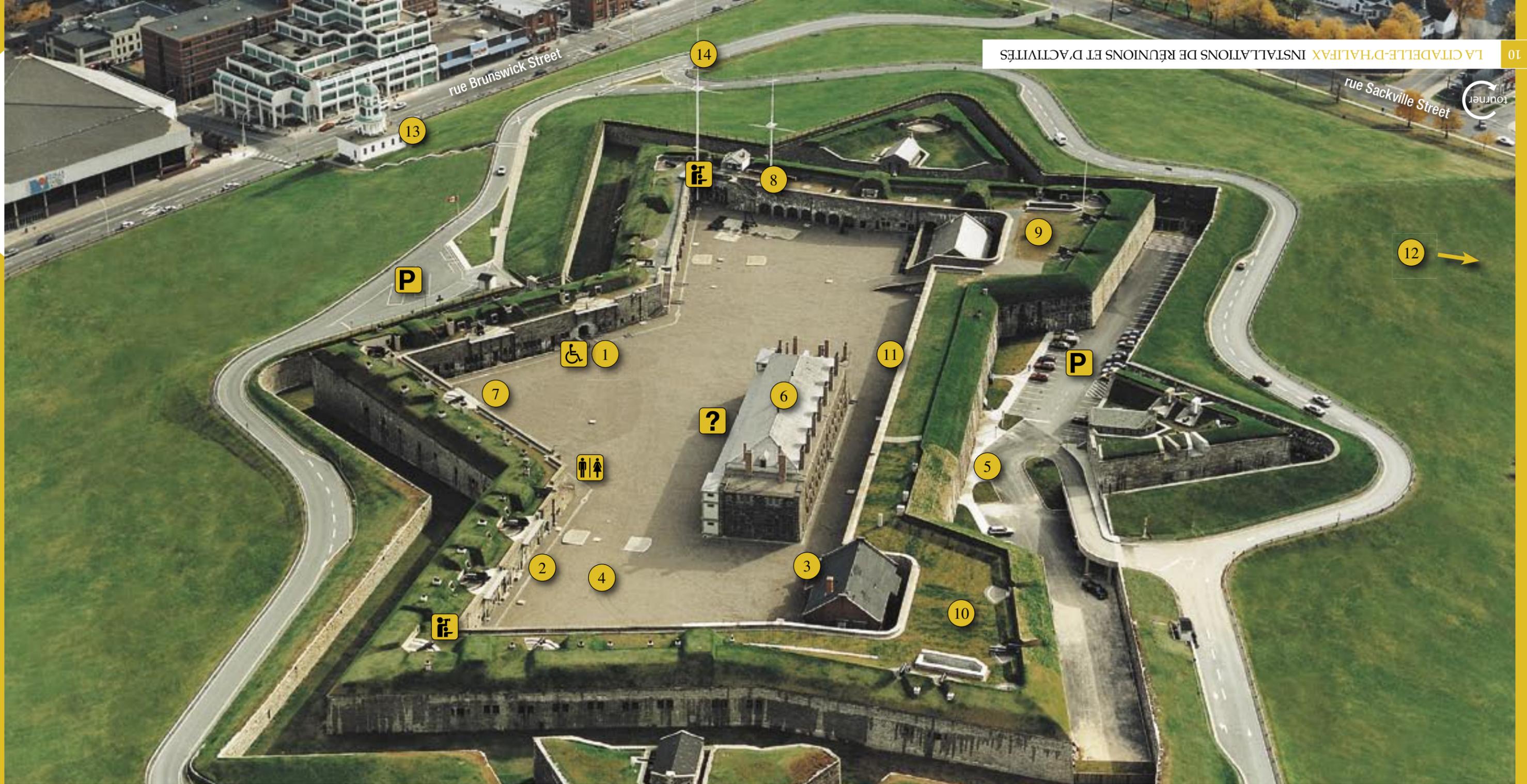
A security office is located onsite at the Halifax Citadel. It is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Arrangements must be made prior to deliveries, loading and unloading for an event at the Halifax Citadel. Should you have changes to arrangements previously made, please contact the security office at 902.426.9696.

Shall We Dine?

Breakfast meeting? Working lunch? Evening reception? The Halifax Citadel offers a full range of licensed catering options to complete your event. For additional information and prices see the menu sheets included with this kit.





- 1. Front Entrance
- 2. The North Front Casemates
- 3. The North Magazine
 - Garrison Room
 - Naval Room
 - Artillery Room
- 4. The Parade Square
- 5. Back Entrance

- 6. The Cavalier Building
 - First Floor*
 - Information Centre
 - Coffee Bar
 - Soldiers' Library
 - Regimental Gift Shop
 - Second Floor*
 - Army Museum

- 7. *Warden of the North* Exhibit
- 8. Signal Mast
- 9. Southwest Demi-bastion
- 10. Northwest Demi-bastion
- 11. *Tides of History* AV Presentation
- 12. The Garrison Grounds
- 13. The Town Clock
- 14. Entrance from Sackville Street

- ? Information
- ♿ Public Restrooms
- P Public Parking
- 👁 Viewing Platform
- ♿ Wheelchair Access*

- 1. Entrée principale
- 2. Casemates du front nord
- 3. Poudrière nord
 - Salle de la garnison
 - Salle de la marine
 - Salle de l'artillerie
- 4. Terrain de rassemblement
- 5. Entrée arrière

- 6. Le Cavalier
 - Rez-de-chaussée*
 - Centre d'information
 - Café-bar
 - Bibliothèque du soldat
 - Boutique du régiment
 - Premier étage*
 - Musée de l'Armée

- 7. Exposition *Gardienne du Nord*
- 8. Mât de signalisation
- 9. Demi-bastion sud-ouest
- 10. Demi-bastion nord-ouest
- 11. Présentation audiovisuelle *Les marées de l'histoire*
- 12. Place d'armes Garrison
- 13. Tour de l'horloge
- 14. Entrée rue Sackville

- ? Information
- ♿ Toilettes publiques
- P Terrain de stationnement
- 👁 Belvédère
- ♿ Accès aux fauteuils roulants*

* Please ask us for more information about wheelchair access to specific areas of the site.

* Veuillez vous renseigner auprès de notre personnel sur l'accès aux fauteuils roulants dans des endroits particuliers du lieu.