

🦌 Moose of New England & Eastern Canada Wildlife Guide

Where to See North America's Largest Deer Species



For many travelers on a **New England & Canada cruise**, spotting a wild moose is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Standing over **7 feet (2.1 meters) tall at the shoulder** and weighing as much as **1,500 pounds (680 kg)**, the moose is the largest member of the deer family and one of the most iconic animals of the Northeast.

Although they're rarely seen in busy coastal cities, moose thrive in the forests, wetlands, and remote wilderness of **Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Québec, and Newfoundland & Labrador**. If you're extending your cruise with a scenic drive or inland adventure, you may be rewarded with an unforgettable wildlife encounter.

While moose appear calm, they are powerful wild animals that deserve plenty of space and respect.



Meet the Moose



Moose are impressive animals known for their size and distinctive appearance.

Adult Bulls

- Up to 7 feet tall at the shoulder
- 1,000–1,500 pounds
- Massive antlers spanning up to 6 feet

Adult Cows

- Smaller than bulls
- Usually 800–1,000 pounds
- Do not grow antlers

Moose are excellent swimmers and can even dive underwater to feed on aquatic plants.



Where to See Moose



Some of the best places include:

Maine

- Baxter State Park
- Moosehead Lake Region
- Aroostook County
- North Woods

New Hampshire

- White Mountains
- Great North Woods
- Route 3 north of Pittsburg

Vermont

- Northeast Kingdom
- Green Mountains

Québec

- Gaspésie National Park
- Jacques-Cartier National Park
- Laurentians

Newfoundland

One of the highest moose populations in North America, especially around **Gros Morne National Park**.

Best Time to See Moose



Moose can be seen year-round, but your chances improve during certain seasons.

🌸 Spring

Moose feed in marshes and wetlands after winter.

☀️ Summer

Early mornings and evenings near lakes and ponds are productive.

🍁 Fall

The rut (mating season) makes bulls more active and easier to spot.

❄️ Winter

Moose are easier to see against snowy landscapes but often remain in remote forests.

The best viewing times are **around sunrise and sunset**.

👁️ Where to Look



Moose prefer:

- Wetlands
- Marshes
- Beaver ponds
- Forest edges
- Quiet lakes
- River valleys

They're often found feeding on aquatic vegetation.



Wildlife Photography Tips



For great photos:

- Use a telephoto lens.
- Stay inside your vehicle when possible.
- Shoot during the "golden hours."
- Never approach a moose.
- Include the surrounding landscape to show their incredible size.

Patience often leads to the best wildlife photographs.



Moose Safety



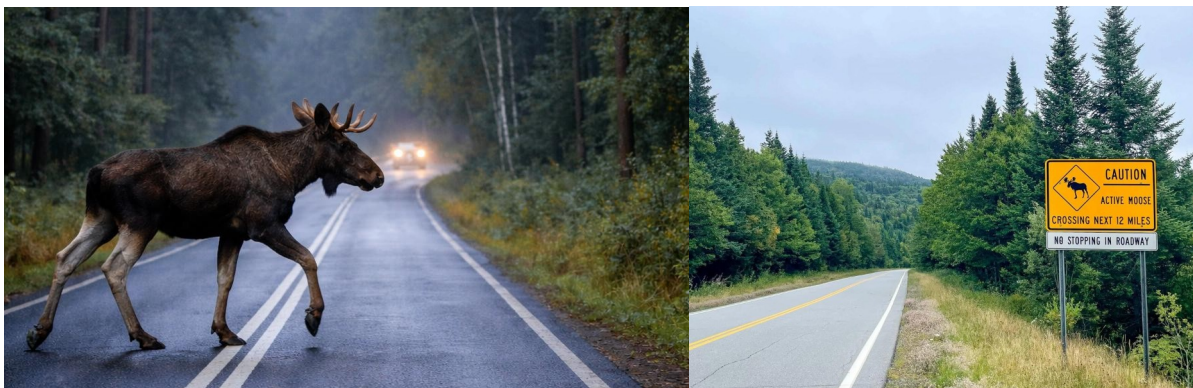
Despite their calm appearance, moose can be unpredictable.

Always:

- Stay at least **50 feet (15 meters)** away—or much farther if the animal appears uneasy.
- Never feed a moose.
- Keep pets under control.
- Back away if a moose lays its ears back, raises its hackles, or begins walking toward you.
- Give cows with calves extra space—they are especially protective.



Driving in Moose Country



Moose are a serious road hazard.

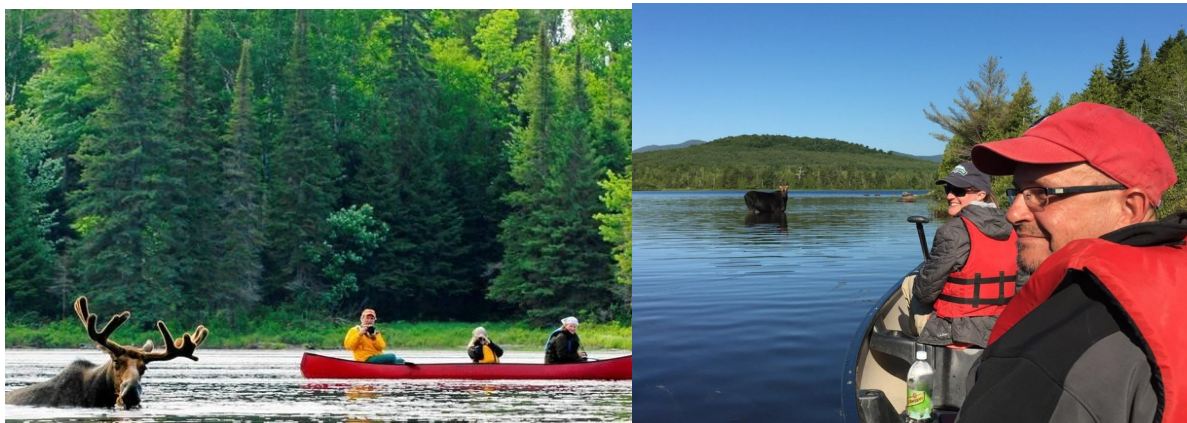
When driving:

- Slow down at dawn and dusk.
- Watch for roadside warning signs.
- Use high beams when appropriate.
- Scan both sides of the road.
- If you see one moose, expect another nearby.

Because of their height, collisions with moose can be especially dangerous.



Seeing Moose During Your Cruise



While you probably won't see moose from your cruise ship, inland excursions or extended stays may offer opportunities near:

- Corner Brook
- Gros Morne National Park
- Québec
- Northern Maine

- White Mountains

A pre- or post-cruise road trip significantly improves your chances.

Premium Travel Group Tip

If seeing a moose is high on your bucket list, consider adding a couple of days before or after your cruise and explore northern Maine, New Hampshire's Great North Woods, or Newfoundland. An early morning drive through these regions often offers your best chance of spotting one of these magnificent animals in the wild.

Continue Exploring New England & Canada Wildlife

Continue your wildlife adventure with our related guides:

- Whale Watching Guide (*coming soon*)
 - Puffins & Atlantic Seabirds Guide (*coming soon*)
 - Harbor Seals Guide (*coming soon*)
 - Black Bears of New England & Canada (*coming soon*)
 - Bald Eagles Guide (*coming soon*)
 - Wildlife Photography Guide (*coming soon*)
 - Wildlife You Can See from Your Cruise Ship (*coming soon*)
 - Best Wildlife Viewing by Month (*coming soon*)
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Fun Facts

- Moose are the **largest members of the deer family** anywhere in the world.
 - A bull's antlers can weigh **40 pounds (18 kg)** or more and are shed every winter before growing back each spring.
 - Moose are surprisingly strong swimmers and can swim several miles while also diving up to **20 feet (6 meters)** underwater to feed.
 - Despite their size, moose can run at speeds of **35 miles per hour (56 km/h)** over short distances.
 - Newfoundland is home to one of the densest moose populations in North America, even though moose are not native to the island—they were introduced in the early 1900s.
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Why You'll Love Seeing a Moose

There's something unforgettable about seeing a wild moose for the first time. Whether it's a massive bull standing quietly in a misty marsh or a cow leading her calf through the forest, these gentle giants embody the wild beauty of New England and eastern Canada. Spotting one is often the highlight of a wilderness adventure and a reminder that some of nature's greatest moments happen when we slow down and simply observe.



Joe's Logbook

Growing up in the Northeast, seeing a moose was never an everyday occurrence—it was an event.

Even today, people who live in moose country still get excited when they spot one. There's just something incredible about watching an animal that can weigh nearly three-quarters of a ton move silently through the forest as if it barely disturbs a twig.

One piece of advice I always give is this: enjoy them from a distance. Moose aren't aggressive by nature, but they're wild animals, and they deserve both our respect and our space. Some of the best wildlife experiences happen when you simply sit quietly, watch, and let nature unfold on its own.

If your New England & Canada cruise includes extra time to explore inland, keep your eyes open during those early morning drives through Maine, New Hampshire, Québec, or Newfoundland. You never know when you'll round a bend and find yourself face-to-face—at a safe distance—with one of the true icons of the North.

For many travelers, spotting a moose becomes the story they tell for years after the vacation is over. 🦌