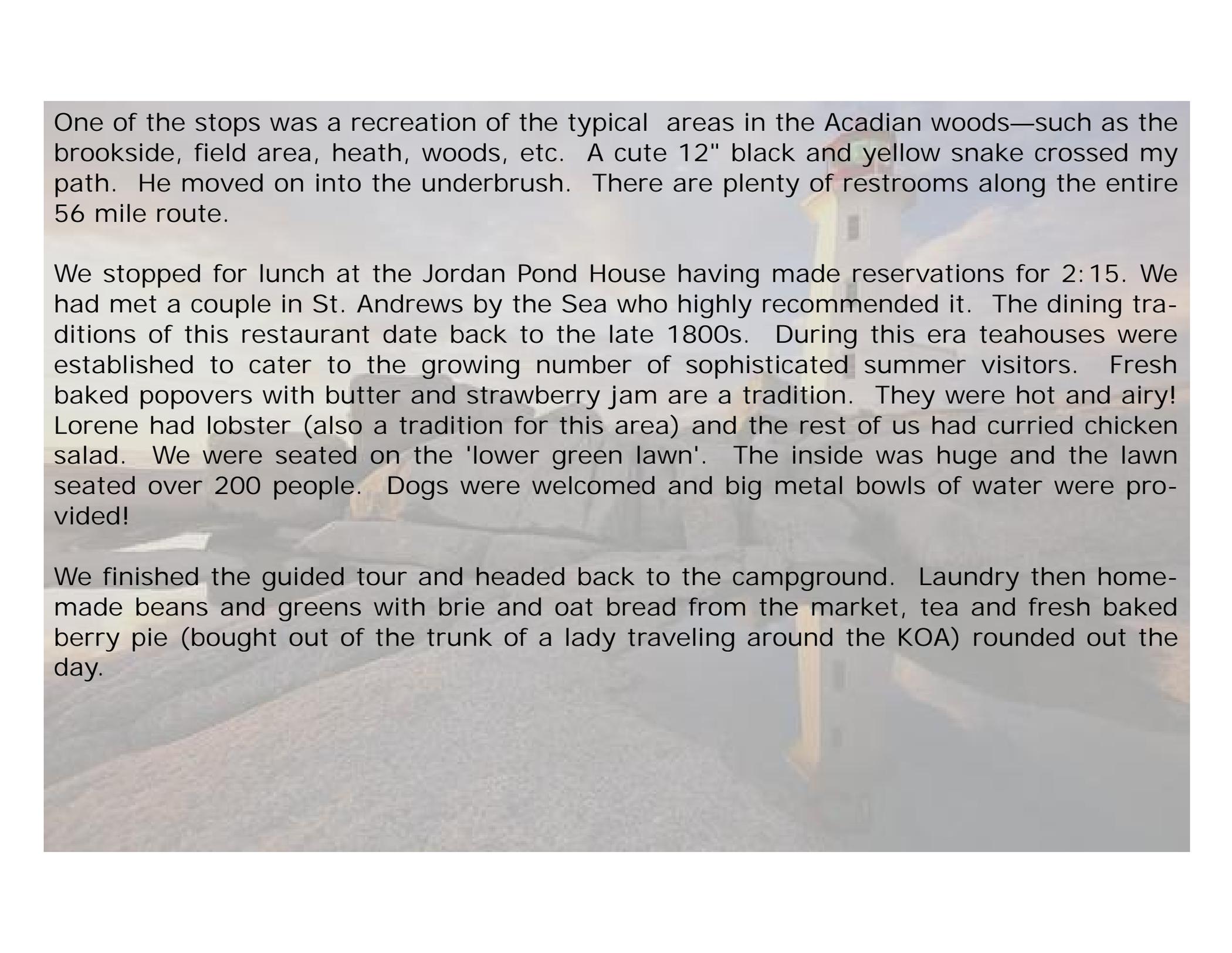


Maritime Trip Day 34 September 25, 2010 65 degrees F, Mostly Sunny

Acadia National Park (the first national park) was on the agenda for today. This area was created 500 million years ago by glaciers and erosion. We purchased a CD at the Visitor's Center for \$13.00 that included a map. Today was a "free entry day". Wayne drove his camper through the Park as we listened to the explanations and stopped at various scenic and historic locations. This Park is known for its Hiking & Biking Trails. It was sometimes a bit of a challenge to park the 29' motorhome! The day was getting warmer but remained hazy. The pink granite that made up the stony cliffs was quite impressive. The Fall colors were just starting and the birch trees are really red! The area was named for the beautiful rolling hills with green trees (Acadia). There is water running through the park, sometimes we saw the Atlantic, sometimes it was inland lakes. Always it was pristine and breathtaking. This area was very popular with "The upper Class of Society" called the rusticators (for rustic living) or summercators (for summer residents) in the early 1900s. These folks built magnificent summer 'cottages', some containing 100 rooms. John D. Rockefeller was a key player in creating 45 miles of broken-stone roads for the carriages and hikers. These roadways are still used exclusively for horse and carriage and hikers only. In 1947, a great fire broke out and consumed 17,000 acres on the island, 10,000 in the Park. It destroyed more than 60 grand summer cottages on "Millionaire's Row." Many were never rebuilt, those that remained often became Bed & Breakfasts or Inns.

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One of the stops was a recreation of the typical areas in the Acadian woods—such as the brookside, field area, heath, woods, etc. A cute 12" black and yellow snake crossed my path. He moved on into the underbrush. There are plenty of restrooms along the entire 56 mile route.

We stopped for lunch at the Jordan Pond House having made reservations for 2:15. We had met a couple in St. Andrews by the Sea who highly recommended it. The dining traditions of this restaurant date back to the late 1800s. During this era teahouses were established to cater to the growing number of sophisticated summer visitors. Fresh baked popovers with butter and strawberry jam are a tradition. They were hot and airy! Lorene had lobster (also a tradition for this area) and the rest of us had curried chicken salad. We were seated on the 'lower green lawn'. The inside was huge and the lawn seated over 200 people. Dogs were welcomed and big metal bowls of water were provided!

We finished the guided tour and headed back to the campground. Laundry then home-made beans and greens with brie and oat bread from the market, tea and fresh baked berry pie (bought out of the trunk of a lady traveling around the KOA) rounded out the day.