

**Celebrated Bird Scientist Dr. Bill Montevecchi
to Lead *Love (the) Birds Valentine's Weekend Itinerary* at Fogo Island Inn
(Friday February 12 to Sunday February 14)**

Fogo Island Inn has announced that Dr. Bill Montevecchi, one of the world's leading bird experts, will be present to share his expertise during their annual *Love (the) Birds*, Valentine's weekend gathering.

On the evening of Friday, February 12, guests can join Dr. Montevecchi in the Inn's 37-seat cinema for an evening screening of *People of the Sea*, a compelling film about the cod fishery's dramatic past, with visually stunning bird, iceberg and whale imagery. The film whets their appetite for the weekend ahead. In conjunction with the screening, Dr. Montevecchi will deliver a lecture on the fascinating seabirds that vacation in winter around Fogo Island.

On Saturday, February 13, Dr. Montevecchi will guide guests along trails, barrens, headlands and wharves to spot dovebies, ticklebees, glaucous gulls, murrelets and turrelets—or any of the 350+ winged species that can be found within binocular range of the island. There will be a hot chocolate stop later at the Great Auk Exhibition in Seldom-Come-By, where guests can learn about the now-extinct giant flightless bird once common in these parts. Weather permitting, Dr. Montevecchi will lead a pilgrimage to the remarkable two-metre-tall bronze sculpture of the Great Auk that was created by artist Todd McGrain as part of the international Lost Bird Project. After supper, Dr. Montevecchi speaks to the incredible bonds between monogamous seabirds in a fitting lecture for Valentine's: "What's Love Got to Do With It?"

The full-board **Love (the) Birds Weekend** two-night-minimum itinerary begins at \$1,375 per night, exclusive of taxes, and is based on two persons sharing. Solo travellers deduct \$200 from the base rate. Family suites are available, should guests like to bring their fledglings. The package includes: all meals, a wine-chocolate-and-cheese pairing, a guided bird watching outing, and (weather permitting) skating, snowshoeing, caribou tracking or cross-country skiing.

About Dr. William A. Montevecchi

A professor of Psychology, Biology and Ocean Sciences at Memorial University, St John's, Newfoundland, [William A. Montevecchi](#) is passionate about conservation. His research probes environmental influences on marine and terrestrial bird behaviour. Dr. Bill has collaborated in his work with oceanographers, fishers, hunters, seabird biologists and fellow research scientists across Canada, the USA, Europe, Australia and Africa. Much of his current research is carried out on and around [Funk Island Ecological Reserve](#), 60 km east of Fogo Island. This is the site of the Common Murre's largest colony, a large Northern Gannet colony, and the largest colony of Northern Fulmars in Atlantic Canada and was once home to the largest known colony of the extinct [Great Auk](#).

ABOUT FOGO ISLAND INN

Fogo Island Inn is still glowing from being named last month to [Condé Nast Traveler's Gold List](#)—a list of editors' choices spanning six continents and 47 countries. This recognition from the US publication comes on the heels of a place on the 2015 Gold List of its British sister publication, *Condé Nast Traveller*.

Fogo Island Inn sits on an Island, off an Island, at one of the four corners of the Earth. Every one of the Inn's 29 one-of-a-kind guest suites has dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows that open onto the wildest and most powerful ocean on the planet, located less than 100 feet from an organic natural-fibre dream bed. Most suites have a wood-burning fireplace stove; all are furnished with quiet luxuries and handmade furniture and quilts - a stimulating relief from the numbing uniformity of modern times. Built on the principles of sustainability and respect for nature and culture, the award-winning Inn was designed by architect Todd Saunders. The Inn is a community asset and all surpluses from the operation are reinvested in the community to help secure a long-lasting resilience for Fogo Island, Newfoundland.

More information on Fogo Island Inn can be found at <http://fogoislandinn.ca/#!b/events-itineraries>

[Click here](#) for a detailed itinerary.

Access to Fogo Island, Newfoundland, Canada:

Gander, Newfoundland is the international gateway to Fogo Island. Commercial flights from Toronto, with connections in St. John's or Halifax, can bring travellers to Gander in just over four hours. The Inn offers a land-and-ferry house-car pick up and return service to Gander for \$600 (1-4 person capacity). Travel from Gander to Fogo Island takes two hours by car or around 30 minutes by charter plane or helicopter. All transfer logistics and accommodations can be arranged by the Inn's reservations team at [855.268.9277](tel:855.268.9277)

More information on Fogo Island Inn's **Love (the) Birds Valentine's Weekend itinerary** can be found at <http://fogoislandinn.ca/#!b/events-itineraries> or by calling [855.268.9277](tel:855.268.9277) toll free or direct at [709.658.3444](tel:709.658.3444).

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