

**Dark Skies and the Inspiring Universe
with
Cosmologist-in-Residence
Tom Vassos**

***Available Pack Ice Season
(March 9-11, 2019)***



"We will never have all the answers about the universe, but the quest to unravel its mysteries can be our greatest inspiration." — Tom Vassos

Explore the skies at the edge of the Earth over Fogo Island, Newfoundland with cosmologist-in-residence Tom Vassos alongside Community Hosts that have used the stars to navigate the waters of the North Atlantic. Embrace the initial delightful disorientation of stargazing to reorient yourself to the natural world as you come to know our place in the utterly unknowable universe. Both an accomplished astronomer and author, Tom Vassos will answer our guests' burning questions and entertain any and all wonderings... how did the planets form, and what is star dust, really? Look up, look out, and look inward; we

can't say whether your skyward findings will be entirely fathomable, but we can paradoxically promise that they will be profoundly grounding.

*The **Dark Skies and the Inspiring Universe** two-night itinerary at Fogo Island Inn includes all meals, an Island Orientation with a Community Host, and a range of outdoor activities, stargazing excursions, and presentations. To reserve, call International Reservations at **+1 709 658 3444**, or US & Canada Reservations at **+1 855 268 9277**, or email reservations@fogoislandinn.ca.*

Sample 2-Night Itinerary

DAY 1 – Saturday, March 9, 2019

AFTERNOON

Arrive on Fogo Island and allow the Island to reveal itself on the 30-minute drive through outport communities as you make your way off to your refuge, Fogo Island Inn. Take time for exploration.

Check into Fogo Island Inn, a traditional yet contemporary masterpiece of modern architecture and design. The Inn was named as Travel & Leisure's Best Resort Hotel in Canada, 2017 and 2018 – among the country's best hotels from coast to coast.

5:30PM

Join in a planetary reception with your fellow guests and your cosmologist-in-residence, Tom Vassos. This will be your introduction to the biggest, fastest, brightest and most extreme aspects of the Universe. Black holes, neutron stars, and supernova explosions will all be on the table for discussion.

6-9PM

Supper is served in the Dining Room, where the provenance of every menu is inspired by the seasonal tastes of the outport terroir.

Everything coming out of the kitchen is intended to feed more than your hunger.

EVENING

A guided stargazing session featuring telescopic views of the moon, planets, and deep sky objects from the roof of the Inn.

LATE EVENING

Practice your newfound knowledge and retrace the stars overhead as you soak in the warmth of the rooftop hot tubs. Or, retreat to the in-house Cinema for a viewing of favourite films set in space.

DAY 2 – Sunday, March 10, 2019

DAYBREAK

Greet the sun as she rises and find a handmade wooden Daybreak Tray outside your door filled with coffee, tea and fresh pastries. Linger.

7-10AM

Breakfast is served in the Dining Room at your leisure.

10AM

Meet your Community Host in the Lobby for your Island Orientation. Be prepared for fresh perspectives and insights, stories and laughter during your half-day outing being led in your discovery of this “salty Narnia” by the people of the place, whose sense of self comes from deep historical ties to landscape and seascape.

DINNER (LUNCH)

Lunch is a traditional Island boil-up—a meal cooked over an open fire surrounded by the great outdoors.

AFTERNOON

Astronomer Tom Vassos provides a fascinating tour of the universe, including a dark sky primer on the astronomical wonders for the night ahead. The seminar, held in the Gathering Hall, will also address the privatization of space and predictions for the future of space exploration.

6-9PM

Feast on a meal prepared by the Inn's Executive Chef Jonathan Gushue in the Dining Room.

EVENING

Join us in an optional sing-along for some astronomy-themed songs... Here Comes the Sun, Venus and Mars, Sundown, Drops of Jupiter, Bad Moon Rising, Aquarius, and more favourite tunes.

EVENING

Embark on a stargazing adventure through the historic community of Tilting in search of the Big Dipper, the Milky Way and a dark, star-glittered sky.

DAY 3 – Monday, March 11, 2019

DAYBREAK

Meet another day with your Daybreak Tray. Ease into the morning gradually.

7-10AM

Farewell breakfast at your leisure in the Dining Room.

OR LINGER LONGER..

Coastal self-guided hike to Joe Batt's Point, past the Fogo Island Arts Long Studio, and culminating in a visit to the Great Auk. This

bronze statue's symbolic perch is an excellent place to close your eyes in wonder and respect for the savage sea and observe a personal requiem for this now-extinct bird.

DEPARTURE

Prepare for your departure from the Inn and the journey homeward.

Contact

For Further Information:

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