

Maritime Trip Day 04, August 26, 2010 16 degrees C (62 degrees F) and partly cloudy (rain during the night)

Early up today to catch the Grayline bus from our campground into Ottawa. The city tour was 1 ½ hours giving a great overview. Ottawa is the capital with a Parliament building, many museums, several old and elaborate hotels, a canal system on the Ottawa River, Embassy Row, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters and training school, the Royal Guard (just like in London) and the Byward Marketplace - a shopping & eating area since the early 1900s.

We learned that Canada is younger than the USA with a fraction of the population - with 90% of the people living within 100 miles of the US border. The people were friendly and helpful.

We enjoyed lunch at the Heart and Crown—an Irish Pub. It rained during lunch but the sun came out and it warmed up afterwards. Shopping was entertaining and Lorene purchased a new teapot from one of the many tea shops in town. All that shopping made us thirsty so we enjoyed a little sweet & a drink at a French Bakery.

We caught the bus back to our campground at 4:30. The buses have a special road next to the expressway that only is for buses, so rush hour traffic moved along for us. A little nap was necessary for most of us after the touring day! The weather has cooled down more and is supposed to be in the single digits --Celsius--by morning!