



# Two Lanterns on the LaHave

34 & 58 Oxner Head Drive, Lower LaHave, NS, Canada



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2 BEDROOMS, 2 FULL + 4 HALF BATHROOMS | 3,785 SQ. FT. TLA

17.06 ACRES | ±504 FT. OF OCEAN FRONTAGE | THREE PAVILIONS

Rarely does a property emerge that so perfectly balances architectural pedigree with the rhythmic beauty of Nova Scotia's South Shore. With 504 feet of oceanfront and 17 private acres at the mouth of the LaHave River, this award-winning compound is a recipient of the Governor General's Medal in Architecture and the visionary work of internationally acclaimed architect Brian MacKay-Lyons.

The estate is defined by two luminous pavilions with symbolic wall extensions that draw the eye across the natural buffer between them. Bridging the distance through intentional design, the primary pavilion gazes over the tranquil salt marsh, while its counterpart faces the open ocean. A winding wooden boardwalk meanders through the quiet forest, leading to the Spa - a third pavilion tucked peacefully among the trees.

Every inch of this compound reflects the skill of local master craftsmen. The aesthetic is one of refined ruggedness, featuring exposed timber frames and locally sourced hemlock that has weathered beautifully to match the coastline. Floor-to-ceiling glass windows dissolve the boundaries between the interior and exterior, while modern amenities and etched concrete floors provide a sleek and contemporary counterpoint to the natural surroundings.

The Two Lanterns is not just a home but a sanctuary where life slows down and moves with the flow of the tides. Mornings might begin in the Spa engulfed in the aroma from the red cedar walls, with bi-fold doors giving way to a screened porch and the nature surrounding you. Afternoons are spent at Oxners beach, just a stone's throw from the property, while evenings settle into the elevated pavilions where western exposure and panoramic views combine to capture beautiful sunsets across the changing LaHave River landscapes.

Located on one of the most coveted stretches of shoreline in the Riverport area, you are only a scenic drive away from the world-class dining and cultural heritage of Lunenburg, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This is more than a residence - it is a landmark property for the discerning collector of fine architecture.



# General Property Features & Advantages

- Architect: Brian MacKay-Lyons (House on the Nova Scotia Coast #22).
- Governor General's Medal in Architecture (RAIC, 2002).
- Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor's Award of Merit (1999).
- Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor's Citation for the Spa (2009).
- Three distinct architect-designed pavilions plus a storage shed.
- Main House and Guest House built in 2000; Spa added in 2008.
- Three land parcels: PIDs 60501400, 60188760, and 60501392 (5.57 + 8.87 + 2.62 acres).
- Approximately 504 ft. of direct ocean frontage.
- Unobstructed 360-degree views: the LaHave River, Oxners Beach, the LaHave Islands, and Petite Riviere in the distance.
- All electrical and water lines buried underground between buildings to preserve unobstructed sightlines.
- Set within the historic "Five Houses" enclave on a dead-end road.
- Restored shoreline water quality, owing to philanthropic investment in the LaHave River cleanup.
- Just 15 minutes from the UNESCO World Heritage town of Lunenburg.

## The Setting

From the architect: "A pair of lantern-like buildings floats above two hilltops, aligned on a N/S axis. One overlooks the river estuary and the other the bold ocean. The buildings are separated by approximately 500 feet, but are linked symbolically by concrete block walls which gesture towards the wetland."

- 17.06 acres across three contiguous parcels.
- ±504 ft. of direct ocean frontage with a dramatic cliffside viewing platform.
- Two hilltops linked by symbolic concrete block walls (both rebuilt) gesturing toward a natural wetland.
- Wildlife corridor cultivated through the wetland between the pavilions.
- Positioned to capture distinct horizons, sunset over the LaHave River from the Main House, and the open Atlantic toward the LaHave Islands from the Guest House.
- Direct sightlines to Oxner's Beach, a 63-acre tidal salt marsh at the end of the road.
- Access to Oxner's Beach, ideal for swimming, bird watching, and walks.
- Quiet, dead-end road shared with only a handful of neighbours.

# Building Exterior

From the Architect: "The rough-sawn hemlock envelope is a rainscreen wrapper." The buildings are designed to weather into their setting – the cladding ages, the concrete softens, and the compound becomes increasingly part of the landscape it sits on."

- Locally-sourced, untreated hemlock rainscreen siding on the Main and Guest houses, both completely redone within the last 10 years.
- Original metal siding accents on the Main and Guest House.
- Red cedar exterior siding on the Spa.
- Polytech vinyl tilt-and-turn windows and doors throughout the Main and Guest houses.
- Specialized high-end windows in the Spa.
- Solid poured concrete slab foundations.
- Low-slope roofs with 15-year warranty (recoated 2022); roof caps completely rebuilt.
- EPDM rubber membrane roof on the Spa.
- Front and rear concrete patios at the Main House.
- Cedar deck installed at the Main House patio where a sunken hot tub can be added.
- UV window films installed in the primary bedroom (lifetime warranty).





## General Interior Features

From the Architect: “a finger-jointed timber frame channels structural load to the centre of each plan, distinguishing frame from envelope. A horizontal datum at 8'-0" above the main floor ties both buildings together – a man-made ordering line set against the undulating coast.”

- Etched and dyed polished concrete floors throughout the main levels, with radiant in-floor heating.
- Beautiful textured combination of polished concrete with maple flooring and slate upstairs.
- A continuous built-in steel bench transitions from the interior to the exterior along the walls of the two main pavilions.
- Exposed spruce and hemlock columns and beams; timber frame fully visible from the interior.
- Custom ash millwork installed during the refresh of both main levels (10 years).
- Original maple cabinetry on upper levels by Charles Lantz.
- Atrium in each pavilion is conceived as a "lantern" to guide the owner home at night.
- Massive 6-ft. sliding glass doors and open-air loft details.
- Glass railings with safety glass - light flow without compromising security.
- Custom built-in storage throughout.
- Designed for abundant natural ventilation, supplemented by HRV units in each building.





## Main House

34 OXNER HEAD DRIVE | 2,010 SQ. FT. | 1 BED, 1.5 BATH

- First level: open living room, kitchen, dining area, and powder room (1,241 sq. ft.).
- Second level: bedroom and full 5-piece bathroom (769 sq. ft.).
- Seven separate entrances connecting the home to the surrounding landscape.
- Custom kitchen and storage by master craftsman "Ziggy" of Chester with solid ash exteriors and maple interiors.
- High-end Miele kitchen appliances.
- Wood-burning fireplace anchors the living room.
- Built-in media centre with descending television.
- Glass railings divide the loft from the great room below while preserving sightlines.
- Positioned to capture beautiful sunsets over the LaHave River.

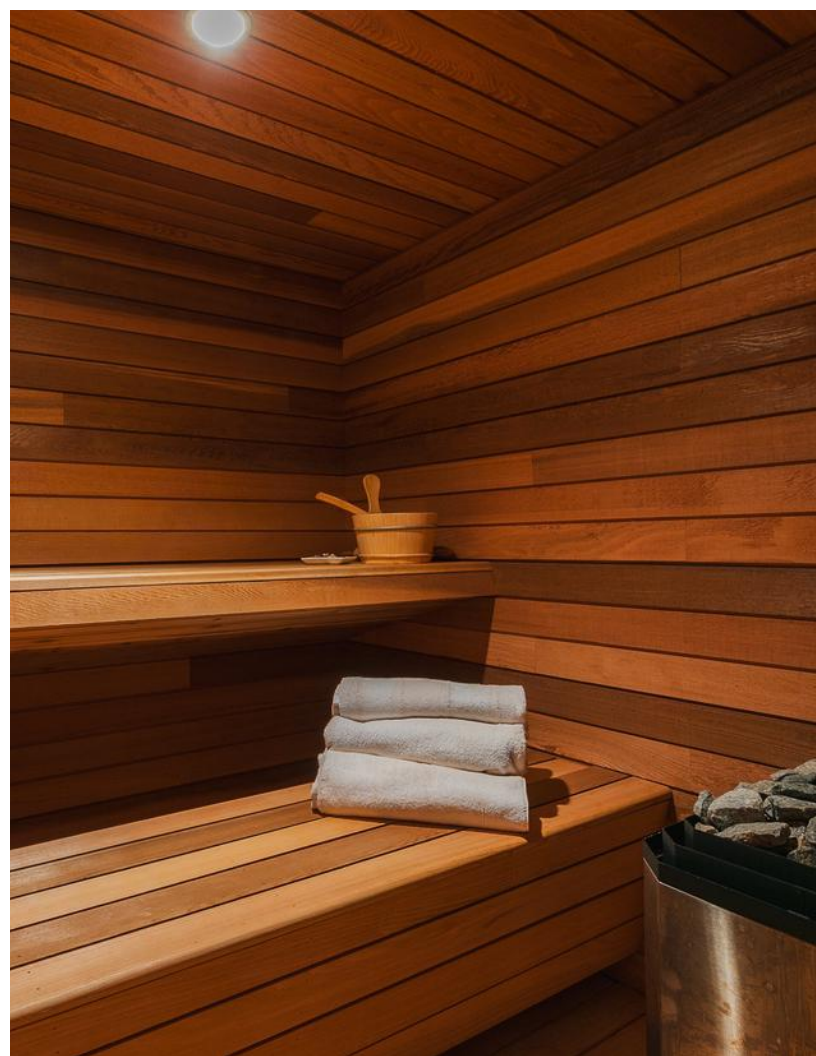




## Guest House

58 OXNER HEAD DRIVE | 1,042 SQ. FT. | 1 BED, 1.5 BATH

- First level: open living room, kitchenette, dining area, and powder room (696 sq. ft.).
- Second level: bedroom and full 3-piece bathroom (346 sq. ft.).
- Two-storey dwelling with multiple entrances.
- Original Maple cabinetry on the second level by Charles Lantz.
- Custom kitchenette with built-in cooktop, sink, and bar fridge by master craftsman "Ziggy" of Chester with solid ash exteriors and maple interiors.
- Washer/dryer hookup on the second level.
- Positioned for unobstructed views of the open Atlantic toward the LaHave Islands and Petite Riviere.





## The Spa

BUILT 2008 | 733 SQ. FT. | DESIGNED BY BRIAN MACKAY-LYONS

From the architect: "The third pavilion is sited below the others and tucked into the edge of the forest, facing a field, before the sea. The spa is conceived as a monolithic block of wood, carved to form interior spaces.

One approaches the spa indirectly via an elevated wooden bridge which meanders through the woods."

- Open concept living area, powder room, and shower room with an adjoining sauna.
- Red cedar ceilings, walls, and exterior siding.
- Polished concrete flooring with geothermal in-floor heat and tiled bathroom floor.
- Custom luxury shower with multiple shower heads, double vanity, and private sauna.
- Custom cabinetry by David Chapman Saunders.
- Built-in cooktop, fridge, and dishwasher.
- Built-in sound system.
- Cleverly hidden 4-ft. pull-out bed for additional guest capacity.
- Accordion bi-fold door opens to a concrete patio with built-in BBQ and hood vent.
- Fully retractable electric screens for protected outdoor enjoyment.
- Sauna integrated into the Control4 home automation system. Electric sauna.





## Mechanical Specifications

- Radiant in-floor heating in all three buildings.
- Main House: electric-hot-water in-floor heat.
- Guest House: electric-hot-water in-floor heat.
- Spa: geothermal hot-water in-floor heat.
- HRV units in each building.
- Wood-burning fireplace in the Main House.
- 200-amp service to each building.
- Four separate power meters: two for the Main House, one for the Guest House, one for the Spa.
- Underground power and water lines between all buildings.
- Control4 home automation manages programmable lighting across all three buildings (smartphone control upgrade available).
- Drilled well with excellent quantity serves the Main and Guest houses, UV light and water-treatment system.
- A separate dug well services the Spa, with its own UV light and filter.
- Three separate septic systems.
- Wifi between all buildings via FibreOp cables, internet distributed from Main House.



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