

SOFAAR Fibre Arts Retreat

September 27th to September 29th, 2019

Treat yourself to a glorious weekend get-away working on your current fibre project at the 1859 Hillsdale House Inn in the lovely historic town of Annapolis Royal.



Your weekend retreat fee includes:

- Friday evening reception at the Hillsdale House Inn
- Saturday evening reception at ARTsPLACE to view SOFAAR's "Small Treasures" Mym gallery exhibit
- Saturday evening three-course sit down dinner at the Hillsdale House Inn
- Fibre exhibit at the O'Dell Museum
- Time, time and more time to work on your fibre project in the beautiful parlours of the Inn

So if you work with fibre and are looking for an autumn weekend away with a chance to visit Canada's most historic town, look no further.

Retreat Fees:

SOFAAR has reserved Hillsdale House Inn for the retreat, with a special price on all rooms as well as a Thursday-night early-bird room special. Please contact info@sofaar.ca for the room rates. Call the Inn directly to reserve your room.

The retreat fee of \$85 for SOFAAR members and \$95 for non-members is to be paid by sending in the attached registration form to SOFAAR. Official arrival is Friday, but if you are an early bird arrival on Thursday, you will be checking in then and will find your Retreat package in your room.

SOFAAR Retreat Detailed Itinerary

Friday, September 27th, 2019

Friday Afternoon: 3 pm to 7 pm

Check in at the Hillsdale House Inn from 3 pm onward.

Settle into your room, where you will find your retreat package (including your name tag). Explore the inn and its beautiful grounds. You can relax with a cup of tea or coffee and your fibre project or stretch your legs with a wander about town.

Your package includes the itinerary details for the weekend and information about other attractions in the area you (or your partner) may want to take in.



Friday Evening Welcome Reception: 5 pm onwards

SOFAAR will host an opening reception at the inn featuring locally baked finger foods—mix, mingle and meet other fibre aficionados.

You may choose to have dinner in one of Annapolis Royal's dining establishments before or after the reception. The choice is yours!

Wine will be available for purchase by the glass at \$8 (taxes included).

Friday Evening Fibre Crafting from 7 pm Onward

Grab your fibre bag and set up in one of two beautiful parlours appointed with antique furniture and period features.

We highly recommend taking in the Candlelight Graveyard Tour of the Fort Anne Garrison cemetery starting at 9:30 pm. Price is about \$10 per person. Be guided around the old stones by Alan Melanson, one of the most knowledgeable historians in the province, and be astounded by the real-life stories of some of the long-term residents. Fun, informative and not the least bit creepy; Trip Advisor rates it the number one thing to do in Annapolis Royal.



Saturday, September 28th, 2019

Saturday Morning Breakfast: 8 am to 9:30 am

Enjoy the full hot breakfast served to inn guests.

Your choices will include freshly baked goods and locally made products.

Saturday All-Day Fibre Session: 10 am to 5:30 pm

Enjoy the lovely setting of the Hillsdale House Inn's rooms and parlours.

In fine weather, the sun porch and gardens are a wonderful spot to further your fibre efforts. Feel free to enjoy and linger. Coffee and tea will be close at hand.

Enjoy the relaxation of unstructured time. You can choose to find lunch at the Farmers and Traders Market or at one of several restaurants in the town. (Lunch is not included in the retreat fee.)



Saturday Afternoon Fibre Talk: 4 pm (NOT obligatory)

For those interested, Christine Igot will give a brief talk on needle (or thread) painting accompanied by stitched examples of this surface embroidery technique using mostly long and short stitch. Margot Walker will also update us on her Jacobean embroidered casket.

There are also many attractions in and around the town within easy walking distance of the inn. These include:

- Historic Gardens—voted Canadian Garden of the Year in 2015
- Sinclair Inn—built in 1790 featuring a “painted room”
- Garrison Cemetery—the oldest English gravestone in Canada
- Fort Anne—the first designated national historic site in Canada and site of the beautiful Fort Anne tapestry
- O'Dell Museum—built by the Pony Express Rider of the Kentville–Victoria Beach route.

Numerous other amusements are close at hand: Shop the national historic district, play a round of golf, cycle any of a series of routes or stroll through the centuries on a self-guided walking tour. Wander about, taking in the architecture and ambience of the town voted the World's Most Liveable Small Community.

Other attractions are only a short excursion away. A more detailed list of potential activities and places to visit will be included in your retreat package.

Saturday Evening Reception at ARTsPLACE: 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Attend the reception and private showing of the SOFAAR "Small Treasures" exhibit.

This small exhibit will be held in the tiny Mym Gallery of ARTsPLACE at 396 St. George St., a mere 5-minute stroll from the Hillsdale House Inn. The refreshments will include wine, apple cider and savoury treats.

All retreat participants are encouraged to attend and tour the exhibition.

Saturday Evening Retreat Dinner: 7 pm to 8:30 pm

Sit down to a three-course dinner in the inn's elegant dining room prepared by local chef Jana Darbyson. Jana is preparing a lovely meal (naturally gluten-free) with a roasted beet salad as an appetizer and ginger crème brûlée for dessert!



There is a **choice** of hot entrées, so be sure to indicate your preference for either rosemary-apple stuffed pork loin roast or mushroom, quinoa and dried fruit stuffed squash on your registration form. The hot entrée will be accompanied by seasonal vegetables and roast potatoes. Should you wish, wine by the glass (or bottle) can be purchased from the inn to accompany your meal.

Saturday Evening Show and Tell Session: 8:30 pm Onward

Enjoy the lovely setting the Hillsdale House Inn offers its guests.

After your delicious supper, retire to the inn's parlours for a show and tell. Please bring some finished projects or WIPs (works in progress) to show and tell.

Unwind for the rest of your evening and let your fingers play. Wander about the parlours, see what other fibre artists are working on, converse on unfamiliar techniques and compare notes on colour combinations.

The Candlelight Graveyard tour runs on both Friday and Saturday evenings, so you can still catch it at 9:30 pm. Tours take place rain or shine. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

Sunday, September 29th, 2019

Sunday Morning Breakfast: 8 am to 9:30 am

Enjoy another delicious hot breakfast in the inviting dining room.

Last Fibre Session until Checkout at 11 am

Ply your fibre tools until checkout at 11 am.

Please enjoy the fibre exhibit at the O'Dell museum.

Take time to get in those last couple of stitches, reach a logical end spot on your project, and look around and gather up all your project bits and pieces.

Pack up your belongings and bid your retreat companions adieu till next time.



Pricing Details

Hillsdale House Inn Room Rates

Please e-mail info@sofaar.ca for the Hillsdale House Inn room rates.

Retreat Fee

The retreat fee covers the Friday night reception, the ARTsPLACE reception and the retreat dinner. The fee is \$85 for SOFAAR members and \$95 for non-members. Lunch on Saturday is not included in the retreat fee.

If you are not a member of SOFAAR, sign up for a yearly fee of \$20 and receive discounts in stores and on fibre-related events all year round! Payment may be made by sending a cheque to our mailing address (see below).

Day Stitchers

If the Hillsdale House Inn is full, you can still be a part of the retreat! You can stay at another inn or B&B in town (we do not, however, have exclusive rates at any other inns or B&Bs).

Or, if you do not live too far from Annapolis Royal and would like to attend the retreat, there are a number of day stitching spots available. Day stitchers attend all the Retreat events described above for the retreat fee of \$85 (SOFAAR members) or \$95 (non-members).

Please contact info@sofaar.ca if you are interested in a day stitching spot.

The maximum number of attendees at the retreat is 30 (dinner spots), so book now!

Registration

Here are the steps to register for the retreat:

1. Choose a roommate if you would like to have one.
2. Reserve your room at the Hillsdale House Inn by calling toll free 877-839-2821 or emailing reservations@hillsdalehouseinn.ca. Provide your roommate's name.
3. Print and complete the registration form on the next page.
4. Mail the registration form along with a cheque (payable to SOFAAR) to SOFAAR, PO Box 695, Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0.
5. Each person attending the retreat, including the retreat dinner, must submit a registration form and accompanying fee.

You will receive an email confirming your registration.

Should you have any questions about the retreat, please email Christine Igot directly at <christine@latext.com>

Please also view the SOFAAR website at sofaar.ca/ and like us on Facebook.

SOFAAR Retreat Registration Form:

Name:

Contact info:

Email

Phone number

Cell phone

SOFAAR member - Y / N

Cheque enclosed \$85 or \$95 (payable to SOFAAR)

Which room have you reserved at the Inn?

Name of Roommate (if any)?

Would you like stuffed pork loin roast or stuffed squash for your Saturday night main course? Please check one.

- ☐ rosemary-apple stuffed pork loin roast
- ☐ mushroom, quinoa and dried fruit stuffed squash

Any special dietary requirements?