



PARC NATIONAL DU MONT-MÉGANTIC



HIGHLIGHTS

ECLIPSE OF THE SUN

To mark the August 21st 2017 partial eclipse of the Sun, which will be visible in Quebec, come and see our show of the year, *Éclipses!*



ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

Take advantage of 2 long weekends to travel the stars: Star observation possible at the Research Observatory from July 6th to 8th and 13th to 15th.



PERSEIDS

Join us in celebrating the spectacular Perseids meteorite showers from August 10th to 14th. Get your wish list ready!



WELCOME

QUÉBEC
NATIONAL PARKS DAY

SEPTEMBER 9,
2017

EXPLORE NATURE AT ITS FINEST

Québec national parks provide a unique opportunity to enjoy nature at its finest.

The entry fee you're required to pay is your contribution to the development and conservation of these territories.

FREE ADMISSION FOR CHILDREN 17 YEARS AND UNDER

Daily entry fee - Adults 18 years and over	\$8.50
Annual Network Card	\$76.50
Annual Park Card	\$42.50

Rates valid until December 31, 2017, taxes included. See complete fee schedule at sepaq.com/parkscard

ANNUAL PARCS QUÉBEC NETWORK CARD

Unlimited access to all of Québec's national parks for 12 months and an array of exclusive benefits:

- ONE FREE NIGHT OF CAMPING on a weekday, in any Sépaq destination (value of free night is for a semi-serviced site)
 - BOUTIQUES 15% off regular-priced items* in all Sépaq boutiques
 - AQUARIUM DU QUÉBEC 15% off daily admission
 - PARC NATIONAL DE MIGUASHA Free admission to exhibits
 - ONE DAY PASS for a friend
 - CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING 15% off a day ticket
 - PARC NATIONAL DU MONT-MÉGANTIC 15% off admission to the ASTROLab
- Certain conditions apply.
*Excluding convenience store products and ski products.
Details at sepaq.com/parkscard

CONTEST DESTINATION PARCS NUNAVIK

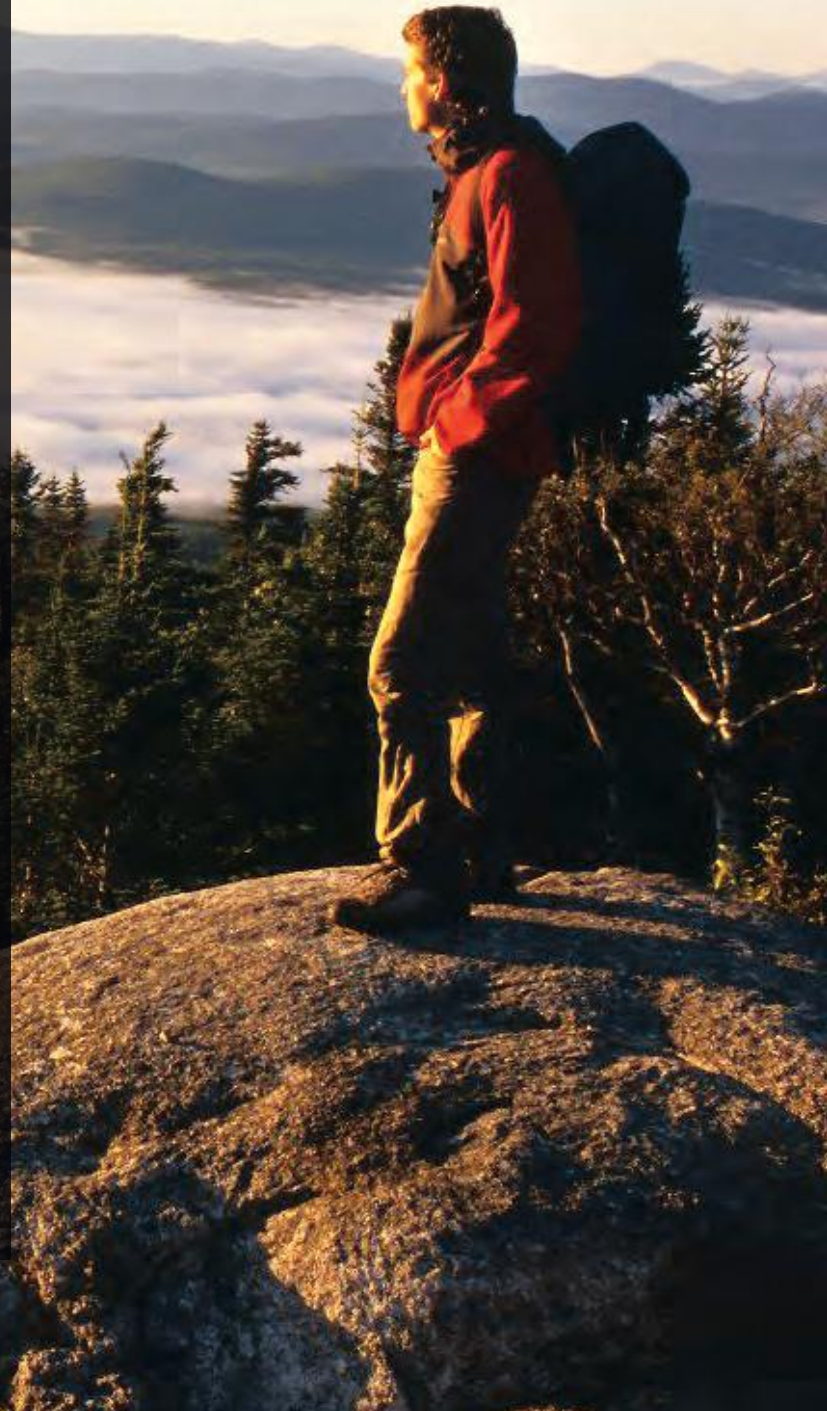
Between April 1 and September 1, 2017, when you purchase or renew your Annual Network Card, you could win a stay for 2 in a national park of Nunavik.

A \$10,000 VALUE!

Experience the journey of a lifetime. A choice among 3 destinations to explore at parcsnunavik.ca:

- Parc national des Pingualuit
- Parc national Kuururjuaq
- Parc national Tursujuq

Details and contest rules at sepaq.com/contest



MUST-DOS

A TOURING DESTINATION FOCUSED ON STAR DISCOVERY

With three summits over 1,000 metres and half of its territory located above 750 metres, Mont Mégantic emerges as a boreal landscape. Toward the end of the 19th century, pilgrims erected a cross on Mont Saint-Joseph that would become a sanctuary. In the mid-1970s, astronomers altered its destiny by placing it in the path of stars.

DAYTIME VISIT TO THE ASTROLAB AND THE OBSERVATORY

Daytime visits offering the discovery of the greatest mystery of all : What is the Universe? Pursue your visit at the Mount Megantic Observatory, located at the top of the mountain, for explanation on its operation as well as the work and research accomplished by the astronomers.



MOUNT ST-JOSEPH TRAIL

The ascent of the Mont-Saint-Joseph path leads to a boreal type climate. New view point locations with names inspired by the origin of its colonization, allow you to contemplate the immensity of the Appalachian Mountains. A path to rediscover! In addition to approximately 60 km of high altitude trails and three summits over 1 000 meters where you will discover the diversity of the landscapes and the ecosystems of the mountain.



ASTRONOMY EVENINGS

At the heart of the first International Dark Sky Reserve, the ASTROLab and the Popular Observatory will guide you to the borders of the Universe, every summer evenings! With a multitude of telescopes operated by passionate presenters, the sky will no longer have any secrets. The multimedia equipment will allow you to travel through the stars as if you were there. Offer yourselves this unforgettable experience!



CIMES TRAIL

Recently opened, the Franceville Sector offers a magnificent hike on the Cimes trail. A unique experience as you reach for the first time the spectacular rocky crest of Franceville as well as the breath taken valley of the brook of the mountain with its waterfalls.



HIKING TRAILS

Reference on the map	DISCOVERY		DISTANCE AND DURATION	ROUND TRIP LOOP	DIFFICULTY	GRADIENT (IN METERS)	DEPARTURE POINT
1		Promenade Boréale	2 km 45 min	X	E	0	Mont-Saint-Joseph Summit
2		Le parcours du Soleil	3 km 1 - 2 h	X	E	90	Welcome Center
3		Mont-Saint-Joseph	8.5 km 3 - 5 h	X	A	475	Welcome Center
4		Mont-Mégantic	10.7 km 4 - 7 h	X	A	515	Welcome Center
5		Tree-Summits	15 km 5 - 8 h	X	D	515	Welcome Center

Reference on the map	DISCOVERY		DISTANCE AND DURATION	ROUND TRIP LOOP	DIFFICULTY	GRADIENT (IN METERS)	DEPARTURE POINT
1		Promenade du Ruisseau	2.5 km 1 h 30	X	E	15	Welcome Center
2		Montée du Dragon	4.3 km 2 - 3 h	X	E	135	Welcome Center
3		Escarpelements	6.4 km 2 h 30 - 3 h 30	X	A	180	Welcome Center
4		Cimes	11.2 km 3 h 30 - 5 h 30	X	D	375	Welcome Center

Hiking E - Easy A - Average D - Difficult

Note: Suggested pathways are made up of many different sections of trails. You will find more information at the Park visitors' centers.



DISCOVER NATURE ACTIVITIES



FRANCEVILLE

ALIENS IN THE CREEK!

On certain mornings, follow the guided walk along the magnificent waterway that patiently sculpted the valley, then stop at the Plage des galets (Pebble Beach), where you will discover the creek's unexpected treasures and its tiny inhabitants.

From 10 am to noon, some days.
In French.

EVENING ACTIVITIES

Participate in our interpretive talks offered alternately evenings on the reception building porch: Histoire du parc, Anneau sacré, Grand jeu, for well-filled evenings!

From 7 pm to 7:45 pm, some evenings. In French.



MOUNT ST-JOSEPH

A FEAST FOR YOUR EYES

Gaze through our giant binoculars to observe the magnificent landscape features of the Appalachian Mountains.

From 1 pm to 4:30 pm, some afternoons. It is possible to go up to the mount St-Joseph with your vehicle between 9 am and 5 pm to make a short hike and admire the landscape.

THE FABULOUS HISTORY OF MOUNT ST-JOSEPH

Hear this fabulous history, told by a historical character who will transport you to the end of the XIXth century, during the land settlement period.

At 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm, some afternoons. In French.

DAYTIME ASTRONOMY ACTIVITIES

ASTROLAB VISIT

Located at the foot of the mountain, ASTROLab offers 3 exposition rooms and one multimedia room with a giant screen. Astronomy Day visit includes *Mesurer l'Univers*, *Du Chaos au cosmos*, *les Phases de la Lune*, and *Bricole ta fusée* animations as well as the *Cosmic Rhythms* movie.

Between noon and 4:30 pm, find the schedule and prices at the reception.



OBSERVATORY VISIT

Mont-Megantic Observatory, located at 1105 m altitude, can be visited during the afternoon. Accompanied by an enthusiastic guide, you will discover the best performing telescope in Canada and familiarize yourself with its operation as well as the work and research carried out by astronomers.

At 2:30, 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30 pm, find the schedule and prices at the reception. In French.
Possible to go up to the summit with your vehicle between 9 am and 5 pm.



NIGHTTIME ASTRONOMY ACTIVITIES

ASTRONOMY EVENING AT ASTROLAB

The evening starts in the multimedia room with 2 presentations, *Mouvements célestes*, to understand the sky rhythms, and *Éclipses*, to mark August 21st coming solar eclipse. For the second part of the evening, if the sky is clear, telescope observation, and if the sky is overcast, the evening continues inside, with astronomical news, a children activity, a night walk and interactive cosmos.

Check out the schedule, prices and reservations. The activity can start at 8, 7:30 or 7 pm, depending on the date. Reservations necessary. In French.

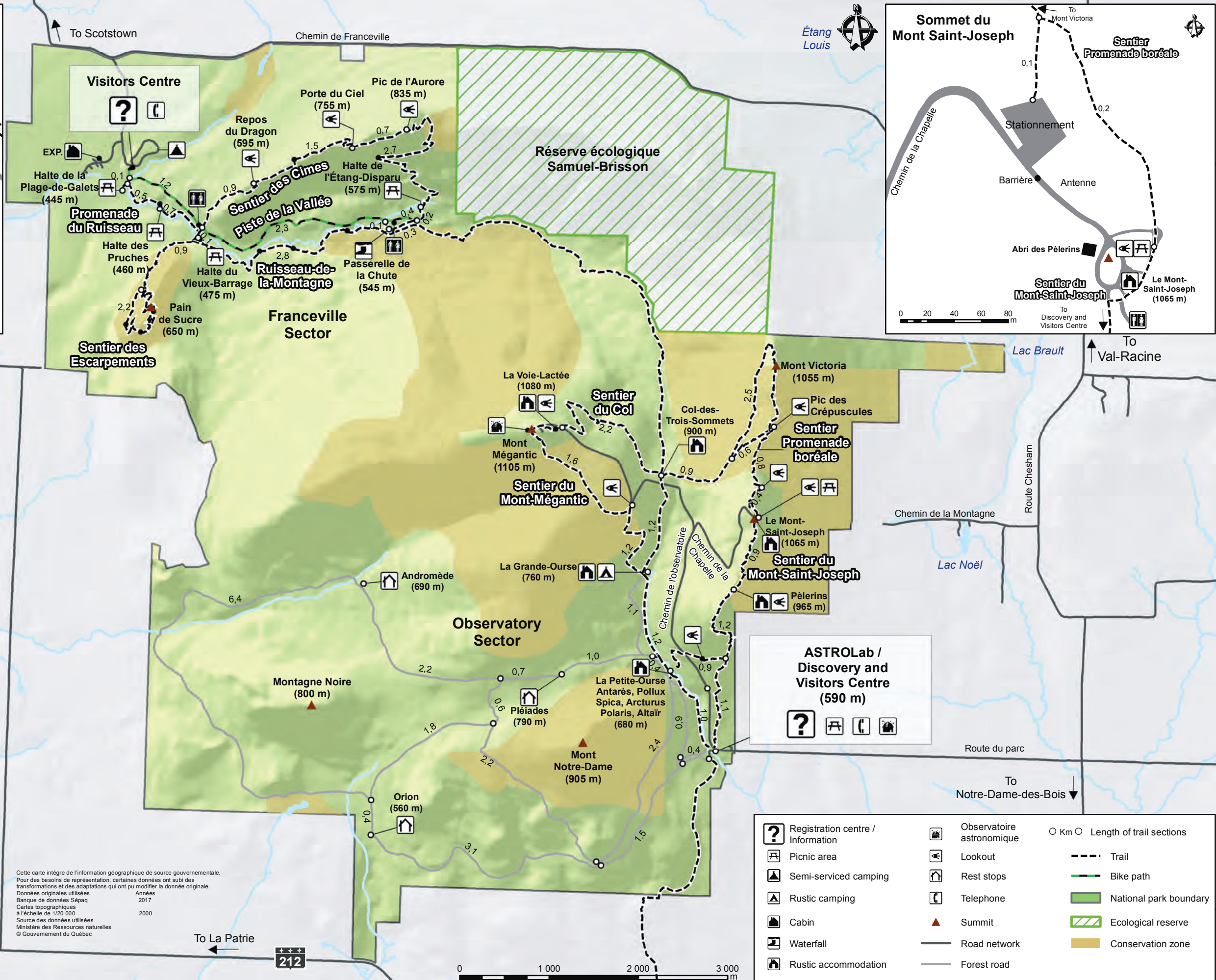
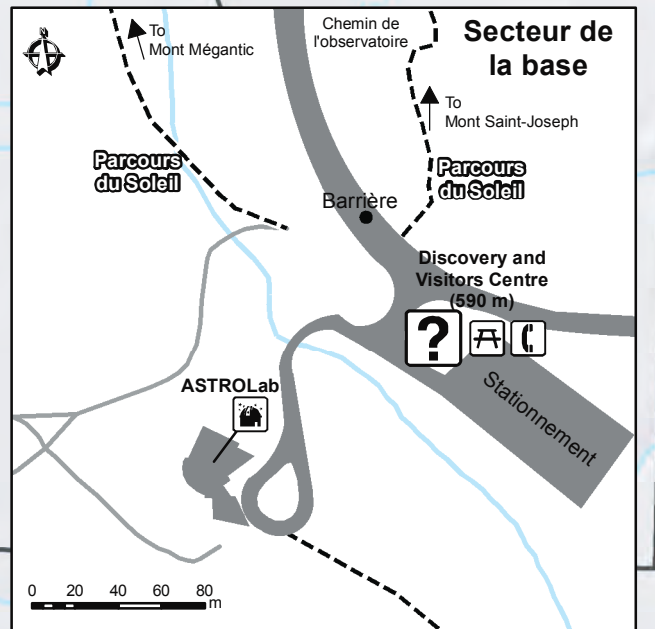
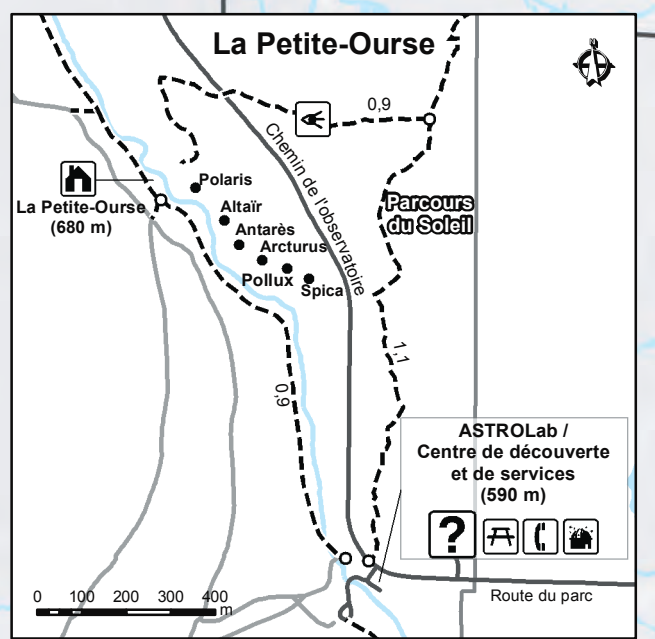
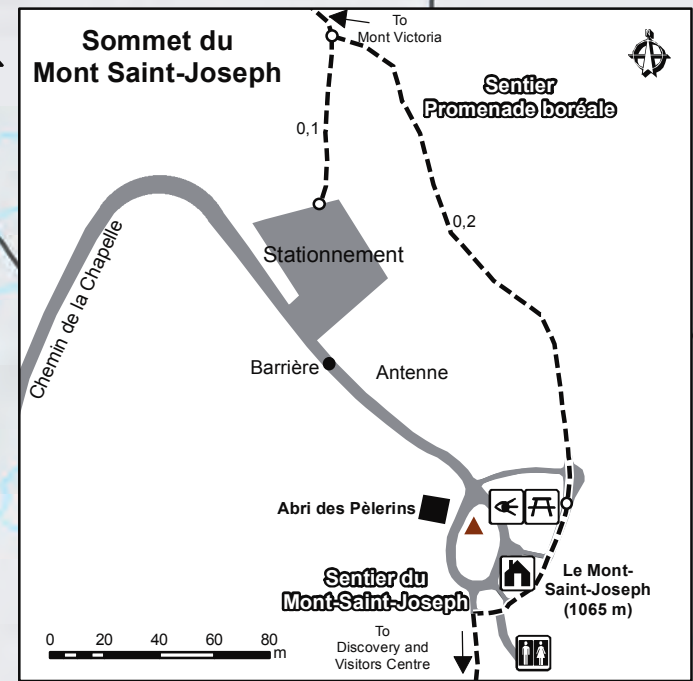
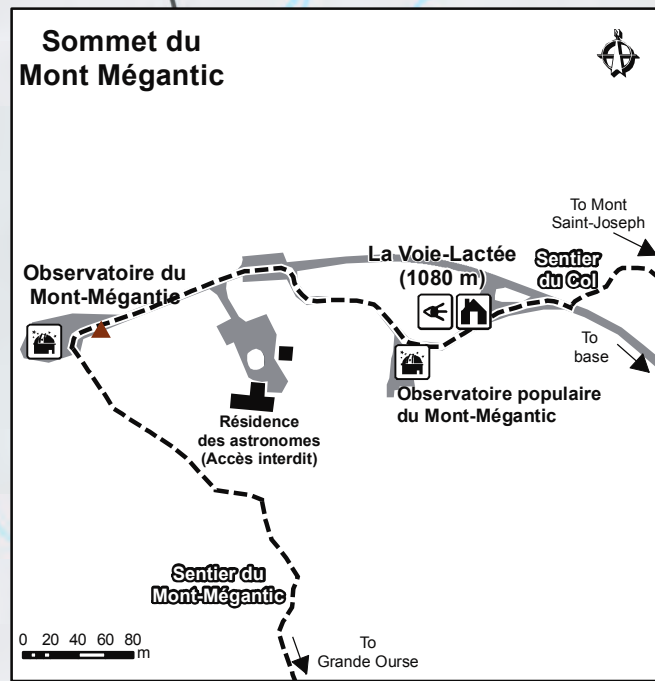


ASTRONOMY EVENING AT THE POPULAR OBSERVATORY

The evening starts with a presentation in the Observatory: *Exoterra – à la découverte de nouveaux mondes*. Are there planets which are similar to ours in the Universe? Also, if the sky is clear, telescope observation. If the sky is overcast, all of our Observatory audiovisual equipment will be used to let you travel in the Universe.

Check out the schedule, prices and reservations. The activity can start at 7:15, 7:30, 8, 9:30, 9:45 or 10:30 pm, depending on the date. Reservations necessary. In French. With shuttle.





Cette carte intègre de l'information géographique de source gouvernementale. Pour des besoins de représentation, certaines données ont subi des transformations et des adaptations qui ont pu modifier la donnée originale.

Données originales utilisées: Banque de données Sipaq, 2017; Cartes topographiques, 2000.

Source des données utilisées: Ministère des Ressources naturelles, © Gouvernement du Québec.

	Registration centre / Information		Observatoire astronomique		Km		Length of trail sections
	Picnic area		Lookout				Trail
	Semi-serviced camping		Rest stops				Bike path
	Rustic camping		Telephone				National park boundary
	Waterfall		Summit				Ecological reserve
	Rustic accommodation		Road network				Conservation zone
	Forest road						

MONT-MEGANTIC INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY RESERVE

10 YEARS OLD AND ALL OF ITS STARS!

2017 marks the 10th anniversary of Mont-Megantic International Dark Sky Reserve (MMIDSR). Since the beginning, when it was certified as the very first Dark Sky Reserve by International Dark-Sky association (IDA), it has attracted visitors from everywhere around the world who come to admire stars, nebula and galaxies.

The quality of the dark sky seen above Mount Megantic is not only due to its geographic location, far away from large urban centres. It is through numerous efforts with regards to raising awareness, involvement of the local population, lighting conversion projects that MMIDSR can still enjoy a dark starry sky of exceptional quality.

ECO-LIGHTING

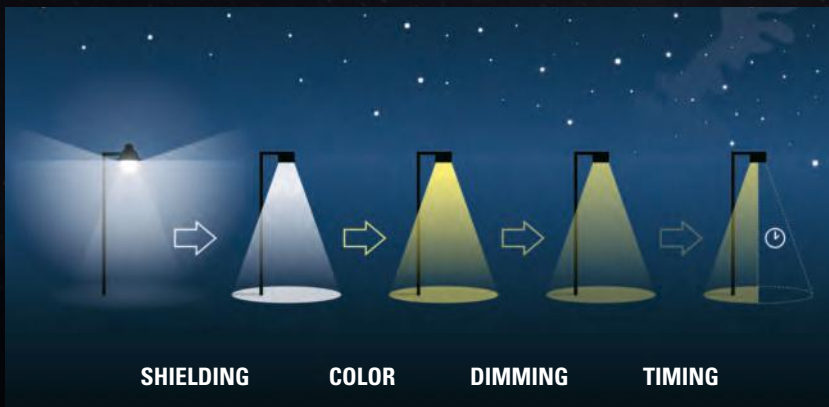
BY FOLLOWING THESE 4 SIMPLE PRINCIPLES, IT IS POSSIBLE TO GET ADEQUATE LIGHTING WHILE PRESERVING NOCTURNAL INTEGRITY.

SHIELDING: Choose luminaires whose luminous flux is oriented towards the ground, and do not spill light towards the sky and the horizon.

COLOR: Give preference to warm color and amber light sources in order to minimize the amount of blue light emitted and thus reduce negative impact on living beings biological cycles and starry sky visibility.

DIMMING: Opt for low-keyed and constant lighting in order to reduce glare and excessive contrasts which jeopardize visibility.

TIMING: Turning off outside lights in late evening is a simple and efficient way to reduce light pollution and energy waste.



PROTECT THE DARK NIGHT

SKY GLOW: MEASURE TO CONSERVE



A dark starry sky is one of Nature's most grandiose performances. Today, with light pollution's ongoing growth, this incredible experience is less and less accessible: The dark night is in danger of disappearing. Not only does the growth of nocturnal artificial lighting restrict access to dark starry skies, it also represents an important issue often underestimated for the conservation of the natural environment.

Sky glow is one of the major effects of light pollution that disrupt astronomers work and denies citizens the beauty of dark starry skies. A device installed at the top of Mount Mégantic, which measures the brightness of the sky demonstrates however that at the heart of MMIDSR, it is possible to contemplate a sky which is practically free from light pollution and where thousands of stars are visible to the naked eye.

THE NIGHT IS HALF OF OUR LIFETIME



For many species of nocturnal animals, artificial light has many negative impacts. Although it is known that outside lighting attracts and kills a great number of insects every night, the type of light source may make a big difference in regards to its power of attraction. A study conducted at Parc national du Mont-Mégantic revealed that amber LEDs which are installed more and more in the MMIDSR territory, and which were recommended in order to reduce light pollution, attracted a lot less insects than white LEDs. So, light fixtures installed in order to reduce light pollution make it possible to reduce impacts on insects and nocturnal environment.

Negative impacts of light pollution are as varied as loss of the dark starry sky, sky glow and effects on many animal species. At Parc national du Mont-Mégantic, a real sanctuary of darkness whose symbol is Actias Luna, the Luna moth, many more study projects in connection with nocturnal animal species, in particular bats, are ongoing.

If you would like more information about conservation initiatives and issues in Quebec National parks, please consult PARCSQUEBEC.COM/BLOGUE. To know more about various ways to participate in our national park conservation, go to FONDSPARCSQUEBEC.COM



FAMILY FUN IS HERE!

Here are a few extras we have in place for you to simplify your life and to help you save money:

For your children 17 years of age and under

FREE ACCESS to national parks

Varied and rewarding **ACTIVITIES**

Outdoor **EQUIPMENT LOAN***

ACCESSORIES* on loan for young children

*Limited quantities available



Look out for this marker which identifies the ideal family experiences.

Discover our top family destinations at sepaq.com/family

OUR TOP PICKS

AT PARC NATIONAL DU MONT-MÉGANTIC

Take a look at our not-to-be-missed offers: popular activities, trails to discover with your family, and cosy spots for a stay.

- Free access for children for all astronomy activities
- Workshop and lift-off of rockets built by the children
- Walks accessible for even the leanest of calves
- Free coloring at all times
- Play area in the Franceville area
- Pick out your own gold nuggets and lunar nuggets at Repos du Dragon and Halte du Soleil



PARC DU MARÉCAGE-DES-SCOTS

EXTEND YOUR BIKE EXPERIENCE OF THE FRANCEVILLE SECTOR IN THIS NEARBY REGIONAL PARK!

- 8.3 km of multifunctional trail
- Possible loops of 2, 4, 6, 8 and even 16 km.
- Stopping places along the course offering breaks along the Rivière au Saumon and the brook McLeod
- Interpretation of the fauna, the flora, the forestry and the history of the forest train Log Hauler
- Possibility to rent canoes and pedal boats, and access to water play sets at the end of the trail in the Walter-Mackenzie Park of Scotstown.



ACCOMODATIONS



HUTS



RUSTIC CAMPS



HUTTOPIA

OBSERVATORY SECTOR

CAMPING

Thirteen 3.6 m x 3.6 m (12 ft x 12 ft) rustic platforms offer campers an opportunity to sleep under the stars. They are located on the site of Grande-Ourse hut, 2 km from the welcome center. Campers are asked to erect their tents on the wooden platforms to protect the surrounding vegetation

Starting at
\$30.25
/night

HUTS

Four shelters of a maximum capacity of eight people are available upon reservation. These shelters are located approximately 1 km (Petite-Ourse), 2 km (Grande-Ourse), 3 km (Col-des-trois-sommets) and 2,5 km (Pèlerins) from the welcome centre, and are accessible by foot, on skis or snowshoes. Each of them offers one table, chairs, a stove and rooms with double beds.

Starting at
\$28.25
/night /pers.

SUMMIT HUTS

Two huts are available for an unforgettable night in winter, spring and fall. The Voie lactée hut, at the peak of Mount Mégantic, has room for eight. The Mount St. Joseph hut accommodates two. The Refuge des Pèlerins, at the top of Mt-St-Joseph, is accessible all year et offers a breathtaking view. It can accommodate up to 8 guests (2 bedrooms). They will take your breath away! Summit shelters do not have access to drinking water.

Starting at
\$28.25
/night

CAMPS RUSTIQUES ET PROSPECTEUR

Four prospector camps of a capacity of two people are available all year round. Located at 2 km from the welcome center, they offer beds, one table and a wood stove. Near each one, you will find firewood and a pit toilet. The Polaris shelter, just at 1 km from the welcome center, sleeps 4 people. Five new Camps near the Polaris Camp, sleep 8 people.

Starting at
\$74 to
\$117
/night /camp

FRANCEVILLE SECTOR

SERVICES CAMPING

Our new camping area will be accessible by vehicle. There are 21 sites with two services (water and electricity), and 16 sites without services.

Starting at
\$30.25 to
\$38.75
/night /site

HUTTOPIA

Ten huttopia tents are available this year in the Franceville sector. They offer beds, efficient heating, lighting and the basics for cooking. All you have to bring is your own bedding and food.

Starting at
\$102 to
\$121
/night

EXP CABIN

Designed for 2 people, the EXP is composed of one room and it has 2 single beds. It is fully equipped: hot water, heating, full kitchen, bathroom and 2-burner electric stove. For 2 and 4 people.

Starting at
\$139 to
\$195
/night


LODGING PACKAGES

TO VARY YOUR EXPERIENCE, DISCOVER ONE OF OUR PARTNERS OF ACCOMODATION OF THE REGION.

FROM THE EARTH TO THE STARS PACKAGES:

- One or two nights in a participating lodging establishment: Auberges, chalets, campings, homes, yourtes and teepees
- 10% off regular evening and daily activities of the ASTROLab.

INFORMATIONS:
parcsquebec.com and astrolab.qc.ca

 **Parc national
du Mont-Mégantic**
Protect and Discover.

PLAY II SAFE



In the wild, your **safety** is your **responsibility**

Sépaq's mission is to ensure the widest possible access to Québec's most beautiful natural treasures. Sépaq is committed to the safety of its visitors and urges you to play it safe!

Preparing yourself adequately is the first step in the safe and enjoyable practice of your favourite activities. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY** and risk management is an integral part of your experience.

Before leaving for an excursion, **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED** to practice your chosen activity **AND RESPECT YOUR PHYSICAL LIMITS**. Your outing should leave you with nothing but pleasant memories. There are a number of organizations that can help you plan your activities safely. Do not hesitate to contact them. We also invite you to consult our safety guides for Sépaq activities on our website at

sepaq.com/security



CHECKLIST

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- Plan on going with at least one other person.
- Check the weather report.
- Pack water and food, even if the activity is only for a few hours.
- See that you have appropriate clothing and footwear for anticipated weather conditions.
- Let somebody know the exact location of your destination and the time you plan to return home.






ONCE YOU ARE ON SITE

- Do not rely on your cellphone.
- Check how much time it will take to complete your activity.
- Obey signs and notices, including bans on open fires.

WHEN YOU GET BACK

- Once you have completed your activity, make sure that you report to our staff anything wrong or any damage or problems you encountered.

REMINDERS

-  During your visit to a national park, you must always carry your entry fee receipt or your annual entry card.
-  To preserve our natural riches, you are not allowed to remove any natural elements (animals, plants, dead wood, rocks, etc.). Please also keep to established hiking trails to avoid trampling flora.
-  Animals find all they need to eat in nature. Feeding wildlife can be very damaging. Keep food or garbage out of reach of animals.
-  We ask you to carry out all your garbage.
-  Domestic animals are not accepted in Québec's national parks. However, guide dogs and service dogs are admitted.


PILOT PROJECT AUTHORIZING DOGS

A pilot project is in place, authorizing the presence of dogs in FRONTENAC (Saint-Daniel sector), JACQUES-CARTIER and OKA national parks, and will continue into its second year. Please read the applicable rules and authorized places at sepaq.com/animals.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: 911

SÛRETÉ DU QUÉBEC: 310-4141 (general number) / *4141 (for cellphones)

*Where cellphone networks are available. The costs and expenses incurred in conducting search and rescue operations are the responsibility of the beneficiary. You can obtain protection against these risks from an insurer.

 **Parc national du Mont-Mégantic**
Protect. Discover. Share.

189, route du Parc,
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Reservations: 1-800-665-6527
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www.parcquebec.com/montmegantic
www.astrolab.qc.ca

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As planning for events and activities evolves throughout the year, we recommend you consult our information bulletin boards as well as our Web sites and ask for additional information upon arrival. La Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (Sépaq) oversees activities and services in Québec parks in compliance with the government's mission in terms of conservation and protection of natural environments.





DID YOU KNOW...

The Parc National du Mont-Mégantic is renowned for its exceptional quantity of snow. For comparison purposes, in an average winter, 3 m (10 ft.) of snow will fall over Sherbrooke, 5 m (16 ft.) at the foot of Mount Megantic, and 7 m (23 ft.) at the top of the mountain!

THE PARK IN WINTER

SNOWSHOEING

The Parc National du Mont-Mégantic offers approximately 40 km of snowshoe trails for all tastes to help you discover the wonders of winter. Levels of difficulty range from beginner to intermediate, with circuits of 1 to 15 km, including access to three summits more than 1,000 m height: Mount St. Joseph, Mount Mégantic and Mount Victoria.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

There are 25 km of classical cross-country ski trails at Parc National du Mont-Mégantic. The degree of difficulty along these groomed trails ranges from easy to intermediate, with circuits 2 to 7 hours in length. Ski trail rates available on the Internet and at the welcome centre.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

SNOWSHOE BY TORCHLIGHT AND ASTRONOMY PACKAGE

SATURDAY NIGHTS FROM END OF JANUARY UNTILL END OF MARCH

To top off a memorable day of outdoor activities, enjoy a snowshoe outing by moonlight and torches and an evening of stargazing at the ASTROLab.

SNOWY SPRING BREAK

Special activities all week long, among which observation of the Sun with a telescope, visit of the ASTROLab, and Torchlight Packages during the week!



FOR A MEMORABLE DAY...

WELCOME FAMILIES!

All is free for 17 years old and younger!

FRANCEVILLE SECTOR



Promenade du ruisseau : easy hike of 300 m or 2 km, with picnic tables and pebbled beach!

Repos du dragon: hike up to the Repos du dragon, and bring back one of its gold nuggets; To the welcome center, in exchange for a free gift from one surprise basket!



Most evenings at 6:30 pm, enjoy park travels with the movie Arthur L'œil de Crystal!



Come play near the welcome center!

Come on our comfortable porch where drawings are available for colouring.

Bicycle rental: Free for the children!



OBSERVATORY SECTOR



Promenade du Soleil: easy hike with picnic tables and a hut at 1 km.

Promenade boréale: from Mount Saint Joseph parking, easy hike with a belvedere at 1 km.



Most days at 2:30 pm, enjoy a rocket workshop and launch with an astronaut.

At the ASTROLab.



Coloring in the ASTROLab.

Have fun with our colourings and activities.



FRANCEVILLE SECTOR ACTIVITIES

LOOK UP FOR OUR SUMMER ANIMATIONS :



Guided hike at the Promenade du ruisseau : extraterrestrials in the brook !

Some days from 10 am to noon.



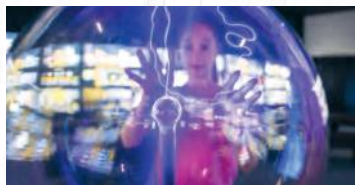
Chats on the porch at the Welcome center.

Some evenings, from 7 pm to 7:45

OBSERVATORY SECTOR ACTIVITIES

TODAY,
ACCESS TO ALL OUR DAYTIME ACTIVITIES

\$21.55
tx. included



Visit the ASTROLab with its exhibits and movie Cosmic Rhythms



Visit the Observatory with our guide to learn about research work from the astronomers



Access to the summits with your car;

Animation at the summit of Mount St-Joseph, with binoculars and a journey to the time of the colonization. Some afternoons



Short hikes of 2 km, and longer hikes of 6 to 15 km.

► DO YOU HAVE YOUR ANNUAL PARCS QUEBEC NETWORK CARD ?

If you do, take advantage of a 15% discount : the daily astronomy tour will cost \$18.30 tx. incl. If not, the daily astronomy tour will cost \$30 (tx. and access included)

► DO YOU HAVE A RESERVATION FOR THIS EVENING ?