

PARC NATIONAL DES GRANDS-JARDINS

DISCOVERY GUIDE

2019



WELCOME TO THE PARK



Territory of legendary adventures, with a Nordic character; where the high peaks meet the taïga gardens.

Parc national des Grands-Jardins (319 km²) offers an exceptional nature where impressive peaks sit alongside large rolling plateaus covered by the taïga, lakes and rivers. Let yourself be impregnated by a geomorphology modeled by the fall of a meteorite and the passage of great glaciers and landscapes shaped by fire. The very poetic name of "Grands Jardins" will make sense as soon as you make contact with this territory.

Discover more at sepaq.com/grandsjardins



THE SPRUCE GROUSE, THE ANIMAL EMBLEM OF THE PARK

This bird, from the Phasianidae family, is an annual resident of the territory and can be observed at any time. The diversity of ecosystems that characterizes the park suits him perfectly: coniferous forests, burnt-over areas, blueberry fields. It feeds mainly on fruits, mushrooms, and conifer needles in winter. The male is easily recognizable by its bright colors: black throat and breast and red ridge above the eye. The female is brownish and striped.

QUÉBEC NATIONAL PARKS ANNUAL CARD

Québec's national parks offer a one-of-a-kind experience. Explore this exceptional world of nature with the Annual Québec National Parks Card, featuring:

- Unlimited access to ALL national parks for 12 full months
- Many exclusive benefits, including a free night of camping

Details at sepaq.com/parkscard

MUST-DOS



A

LE BRÛLÉ

Walk through the rugged terrain of the Grands-Jardins, in the heart of the peaks of the Arthabaska sector. This gentle climb, with a breathtaking view of the surrounding mountains and lakes, will allow you to appreciate the contrasts left by the forest fires in the park.



B

VIA FERRATA OF MONT-DU-LAC-DES-CYGNES

The most sporty will like to push their limits on the safe Via Ferrata circuit of mont du Lac des Cygnes. Two trails are proposed: La Traversée and La Montée. These two itineraries provide an opportunity to explore fascinating environments with spectacular view from the air!



C

FISHING FOR ALL

Novice fishermen or experienced anglers! There is something for everyone at Les Grands-Jardins: free equipment rental, wading or row fishing, day fishing or fishing trip in a cabin. Come and enjoy the tranquility of the park's lakes and tease the brook trout hidden there.



D

NORDIC TERRITORY

Looking for adventure? The territory of Grands-Jardins has a lot to offer. Our Nordic skiing circuit or snowshoeing trails will take you to impressive summit or burnt forests with endless white horizons. To prolong your stay, let yourself be tempted by our huts or the comfort of our cabins!



E

ADVENTURE ON WATER

Discover the "water gardens" by kayak or by canoe, from Lac Arthabaska all the way to the Wabano dam and ask for our self-discovery guide to better understand what's around you. Furthermore, Lac Arthabaska is the ideal place to learn stand-up paddleboard. Yours to discover.



F

THE PANORAMAS

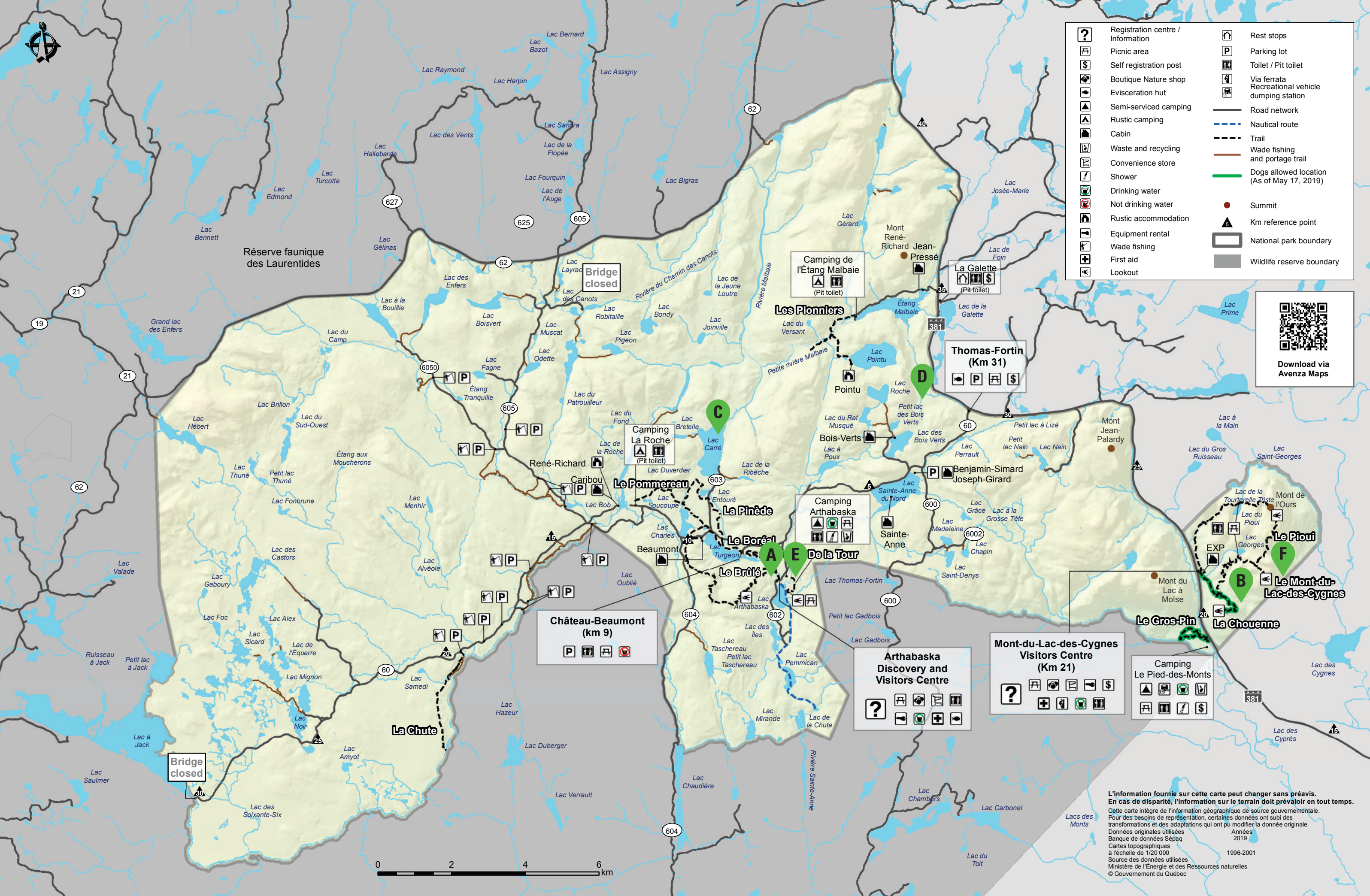
The area of Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnes offers three hiking trails accessible year-round. Pioui and Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnes trails will introduce you to the Charlevoix meteorite crater, while La Chouenne offers a magnificent view of the valley and the walls of Mont du Gros-Bras. Happy hiking!



	Registration centre / Information		Rest stops
	Picnic area		Parking lot
	Self registration post		Toilet / Pit toilet
	Boutique Nature shop		Via ferrata
	Evisceration hut		Recreational vehicle dumping station
	Semi-serviced camping		Road network
	Rustic camping		Nautical route
	Cabin		Trail
	Waste and recycling		Wade fishing and portage trail
	Convenience store		Dogs allowed location (As of May 17, 2019)
	Shower		Summit
	Drinking water		Km reference point
	Not drinking water		National park boundary
	Rustic accommodation		Wildlife reserve boundary
	Equipment rental		
	Wade fishing		
	First aid		
	Lookout		



Download via Avenza Maps



Bridge closed

Bridge closed

Château-Beaumont (km 9)

Camping de l'Étang Malbaie

Thomas-Fortin (Km 31)

Camping Arthabaska

Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre

Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (Km 21)

Camping Le Pied-des-Monts

L'information fournie sur cette carte peut changer sans préavis. En cas de disparité, l'information sur le terrain doit prévaloir en tout temps.
 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 Sépaq, Cartes topographiques à l'échelle de 1/20 000, Source des données utilisées : Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles © Gouvernement du Québec
 Année : 2019
 1996-2001

DISCOVER OUR TRAILS

TRAIL		LENGTH AND DURATION*		DIFFICULTY LEVEL*	HEIGHT DIFFERENCE (M)	OPEN DATES	DEPARTURE POINT
	Le Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés – The viewpoint on Charlevoix Crater (981 m) and on the Laurentian mountains is one of the most impressive! Don't forget to look under your feet, where an arctic-alpine mountain vegetation grows. Be careful! Fragile!	8,6 km round-trip	4 h	D	480	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	La Chouenne – Trail leading to a 730 m high summit. Magnificent viewpoints on the valley and on the face of mont du Gros-Bras. A dazzling spectacle right from the first kilometer.	4,8 km round-trip	2 h	I	250	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	Le Pioui (rustique) – After a steady climb, the view from the crests will dazzle you. Don't miss noticing a small peat bog and the alpine vegetation that covers the summit.	10,4 km loop	5 h	D	480	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	Le Gros Pin – Take a stroll under tall trees to the sound of poplar leaves rustling, woodpecker cries and the murmur of the stream.	2,1 km loop	1 h	E	23	Year round	Le Pied-des-Monts campground (route 381, km 19)
	Le Boréal – Offer yourselves a pleasant stroll in one of the park's oldest boreal forest. Discover the park's typical atmosphere and take a short tour into a sector regenerating itself since the 1991 fire.	2,2 km round-trip	1 h	E	2	Mid-May to mid-October	Château Beaumont (route 60, km 9)
	La Pinède – In a single trail, get to see a boreal forest, a gray pine forest and many interesting views on Ice Age lakes.	4,2 km loop	1 h 30	E	15	Mid-May to mid-October	Route 60, km 10
	Le Pommereau – Follow this trail to get to La Roche campground and observe the lake Soucoupe water plant community that is slowly becoming a peat bog.	3,6 km round-trip	2 h	E	25	Mid-May to mid-October	La Roche campground (route 60, km 13)
	La Chute – Discover landscapes typical of the taïga, viewpoints on the Malbaie river, and have lunch at the Hume-Blake falls.	6,6 km round-trip	3 h	E	20	Mid-May to mid-October	Route 60, km 20
	Les Pionniers – Besides some nice views on the Petite rivière Malbaie, your hike will make you discover moss-covered forests and a forest in full regeneration following the 1999 fire.	3,6 km round-trip	2 h	E	20	Mid-May to mid-October	Étang-Malbaie campground (route 381, km 34,5)
	De La Tour – This trail offers a short walk towards a pretty observation point along the Arthabaska lake. A shelter is installed which evokes the presence of fire towers that used to line the old territory.	1,4 km round-trip	40 min	E	10	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska campground (route 60, km 9)
	Le Brûlé (rustique) – A real immersion in the heart of the peaks of the Arthabaska sector! This trail will allow you to appreciate the contrasts left by forest fires. You will cross areas of boreal vegetation and taïga. Quietness guaranteed!	9,8 km loop	3 h	I	164	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre (route 60, km 9)

 Hiking  Mobile application  Family experience  Dogs allowed

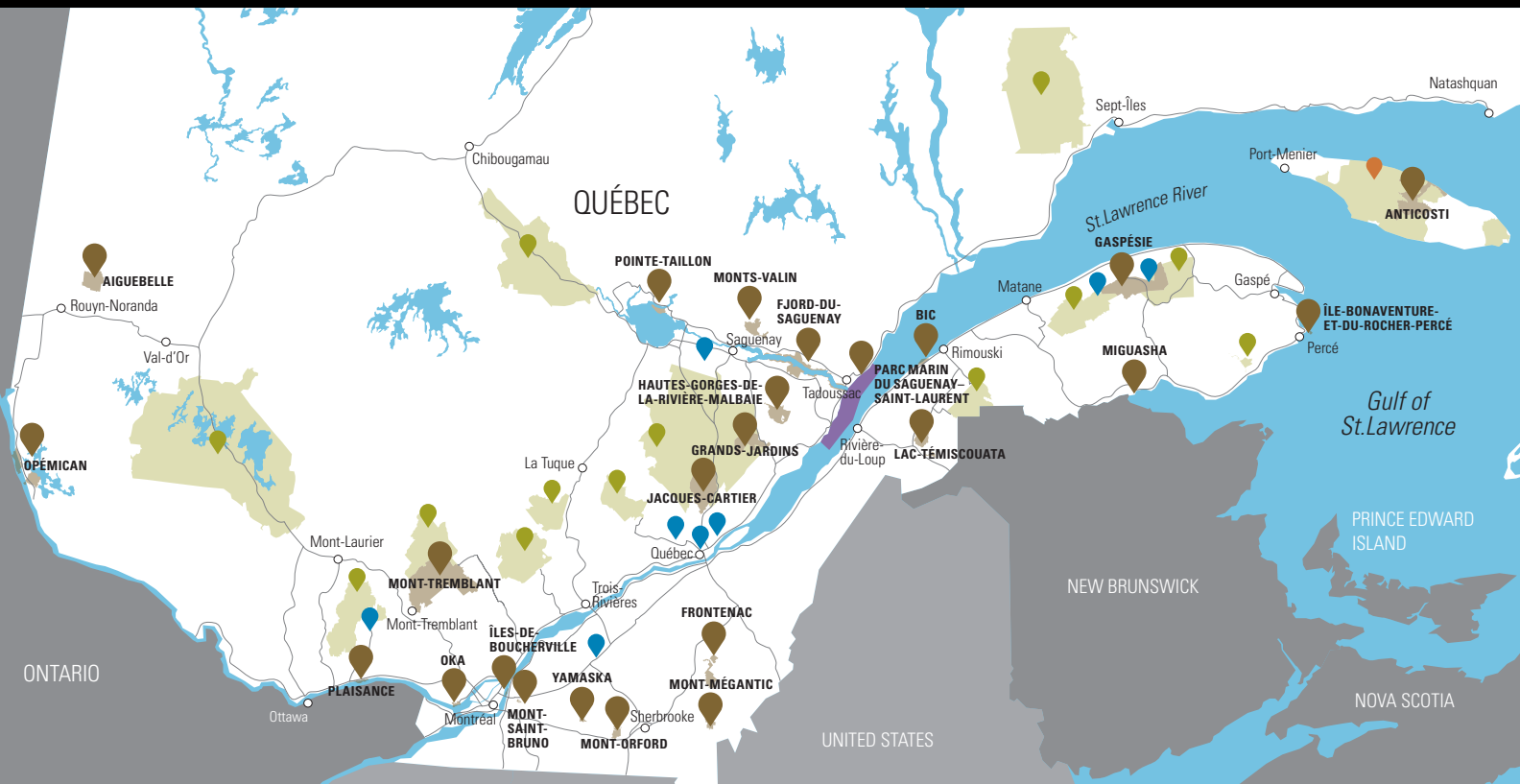
E : Easy **I** : Intermediate **D** : Difficult

*The duration and the degree of difficulty indicated are indicative and refer to the summer season.

THE LARGEST NATURE AND OUTDOOR NETWORK IN QUÉBEC

Sépaq has the privilege of developing territories of incredible richness. Among them, 24 national parks stand out as unique. These are protected areas that belong to all Quebecers and that provide lasting memories for visitors who proudly make such exceptional destinations their own.

Discover all our destinations at sepaq.com



 NATIONAL PARKS |  WILDLIFE RESERVES |  TOURIST ESTABLISHMENTS |  SÉPAQ ANTICOSTI

QUÉBEC NATIONAL PARKS DAY
September 7, 2019

FREE ADMISSION

SÉPAQ WINTER DAY
JANUARY 25, 2020

FREE ADMISSION



Come and see us at our shop

A number of exclusive products to discover!

Take a little bit of nature home with you when you visit our gift shop. **All profits from the sale of our products are reinvested in Québec's national parks.** A great way to contribute to the protection of our natural heritage!

DISCOVERY TIME



Are you staying in the park? Enjoy 50% off morning rentals of watercraft.

Applicable on rentals of one hour only. Craft must be returned before noon. First come, first served (limited quantities). One rebate per day, per person.



DISCOVER THE PARK BY BOAT OR KAYAK

Discover big “water gardens” by boat, kayak or stand-up paddleboard! Become an explorer and complete the Arthabaska Lake course up to the Wabano dam. This beautiful 4-hour return trip crosses several lake environments that provide shelter to rich and diversified flora and fauna. The perfect place to spot a moose!

When : from May 24 to October 14

Where : Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre

EQUIPMENT (TAXES EXTRA)	DAILY	4 hours	1 hour
Canoe	\$51.00	\$35.50	\$17.75
Solo kayak	\$46.00	\$32.00	\$16.00
Tandem kayak	\$55.50	\$39.00	\$19.50
Life jacket	\$7.25	-	-
Dry bag	\$7.25	-	-
Stand-up paddleboard	\$44.50	\$31.00	\$17.75
Rabaska canoe	\$215.25	\$150.75	\$75.50
6 hp outboard motor *	\$46.25	\$32.25	-
2.5 hp outboard motor*	\$36.00	\$25.00	-
Rowboat *	\$44.00	\$30.50	\$15.25
Walking stick	\$13.25	-	-

*until September 2

VIA FERRATA

Discover the via ferrata circuit on the rock face of the prestigious Mont du Lac des Cygnes. Two safe itineraries, equipped with beams, a bridge, etc., provide an opportunity to explore the cliffs, in fascinating environments with spectacular views.

While climbing, you will navigate the rock face safely and at your own pace. You will enjoy an exclusive experience in small groups (8 people maximum), accompanied by a professional guide.

CIRCUIT NAME	DIFFICULTY	DURATION	RATES		MINIMUM AGE
			ADULTS 16+	CHILDREN	
La Traversée	Beginner	3 h 30	\$48.50	\$36.25	10
La Montée	Intermediate	5 h	\$78.50	\$58.75	14

VIA FERRATA : WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- 1- Minimal height of 1.3 meter
- 2- Minimum weight of 50 kilos (110 lbs)
maximum weight of 110 kilos (242 lbs)
- 3- Closed and laced sporting shoes with rigid soles
- 4- Bring one to two litres of water per person
- 5- Long hair tied
- 6- Sunscreen and insect repellent
- 7- Snack

DAY FISHING

You can wade fish or fish in a rowboat and discover the vast potential of the lakes and rivers of the Park. A tasty native trout awaits you in a renowned and popular place for over 100 years. Brook trout is the most popular.

Price : \$82.08 for 2 people (includes fishing fee and rowboat)

When : from May 24 to September 2



RANDONNÉE TAÏGA: A SECRET TRAIL

There are few places in Quebec where you can walk through thick carpets of ground lichen. Access to this trail is only possible in company of a park warden and naturalist who explains the most fascinating natural phenomena of the park: forest fires, extreme temperatures, insect outbreaks, lichen and woodland caribous.

When : from June 21 to October 13

Price : \$22.73 (adult rate)

Schedule : at Visitors Centers

LES SECRETS DU CRÉPUSCULE: A PRIVILEGED MOMENT

The end of the day is a unique moment to observe wildlife. Aboard a minibus, come and visit the park with a park warden and naturalist to discover how and why some animals come out at dusk.

When : from June 21 to September 2

Price : \$20.81 (adult rate)

Schedule : at Visitors Centers

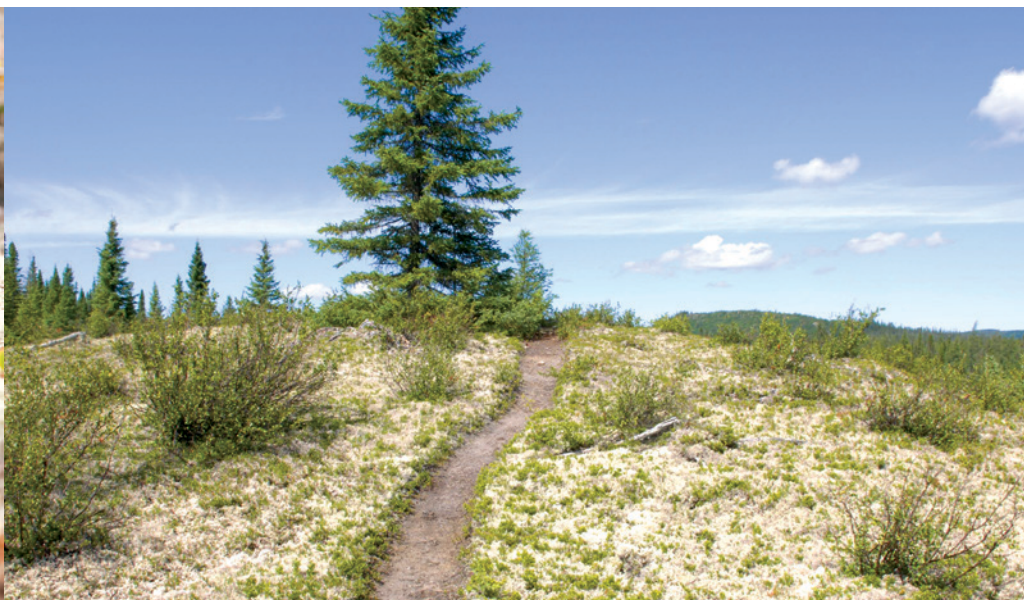
BALADE DÉCOUVERTE EN MINIBUS: IN THE HEART OF HISTORY

The history of wood runners interests you? The history of the Grands-Jardins will surprise you! On board a minibus, a park warden-naturalist will tell you all about the human occupation of this exceptional territory, while making connections with the wildlife that inhabits it: explorers, guides, private hunting and fishing clubs. Fascinating!

When : from June 21 to September 8

Price : \$20.81 (adult rate)

Schedule : at Visitors Centers



SUR L'EAU AVEC LES PIONNIERS: ESCAPE ON WATER

To escape in nature in an enchanting setting, nothing better than a getaway in a large rabaska canoe. This activity, guided by a park warden and naturalist will immerse you in the heart of the history of Grands-Jardins, a magical moment to live at the beginning or at the end of the day.

When : from June 21 to September 8

Price : \$10.37 (adult rate)

Schedule : at Visitors Centers

TIRER PLUS VITE QUE SON OMBLE: FISHING IN THE PARK

In this educational game for all the family, discover the history of fishing in the park, fish species that are hiding the lakes and fishing techniques. Everything to be ready for an afternoon of fishing in the Grands-Jardins!

Schedule : at Visitors Centers

EVENING CHATS FOR ALL TASTES (IN FRENCH ONLY)

Whether in the form of a quiz or an interactive presentation, the team of park wardens and naturalists has plenty to tell you. Depending on your interest, take part in an evening chat to discover the park's essentials.

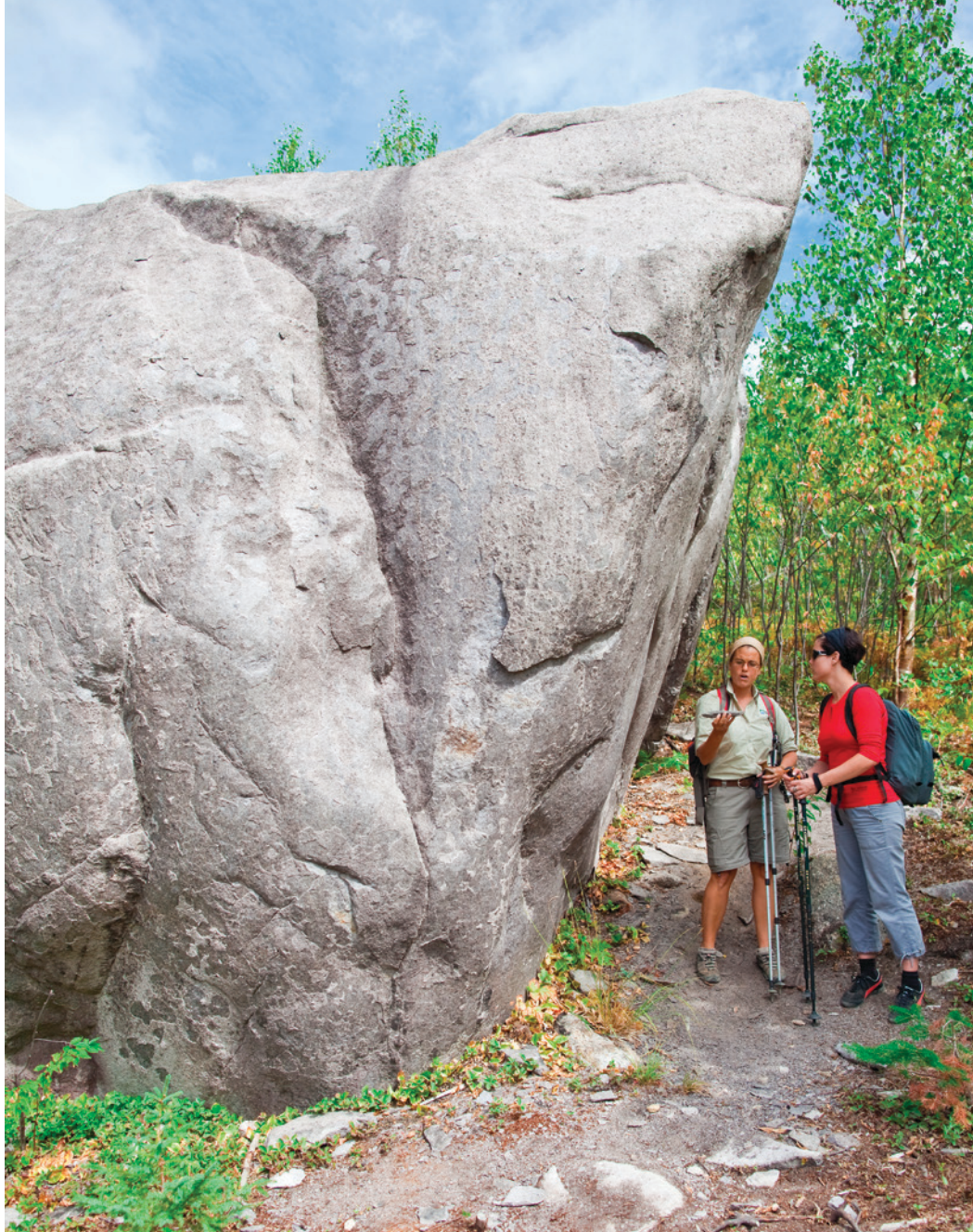
When : from June 21 to September 8

Where : Arthabaska Discovery
and Visitors Centre or
Pied-des-Monts campground

Schedule : at Visitors Centers

BE SURPRISED BY DISCOVERY

At any time during the day you could meet a park warden and naturalist. Whether at the top of mont du Lac des Cygnes or near a visitors centre, the park wardens offer playful posted activities to make you discover the park.



SLEEPING UNDER THE STARS



Spend the night with us and enjoy the park to the fullest. You'll have your base camp and discover the territory at your leisure all the while having a front-row seat to check out the wildlife in its natural habitat!

Visitors can choose from among several types of accommodations and packages:

- Primitive campgrounds :
La Roche & Étang-Malbaie
- Serviced campgrounds :
Pied-des-Monts & Arthabaska
- Ready-to-camp
- Cabin
- EXP. Cabin
- Hut
- Rustic shelter

Pay showers : \$1/4 minutes
(Pied-des-Monts: works with a dollar coin or quarters)
(Arthabaska: works with quarters only)

2019 SEASON

Bookings in progress

BEGINNING OF BOOKINGS 2020 SEASON

April 27, 2019 (summer)

September 17, 2019 (fall/winter)

Camping and ready-to-camp

May 11, 2019

1 800 665-6527 | sepaq.com

FAMILY FUN IS HERE!



Free! For your children 17 years of age and under

In all seasons, your children can come with you absolutely without charge.

ACCESS TO NATIONAL PARKS

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT LOAN*

A VAST ARRAY OF ADAPTED ACTIVITIES for the whole family

ACCESSORIES* ON LOAN for young children

*Certain conditions apply.

OUR TOP PICKS

AT PARC NATIONAL DES GRANDS-JARDINS

- Family fishing : free rental equipment and initiation activity. Find out!
- Evening talk for everyone
- Rally, Le Gros Pin trail
- Canoe on Arthabaska Lake

CONSERVE FOR TOMORROW



Adine Séguin, technician park warden

Conservation Plan:

A planning document identifying issues and projects related to conservation in the national park.

Environmental Characterization:

In-depth study of the natural environment to document potential impacts of a project and to propose modifications or mitigation measures.

AN EXPERTISE AS HUGE AS A NATIONAL PARK

The office of Adine Séguin is a garden, or rather large gardens, that she furrows in order to collect data that allow us to evaluate the health of our ecosystems. Technician park warden for more than 10 years, Adine watches over the brook trout populations, observes loons and studies American nighthawks (among others!) to assess their vulnerabilities and recommend actions to ensure their protection. She contributes directly to the realization of the **conservation plan**. She is also at the forefront of **environmental characterizations**, which precede any project involving a modification of natural habitats.

AN ANGEL NAMED PATROLLING PARK WARDEN

True guardian angels of the territory, patrolling park wardens are active through trails, campgrounds and water bodies. In addition to being a reference in urgent situations and giving multiple advices to vacationers, patrolling park wardens are responsible for enforcing regulations. Through their preventive approach, they ensure the protection and conservation of the park. Imagine the consequences of a degenerating campfire, trampling of vegetation in unauthorized areas, or overtaking fishing quotas !



TO PASS ON AND GENERATE PASSION

Park wardens and naturalists know all the secrets about the fauna, flora and history of the Grands-Jardins. Whether during talks or hiking the taïga, or during a ride on the minibus or on the water in a rabaska canoe, they will pass on to you their passion and knowledge of the territory. Do not hesitate to question them when you will meet them.

Because we love what we understand and we protect what we love!

FROM RESEARCH TO ACTION

Conservation also requires the acquisition of knowledge, and in this regard, many researchers make national parks their playground. Since 2007, the team of Line Rochefort, at Université Laval has been developing a technique to restore borrow pits, these sand or gravel extraction sites. There are more than a hundred on the territory and, although they have not been used for more than 50 years, they show a very low vegetation cover! For the first time in Quebec, a technique of creating relief (hollows and bumps) is tested to assess whether it accelerates the establishment of vegetation. It is possible to observe experimental sites from the road, watch for them!

**Conservation has many names!
We all have a role to play
in the conservation mission
of national parks.**

AND YOU!

Your collaboration is much appreciated, dear visitors, when you share your wildlife observations with the Visitors Centre attendants and you respect the regulations in force. You contribute to the protection of the park when you attend discovery activities and pass on your knowledge to your loved ones.

SUPERVISED ACCESS FOR DOGS



As of May 17, 2019, dogs will be allowed at Parc national des Grands-Jardins, in certain designated areas.

All details at sepaq.com/animals

MAIN RULES*

- Dogs must remain in the places where they are authorized at all times.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash no more than three (3) metres in length and under surveillance at all times.
- The person in charge of the dog must pick up the animal's excrement without delay.
- Barking or howling dogs as well as dogs affecting the tranquility and safety of other visitors are not allowed.

*Individuals who fail to comply with any of the rules stated above may be required to leave the area and/or issued a statement of offence, where appropriate.

Compliance with the regulations is essential, and the offer could be reviewed if non-compliance is noted.

AUTHORIZED PLACES

Summer trail	La Chouenne, Le Gros-Pin
Camping	Pied-des-Monts campground: campsites 1 to 18 and 51 to 58
Picnic area	No authorized access
Nautical access point	No authorized access
Winter trail	La Chouenne, Le Gros-Pin

PLAY ^{IT} SAFE



Photo: Steve Deschênes, Parc national des Grands-Jardins

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. We invite you to consult our safety guides for Sépaq activities, available at sepaq.com/security. You will also find a list of organizations that can help you plan your activities safely.

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.

🚫 Remember that animals are in their natural habitat and that you are a visitor. To ensure both your safety and theirs, feeding them is prohibited; otherwise they may lose their natural fear of human beings and become aggressive.

🚫 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.

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 des Grands-Jardins

Administration

25, boul. Notre-Dame
Clermont (Québec) G4A 1C2
Information : 418 439-1227

Reservations : 1 800 665-6527

Email : parc.grands-jardins@sepaq.com sepaq.com/grandsjardins

Legal Deposit: 2019
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

Photos: Steve Deschênes, Dominique Boudreault, SEPAQ Employee, Mathieu Dupuis, Pierre Bernier, Gisèle Benoit, Eve Murray





Auberge Le Relais des Hautes-Gorges



- Vast encompassing estate near Parc National des Hautes-Gorges.
- Wellness SPA Center (opening soon).
- Massage Center "L'Équilibre" upon reservation.
- Accommodation and Restauration on the premissis.
- Fine cuisine with local products.
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PARC NATIONAL DES HAUTES-GORGES-DE- LA-RIVIÈRE-MALBAIE

THE ICE VALLEY



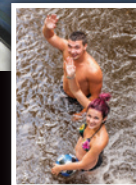
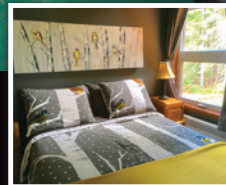
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CHARLEVOIX

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and enjoy a unique playground of outdoor activities. Year after year the magical beauty of the snow-covered panorama leaves us speechless as if we were discovering it for the first time. It's as nature would whisper, "you had forgotten how beautiful this was, right?" You'll cherish the memory of the exquisite sparkling light of that majestic icy landscape forever, *with all the charm of Charlevoix.*



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