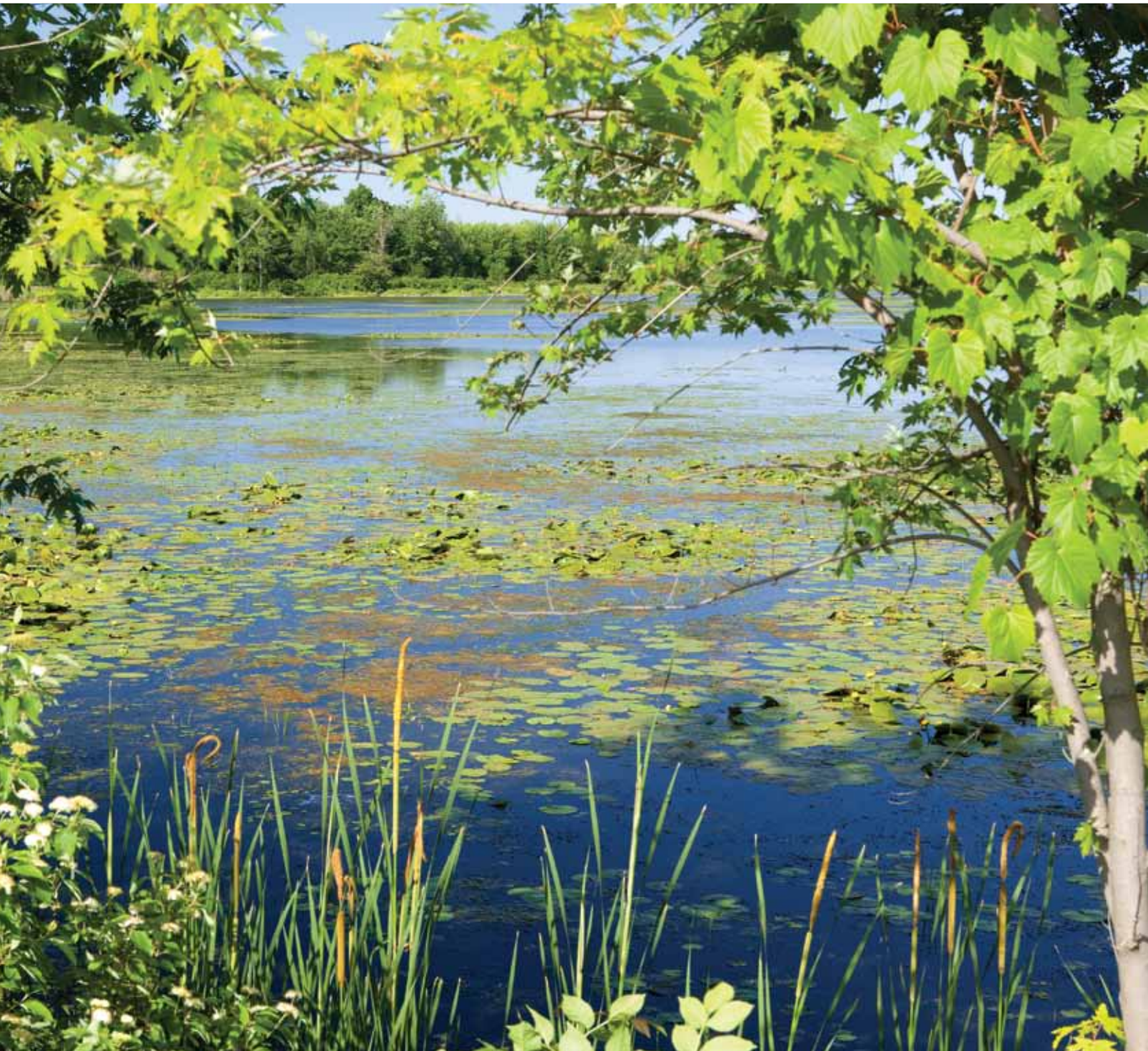


Journal |

Parc national de
PLAISANCE

English version 2012-2013



Here's to your health!

The beneficial effects of nature on young people's personal development are undisputable. The 23 national parks in the Parcs Québec network are public areas, ideal for discovering nature and participating in outdoor activities. This year, Québec *National Parks Day* highlights how important enjoying nature is to our overall well-being by crafting its message around the health theme. Of course, we hope to see other iterations of this day year-round.

School program offering takes on even greater importance

Statistics indicating that young people have become increasingly sedentary and out of touch with nature have prompted concerns among the staff of our national parks. These concerns have, over the past few years, spurred our parks teams to develop an activity offering specifically intended for this group. Our parks' offering has evolved from virtually no discovery programs in 1999 to an impressive and varied line-up of 480 activities today. In 2011-2012, 377,417 or so visitors to the Parcs Québec network participated in one of the many diverse activities offered: theatrical vignettes, treasure hunts, hiking (on foot, by bike, on the water, etc.), series of talks... all told, a range of activities that brings together visitors of all ages who are curious to learn a little more about their natural and historic heritage.

Increasingly more appropriate activities for schools

Helping young people get in touch with nature also ties in with a major succession issue in our national parks. Parcs Québec works very closely with schools to ensure that they benefit from the great outdoors, often near urban centres. As they learn to better appreciate these exceptional natural environments, young people also become more aware of the challenges involved in maintaining the necessary balance between conservation and accessibility – the two components of our national parks' mission.

Our most effective advocates

Young people are our best spokespersons. Following a visit to Parc national du Bic, here's how one sixth-grader put into words the astonishment she felt during her encounter with nature: "I hope I can go back to admire all these wonders again, but on the next visit, I would take my time and bring my family... to this Park of Wonders!"

In light of our objective – to encourage youth to get in touch with nature – we will continue to develop activities and programs designed to reach out to them. We welcome you to our national parks, on behalf of all those who work there and look forward to greeting you upon your arrival!

Welcome to the land of floating gardens...

Ten years, already ...

It was in April of 2002 that three merry adventurers, Jean-François Houle from the parc national de Frontenac, Marielle Bois from the centre touristique du Lac-Simon, and I, from the parc national du Mont-Tremblant, arrived in Plaisance. Our mission was to transform a wildlife preserve into the newest member of the Parcs Québec network: Parc national de Plaisance.

What a fantastic candidate for protection we discovered: a luxuriant natural landscape consisting mostly of open water, marshes, swamps, and ponds, but also home to magnificent forests dominated by silver maple. This geography led us to affectionately nickname the Park the "bayous of the North." Over 500 species of plants and some thirty mammals have been identified. Also, it has proven to be a hotspot of birding in Quebec.

Today, thanks to the excellent work of our staff, cooperation from the local population, and the full support of Sépaq's management we can boast of our success in turning to good account this nugget of Quebec's landscape.

In this pamphlet you will find all the activities and services offered this year. We invite you to participate in the discovery activities in order to learn more about the Park (information on pages 4 and 5).

Our greatest pleasure is welcoming you year after year.

Jean-Luc Lussier, director

SUMMARY

The mission of Parcs Québec.....	2
Plaisance : an essential springtime stopover!.....	2
The land of floating gardens.....	3
Discovery Activities.....	4
Fishing in the Parc national de Plaisance.....	6
Conservation research and follow-up.....	8
Schedule of Regulation.....	10
Crossword.....	12
Tours.....	13
Park Map:	
Presqu'îles Sector.....	14
Thurso Sector.....	16
Campground Map.....	18
Local Partners.....	20
Useful Phone Numbers & General Information.....	21



Martin Soucy
Martin Soucy
Vice-president of Operations
Parcs Québec

Raymond Desjardins
Raymond Desjardins
President and CEO
Sépaq

Message from the Minister



The government attaches prime importance to the development of Québec's natural and historic heritage, as demonstrated by the extensive work done in our national parks over the past few years. This includes the major project underway at Parc national du Lac-Témiscouata. Its completion will take the government closer to the target it has set for itself – raising protected-area coverage in Québec to 12% of the territory by 2015 – and Quebecers will enjoy access to infrastructure and services that meet international standards.

Enhancement work in the Franceville sector of Parc national du Mont-Mégantic, coupled with the renovation or construction work on Discovery and Visitors Centres at three other national parks – Frontenac, Jacques-Cartier and Mont-Saint-Bruno – will also mark the completion of a whole series of essential projects intended to improve accessibility to these protected areas. Additional work will shortly begin in other national parks, including Mont-Tremblant, Yamaska and Grands-Jardins.

Parcs Québec's mandate extends beyond enhancement of our national parks, to encompass biodiversity protection and preservation. Our on-site teams possess expertise that enables them to develop strategies for research and acquisition of knowledge that are recognized in scientific communities. Another innovation was introduced five years ago when the national parks implemented their Ecological Integrity Monitoring Program – a Canadian first.

Through its partnership role, Sépaq ensures that our national parks contribute to regional economic development. The parks work with their partners, taking local realities into consideration while ensuring that development is centered on particular features and attractions specific to their territory. Each park is unique – it's now up to you to come out and discover them.

Welcome to your national parks!

Pierre Arcand
Pierre Arcand
Minister of Sustainable Development,
Environment and Parks



Plaisance: *an essential springtime stopover!*



Since this Park is a key migration stopover, every year it hosts over a hundred species of birds, which land in the region in the hundreds of thousands to delight birders and nature lovers.

Did you know that?

- In order to accommodate birders, Parc national de Plaisance is one of the earliest parks to open its campground every spring. In fact, all of the accommodation types we provide are available as of the end of April!
- Starting in mid-April, there are moderated activities and other bird-related events.
- Ornithologist guides can be hired between mid-April and the end of May.

So, come and experience Plaisance for a springtime camping adventure!

THE MISSION OF PARCS QUÉBEC

With a view to achieving harmonious development at the cultural, social, economic and regional levels, Parcs Québec is responsible for the conservation and development of territories that are representative of Québec's 43 natural regions and exceptional sites, due notably to their biological diversity, while ensuring that they are accessible for educational and outdoor use.

All of Québec's national parks were created in accordance with World Conservation Union standards. A national park is a relatively vast area:

- that represents one or more ecosystems that are moderately or not at all transformed by exploitation;
- where animal and plant species, geomorphological sites and habitats are of particular interest from a scientific, educational or recreational viewpoint, and that offers scenery of great beauty;
- in which the highest competent authority of the country has taken measures to eliminate exploitation and to instill respect for the ecological, geomorphological or aesthetic aspects on the whole;
- where a visit is authorized, under certain conditions, for educational, cultural or recreational purposes.



The land of floating gardens...



Did you know that terrestrial and forested areas only represent 35% and less than 10% of the surface area of the Park, respectively? Yes indeed! Water and wetlands dominate. This Park is, incidentally, one of Québec's prime examples of the protection of these fragile environments.

It has become customary to compare the tropical forest to the lungs of the planet. Wetlands, for their part, can be considered the ... kidneys! Just as productive as forests, they also provide many benefits in maintaining balance in our environment.

Sponges

Rich in organic matter, wetlands act as real sponges. Among other things, they help reduce flooding, but they also replenish the water table by slowly releasing water during dry spells.

Filters

These environments are home to a varied fauna and flora, including many types of microorganism. This vibrant world excels in capturing phosphorous and nitrogen introduced into watercourses by humans, as well as certain bacteria that are harmful to health and that might also be found there.

Buffers

The vegetation in these wetlands protects shorelines against erosion and, by capturing suspended sediments, contributes to reducing the turbidity of the water.

In its actions and facilities, this Park seeks to be a leader in the area of protecting and promoting wetlands. During your stay we encourage you to explore and learn more about them thanks to one of our discovery activities.

Wetlands are: "all areas that are saturated or flooded for a sufficiently long period to alter the nature of the soil and the composition of the vegetation." (Couillard and Grondin, 1992) – Translated from the MRNF web site



Your Safety : Your Responsibility

Outdoor activities can involve certain risks. Make sure that you have the skills and abilities required for the activity you choose. It is important to know the risks inherent to this activity, to respect your limits and to use appropriate equipment. For more information, we invite you to consult our Web site at www.sepaq.com.



Discovery Activities

Please note: activities offered in French only

LEGEND



Observation | FREE



Talks | FREE



Guides Tours | FREE

Guided Rabaska Canoe Tours

Bayous: \$7.83/adult, \$4.35/child (8 to 17 years old)
Kitchissippi: \$10.87/adult, \$5.44/child (16+)



Starting point: see Activity description.
Necessary to reserve at the Discovery and Service Centre at least 1:00 before activity starts.
24 people capacity.

Pontoon Boat Cruises

\$17.40/adult, \$8.70/child (3 to 17 years old)



Starting point: Discovery and Service Centre
Necessary to reserve at least 1:30 before activity starts. 40 people capacity.

The prices, terms and services mentioned in this newsletter are subject to change without notice.

DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES FACILITATED BY A NATURALIST PARK WARDEN



Ponds and their surprises

During the spring migration, the ponds on Grande-Presqu'île reward visitors with many birding surprises! Come and meet our park wardens and passionate birders. Use a telescope to discover the "newcomers" of the day. Who knows, you may even spot some rare species in the Park!
Location: Les Étangs lookout (Grande Presqu'île)



Taking flight

Come and hear a park warden explain why Plaisance is such an ideal site for birding: Where do the birds come from and why do they stop here? The topics addressed during this short talk include the "V" flight formation and tips for success in finding key species.
Location: Community centre



Take a break at La Zianie

The Zianie-des-Marais trail is a perfect location for observing the Park's flora and fauna. Benefit from the presence of a park warden to obtain answers to your questions and explore one of the most fascinating habitats in the Park.
Location: Floating walkway of the Zianie-des-Marais trail



Nature cruise*

There are a thousand and one ways to explore a park. This cruise will unveil many of the riches of Parc national de Plaisance to you, in a golden moment filled with tales of nature and humanity.



Plaisance falls cruise*

Travel up the Petite Nation River ... and back in time. Learn about the history of the First Nations who occupied these lands and the most recent developments brought to light in our archaeological digs. This cruise goes all the way to the magnificent Plaisance Falls.



Mysterious turtles

Turtles in the Park? Yes indeed! Come meet a park warden who will introduce you to the various species found here and give you some tips on how to spot them.
Location: Swimming pool parking lot



Tracking down beavers

Plaisance National Park is home to many families of beavers. Come on a walking tour of their habitat. This huge rodent may even make an appearance. Take the opportunity to observe its lodge and other signs of its presence.
Location: Zianie-des-Marais trail parking lot



Explore the bayous

A ride in a rabaska canoe is the ideal way to explore our floating gardens. Discover our "water world" in the company of a park warden, who will guide you across the waters and help you appreciate its distinctive animal and plant life. For ages 8 and up.
Location: Campground docking area



Kitchissippi

Kitchissippi: "Where waters abound." Paddle into adventure in a rabaska canoe on the majestic Ottawa River, which will share some of its secrets with you. Taste some local delicacies during a well-earned rest. For ages 16 and up. *Starting point: Discovery and Service Centre*



Workshop on the Park's Critters

This is a special activity for kids. This workshop will allow them to get a closer look at the Park's critters and understand why they must resist the temptation to capture them. A special arts and crafts session will make sure they don't leave empty-handed!
Location: Community centre



Fishing for mussels!

Following a brief family activity of "fishing" for mussels, let a park warden help you better understand these tiny indicator species, which monitor the health of our water bodies for us. Be prepared for water up to your knees!
Location: Desjardins picnic area



MIGRATION SPECIAL | from April 14 to 29

ACTIVITY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Ponds and their surprises	10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.	10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3 p.m.
Taking flight	9:30 to 10:15 a.m.	9:30 to 10:15 a.m.

SPRINGTIME | from May 19 to June 17

ACTIVITY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
This week's featured bird!	9 to 10 a.m.	-
Mysterious turtles	3:30 to 4:15 p.m.	-
Nature cruise \$	6:30 to 8 p.m.	-
Take a break at La Zianie	-	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

SUMMER | from June 23 to September 2

ACTIVITY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Explore the bayous \$	-	-	-	-	9:30 to 11 a.m.	-	-
This week's featured bird!	-	8:30 to 9:30 a.m.	-	-	-	-	-
Kitchissippi \$	9:30 to noon	-	-	-	-	-	-
Did you know that groundhogs climb trees?	-	-	10 to 11 a.m.	-	10 to 11 a.m.	-	-
Budding archeologists	-	-	-	-	-	3:30 to 4:15 p.m.	-
Take a break at La Zianie	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	-	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.	-	1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Plaisance falls cruise \$	-	10:30 to noon	-	10 to 11:30 a.m.	-	-	10 to 11:30 a.m.
Nature cruise \$	6:30 to 8 p.m.*	-	-	-	-	6:30 to 8 p.m.*	-
Mysterious turtles	3:30 to 4:15 p.m.	-	-	-	3:30 to 4:15 p.m.	-	-
Workshop on the Park's Critters	-	-	3:30 to 4:15 p.m.	-	-	-	-
Tracking down beavers	-	-	-	7:30 to 8:30 p.m.	-	-	-
Fishing for mussels!	-	11 to noon	-	-	-	-	-

*As of August 23: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

NEW DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES!



Did you know that groundhogs climb trees?

How could we ignore our famous mascot? Learn all about this little mammal, which is very abundant here, during a short talk accompanied by a visit to its home. For the whole family!
Location: Swimming pool parking lot



This week's featured bird!

For visitors looking for a pleasant introduction to birding! A new species will be featured every week, and we invite you to discover it by means of a brief description followed by a short field trip. This will allow birding to become a value added to your hikes!
Location: Community centre



Budding archeologists

Parents will be given information on our archeological digs in the Park, while youths (five years and older) will be invited to participate in a dig. To your trowels!
Location: Campground docking area



DO NOT MISS THIS!

SPRINGTIME ONLY!

TRACKING DOWN TURTLES (Pontoon Boat Cruise Included)

Come discover them! Turtle-themed bike tour. 12 years old and up. Rates: \$17.40/adult, \$8.70/child. **Booking are mandatory at the front desk before 8 p.m. the night before.**

*Starting point: Discovery and service centre
When: Saturday June 2 and 9 from 7:30 to 10 a.m.*

*The trajectories of any of these cruises may be altered depending on water levels in the Ottawa and Petite Nation Rivers. Ask at the Visitor Centre.



Fishing in the Parc national de Plaisance



Walleye fishing in the fall.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ...

The Ottawa River is home to more than fifty species of fish, including a variety of game fish. The Park is an excellent place for fishing. Here are answers to some of the questions we are asked most often by visitors on this subject.

Is a fishing licence required for fish like yellow perch and bullhead?

Yes. To fish in Quebec, regardless of the species ... from the smallest to the largest ... a fishing licence is required!

How much does it cost to fish in the Park?

Aside from park access fees and the provincial fishing licence, there are no costs to fishing in Parc national de Plaisance.

Is an Ontario fishing licence valid in the Park?

Yes. An interprovincial agreement allows holders of Ontario fishing licences to fish on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River in area 25.

Is fishing with live minnows allowed?

Yes. Using live baitfish is allowed on the Ottawa River located in area 25. You can buy them from several authorized merchants in the area however live baithfish must be from the Quebec side of the Ottawa River. Carefull, the use of certain species is banned. For more information, you can enquire at the Visitor Centre or ask a park warden.

May I fish anywhere in the Park?

You can fish anywhere in the Parc national de Plaisance except in the Perras marsh and at the Rubaniers (also see the restriction at Legault bridge). Fishing is not allowed from the floating walkway of the Zizanie-des-Marais trail. We remind you that when moving around the Park by foot, bicycle, or vehicle, you must always use the provided paths and roads.

Where can I launch my boat, and how much does it cost?

There are three docks in the Park from which you can launch your boat, canoe, or kayak: the Discovery and Service Centre, the campground, and the Thurso Visitor Centre. It's free! Of course, you still need to pay admission to the Park.

If you have a big boat, you should use the dock in the town of Papineauville (also free).

Can my children and spouse fish with me if I am the only one with a fishing licence?

Yes. A minor or an adult student aged between 18 and 24 and holder of a valid student ID, can fish by virtue of the licence held by an accompanying adult. An adult may fish by virtue of his or her spouse's licence.

However, take heed! In both of these cases, a single daily limit applies per valid licence!

Fishing seasons and bag limits for 2012

STRIPED BASS	CLOSED
bass total 6	June 22 to November 30, 2012
pike total 6	May 18, 2012 to March 31, 2013
*walleye total 5	May 18, 2012 to March 31, 2013
*lake sturgeon total 1	June 15 to October 31, 2012
*muskellunge total 1	June 15 to November 30, 2012
char total 5	April 27 to September 30, 2012
landlocked salmon total 1	April 27 to September 30, 2012
trout total 5	April 27 to September 30, 2012
lake trout & splake total 2	April 27 to September 30, 2012
lake whitefish total 12	all year
yellow perch total 50	all year
black crappie total 30	all year
other species no limit	all year

* Mandatory catch and release for the following species:

- Muskellunge: 137 cm or less
- Lake sturgeon: 106 cm or more
- Walleye: March 1 to 31, 2012, May 18 to June 15, 2012, catch and release for walleye 40 cm or more.

Legault bridge restriction

Fishing is allowed within a 30 metre radius of Legault bridge between June 22 until November 30, 2012. Outside of this period **fishing is prohibited**. To facilitate identification of the zone, you will see signs on both sides of the bridge as well as white buoys in the water.

THE BEST « SPOTS »?

Don't forget to tell us!!



Pike: cast a big metallic lure into the edge of the reed bed and reel it in with a jerky motion.



Largemouth Bass: floating reeds are preferred sites for fishing it. Cast a weedless lure into "holes" of open water.

Conservation research and follow-up

Every year the Park conducts a variety of inventorying, research and follow-up activities in order to acquire a better knowledge of the territory and to be able to protect it effectively. Here is a sample of projects for this year:



Project inventorying aquatic fauna with Cégep de Sherbrooke

Again this year, for one week at the end of the summer, the Park will host 20 students in bioecology techniques from Cégep de Sherbrooke. This wonderful collaboration is now in its fourth year. It has allowed the Park to learn a great deal about its aquatic fauna and flora.

Four-toed salamander

The Park has been found to contain sites in which this amphibian reproduces, which is rare in Quebec. The Conservation and Education Service is conducting long-term monitoring of these sites and is launching a project this year to obtain a better overview of the size of the current population in the Park.



Archeology

In collaboration with the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine (MCCCF) and the Groupe de recherche en archéologie de l'Outaouais (GRAO), the Park is conducting archeological digs. The results confirm that this territory was a nucleus of the colonization of the Ottawa valley. This year, again, under the watchful eyes of archeologists, visitors will be allowed to actively participate in the project. You can learn more at the Visitor Centre.



Poison-Ivy

To avoid it

Whether hiking or camping, you always run a risk of encountering this plant when visiting the Park. Very common in this region, it can cause great discomfort to those who come into contact with it! Steer clear by staying on the paths and learning to recognize it.

Too late?

If you have been in contact with this plant, quickly wash the affected skin in cold water. If symptoms appear, there are over-the-counter medications that can provide relief. Consult a pharmacist.



In order to minimize the risk of contact, the Park annually sprays salt water onto sites where this plant is common. Also, you can ask at our Visitor Centre in which areas you are less likely to encounter it.

FONDS
Parcs Québec

Give and nature will return the favour!

In order to **conserve** and **protect** our national parks, it is first important to know them well. This requires the investment of both time and resources. Sépaq has created a special fund, the Parcs Québec Fund, dedicated to supporting priority conservation projects in each national parks.

To donate:

- Visit www.fondsparcsquebec.com
- Purchase an article identified as belonging to the Parcs Québec collection
- Participate in the **Adopt an animal** program
- Leave your donation in the Parcs Québec Fund box found in all our national parks
- Make a contribution when reserving online at www.sepaq.com



Schedule of Regulation



For more information on the regulations and Québec's Parks Act, please speak to our welcome area staff or a park warden. Here is a list of the main activities authorized in the Park, as well as the conditions under which they may be pursued.



Hiking and cycling, picnicking
Where indicated by signage.



Canoeing
Petite Nation River
Ottawa River
Conservation zones: no coming alongside



Fishing | Subject to Québec Fishing Regulations (Zone 25).
See pages 6 and 7 for more details.



Picking berries | Picking small berries is allowed.
Picking mushrooms and all other kinds of plants is prohibited in the Park.



Camping and vacationing | In designated areas.
An overnight access pass is required to spend the night in the Park.



Parking and driving
In designated areas.



Persons contravening these regulations will be subject to fines.

FEEDING ANIMALS

Protected areas are the best places to observe nature. Visitors will certainly be able to watch an abundance of fauna, from near or far. However, too often we still find campers attempting to feed the animals, believing that they are helping them out, or simply trying to attract them. On one hand, this disrupts the complex balance of their natural diet, exposing them to a serious risk of sickness.

On the other hand, once the animals have become acclimatized to humans they can cause considerable damage to camping equipment and vehicles as they seek this food ... despite the fact that it is bad for them.

Therefore, help protect the fauna by refraining from feeding the animals!



GATHERING DEADWOOD

Nature is beautiful outside of the camping spots. These protected sites in the Park create shelter for many animals and provide a substrate for rare and diversified plants and mushrooms. One way that campers can help protect them is by refraining from collecting deadwood outside of their camping site. First, this deadwood plays an important role in the forest litter. Also, by not trampling the undergrowth, you help preserve the privacy of the camp sites.

Imagine the impact of all this traffic if, year after year, all of the 200 campers that occupy each site, on average, were to stock up on wood ...

Rates for access to the Park vary with the number of visitors and the length of the stay. Whether you are coming alone or in a family, for a day or a year, we have the right price for you.

Entry fees valid from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013

CATEGORY OR GROUP	DAILY RATES	ANNUAL PARK CARD	ANNUAL NETWORK CARD
Adult (18 or over)	\$6	\$30	\$54
Child (6 to 17)	\$2.75	\$13.75	\$24.75
Child (0 to 5)	Free	Free	Free
1 adult with children 6 to 17	\$8.75	\$43.75	\$78.75
2 adults with children 6 to 17	\$12	\$60	\$108
Organized adults group	\$5.25	N/A	N/A
Organized youth group (aged 6 to 17)	\$2.25	N/A	N/A
School or student group	Free	N/A	N/A

Taxes included. Annual Park or Network card is valid for 12 months. The prices, terms and services mentioned in this journal are subject to change without notice.

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD

Moving firewood, even just a few kilometres away, can spread invasive insects and diseases to our forests.

Buy it locally. Burn it on site. Never bring it back home.

www.inspection.gc.ca



Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments

Canada

Crossword

10th Anniversary Special!

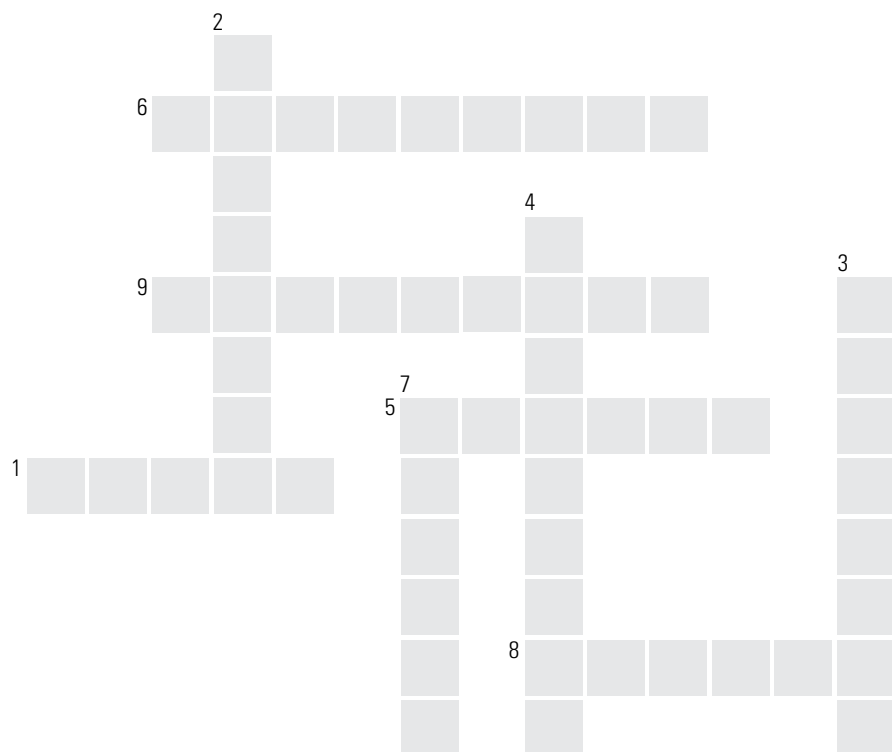
We submit a little crossword game highlighting special elements of this Park having been the subject of an article or a special mention in previous editions of this publication. If you are a faithful visitor to the Park, you should have no problems answering each of these nine questions!



Tours

The Park offers a unique combination of tours that allow you to explore our territory on foot or on a bicycle. You may also use our shuttle, the Weskarini (See page 17 for further information on the shuttle).

- The Park's animal emblem
Canada _____
- The Park is recognized for protecting these fragile ecosystems.
- In the 19th century, the region was colonized by this famous family, who established themselves in the territory now occupied by the Park.
- Without a doubt, one of the most frequently seen animals in the Park.
- The Park has a second major entrance, aside from the one at Plaisance. In which town is it?
- The name of the people who previously occupied the territory of the Park and its surroundings. They were also called the "People of Petite-Nation."
- In June, females spawn large clutches along the Park's roads and paths. What type of animal is it?
- The Park is an archipelago located in this river.
- A rare tree species that is indigenous to the Park.



CYCLING TRAILS	Length round trip (km)	Starting point	Description and points of interest
1 Ernest-Lalande	4	Discovery and Service Centre	This short trail is the starting point for the cycling trails in the Presqu'îles sector.
2 of the Petite-Presqu'île	17	Discovery and Service Centre	This trail will lead you through the camping sector to the La Falaise Lookout.
3 of the Grande-Presqu'île	9	Discovery and Service Centre	Go to the Les Étangs Lookout. On the way, note the former agricultural land, a popular spot for birds of prey.
8 of the Outaouais	20	Maison Galipeau, Thurso Sector	Rest up before heading out to the picnic area at the maison Galipeau and exploring the Thurso Sector.
9 of the Baie-Noire	4	Baie-Noire parking lot, Thurso Sector / Junction Highway 148	This short trail gives you access to the heart of the Outaouais trail.



WALKING TRAILS	Length round trip (km)	Starting point	Description and points of interest
4 of the Baies	5	Discovery and Service Centre	As soon as you arrive at the Park, head out for a hike to explore a multitude of bays surrounded by lush vegetation.
5 of the Zizanie-des-Marais	1	Parking lot near the Zizanie-des-Marais trail, Presqu'îles Sector	Our featured trail is a 300 m floating walkway that gives you a bird's eye view of the marsh and all the life it sustains!
6 of the Carouge	2,5	Parking lot near the Zizanie-des-Marais trail, Presqu'îles Sector	On the menu: a floating walkway, a dike in the heart of a marsh, and a bird-filled forest!
7 of the Sarcelle	3	Discovery and Service Centre	You may have the chance to see ducks in the vicinity of this trail, which gives you three vantage points on the Rubaniers Marsh.

Many other combinations are possible! Using the park maps, which you will find on pages 14 to 17, let your imagination run free and explore our territory.



Discover our bottle, PLIABLE, WASHABLE and REUSABLE

Did you know that...

- Quebeckers consume more than 250,000 bottles of water each and every day.
- More than half of these bottles end up in landfill or in Mother Nature's lap.
- It takes 2 to 3 litres of water and 1/3 of a litre of petroleum to produce just 1 litre of bottled water.

Parcs Québec encourages you to change your habits by switching from disposable bottles to a reusable water bottle. Discover our new pliable bottle. Ingenious, environmentally friendly and convenient, it will accompany you wherever you go - and you can even fit it in your pocket!



\$1 will be given to FONDS Parcs Québec

\$5.99 Taxes not included

ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE GUIDED BY NATURE



The outfitters, members of Aventure Écotourisme Québec, in collaboration with the Sépaq, offer you several stays and guided activities specially conceived to have you discover exceptional natural spaces.

AEQ groups together more than one hundred producers in adventure tourism and in ecotourism that join forces to offer you high-quality products.

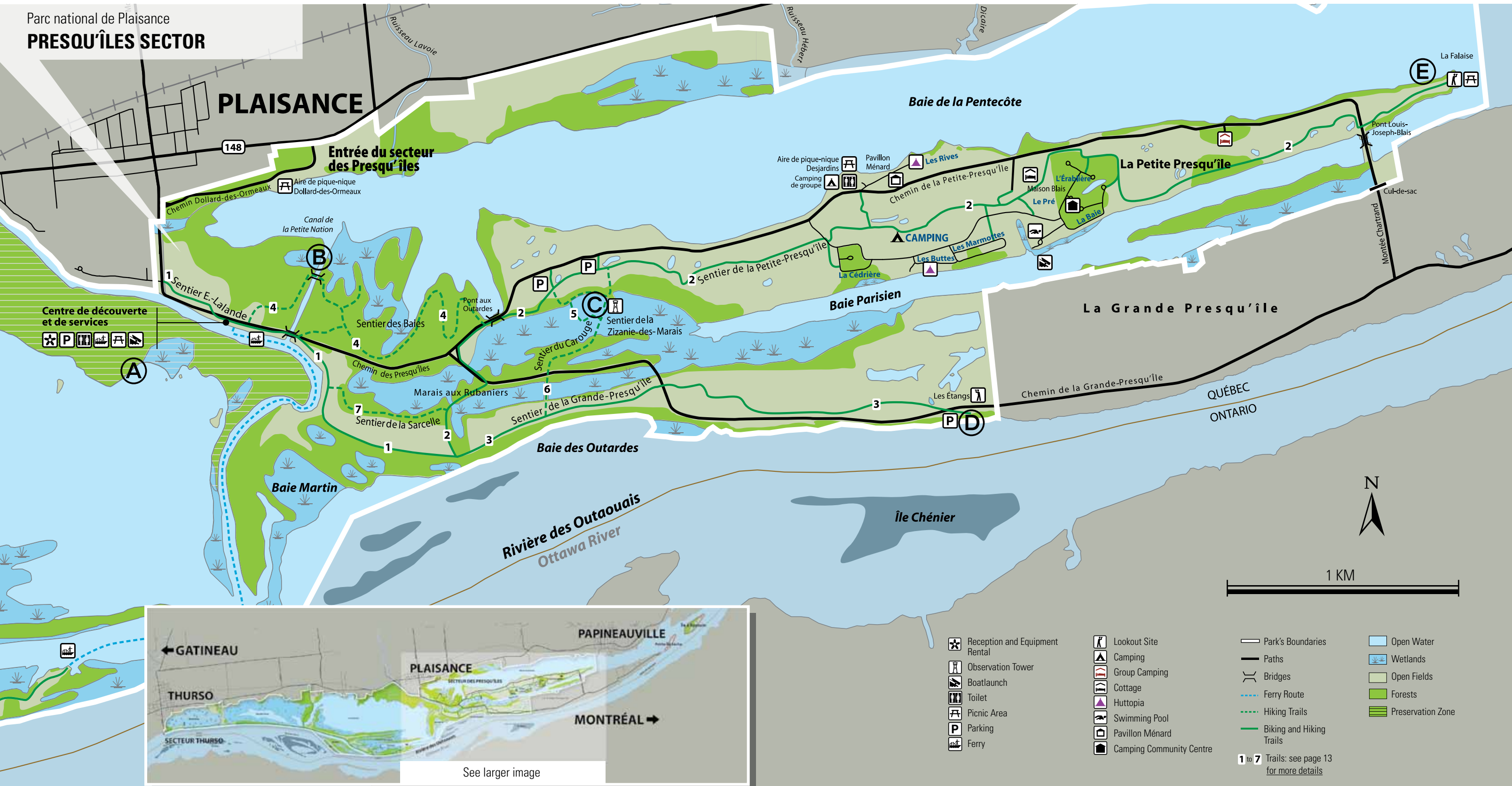
Consult the Association's website for planning your guided activities in Sépaq's national parks.



www.quebecadventure.ca

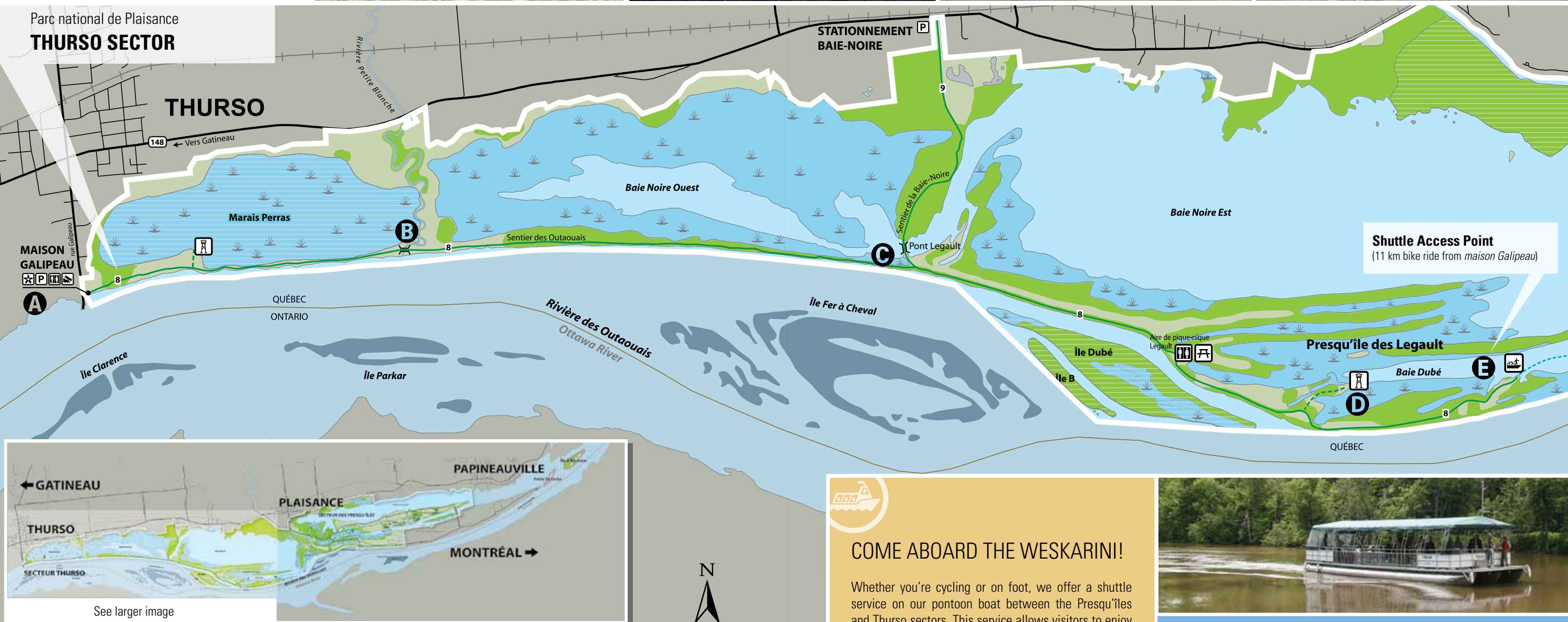


Parc national de Plaisance
PRESQUÎLES SECTOR



See larger image

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reception and Equipment Rental Observation Tower Boatlaunch Toilet Picnic Area Parking Ferry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lookout Site Camping Group Camping Cottage Huttopia Swimming Pool Pavillon Ménard Camping Community Centre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park's Boundaries Paths Bridges Ferry Route Hiking Trails Biking and Hiking Trails Open Water Wetlands Open Fields Forests Preservation Zone |
|---|---|---|
- 1 to 7 Trails: see page 13 for more details



COME ABOARD THE WESKARINI!!

Whether you're cycling or on foot, we offer a shuttle service on our pontoon boat between the Presqu'îles and Thurso sectors. This service allows visitors to enjoy other trails and other parts of the Park.

The crossing lasts 25 minutes.
 Dates: Every afternoon from June 23 to August 26.
 On weekends from May 19 to June 17, and from September 1 to October 8.

Guided cruises are also available to allow you to discover the Park's flora, fauna and history. For further information, go to pages 4 and 5 for descriptions and schedules.



SCHEDULED DEPARTURES
 Presqu'îles Sector, departure from the Discovery and Service Centre
Noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.
 Thurso Sector, departure from Dubé Bay, an 11 km bike ride from the maison Galipeau
12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

PRICES
 (Taxes not included)

One way	
Adult:	\$7.83
Child:	\$6.09
Family:	\$20.87

Return	
Adult:	\$10.44
Child:	\$7.83
Family:	\$27.83

It is necessary to reserve at these two sectors' welcome areas. Space is limited. We look forward to seeing you!



NEED WOOD AND ICE?

Every day at the community centre, you will find bags of wood and ice to make your stay a more pleasant one. Verify the schedule posted at the discovery centre and at the comfort station closer to your camping site. The schedule is also posted on your entry permit (invoice).

DISCOVERY AND SERVICE CENTRE SCHEDULE:

April 27 to June 14 and September 3 to October 8

Sunday to Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

June 15 to September 2
From 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

POOL SCHEDULE

From June 23 to August 26 and on the weekend of September 1

10 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

PRICES OF ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

(Taxes not included)

ACCOMODATION		PRICES
Campsite – two services (water/electricity)	○	\$36.50
Campsite – one service (water)	●	\$31.25
Campsite – without services	●	\$27.75
Ready-to-Camp (tent-trailer)	▲	\$101/night
Ready-to-Camp (Huttopia)	▲	\$113/night
Yurt 4 person	🏠	\$129/night
Maison Blais (cottage)	🏠	\$239/night

STARTING MAY 19 (Bicycles : as of April 27)

EQUIPMENT RENTALS*	1 HOUR	4 HOURS	ALL DAY
Rowboat	\$12.25	\$24.50	\$35.00
Canoe	\$14.75	\$29.25	\$41.75
Solo recreational kayak	\$13.25	\$26.25	\$37.50
Tandem recreational kayak	\$16.00	\$31.75	\$45.25
Solo sea kayak	\$16.00	\$31.75	\$45.25
Tandem sea kayak	\$20.50	\$41.00	\$58.50
Child's bicycle	\$5.75	\$11.25	\$16.00
Adult bicycle	\$11.50	\$23.00	\$33.00
Binoculars	-	\$11.75	\$16.50

*A piece of I.D. is required to rent equipment.

SWIMMING (Free to clients staying overnight, upon presentation of an overnight access pass.)	ADULT	CHILD
	\$5.87	\$2.94



A Parcs Québec's exclusive!

Discover the **Huttopia tent**, a simple and comfortable way to discover the joys of camping without all the lugging.

Each unit includes:

- two big beds
- supplementary heating and lighting
- a propane-operated warming tray and a mini-fridge
- everything you need to prepare meals

More than 250 Huttopia tents available in 15 of Québec's national parks.

NEW

LOW SEASON ⁽¹⁾
\$97 /night

HIGH SEASON ⁽²⁾
\$113 /night

Online reservation: www.parksquebec.com/huttopia

(1) From Sunday to Thursday until June 21, 2012 and from September 9, 2012
(2) Fridays, Saturdays, holidays and every day from June 22, 2012 to September 8, 2012
Taxes and entrance fee not included

Local Partners



RESTAURANTS

Casse-Croûte & Crèmerie PATALOU
Route 148, Plaisance, QC
Propriétaires : Francine & Marcel
Tél (819) 427-5884

Propriétaire : Linda Racicot
207, rue Principale, Plaisance (Québec)
Pour réservation :
(819) 427-6620 ou (819) 427-8581
Vin disponible à l'achat
d'un repas pour emporter

CONVENIENCE STORES, SERVICES

GARAGE Raymond Laliberté
À VOTRE SERVICE depuis 1976
Eric Lauzon - Edith Chalut Propriétaires
(819) 427-5739
51, St-Ildore Plaisance, (Québec) JOV 1S0

MARCHÉ M. MARTIN
73, rue Papineau Plaisance
819-427-6935
NOUS LIVRONS

GIANT TIGER
Tora Papineauville Limitée
144, rue Papineau
TIGRE GÉANT
Papineauville, Québec
JOV 1R0

OTHER

Services sanitaires
RICHARD LANTHIER (819) 983-2830
Location de bacs à déchets de toute grandeur
25, rue Val Quesnel St-André-Avellin (Québec) JOV 1W0

BRANDSOURCE
AMEUBLEMENT
Desrochers
Des gens de cœur et de passion depuis 40 ans à votre service!
229, rue Principale Plaisance, Qc JOV 1S0
T 819 427-5111
F 819 427-8162
www.brandsource.ca

NEW HOLLAND
AGRICULTURE
Marcel Carrière GÉRANT
TÉL. : 819-427-5476
FAX : 819-427-8352
SANS FRAIS : 1-866-440-5476
fermepapineau@videotron.ca
216, RUE PRINCIPALE PLAISANCE (QUÉBEC) JOV 1S0



MUNICIPALITIES

Thurso
The municipality is proud to participate in the development of the greeting centre for the new Thurso Sector.
161, Galipeau, Thurso, Qué. JOX 3B0 | (819) 985-2701 | www.ville.turso.qc.ca

Plaisance
Our municipality is pleased to contribute to the success of Parc national de Plaisance.
274, rue Desjardins, Plaisance, Qué. JOV 1S0 | (819) 427-5363 | www.ville.plaisance.qc.ca



USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

- CLSC St-André-Avellin (walk-in emergency services) (health and social services): 819 983-7341
- Fire Department: 310-4141
- Ambulance: 911
- Sûreté du Québec (Papineauville) (Quebec Provincial Police): 819 427-6269
- Poison Centre: 1 800 463-5060
- Info-Santé : 811

GENERAL INFORMATION

Parc national de Plaisance
1001 des Presqu'îles Road
Plaisance, Québec JOV 1S0
Administration: 819 427-5350
Information: 819 427-5334
Reservations: 1 800 665-6527
Email: parc.plaisance@sepaq.com
Website: www.parcquebec.com

Writer: J.-F. Houle
Contributors: J.-L. Lussier, M. Bois
Photos : M. Dupuis, J.-F. Houle, J.-M. Vallières, M. Bois, S. Bentz, J.-F. Bergeron, J.-P. Huard, M. Côté-Bédard
Graphic design: alterego₂

Legal Deposit : 2012
Library and Archives Canada

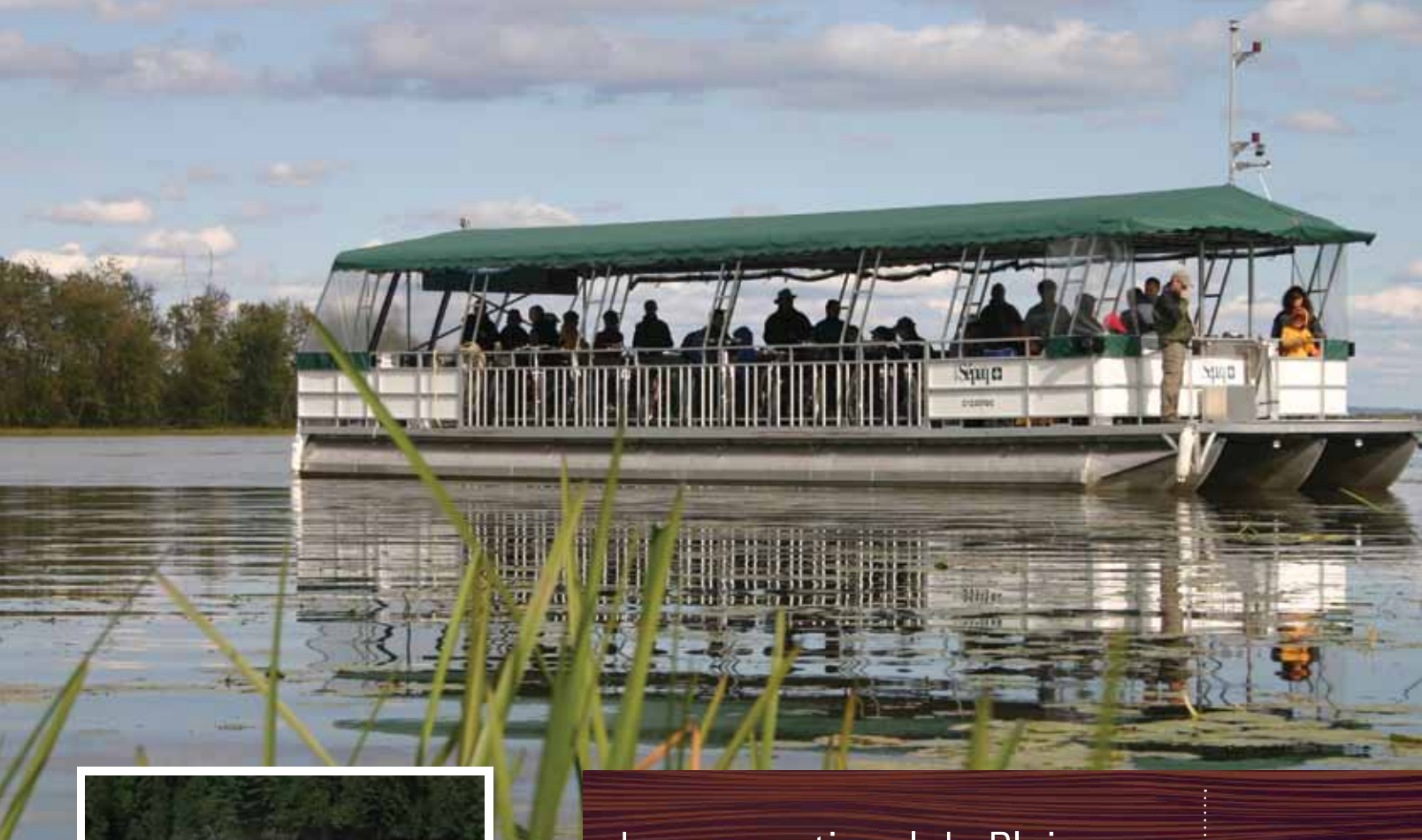
ISSN 1929-0802



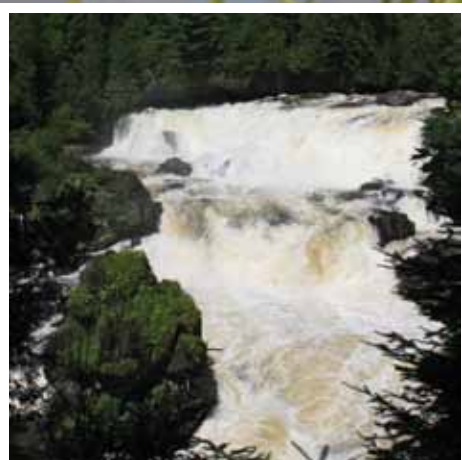
This document was printed on 100% recycled paper made in Québec, containing 100% post-consumption fibres and produced without using elementary chlorine. The inks used for this production contain vegetable oils.

* ANSWERS TO THE CROSSWORD ON P. 12

1. Goose 2. Wetlands 3. Papineau 4. Groundhog 5. Thurso 6. Weskarini 7. Turtle 8. Ottawa 9. Hackberry



Le parc national de Plaisance *Navettes et croisières*



TREAT YOURSELF TO THE WESKARINI!

Animated cruises by our naturalist park wardens (duration: 1:30)

Plaisance falls cruise

This cruise includes a stop at the Plaisance Falls mill.

Nature cruise

This evening cruise offers the opportunity to enjoy wonderful sunsets over the Ottawa River.

Shuttle services for cyclists

Allows connections between the Presqu'îles and Thurso trails.

Also, it is possible to book the Weskarini exclusively!