

Traduction - Version originale en français

Parc national des Grands-Jardins

Protected area. Enriching nature experiences.



Experiencing the Great North is truly within reach!
With its majestic mountains, lakes teeming with fish
and spectacular hiking trails, this park is a genuine
haven of peacefulness.

 **Sépaq**
human nature

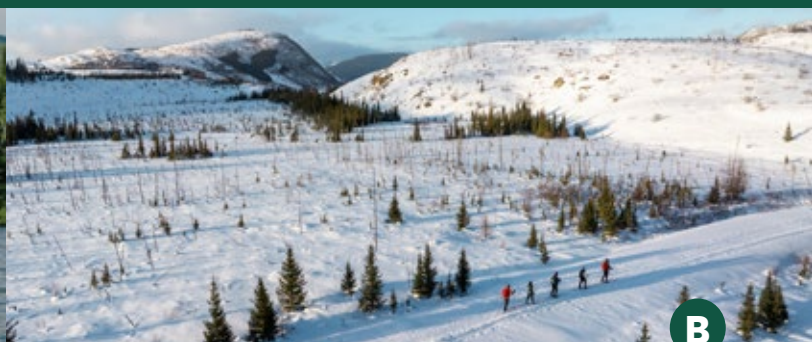
Our Team's Favorites



A

Waterways

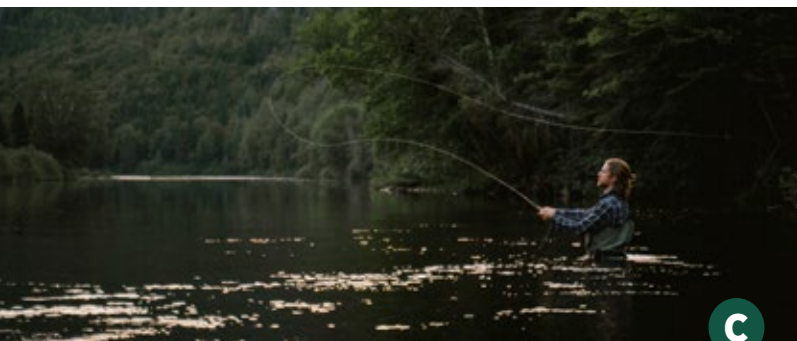
Discover our Waterways, meandering down the lakes and rivers in the Arthabaska sector! Paddle along with your family, in canoes or kayaks, admiring the surrounding wilderness. Or try a singular paddleboard experience down calm winding waterways brimming with marine life!



B

Winter Wonderland

Escape to a pristine snow-covered universe where traces of past wildfires grace the backcountry's bare mountaintops. Almost 25 kilometres of maintained trails beckon visitors into the Laurentian Shield plateau, to discover the true essence of Grands-Jardins National Park. Explore breathtaking scenery – on skis or snowshoes.



C

Fishing Differently

Wade fishing in a river is savouring the peacefulness of the boreal forest between valleys and wilderness landscapes, as the cool clear water slips by. Every time you cast is a privileged moment when nature reveals itself in all its splendour.



D

Autumn in Les Grands-Jardins

Come fall, the birch, aspen and tamarak explode into a symphony of gold. In the taiga, shades of purple mingle in with its groundcover of delicate lichens. An awesome show that is sure to impress both tall and small who set out on a hike, in les Grands-Jardins!



E

Le Brûlé Trail

The Brûlé offers a wonderful immersion into a boreal landscape fashioned by the 1991 wildfires. Deep silence, stunning viewpoints and traces of nature's slow renaissance are evident all along the way. Every step is an invitation to discover a wilderness territory charged with history, emotion and hope. A hike celebrating the tranquil force of an ever-changing milieu.



F

Head in the Stars

In the Arthabaska sector, admire one of the region's purest night skies. Far from all light sources, feel amazed by the Milky Way, myriad constellations and absolute silence. Accompanied by a park naturalist guide, join an immersive night experience combining contemplation, astronomy and unforgettable deep-nature moments.



PCF



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Discover our Trails

Before you set out, for your safety please make sure you are properly geared up: suitable footwear, warm clothing and a good supply of drinking water.

		LENGTH AND DURATION*		LEVEL/ HEIGHT*	OPEN DATES***	DEPARTURE POINT
	Le Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés – At an altitude of 981m, this emblematic summit offers you a spectacular view of the Charlevoix crater. Along the way, keep an eye out: the summit is home to rare and fragile Arctic-alpine vegetation. For conservation’s sake, follow the marked trail and avoid stepping beyond trail’s edge.	8.6 km round-trip	4 h	D 480 m	Year round	Mont-du-Lac- des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	Le Pioui – After a sustained climb on this technical trail, hike along its upper ridges and let yourself be enveloped in this ascent’s wilder side. Along the summits, fragile Arctic-alpine vegetation embellishes your surroundings so for its protection, thank you for staying on-trail. Follow the suggested direction to spare your knees and, to extend the adventure, why not add a 1.2 km hike to the top of Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés?	10.2 km loop	5 h	D 480 m	Year round	
  	La Chouenne – This trail is a must – it summits at an easy 730m. From the start of your ascent, admire beautiful scenery from la Passe des Monts, and striking summit panoramas too.	4.6 km round-trip	2 h	I 230 m	Year round	
  	Le Gros-Pin – Walk amid majestic trees, soothed by the rippling poplars, woodpeckers’ cries and a babbling brook. All along the way, interpretive panels reveal this sector’s habitats and fauna. Easily accessible and rich in discoveries, it’s yours to explore year-round!	2.1 km loop	45 min	E 23 m	Year round	Pied-des-Monts Sector (route 381, km 19)
	Le Brûlé – Looking for an authentic experience at the heart of the park? Challenge yourself on this naturally developed trail that takes you up to the Arthabaska sector hilltops, where contrasts created by the 1991 wildfires can be appreciated.	9.8 km loop	3.5 h	I 164 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
 	Le Boréal – Set out to discover one of the park’s oldest boreal forests. Walk amid typical Grands-Jardins vegetation and enjoy a short incursion into a regenerating wilderness sector that has been reestablishing itself since the 1991 wildfires.	3.4 km round-trip	1 h	E 2 m	Mid-May to mid-October	
 	La Pinède – In a single trail, get to see a boreal forest, a gray pine forest and many interesting views on Ice Age lakes.	9.5 km loop	2.5 h	E 15 m	Mid-May to mid-October	
 	Le Pommereau – This trail hugs the Lac Soucoupe shoreline all the way to Camping La Roche campground.	11.6 km to 15 km round-trip	3 h to 4 h	I 25 m	Mid-May to mid-October	
 	De la Tour – Also known as the Poetry Path, this easy-to-access trail offers the perfect setting for contemplation. Also enjoy its unique interpretive panels where nature and art stroll hand in hand.	1.4 km round-trip	40 min	E 10 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Camping, near campsite 21
 	La Chute – Follow Rivière Malbaie amid landscapes brimming with taiga, all the way to Chute Hume-Blake waterfall, a natural jewel that lends its name to the trail.	6.6 km round-trip	2h	E 20 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Route 60, km 20
 	Les Pionniers – Walk through a forest carpeted in moss and as you proceed, discover the regrowth underway in the aftermath of the 1999 wildfires. Amid young emerging glades and with an unparalleled view of Lac Pointu, this trail reveals the astounding resilience of les Grands-Jardins’ wilderness kingdom.	4.8 km round-trip	1.5 h	E 73 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Étang-Malbaie Camping (route 381, km 34,5)

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

** Directions to Arthabaska Discovery and Service Centre: take the Thomas-Fortin park entrance (km 31, rte 381), and follow the paved road for 8.5 km.

*** Note that some trails may be closed temporarily during the thaw period.

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



Hiking



Family Experience



Dog allowed sepaq.com/animaux



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 : 1995-2001. Cartes topographiques à l'échelle de 1/20 000. Source des données utilisées : Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts © Gouvernement du Québec.

Bridge closed

0 2 4 6 km

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Registration centre / Information | Shower | Road network |
| Picnic area | Drinking water | Nautical route |
| Self registration post | Not drinking water | Trail |
| Charging station | Rustic accommodation | Fishing and portage trail |
| Shop | Equipment rental | Dogs allowed location |
| Evisceration hut | Location de moteur | Length of trail sections |
| Semi-serviced camping | Wade fishing | Krr reference point |
| Rustic camping | Lookout | National park boundary |
| Cabin | Fishing-camping | Wildlife reserve boundary |
| Waste and recycling | Parking lot | |
| Automated external defibrillator | Toilet | |
| Landing | Pit toilet | |
| Convenience store | First aid kit | |
| | Recreational vehicle dumping station | |
| | Wifi | |

Time for Discovery

In Full Bloom

Between May and July, nature is in full bloom across the territory!

The Park's trout lilies, bunchberries, lady's slippers, Labrador tea, kalmia or sheep laurel and yellow clintonia are sure to brighten your hikes!



Bulletin de conservation

Dans
notre
nature



Discover our latest achievements and initiatives in conservation and education in our *Bulletin* (available in French only).



A Sector to (Re)Discover

Ideally located by the park entrance, this sector is home to Camping Le Pied-des-Monts campground, offering campsites with or without services, as well as a ready-to-camp option. Come evening, don't miss interesting discussions hosted by our park naturalist: these moments of exchange among true nature enthusiasts are perfect for finding out more about the territory's flora and fauna – and its history too.

**Details?
Consult our Discovery
Activities Program.**

NEW THIS YEAR:

Set out to explore Sentier du Gros-Pin educational trail designed by our park team. It offers an immersive experience by way of five themed stops. Explore wetlands fashioned by beavers, observe stumps where pileated woodpeckers build their nests, discover the stream and its aquatic life including the habitat of speckled trout, understand the importance of decomposing wood for insects and roam the glades, home to small mammals. Recently redeveloped for easier access, this trail is an invitation to discover and join our conservation efforts in sensitive natural habitats.



The Taiga, an Islet of the Great North

Explore, on a guided hike with a naturalist park ranger, the unique universe of the Grands-Jardins taiga: **its carpets of lichens, gnarly black spruce and rocky soil typical of the park's high plateaux.** This boreal ecosystem, renowned for its endless resilience, is indispensable to woodland caribou.

Emblematic of our territory, the situation of the caribou herd is critical. Facing a short-term high risk of extinction, Québec's Ministry of the Environment implemented a specific conservation program to ensure its protection. In 2022, all the individuals in the herd were placed in an enclosure to guarantee their survival and favour their reestablishment. While extreme, this temporary measure will hopefully help the herd escape extinction. Several births have been recorded since its inception, a favourable sign for the future of Charlevoix's woodland caribou.



Ruffed Grouse

Did you know the ruffed grouse is Grands-Jardins National Park's bird emblem? This non-migratory bird is typical of the boreal forest. In winter, pectinations or scales grow around its feet, helping it tread through the snow more easily.

Multisensory Hike

Discover Sentier de la Tour on a unique multisensory hike, accompanied by a park naturalist guide. Let yourself be filled with the sounds, smells and colours that inspired countless masterpieces! This immersive experience lets you feel all the magic of scenery that has long fascinated the region's artists, as you deepen your connection with nature.



Immerse yourself in the heart of an extraordinary natural world, where humans and animals coexist.

Family Experience

Yippee, it's absolutely free!

For kids 17 years of age and under, access, accommodations, and certain equipment loans are free of charge.

The offer varies from one establishment to another.



IN THE WILD, YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Outdoor activities can involve certain risks.

Always be sure to have the skills and abilities required for the activity you choose. It is very important to find out about the risks involved in the activity, to know and respect your own limits and to use appropriate equipment. Preparing yourself adequately is the first step in the safe and enjoyable practice of your favourite activities.

For more information, visit our website at sepaq.com/security

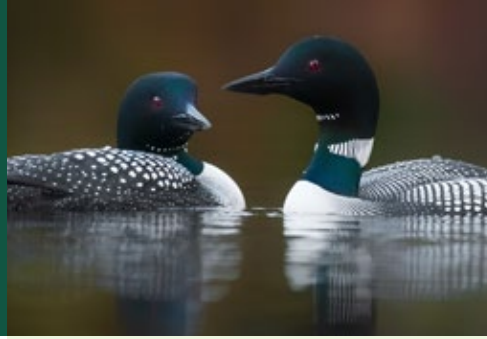
DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

Consult the program to enrich your visit. (in French only)

You will find entertaining activities to explore the park from every angle.



Conserve for Tomorrow



Protecting Our Summits

Set out to discover Monts du Lac-des-Cygnets and Lac-du-Pioui summits while actively helping protect them. Every step matters in terms of preserving the rich diversity and fragility of these unique habitats:

- Always stay on marked trails.
- Observe the fauna without disturbing it.
- Be mindful of not trampling fragile Arctic-alpine plants – our park's most precious gems.

Your commitment enables these exceptional landscapes **to stay accessible, vibrant and untouched** for generations to come.

Coexisting with Wildlife

Adopting the right reflexes favours respectful, sustainable cohabitation with local fauna, notably these three species that live in our national park:

- **Red Squirrels:** Carefully store away your food and garbage. A humanfed squirrel loses its ability to care for itself and can make it sick.
- **Common Loons:** Keep your distance when out on the water and avoid creating a disruption near their nests. Their tranquillity is essential to successful reproduction.
- **Porcupines:** Observe them from afar even if they appear friendly.

Letting each species feed itself naturally and limiting the impact of our presence safeguards their health and helps preserve the wilderness.

Responsible Fishing

Our park is home to remarkable freshwater fauna! To preserve the Arctic char population, fishing this species is prohibited across the park's entire territory. A park ranger is at the Arthabaska Visitors Centre every day, gladly answering all your questions and helping you differentiate between Arctic char and brook trout.

It's your call! We're counting on you to help us with our conservation mission, by following these simple yet vital guidelines:

- Avoid releasing fish when the water is too warm, or above 20°C, to boost its chance of survival.
- Remember to record every fish you've caught and complete your Catch Report Form.

Do carefully clean the exterior of your boat, pre-launch. Your vigilance plays a huge role in preventing the introduction of undesirable species into our bodies of water.

5 ground rules to follow in nature

Our national parks

get millions of visits each year. Harmful behaviors can cause permanent damage to the environment and hinder other visitors' experience. Let's do our part to protect nature so we can all enjoy it for years to come.



Stay on trails and in designated visitor areas

Don't step off the trails or walk in the undergrowth to avoid trampling plants and compacting the soil.



Do not gather dead wood

Help preserve the undergrowth by leaving dead wood in place. It serves as shelter for wildlife and enriches the soil after decomposing.



Do not feed wildlife

Allow animals to feed themselves so they can follow their natural instincts. Keep all foods out of their reach.



Keep your distance when observing animals

Repeated disturbances can alter their behavior and affect their ability to find food, mate, and communicate with each other.



Be mindful of the peace and quiet and adhere to curfews

Noise frightens wildlife, and people visit national parks to enjoy nature. Please follow curfews and refrain from making noise at all times.

