

SÉPAQ

PARC NATIONAL DES GRANDS-JARDINS

Protected area. Enriching nature experiences.

Discover a land of legendary adventures, a protected area with a Nordic character.

Admire the high peaks, camp in the hollow of a glacial valley, fish in the many cold water lakes or simply remain silent in front of the endless horizons of the taiga, fragile and rare at our latitude.

TEAM PICKS



A

Meet-up with waves & water

Explore the Lake Arthabaska–Wabano Dam circuit by canoe, kayak or paddleboard! The 4-hr return trip introduces you to several aquatic habitats, home to rich and diverse flora and fauna. To assist you is our handy self-guided tour map, available at the Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre.



B

In winter, welcome to relais pointu!

An unending horizon of whiteness. This is precisely what the Grands-Jardins trail network offers in winter. Located mid-way through Piste 2, the Pointu hut is perfect for tackling nature with a dash of comfort. Boldy explore the great white north and live an unforgettable winter adventure!



C

Both feet in the aftermath of a wildfire

This 10.2 km trail that meanders through a former wildfire site is perfect to appreciate the true nature of Grands-Jardins National Park. A hike with unparalleled lake and mountain views, and an incursion into the boreal forest. Meet up with peace and quiet, and sweet nature.



D

Gone fishing for the day

Yum! Trout native to the boreal forest waterways! To the great pleasure of amateurs, several lakes and sections of river are open to anglers with a day pass, all summer long. Solo or with your family, set aside some time and come experience the peacefulness of the park.



E

Via ferrata: a skytop view!

Feel like surpassing yourself, and discovering the park differently? Take your courage in both hands! Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés' Via Ferrata proposes a long and a shorter circuit, with spellbinding views of Gros-Bras valley. A memorable experience in a small group, with a professional guide.













F

Taiga adventure: the great north, underfoot

Plunge into the taiga's Nordic universe, an ecosystem usually found between the 52nd and 55th parallels. Accessible only when accompanied by a naturalist park warden, this secret trail will open your eyes to the fascinating world of lichens, and other natural phenomena that have fashioned Grands-Jardins National Park. Reservations required.

DISCOVER OUR TRAILS

		LENGTH AND DURATION*		DIFFICULTY/ HEIGHT DIFFERENCE	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 hrs	D 480 m	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 hrs	I 250 m	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	Le Pioui (rustique) – After a sustained ascent, the hike on the ridges will dazzle you. Admire the scenery, then spot the small bog and arctic-alpine vegetation that colonizes the summit. Take care of your knees: follow the route in the direction suggested on the map!	10.4 km loop	5 hrs	D 480 m	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 m	Year round	Pied-des-Monts sector (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.	3.4 km round-trip	1 h 30	E 2 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	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 h 30	E 15 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	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.	11.6 km round-trip	3 hrs	I 25 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	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 hrs	E 20 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Route 60, km 20
	Les Pionniers – As well as a view of Lac Pointu, your hike takes you out to discover sectors blanketed in moss, and a forest in regeneration after the 1999 wildfire. Perfect for embracing the park's very essence.	4.4 km round-trip	2 hrs	E 20 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Étang-Malbaie campground (route 381, km 34,5)
	De La Tour – The trail offers a short walk to a nice lookout point on the shores of Lake Arthabaska. The shelter installed there evokes the presence of the fire towers that once lined the area.	1.4 km round-trip	40 min.	E 10 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	Le Brûlé (rustique) – A trail to discover! This gentle climb to the top of the hills of the Arthabaska sector will allow you to appreciate the contrasts left by the forest fires in the park.	10.2 km loop	4 hrs 30	I 164 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**



Hiking



Family Experience



Dogs allowed
sepaq.com/animaux

E : Easy I : Intermediate D : Difficult

*The duration and the degree of difficulty indicated are indicative and refer to the summer season. Note that some trails may be closed temporarily during the thaw period.

** 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.

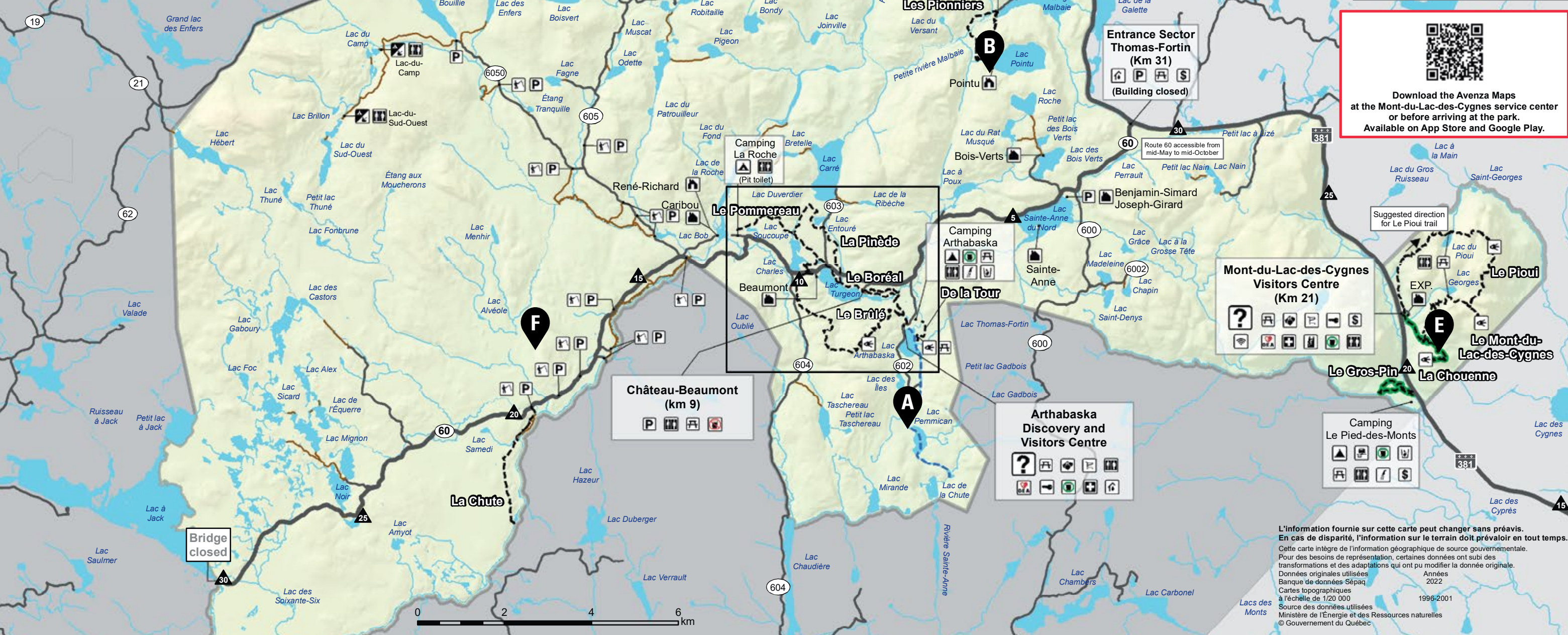


	Registration centre / Information		Fishing-camping
	Picnic area		Parking lot
	Self registration post		Toilet / Pit toilet
	Shop		Via ferrata
	Evisceration hut		Recreational vehicle dumping station
	Semi-serviced camping		Wifi
	Rustic camping		Road network
	Cabin		Nautical route
	Waste and recycling	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

WINTER TRAIL MAP AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



Download the Avenza Maps at the Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnes service center or before arriving at the park. Available on App Store and Google Play.



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

Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre

Château-Beaumont (km 9)

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 Années 2022 Cartes topographiques à l'échelle de 1/20 000 1996-2001 Source des données utilisées Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles © Gouvernement du Québec

RENDEZVOUS WITH DISCOVERY



Secrets of dusk by kayak

At dusk, life awakens. Accompanied by a park warden, escape from your daily life and paddle in an environment rich in wildlife habitats and exceptional landscapes. Sheltered from the light pollution of big cities, you can watch nature bustle like you've never seen it before! Guaranteed wonder.

A trail with poetic airs

New this summer! Art and poetry triumphant in nature, in Sentier de la Tour! Come admire the artwork of high-school students from Centre éducatif Saint-Aubin, in Baie-Saint-Paul, and two professional Charlevoix artists. Through their work, experience the transformation process of this ever-changing, singular environment.



Explore the Grands-Jardins in winter! Dazzlingly white, emerging from the far reaches of the North, the territory stretches as far as the eye can see over desert moors and endless mountains.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL



**Do you want to explore
the park in a different way?**

Consult the list and prices
of equipment available for rent.

Learn at any moment

At the top of the Mont du Lac-des-Cygnets or near a service centre, stop and share a moment with park wardens and naturalists! Through fun activities or simply by chatting, they will be able to transmit all their knowledge and passion to you.

Family experience Yippee, it's absolutely free!

For young people 17 years
of age and under, access,
accommodations, and
equipment loans are
absolutely free of charge.

The offer varies from one
establishment to another.





Tease the trout

From the shore or in the rowboat, a tasty native trout awaits you in a place with an historic reputation, always frequented by the natives and for more than 135 years by sportsmen from everywhere! Cast your line and pick up! As Mr. John Buchan, former General Governor of Canada, who fished at the Grands-Jardins said: "Fishing is something more than a sport or a profession, it is a way of life, an attitude of the mind."



Campfires tour : a naturalist at the campsite

Taste your marshmallows while learning about the fauna, the stars, the Charlevoix astroblem and the phenomenon of forest fires. This promises to be very interesting! Naturalist park warden tour the campfires to present personalized talks to interested campers. A privileged moment to understand what surrounds you and start your evening at the park!



Fascinating Mushrooms

Some are suspicious of it, others are passionate about it; mushrooms leave no one indifferent! An experienced guide introduces you to the ecology of fungi, teaches you to differentiate the main groups and to recognize the main species. Then, together go in search of it! A foray into the fascinating world of mycology!

Damsels & dragons

Join a trip into the captivating world of water insects! This interpretation activity showcases the impressive life cycle of our dragonflies. By way of discovery, observation and creativity, come dip into the world of a bug specialist. An invitation for both tall and small!



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.



CONSERVATION FOR TOMORROW



Spawning observed from above

Technology never fails to impress! A new airborne tool – the drone – is now part and parcel of our park lake assessment program. It allows us to check access to spawning habitats in streams, locate shallow water areas, and identify vegetation. Its more unusual uses include identifying the areas of a lake with a potential for new spawning grounds, validating their use and even observing the fish!

Drones cannot replace field tours but provide instead a reliable overview of a habitat, in no time at all!



Regrowing old logging roads, one shovelful at a time

Even though the last of logging occurred over 40 years ago in Parc national des Grands-Jardins, the natural regeneration of some of its old roads has proven to be difficult. To accelerate regrowth, man-made enhancement efforts started in 2021. First, a mini excavator loosens the soil to create micro-sites, a.k.a. small mounds and valleys that promote regrowth. Next, trees are planted. While work continues again this summer, its effects will appear in the mid-term, time enough for the young plantation to grow into a forest.



A summit for protection

For several years, installations to protect our summit vegetation have become one with the landscape. Due to an ever-growing interest in the great outdoors, fragile habitats are showing more and more damage due to trampling. Several areas in need of protection were identified by drone, and by our keen-eyed park wardens, in the field. This project will lead to the restoration of already degraded habitats, and protect them well into the future. We will likely enjoy quite an eyeful, in years to come!

Discover what's happening behind the scenes

Stars in your eyes, birds songs in your ears... Dive into the fascinating world of initiatives to protect our natural treasures. (in French only)

sepaq.com/lenversduddecor

OUR NATIONAL PARKS

Protected territories offering a connection to nature, for us and for future generations.

5 good practices to adopt

- Refrain from feeding the animals
- Keep your distance when animal watching
- Stay on the trails
- Don't collect natural elements (plants, dead wood...)
- Keep your right of access on hand at all times

Did you know?

Your access fee is **100% reinvested in the national parks**. By paying your fees, you are helping to protect this magnificent natural environment and the flora and fauna found there. **Thank you for your support!**



PCF



Redaction: Équipe du parc national des Grands-Jardins

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