

Journal

2013 • 2014 | ENGLISH VERSION



PARC NATIONAL
DU BIC



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER



In 1999, the Government of Québec entrusted Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (Sépaq) with the mission of managing, protecting and developing Québec's network of national parks located above the 50th parallel. Overall, there are now 22 national parks across the different regions of Québec. A marine park operated jointly by Parcs Québec (Sépaq) and Parks Canada has been added to these many natural sites of outstanding beauty.

Every day, staff members at the national parks strive to preserve these unmatched natural resources for the enjoyment of visitors from Québec and abroad. Measures are implemented on a daily basis to preserve a legacy of exceptional sites for future generations. Emphasizing the benefits of nature on young people is therefore important, so that the generations to come know how to make the most of Nature's wonders and deal with the protection and conservation challenges to be faced in the future.

In 2013, new premises will open at Parc national du Lac-Témiscouata, the latest addition to the Parcs Québec network. The park was officially established in 2009 to protect a representative sample of natural sites at Monts Notre-Dame. Parc national du Lac-Témiscouata features quality infrastructures in line with national park standards. This protected area is renowned for its exceptional natural attractions and archaeological wealth. I invite you to come and discover the park this summer.

Moreover, a third national park north of the 50th parallel will be created following the Pingualuit and Kuururjuaq projects. Parc national Tursujuq covers 26,000 km² of land, will allow us to achieve the 9% mark of protected areas across Québec. Like the other two northern parks, the management and development of this new territory will be entrusted to the Kativik Regional Government.

Clearly, the range of protected areas is expanding with each passing year. In your vicinity or on the road to your summer holidays, you are sure to find a park to explore. Enjoy a wonderful season of discovery at your national parks!

Yves-François Blanchet
Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks

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.

DISCOVER QUÉBEC'S NATIONAL PARKS





THE MUST-DOS



► KAYAK OUTING

Come feel at one with the estuary

With its islands and lacework of coves and bays, Parc national du Bic is one of the most beautiful destinations for kayakers. Whether or not you are experienced, professional guides will accompany you on your excursion to show you the grandeur of the estuary.



► SUNSETS AT PIC CHAMPLAIN

The estuary as you've never seen it before

Pic Champlain is the highest peak in Parc national du Bic and provides an almost aerial view of the park and the estuary. You can hike up or take the shuttle. Once there, you'll be treated to breathtaking vistas and sunsets of uncontested beauty.



► CHEMIN-DU-NORD AND TEAROOM

The trail of a thousand twists and turns

A wonderful trail for a relaxing walk along the coves and small beaches, and ideal for quiet contemplation of nature. Stop in at the tearoom before continuing your hike to Cap à l'Original or taking one of the trails on Montagne à Michaud.



► A LEGENDARY PARK!

Discovery Activities

Parc national du Bic is steeped in history. Soak up this storied atmosphere by taking in the exhibition of old photographs and attending one of our evening activities: Abaktooe – The Tale of Île au Massacre; Folktales and Legends; or The Bootlegging.



► PARK PATH EXPLORER

A new experience for visitors to the national parks of the Parcs Québec network

The Park Path Explorer is a mobile app that lets you to personalize your visit while learning about the treasures of these magnificent protected areas. Choose one of the available paths that suits your interests and preferences, then head out to explore the beauty of the landscape; the habitats, flora and fauna; and the history of the park.

A LANDSCAPE SCULPTED BY THE SEA

Parc national du Bic was created in 1984 to preserve a representative stretch of the natural coastline on the south shore of the St. Lawrence Estuary. Parc national du Bic is also exceptional for its highly irregular coastline, unusually steep cliffs and its rare and fragile plant life.

The park is located in the Bas-Saint-Laurent region, in the municipalities of Saint-Fabien (west sector) and Rimouski (east sector). The total surface area of the park covers 33,2 km², with close to half being water. The land area covers 18,8 km². The Parc national du Bic is linked to the vast Appalachian Region and is characterized by the presence of outcrops of rocks that run parallel to the river, and that are intersected with old raised beaches. Over the course of time, the combined actions of eroding agents, glaciers and oceans that have succeeded one another have left their mark on Bic's coastline. The alignment of crests composed of sedimentary rocks has resulted in coastline accumulations which have taken the shape of beaches, tombolos, spits and marshes as well as ablations such as escarpments, bays, coves and islands. To this day, the cold and salty waters of the Saint-Lawrence pursue their task of shaping the coastline.



REGULATIONS



To contribute to improving the quality of the park experience, an entry fee was established by the government. You must always carry your receipt or your annual card during your visit.



To preserve the natural riches for future generations, it is prohibited to remove natural elements (animals, plants, dead wood, rocks, etc.).



The flora is sensitive to being trampled. If we multiply the impacts of thousands of visitors, it's easy to understand why it is mandatory to stay on the hiking trails.



Nature exhibits exemplary equilibrium. The animals find everything they need to eat here, and that is why feeding wildlife is prohibited. In this respect, it is also prohibited to leave food or garbage unsupervised. Keep them in your car.



Domestic animals are prohibited in Québec's national parks. But guide dogs and service dogs accompanied by their foster families are admitted. However, these dogs must be easily identifiable, wearing the Mira scarf or harness. Those in charge of the animal must carry the foundation's letter of accreditation.



It's great to enjoy an authentic natural environment that is clean and healthy! Carry out your garbage, leave it in the containers provided, and take home any harmful substances, such as soap, oil, combustibles or pesticides.



For the preservation of the milieu and for your safety, only a certain number of activities are allowed in these parks. Plan your visit and first check the list of activities that are allowed in the parks you plan to visit.

Entry fees valid from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

CATEGORY OR GROUP	DAILY RATES	ANNUAL PARK CARD	ANNUAL NETWORK CARD
Adult (18 or over)	\$6.50	\$32.50	\$58.50
Child (6 to 17)	\$3	\$15	\$27
Child (0 to 5)	Free	Free	Free
1 adult with children 6 to 17	\$9.50	\$47.50	\$85.50
2 adults with children 6 to 17	\$13	\$65	\$117
Organized adults group	\$5.75	N/A	N/A
Organized youth group (aged 6 to 17)	\$2.50	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.

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 sepaq.com.

THE MIGRATION OF BIRDS OF PREY



▶ THE RAOUL-ROY OBSERVATION DECK

An exceptional viewpoint for the observation of birds of prey

The site of the Raoul-Roy belvedere, originally called "la butte à Gérard", is located at the extreme west end of the park, in the Saint-Fabien area. It was in 1981 that the passionate ornithologist Gérard Proulx and Guy Gendron discovered the amazing potential of the area to observe migrating birds of prey.

In the spring, most birds of prey return from the southern part of the Appalachian Mountains and migrate to the north. In so doing, they come upon an obstacle which they are forced to circle: the Gulf of Saint-Lawrence. And so they travel along the estuary, using an aerial passageway until they get to a place that is narrow enough to cross in order to get to their summer place.

When traveling over long distances, birds of prey use the steady updrafts along rocky cliffs such as the Murailles to help them save energy.

We are lucky here in the park that these birds pass through a fairly narrow corridor not far from the Raoul-Roy Observation Deck.. From late March to

early June, birdwatchers and park visitors have the chance to observe thousands of these birds of prey passing over the deck.

The systematic inventory of birds of prey during spring migration

Since 2002, the systematic counting of birds of prey is carried out, from the Raoul-Roy belvedere, as part of a project initiated by the Bas-Saint-Laurent Ornithologist Club, in collaboration with park management.

To date, 19 species of birds of prey have been identified from the observatory. From that number, 16 are regularly reported, of which the Bald Eagle and the Peregrine Falcon.

This project makes it possible for the region of the Lower Saint-Lawrence to be on the map of the major migrating areas in North America and to introduce, every year, the species of birds of prey and their migration to hundreds of park visitors.

Objectives of the inventory process

- ▶ Evaluate, as accurately as possible, the number and diversity of migrating species;
- ▶ Study population tendencies;
- ▶ Acquire information on the endangered species;
- ▶ Learn the conditions that favour migration;
- ▶ Determine whether the observatory is important enough to integrate it in the Canadian Land Bird Monitoring Strategy.

BEST OBSERVATION TIMES : Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

BEST OBSERVATION DATES	
Northern goshawk	April 1 st to May 8
Bald eagle	April 1 st to May 20
Golden eagle	April 5 to May 20
American kestrel	April 15 to May 10
Rough-legged hawk	April 15 to May 20
Red-tailed hawk	April 15 to May 25
Sharp-shinned hawk	April 20 to May 25
Osprey	May 1 st to May 5
Broad-winged hawk	May 1 st to May 20

SPECIES	2010	2011	2012
Golden Eagle	61	46	42
Northern Goshawk	50	32	51
Osprey	23	36	18
Northern Harrier	42	24	37
Red-shouldered Hawk	3	2	2
Red-tailed Hawk	1997	2433	3128
Swainson's Hawk	0	0	1
Rough-legged Hawk	126	100	138
Northern Hawk Owl	0	0	1
American Kestrel	30	58	52
Sharp-shinned Hawk	630	815	751
Cooper's Hawk	2	1	6
Merlin	18	12	10
Gyrfalcon	0	1	1
Peregrine Falcon	14	13	24
Broad-winged Hawk	76	113	33
Bald Eagle	163	122	152
Turkey Vulture	68	104	52
TOTAL	3 303	3912	4 499
Number of species	15	16	18

Source : Regroupement QuébecOiseaux.

SEAL WATCHING, WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

THE BEST

OBSERVATION POINT

FROM HALF-TIDE TO HIGH TIDE : Sector Pointe-aux-Épinettes

AT LOW TIDE : Sector Cap-Caribou – Anse-aux-Bouleaux Ouest

Seal watching is without a doubt one of the park's major attractions. While discovering the park, you will probably get a chance to watch the emblem of the Parc national du Bic the common seal. Quite playful, this small seal is an annual resident of the estuary, easily observable from the shore and very representative of our coastal marine park. Around mid-July, another species that shares the common seal's haul-out sites can also be observed: the grey seal.

The park and the reefs, sheltered a population of approximately 150 common seals and 50 grey seals during the summer season. The seals, who enjoy resting on the rocks found in the park's coves and bays, can mainly be observed in two areas.



COMMON SEAL

- Dog-like head, short nose
- Nostrils close together, almost joining in a V-shape
- Life Expectancy : average 20 years maximum 29 years
- **Male**
Average Weight: 90 kg
Total Average Length: 154 cm
- **Female**
Average Weight: 70 kg
Total Average Length: 143 cm
- **Newborn**
Average Weight: 10 kg
Total Average Length: 76 cm



GREY SEAL

- Horse-like head, long nose
- Nostrils separated, almost shaped like a W
- Life Expectancy : average 30 years maximum 40 years
- **Male**
Average Weight: 180 à 370 kg
Total Average Length: 225 cm
- **Female**
Average Weight: 100 à 210 kg
Total Average Length: 200 cm
- **Newborn**
Average Weight: 17 kg
Total Average Length: 90 cm

DID YOU KNOW...

You should never touch a seal... Even a young one who seems to be in difficulty; it has probably missed the call to get back in the water when the tide was going down.

► **The seals' choice of resting place** depends on the fullness of the tide, since the water level needs to be sufficiently high in order to allow them to access the rocks. During high water levels in a particular area, visitors should be watchful for seals that are swimming because the rocks are submerged.

The months of August and September are particularly interesting to observe the seals. During this period, a great number of seals can be observed lying on the rocks, taking in the sun during shedding, which is an important stage of their life cycle.

► **In order to observe them freely**, it is essential that everyone respect the seal observation area limits. If you get too close to them, the seals feel threatened, leave the resting area and move away. By staying on the beach, you will be allowing other visitors there and those to come, to also have the privilege of observing this fascinating and playful animal.

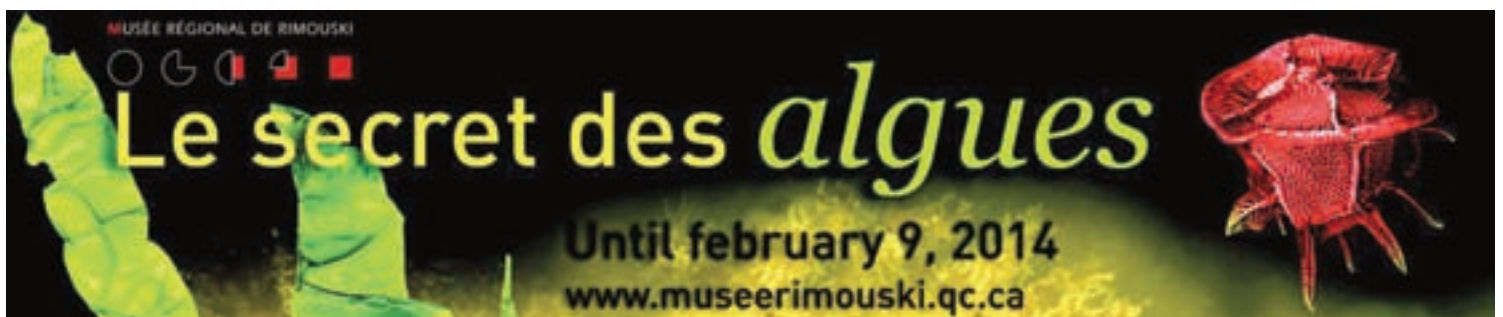
Limite de la zone d'observation des phoques

« Aidez-nous à protéger cet habitat »

► The Common Seal... Not So Common!

This little seal's coastal habits often lead us to mistakenly think that the species has a large number of individuals. Though absent from the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) list of endangered species, due to insufficient data, the estuary's common seal population is actually considered fragile by the interveners in the field.

The Parc national du Bic is also gathering data on the seals. These are sent to the Marine Mammal Observation network (Réseau d'observation des mammifères marins). It is precious information used to document the species' habits and learn more about the state of health of the seal populations.



THE ESTUARY AT THE HEART OF THE SAINT-LAWRENCE



▶ OCEAN OR RIVER?

Did you spend your vacation near the ocean or near a river? Well, not quite one or the other! In fact, the Parc national du Bic and the adjoining region surround the estuary.

The term estuary generally refers to the mouth of a river. The Saint-Lawrence estuary is the contact zone between the river and the gulf therefore, between fresh waters and salt waters. It is subdivided into three very distinct zones.

River estuary It is at Lac Saint-Pierre (near Trois-Rivières) that the tides end and where the river becomes the estuary. The waters of this region are fresh and come from the Great Lakes. This zone, with depths of between 13 and 60 m, ends at l'Île d'Orléans where the strongest tides have been recorded (up to 7 m).

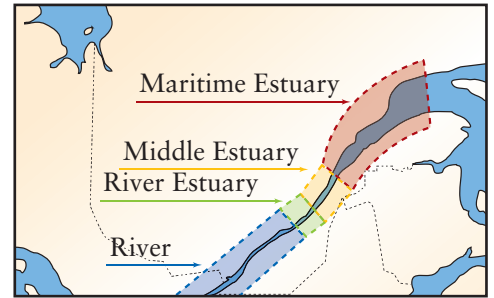
Middle estuary Then, flowing to the mouth of the Saguenay and the western point of l'Île Verte is the middle estuary. It is the actual place where the fresh waters from the river meet the salt waters from the Gulf and the Atlantic Ocean.

Marine estuary At the level of Tadoussac is where the marine estuary and the Laurentian Channel begin. This natural channel, with depth of 320 m, runs along the northern portion of the area, into the gulf. The

currents from the Atlantic Ocean use it to transport dense waters filled with nutritious elements. At Tadoussac, the depth changes rapidly from 340 to less than 40 m, for approximately 20 km. Currents push the ich waters to the surface, which contributes to the proliferation of plankton. The currents then push these waters down to the South shore.

The Parc national du Bic, located in the southern portion of the estuary, is a rich and diversified environment. In summer, the cold water and the plankton, brought in by the currents, are mixed in with the shallowest and warmer waters and the vast beach oftentimes occupied by the salty marshes and the presence of numerous islands. This promotes the presence of a wide variety of fish, mammals and sea birds.

Finally, at the level of Pointe-des-Monts and Cap-Chat, the Saint Lawrence widens and becomes an enclosed sea, linked to the Atlantic Ocean. It is called the **Gulf of Saint Lawrence**.



COASTLINE EXPLO

YOU ARE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 7 AND 12, PASSIONATE ABOUT DISCOVERY AND INTRIGUED BY MARINE ORGANISMS?

IF SO, TRY THE COASTLINE EXPLO ACTIVITY (DETAILS P. 7)



DISCOVER THE FONDS PARCS QUÉBEC COLLECTION AND DO YOUR PART FOR CONSERVATION!

One dollar will be donated to Fonds Parcs Québec for each item purchased.

Donations to Fonds Parcs Québec serve to support the conservation of Québec's national parks. Through the funding of research, knowledge acquisition, and species population monitoring and inventory, vital data are obtained to particularly safeguard plant and animal species.

The collection is available at the Boutique Nature shop.

BOUTIQUE
NATURE
Parcs Québec

FONDS
Parcs Québec
fondsparcsquebec.com

SCHEDULE OF DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

MAY 25 TO JUNE 21ST 2013

		Duration	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Spring	1	Feathers and Down	Open	1:00 to 3:00 p.m.					
		GUIDED HIKE							
	6	Human Occupation Inspired by the Landscape	1 h						10:00 a.m.
	8	Between Winds and Tide	1 h					10:00 a.m.	

JUNE 22ND TO SEPTEMBER 2

Summer		NARRATED SLIDESHOWS								
	4	Feathers and Down	40 min	June 22 to 28, 1:00 p.m.						
	5	The Seal	40 min	June 29 to September 2, 1:00 p.m.						
		OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES								
	1	Feathers and Down	Open	June 22 to 28, 1:50 to 4:00 p.m.						
	2	The Seal	Open	June 29 to September 2, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4 p.m.						
	3	Mountains Born from the Sea	Open	1:15 to 3:15 p.m.	1:15 to 3:15 p.m.			1:15 to 3:15 p.m.	1:15 to 3:15 p.m.	1:15 to 3:15 p.m.
		GUIDED HIKES								
	6	Human Occupation Inspired by the Landscape	1 h	10:00 a.m.		1:30 p.m.			10:00 a.m.	
	7	A Landscape in Constant Evolution	1 h		10:00 a.m.			10:00 a.m.		10:00 a.m.
	8	Between Winds and Tide	1 h				1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.
		THEATRE ACTIVITIES								
	12	A Not-So-Common Seal	30 min	12:15 p.m.					12:15 p.m.	
	13	History is Child's Play	30 min					12:15 p.m.		12:15 p.m.
		CHILDREN ACTIVITIES								
9	Coastline Explo	\$ 2 h			Depend on tides				Depend on tides	
10	Arche-o-Bic	\$ 2 h	Schedule varies. See program announcements online or at the park.							
	GUIDED MINIBUS TOUR									
11	June 22 nd to August 11	\$ 2 h	4:00 p.m. and sunset							
11	August 12 to September 2	\$ 2 h						4:00 p.m. and sunset		
	EVENING ACTIVITIES									
16	Abaktooe - The Tale of Île au Massacre	\$ 1 h						7:30 p.m.		
17	Full moon hike	\$	June 23, 8:30 p.m., July 22, 8:00 pm and August 21, 7:30 p.m.							
	Evening activities with special guests	1 h					7:30 p.m.			
14	Nazaire's Tales and Legends	\$ 1 h 30								
	Organized activities	Varies	Schedule varies. See program announcements online or at the park.							
15	The Bootlegging Hike	\$ 2 h								

SEPTEMBER 3 TO OCTOBER 14

Fall	2	Observation : The Seal	Open	1:00 to 2:30 p.m.					
		GUIDED HIKE							
	6	Human Occupation Inspired by the Landscape	1 h						10:00 a.m.
	8	Between Winds and Tide	1 h					10:00 a.m.	



OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES

1 Feathers and Down

A park warden-naturalist awaits you with information, telescopes and binoculars so that you can observe the eiders and other species of seabirds that nest in the estuary.
LOCATION: Pointe aux Eiders (Chemin-du-Nord)

2 The Seal

A park warden-naturalist awaits you with information, telescopes and binoculars so that you can learn how to tell the difference between the grey seal and the common seal and spy on the park's stars as they bask on the rocks.
LOCATION: Varies according to the tides

3 Mountains Born From the Sea

On the park's highest peak, come and learn about the geological events that have carved this landscape that we have "inherited from the sea".
LOCATION: Pic-Champlain Lookout

NARRATED SLIDESHOWS

4 Feathers and Down

5 The Seal

A narrated slideshow presented by a park warden-naturalist.
LOCATION: Second floor of the Discovery and Visitors Centre at Ferme Rioux.

GUIDED HIKES

6 Human Occupation Inspired by the Landscape

While walking along the coves, you will discover the history of the park from the arrival of the first Amerindians until today.
LOCATION: Ferme Rioux

7 A Landscape in Constant Evolution

From season to season, the forces of erosion display their power, constantly reshaping the coastline. On this hike, you'll walk out on the Île-aux-Amours spit.
LOCATION: Île-aux-Amours Parking Lot

8 Between Winds and Tide

Get to know the littoral zone, where land and sea meet. You will discover the fauna and flora that have adapted to this harsh environment.
LOCATION: Pointe-aux-Épinettes Parking Lot

9 Coastline Explo

 On reservation only

Accompanied by a park warden-naturalist, you will explore the beach, looking for fascinating organisms able to spend half of their life submerged in water and the other half exposed to the air.
LOCATION: Chalet Desjardins
COST: \$11.30 / child

10 Arché-o-Bic

 On reservation only

A fun introduction to archaeology. Come learn about the artefacts that reveal the history of the first peoples to live in the region of Le Bic.
LOCATION: Chalet Desjardins
COST: \$11.30 / child

11 Guided Minibus Tour

Be captivated by the area's stories and legends. Discover the park's most beautiful areas, including Pic Champlain. In the evening, enjoy the golden light of the sunset.
LOCATION: Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest Registration Centre
COST: \$17.74 / adult • \$14.74 / 65 and over
\$13.27 / child 6 to 17
\$48.75 / family

HUMOROUS THEATRICAL ACTIVITY

12 A Not-So-Common Seal

Meet Bicquette, a not-so-common seal. Through word games, jokes and plot twists, learn about the characteristics that distinguish the various seal species.
LOCATION: Outdoor Amphitheatre at Ferme Rioux

13 History is Child's Play

Two students, vacationing at their grandparents' home find their mother's old costume trunk. With the help of these costumes, they will retrace the history of human occupation in the area.
LOCATION: Outdoor Amphitheatre at Ferme Rioux

EVENING ACTIVITIES

 On reservation only

14 Nazaire's Tales and Legends

Experience excitement of these stories and legends that have captured the imagination of the local people, as told by an endearing character.
LOCATION: Chalet Lyman (Chemin-du-Nord)
COST: \$5.87 / adult • \$3.05 / child

15 The Bootlegging

It's 1931, and since 1920, the Prohibition Act in the U.S. has banned the production, transport and sale of alcoholic beverages. Quebec is the only place north of Mexico that is not affected by Prohibition. L'Frid, a charming rogue, has organized a little network of bootleggers... A magical evening not to be missed!
LOCATION: Details when you reserve
COST: \$11.30 / adult • \$5.65 / child

16 Abaktooe - The Tale of Île au Massacre

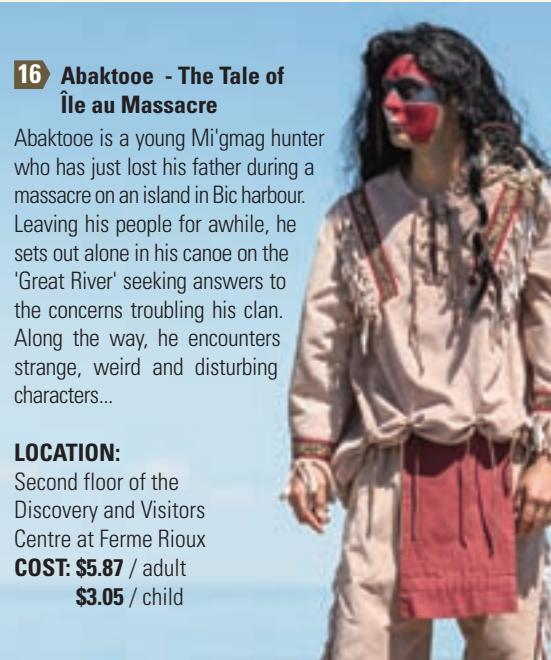
Abaktooe is a young Mi'gmaq hunter who has just lost his father during a massacre on an island in Bic harbour. Leaving his people for awhile, he sets out alone in his canoe on the 'Great River' seeking answers to the concerns troubling his clan. Along the way, he encounters strange, weird and disturbing characters...

LOCATION:

Second floor of the Discovery and Visitors Centre at Ferme Rioux
COST: \$5.87 / adult
\$3.05 / child

17 Full Moon and Mashmallows

Listen to the sounds, seek out the scents and keep your eyes wide open...because as night falls, wildlife behaviour changes.
RENDEZ-VOUS: Ferme Rioux
COST: \$5.87 / adult • \$3.05 / child



Information and reservation
418 736-5035

For activities with fees, the park entry fees must also be paid. Payments are not accepted at the location of the activity. Please register for these activities at the Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest Registration Centre or the Discovery and Visitors Centre at Ferme Rioux.

A PARK WITH A DIFFERENCE



EXPERIENCE OUTDOOR YOGA

Studio de Yoga Metta invites you to a unique yoga class held in the enchanting surroundings of Parc national du Bic. Practising yoga in this peaceful setting will soothe your senses and let you get back in touch with yourself.

LEVEL

No experience required. Open to all, regardless of fitness level. Recommended for ages 14 and up.

Mondays and Thursdays, from July 15 to August 22, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT

Wear comfortable clothing that is warm enough for the conditions. Yoga mats provided.

FEES

\$12.61 plus taxes. Reservations are required and must be made at least 3 hours before the activity, at 418 736-5035.

PROJET ÎLE-TERRE

Artistes Anjuna Langevin and James Darling

September 1 to 30, 2013

VISUAL AND SOUND INSTALLATION
I Chemin-du-Nord Trail

ART VIDEO
I Ferme-Rioux

**Sundays September 15 and
September 29, 2013, at 3 p.m.**

ART & PERFORMANCE
I Chemin-du-Nord Trail

LOOKING BACK

Delve into the history of human occupation within the park's territory, from the time of the First Nations to the present.

Exhibition of old photographs at Maison Feindel. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., starting June 21.



GUIDED SEA KAYAK EXCURSIONS

Paddle in the majestic harbour, Havre du Bic, and you might be surprised by a visit from a curious young seal! Aventures Archipel offers guided one-day or half-day outings that include all the equipment needed to ensure your comfort and safety. Reservations strongly recommended.

SCHEDULE

May 18 to September 30
(times vary depending on the tide)

STARTING POINT : Havre du Bic

TYPE OF EXCURSION

Harbour or Sunset Excursion

Adults: \$52.19 Children 8 to 15: \$39.14

A Day on the St. Lawrence : \$86.98

Recommended for ages 16 and up.

For further information and reservations : 418 736-5232 | Reservation strongly suggested. | Fee exclude taxes

AVENTURE ÉCOTOURISME QUÉBEC AT PARC NATIONAL DU BIC



© Mathieu Dupuis

The outfitters, members of Aventure Écotourisme Québec, in collaboration with the Sépaq, offer you several stays and guided activities especially 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.

Plan your next guided outing with:

AVENTURES ARCHIPEL

See kayaking
418 736-5232 (June to September)
1 800 665-6527

RÉSEAU Sépaq   Aventure
Écotourisme
Québec
www.quebecadventure.ca

PROJET RIOUX

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

FREE TERRITORY

June 21 to September 1, 2013 | projet-rioux.com | Follow us on 

VIRGINIE CHRÉTIEN

Living Art
June 25 – June 30

VALÉRIE SABBAH

In-situ Contemporary Dance
July 2 – July 7

ANJUNA LANGEVIN AND MARIE-SOPHIE PICARD

Performance and Photography
9 juillet - 14 juillet

EMMANUEL GUY

Modern Cabinetry
July 16 – July 21

JOSÉE DESJARDINS AND KRYSTEL MAROIS

Jewelry and Photography
July 23 – July 28

PRAXIS ET POÏÉSIS

Creative Workshops
July 30 – August 4

LOUIS LAGACÉ AND LYSANNE FALLU

Ceramics and Raku
August 6 – August 11

CAROLINE JACQUES

Paintings and Drawings
August 13 – August 18

FERNADE FOREST ET MICHELINE MORISSET

Photo, litterature
August 20 – August 25

MARQUISE LABLANC

Relational Art and Paintings
August 27 – September 1

BOUTIQUE INSOLITE

Like a fabulous curiosity cabinet, this “shop of the unusual” offers original and playful artwork and strange objects with intriguing uses.

**Saturday and Sunday |
11 a.m. – 6 p.m.**





CONCERTS aux ILES du BIC

festival de musique de chambre
12th Season

Let the Music lead you to Bic

August 3 to 11, 2013
www.bicmusique.com

Mini Concerts in La Rose des Thés
Every Sunday 1:30 PM

Talented duos from Rimouski's Conservatory perform at the Chalet Lyman's cosy Tea Room.
Every Sunday from June 23 to July 28, 1:30 PM

Musical picnic at Ferme Rioux
Sunday August 11 at 12:00 PM

Festival concludes with a wonderful open air concert. Bring your lunch and blanket!



These concerts are a collaboration between the Parc national du Bic and Concerts aux Îles du Bic.

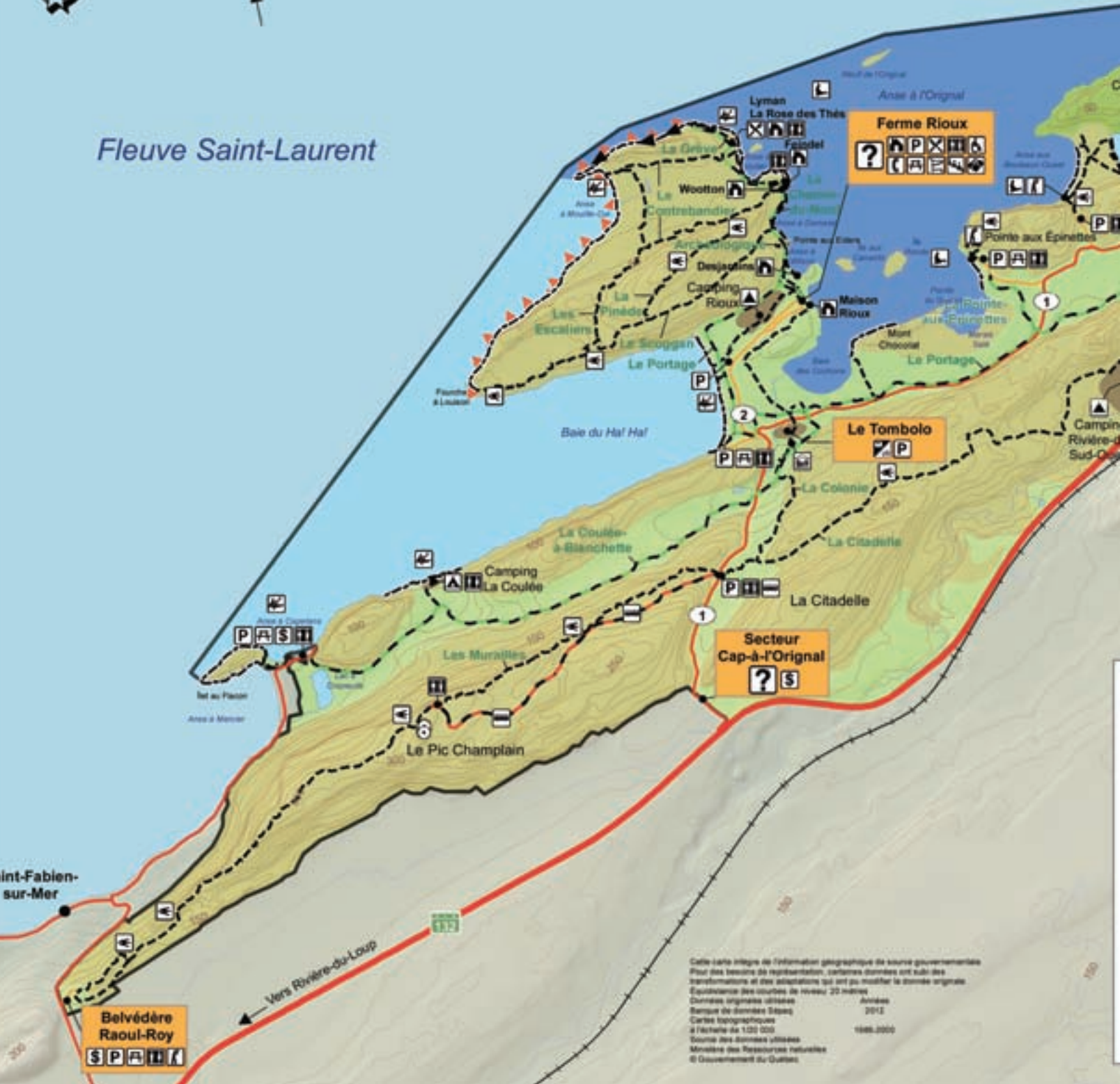




Vers l'île du Bic et l'île Bicoquette



Fleuve Saint-Laurent



RESTAURANT ET BAR



185 CHAMBRES DONT 52 SUITES



PISCINE INTÉRIEURE ET GLISSADE D'EAU



CENTRE DE SANTÉ



Hôtel Rimouski
HÔTEL - SUITES - CENTRE DE CONGRÈS

1 800 463-0755
225, boul. René-Lepage E.

ZONING: COMBINING RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

In an effort to reconcile protection and development of the natural environment with outdoor recreational activities, the territory of the Parc national du Bic has been divided into zones:

Maximum Preservation Zone

This zone represents areas allocated to the preservation of the integrity of the environment. These are extremely fragile environments. No development of any kind is allowed and travelling through, kayaking or staying in this zone is prohibited. Only educational or scientific activities may be authorized.

Ex. : cap Enragé, l'Anse à l'Original.

Preservation Zone

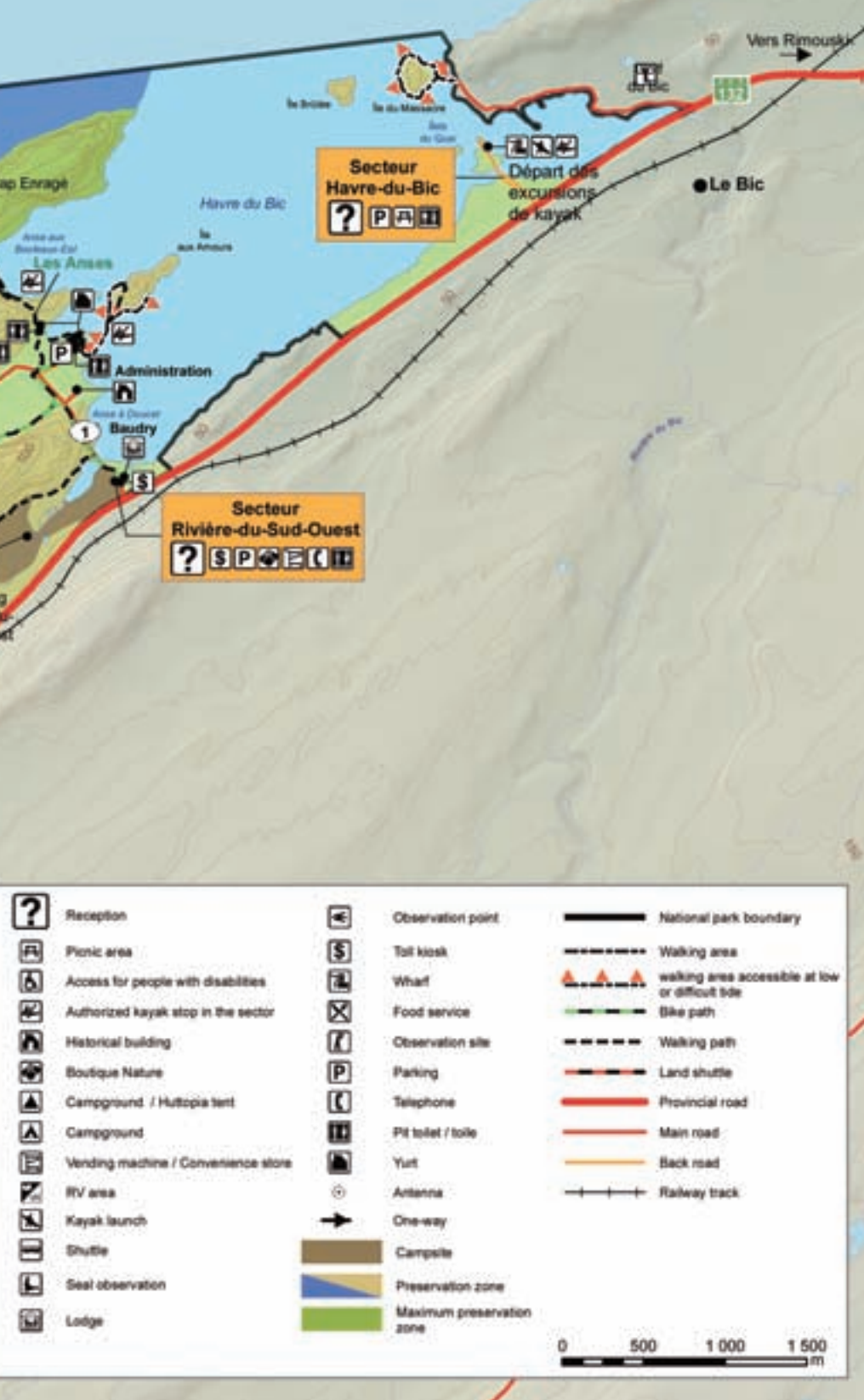
This designation applies to areas of the park that have fragile environments with a poor capacity for self-regeneration. Travelling through this zone is permitted only on the trails created to enable visitors to enter these environments, and to observe and enjoy them. Collecting materials or specimens of any kind is strictly prohibited.

Ex.: Cap à l'Original, Anse à l'Original, Les Murailles, La Citadelle.

Camping Zone

This designation includes the areas where food services, accommodations, visitor services and related activities are located.

Ex.: Rivière du Sud-Ouest Campground and Rioux Campground.



Reford Gardens
A GARDEN DESTINATION

A national historic site, the Jardins de Métis / Reford Gardens are one of North America's premier garden destinations.

Route 132, Grand Métis
418 775-2222 | refordgardens.com



Auberge du Mange Grenouille

Gourmet table for dinner & supper
Charming inn • Wine bar • Tapas • Gift Shop
Terrace overlooking the islands of Bic

aubergedumangegrenouille.qc.ca
148, rue Sainte-Cécile-du-Bic, Rimouski, Québec
418 736-5656



THE TRAILS



Hiking trails

LEGEND : Easy ● Intermediate ■ Difficult ▲

Non laid-out walking areas are also accessible along the coastline (see plan on previous page). However, visitors should first consult the tide table since some places are accessible only during low tide.

Trails	Duration	Level	Starting Point	Description and Points of Interest
LE CHEMIN-DU-NORD	1,9 km 40 min	●	Discovery and Service center (Ferme Rioux)	Here's an easy way to soak up the park's coastal atmosphere while enjoying occasional stunning views of the estuary. This trail leads to La Rose des Thés tearoom, passing several buildings that attest to past occupation by people along the way.
LE CONTREBANDIER	3,0 km 65 min	●	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	On this horseshoe-shaped trail leading to Anse à Mouille-Cul, you'll pass through areas that were once used as farmland.
LES ESCALIERS	0,9 km 30 min	●	JCT Le Contrebandier ou JCT Le Scoggan	This shortcut connects Le Scoggan and Le Contrebandier Trails.
LA PINÈDE	1,0 km 35 min.	■	JCT Le Scoggan	The path leads through a jack pine forest that is slowly being replaced by a new stand. Views over Anse à Mouille-Cul and Anse à l'Original.
LE SCOGGAN	2,9 km 1 h 30	●	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	Le Scoggan crosses Montagne à Michaud, following the ridges from east to west. Several lookouts let you admire the majestic cliffs and the Baie du Ha! Ha!
LE SENTIER ARCHÉOLOGIQUE	0,2 km 10 min	●	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	Stop at the six discovery panels along this trail, each relating a fascinating page of the area's history and its early occupation by Amerindians.
LA COLONIE	2,6 km 1 h 30	●	JCT La Citadelle or Discovery and Service center (Ferme Rioux)	Travelling through fields and over hill crests, this short trail connects La Citadelle and Le Chemin-du-Nord trails
LES MURAILLES	7,5 km 3 h 30	■	Pic-Champlain or Raoul-Roy parking area	This trail slowly climbs up to Pic Champlain which, at 346 metres high, offers great views of this northern Appalachian landscape and part of the estuary. In the spring, the Raoul-Roy Lookout is also a great place to watch migrating birds of prey.
LA CITADELLE	4,7 km 1 h 50	●	Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest or Pic-Champlain parking area	This trail follows an old logging road dating from a time when small-scale logging was practised in the area. The vegetation here has retained all its richness and variety.
LES ANSES	1,3 km 25 min	■	Île-aux-Amours or Cap-Caribou parking area	Half in the woods, half on the shore, this trail will let you explore the diversity of the coastline. It leads to Anse aux Bouleaux Ouest, one of the best places for seal watching at low tide.



Biking trails

Trails	Duration (one way)	Difficulty	Starting Point	Description and Points of Interest
LE PORTAGE	4,7 km 20 min	●	Discovery and Visitors Centre (Ferme Rioux) or Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest Registration Centre	Head out on your bike to explore the harmonious interplay of terraces and ridges so typical of Bas-Saint-Laurent region. A 0.7-km (out-and-back) branch in the trail leads to Pointe aux Épinettes, an exceptional site for wildlife observation.
LA GRÈVE	5 km 25 min	●	Discovery and Visitors Centre (Ferme Rioux)	This trail leads to the furthest point of the Cap à l'Original peninsula, crisscrossing a lacework of coves and rocky bars. It passes by various buildings, traces of the past residents of the park lands, eventually reaching the charming tearoom cottage, La Rose des Thés.
LA COULÉE-À-BLANCHETTE	5 km 45 min	■	Junction with Le Portage Trail; Le Tombolo or Îlet-au-Flacon parking areas	La Coulée-à-Blanchette Trail leads to the park's most panoramic views: the majestic Pic Champlain, rising above the western portion of the trail.

CONSERVATION IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS...



► FREE AND SELF-SUFFICIENT...

Wild animals must remain

Although it's not always easy, wild animals have adapted to survive in nature. But they need keen senses, heightened skills and good physical condition to live and remain self-sufficient in their natural environment.

Wild animals need all their energy for eating, resting, keeping warm or cool, avoiding natural dangers and reproducing.

Five good reasons not to feed the animals:

- Wild animals can find the food they need in their natural environment.
- Feeding wild animals makes them dependent and more vulnerable to predators.
- Food makes wild animals less wary of humans and this can cause trouble and put them in danger.
- The food offered might not be appropriate for their digestive system, which could affect their health and even lead to death.
- Each time we disrupt their natural activities, this changes their behaviour and can put their lives at risk.



Photos: Corentin Chailion, Mélanie Sabourin



PARC NATIONAL
DE L'ÎLE-BONAVENTURE-
ET-DU-ROCHER-PERCÉ

NIGHTTIME OUTING

Come experience the incredible feeling of being on the island at nightfall, whether to enjoy the tranquility of the island at dusk, to watch over the gannet colony in peaceful sleep or simply to admire the dark mass of Percé Rock across the water. Ten nighttime outings are planned to create magical holiday memories.



From July 16 to
August 17, every
Tuesday and Saturday.

\$29.95 + taxes
Duration: 4 hours



parcsquebec.com · 1-800-665-6527



Photos: Jean-Pierre Huard, Corentin Chailion, Mélanie Sabourin



PARC NATIONAL
DE L'ÎLE-BONAVENTURE-
ET-DU-ROCHER-PERCÉ



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE ISLANDERS

Accompanied by a park ranger-naturalist, walk in the footsteps of the ancient islanders on the Chemin du Roy, one of the most beautiful trails on the island. Cod appetizer tasting. Visit the restored homes of some of the island's past inhabitants, soaking up their stories and contemplating the magnificent scenery along the way.



From July 7 to
August 24, every day
at 11:15 a.m.



parcsquebec.com · 1-800-665-6527





SERVICES

NEW FOR 2013

FERME RIOUX SECTOR

The Discovery and Visitors Centre has been moved to the Rioux farm to serve you better. Everything you need to make your visit to Le Bic a fantastic and memorable one can be found under a single roof:

- Boutique Nature
- Croque Nature snack bar
- Park Path Explorer
- Information and visitor services
- Bicycle rentals



LA ROSE DES THÉS TEAROOM

Come enjoy a cup of tea in this Colonial Revival cottage built by Walter Lyman in the early 1920s. The enchanting setting and gorgeous surrounding landscape of Cap à l'original are sure to charm. The tearoom is located on the Chemin-du-Nord Trail.

SHUTTLE TO PIC CHAMPLAIN

The minibus shuttle service takes visitors up to the lookout on Pic Champlain. At 346 metres high, this peak offers some of the most beautiful vistas in the Bas-Saint-Laurent.

SCHEDULE: Every half hour, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., June 22 to August 11; August 17, 18, 24, 25 and 31; and September 1.

DEPARTURE POINT: Pic Champlain parking area

Shuttle – Round trip

Adults	\$6.96
Children 6 à 17	\$4.35
65 and over	\$5.22

Shuttle – One way

Adults	\$4.35
Children 6 à 17	\$3.26
Taxes not included.	



RIVIÈRE-DU-SUD-OUEST SECTOR

Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest Registration Centre

Stop in at Boutique Plein air to choose something special from the Parcs Québec collection or find that essential item for your outdoor adventures.

- Gift shop
- Convenience store
- Bicycle rentals
- Reservations and campground registration



BICYCLE RENTALS

Take advantage of 15 kilometres of bike trails to explore the park. Bikes can be rented at two locations: the Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest registration Centre and the Discovery and Visitors Centre at Ferme Rioux.

RENTAL	1 hour	4 hours	Full Day
Adults Bicycle	\$12.50	\$25.00	\$35.75
Children's bicycle	\$7.25	\$12.25	\$17.25

1280, chemin Duchénier
Saint-Narcisse-de-Rimouski (Québec)
Autoroute 20, sortie 110

Une nature grandiose, authentique et enchantée

418 735-6063
www.canyonportesenfer.qc.ca

ESCAPES UNDER THE STARS

GET COMFORTABLE AND STAY A WHILE AT PARC NATIONAL DU BIC WITH ACCOMMODATIONS TO SUIT ALL TASTES!



READY-TO-CAMP AND YURTS

Discover the joys of camping without having to bring all your own gear. These fully furnished, turnkey accommodations simplify vacation planning.

- **24 Huttopia Tents:** These innovative shelters are equipped with heating, beds and everything you need to cook your meals. Simple, comfortable and authentic, Huttopia tents are perfect for families as well as for couples or groups of friends looking for a unique experience.
- **7 Tent-trailers:** Set up near a stream in the Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest sector. They are ideal for a hassle-free family holiday. Because they are equipped with heaters, the tent-trailers are comfortable from the first days of the season through the fall. It's a great way to experience a camping adventure.
- **8 Yurts:** The traditional shelter used by nomads on the steppes of Central Asia, the yurt combines charm and pastoral appeal. Located in the Île-aux-Amours sector, our yurts offer lovely views and access to the estuary. Stylishly furnished and fully equipped, they provide comfortable ready-to-camp accommodations throughout the year.

CAMPGROUNDS

- **168 Serviced or Semi-Serviced Campsites:** Located in two areas of the park, the Rivières-du-Ouest and Rioux sectors, these sites have amenities nearby.
- **9 Primitive Campsites:** Off the beaten track, these isolated hike-in sites are in the La Coulée sector. Direct access to the estuary.
- **13 RV Sites:** L'Espace VR Le Tombolo, our RV area, has sites especially designed for trailers and motorhomes. The RV zone is located in an open, unwooded area with a gravel surface.
- **4 Travelling Cyclist Sites:** Available without reservations. This area is designed especially for cyclists.



For more information or to make reservations, visit our website.

www.sepaq.com/pq/bic



Huttopia

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

2013 SEASON
80 new tents

- 2 new destinations:**
- Îles-de-Boucherville
 - Lac-Témiscouata

LOW SEASON ⁽¹⁾	HIGH SEASON ⁽²⁾
\$ 99 /night	\$ 116 /night

Capacity of 5 people (max. 4 adults)

(1) From Sunday to Thursday until June 20, 2013 and from September 8, 2013.

(2) Fridays, Saturdays, holidays and every day from June 21, 2013 to September 7, 2013. Taxes and entrance fee not included



Online reservation: parksquebec.com/huttopia

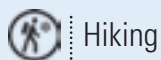


THE LITTLE JOYS OF WINTER

Les Jours Rouges

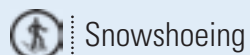
All winter long, the park has lots of original and energizing activities for friends and families to get out and enjoy. See our program of discovery and outdoor activities, 'Les Jours rouges', for more details.

Activities



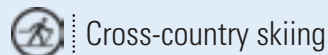
Hiking

Here, you can hike, even in winter: the snow-hiking surface of 5 km is mechanically maintained, from Wednesday to Sunday. The layout gives access to magnificent view-points on the river and its islands.



Snowshoeing

Enthusiasts can enjoy 30 km of marked trails. You want to start practicing this sport? You can rent snowshoes at the information booth.



Cross-country skiing

Amateurs will love the more than 20 km of cross-country trails that criss-cross throughout the park. The trails are marked but are not traced.

Shelters

Le Porc-épic and Le Pékan offer hikers, skiers and snowshoeing enthusiasts a place to rest and warm up before continuing their journey.



BIC IN WINTER... A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE !

When the ice-floe forms on the river, it is quite a sight to behold from a riverside seat! Prepare to be touched by the serenity and tranquility of this enchanting natural kingdom.

ACCOMMODATIONS

All accommodations can be reached on foot, snowshoes or cross-country skis.



LE RIOUX RUSTIC SHELTER

Le Rioux rustic shelter, 5 kilometres from the Rivière-Sud-Ouest Registration Centre, offers views of the St. Lawrence estuary. The shelter accommodates 2 people and has two single beds, a small two-burner stove, a refrigerator and a pit toilet outside.



THE IGLOOS

Spending a night in an igloo is an extraordinary winter experience. Our igloos accommodate 2 to 4 people. All the equipment you need can be rented on site. There is an outdoor fire pit with a supply of firewood near the igloo and a pit toilet located nearby.



THE YURTS

Our eight yurts are located in the Île-aux-Amours sector. These fully-equipped round canvas tents with hardwood floors offer a truly comfortable turnkey vacation experience. Each yurt accommodates 4 people.

For a real adventure, try true winter camping in the park. Treat yourself to a pristine winter night in the heart of the forest.

Inquire about our winter packages

café
Le Crêpe Chignon
Café Crêperie
déjeuner
souper
famille
ambiance
environnement
140, av. de la Cathédrale
Rimouski (Québec) G5L 5H8
tél. : 418 724-0400

WINNERS OF THE 2012-2013 PHOTO CONTEST

Photos by the three winners and nine honourable mentions will be on display at La Rose des Thés throughout the summer.



Outdoor Activity | Sylvie Levasseur



Flora and Fauna | Jean Ferron




Landscapes | Isabelle Devost

GENERAL INFORMATION

Contact informations :

3382, route 132 Ouest, P. O. Box 2066
Rimouski (Québec) G0L 1B0
Phone: 418 736-5035
Fax: 418 736-5039

parc.bic@sepaq.com
www.sepaq.com

Follow us on 

JOURNAL TEAM

Drafting team :

Marlène Dionne
Responsable du service de la conservation

Karine Hurtubise
Responsable du service à la clientèle

Graphic design :

G Communication Marketing

Photographs :

Mathieu Dupuis, Fred Klus, Anjuna Langevin,
Gérard Proulx and Éric Lebel
Cover : Mathieu Dupuis

Legal Deposit : 2012
Library and Archives Canada
ISSN 1927-9973 (Print)
ISSN 1927-9981 (Online)







MARCHÉ RICHELIEU
ÉPICERIE BRILLANT

Part of your BBQs !

Open 8:00 am to 22:00 pm
Seven days a week
Welcome to visitors !

Agence SAO

129, rue Sainte-Cécile-du-Bic, Rimouski, Québec G0L1B0 | 418 736-4331

Materials

Centre de rénovation des Îles

171, Louis-Joseph Plante, Bic
418 736-4936

Hardware







Propane deposit



380 million
years later...

231, route Miguasha Ouest,
Nouvelle (Québec) G0C 2E0
418-794-2475 • 1-800-665-6527
ParcsQuebec.com



...we're
still talking
about it

at the Musée d'histoire
naturelle de Miguasha

Discover how to obtain a 10% discount
on admission fees on
www.attraitsgaspésie.com



MUST-SEE
ATTRACTIONS
Gaspésie

jardins de métis
reford gardens



ONE OF THE WONDERS
OF QUÉBEC SINCE 1962

www.refordgardens.com

BIOPARC

THE GASPÉSIE'S WILD
ANIMAL PARK

www.bioparc.ca

Exploramer

La mer à découvrir • Discovering the sea

www.exploramer.qc.ca



June 8 to Oct. 6 2013 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
1000 rue du Phare, Rimouski
Highway 20, Exit 621
418 724-6214

Onondaga Submarine
Empress of Ireland Museum
Lighthouse Station



In collaboration with



Parks Canada

shmp.qc.ca

empress2014.ca