

SÉPAQ

PARC NATIONAL DE MIGUASHA

Protected area. Enriching nature experiences.

When fish ruled
the world...

Travel 380 million years
back in time and discover
the fascinating world of
the fossilized fish found
at Parc national Miguasha.

The park is the only
one of its kind and a
UNESCO World Heritage
Site, offering a family
experience with a wide
range of activities
for everyone.

TEAM FAVOURITES



The Elpi Rally

Children love treasure hunts! The Elpi Rally is a fantastic way for them to learn while looking for a real treasure... Think you can find it? The QR code for this activity is found on page 4!



Elpistostege the origins of a quest

The only complete specimen of an Elpistostege ever discovered is on display in its very own exhibition hall. Learn recently revealed secrets about this fascinating fossilized fish and discover why your own origins lie in the warm waters of Miguasha some 380 million years ago.



A cliff that takes you back in time

This fossil bearing cliff is the very reason behind the park's creation. It has provided us with over 16,000 specimens of fish, plants, and invertebrates from another era. Come join one of our park warden-naturalist to learn more about the area's fascinating geology.



Get your shovels and start looking!

For the little ones! Experience this initiation to the discovery of fossils buried under the sand. Using your tools, discover what's hidden there.



Julius Csotonyi, Houston Museum of Natural Science

The "Evolution of life" trail

NEW! Experience the passage of over 500 million years on an enchanting 3.5 km trail. Learn about the main stages in the history of life on Earth and test your thinking skills in "The present is the key to the past", an all-new rally. The QR code for this activity is on page 4!



L'Échoppe gift shop

The most beautiful gift shop in all of Quebec's national parks! Jewelry, stones, geodes, crystals, locally made crafts and, above all, casts of Miguasha Park's famous fish fossils. Treat yourself!

DISCOVERY TIME



Family activities

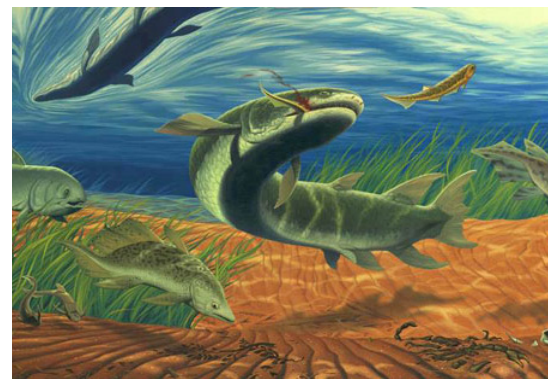
When fish ruled the world

To begin your discovery of the park, nothing beats taking part in an animated demonstration of the fascinating world of Miguasha's fossils. This demonstration, accompanied by a variety of educational materials, is like a short practical course on fossilization and vertebrate anatomy.

Visit the exhibition halls

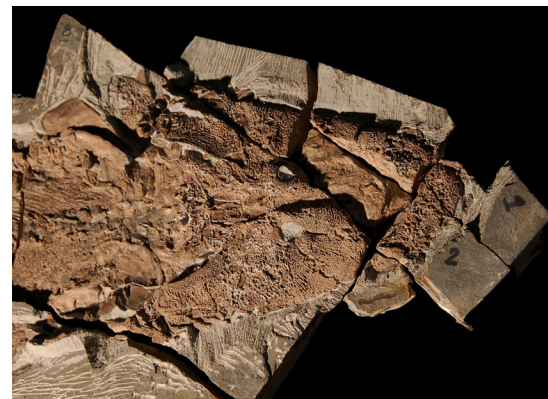
The "From water to land" exhibition

The national park's fossil collection includes some 16,000 specimens. The most remarkable are presented in the "From water to land" exhibition. Come and discover the most beautiful specimens of fish, invertebrates, and plants found over the decades by the park's research teams. These exceptional fossils are put in context, allowing us to understand life as it flourished between land and sea 380 million years ago.



"Elpistostege: the origins of a quest" exhibition

Discover the majestic and complete fossil of *Elpistostege*. Be amazed as you come face to face with the "King of Miguasha", and access some of the most wonderful secrets in the history of life on Earth. Don't miss the chance to meet a park warden-naturalist who will bring to life this fish that lived between two worlds.



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.





Discover why it's more than just a cliff

This shoreline is a unique learning experience, immersing visitors in the park's true purpose, the discovery and protection of fossils. You'll find all the answers to your questions about geology, fossil formation and excavations at the base of the cliff. A park warden-naturalist will put your senses to work in an exploration activity to show you what makes this cliff so unique.

The Evolution of life trail

Along the cliff, the park's hiking trail offers magnificent views of the Ristigouche River estuary in a 3.5 km loop. As you walk, you'll come across panels with beautiful illustrations that will take you on a journey from the first vertebrates to the arrival of humans.

Through time and space

Take advantage of your hike to test your knowledge in an all-new scientific rally! "The present is the key to the past" is a family activity that will help you discover the major upheavals experienced by Earth and life over the course of geological time. At the 12 stations, young and old alike will discover how a good understanding of the world around us can shed light on the mysteries of the ancient past.

A lab where you're the hero

This educational laboratory has been redesigned to offer an immersive experience that will engage your eyes, hands and brain. A great opportunity to get young people excited about discovery.

Ready to put your knowledge to the test at one of our two science rallies?

Scan the corresponding QR code to access the questionnaire. (In French only)



ELPI RALLY



THE PRESENT IS THE KEY TO THE PAST RALLY



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



Systematic excavations

The cliff still retains enormous paleontological potential, yielding some 500 new fossil specimens to the park's collections every year. Once again this summer, a systematic excavation site has been set up at the cliff, allowing diggers to reveal the many secrets that have remained buried for 380 million years. As you walk along the shore, you may be lucky enough to be the first to see the treasures that will be taken to the research centre!

A world heritage site we all need to protect

During your visit to the park, you'll undoubtedly be filled with the hope of making a discovery at the cliff. Although this is a natural reflex, it can have serious consequences.

Our qualified staff know how to collect the entirety of each specimen and, more importantly, the associated field information that often allows us to reconstruct the life of the organism and the environment in which it lived.

The Miguasha Cliff is an exceptional universal heritage that must be preserved for all humanity. Thank you for your help and respect and enjoy your visit!

Help us preserve the site and its fossils!



Research centre

The research centre at Parc national Miguasha is the only one of its kind in the national park network. The centre makes it possible to prepare, catalogue, and study exceptional specimens from the cliff. In the coming years, a series of strategies included in the park's conservation plan aim to acquire improved storage and secure collection spaces to better manage the paleontological collection.



Caution!
Risk of falling rocks!



A durable but fragile cliff

Exposed to the elements and composed of friable sedimentary deposits, the park's fossiliferous cliff is subject to constant natural erosion. All of the ongoing activities on the site—from developing outdoor facilities to setting up excavation sites and reforestation projects—are aimed at minimizing the anthropogenic impacts on this process.

Restoring vegetation in problematic areas and monitoring the cliff's recession will help slow down erosion at the top of the cliff and document long-term trends.

An extraordinary window onto Miguasha fossils

The Miguasha fossil site was chosen as a flagship for the Royal Ontario Museum's new Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life. The ROM is the largest and most comprehensive museum institution in Canada.

This new gallery highlights the unique importance of Canada's paleontological heritage in understanding the origin and evolution of life on Earth. It features a large number of original specimens and casts of fossils from the Miguasha fossil cliff, including the world's only replica of the complete fossil of *Elpistostege watsoni*.

Year after year, the 40 galleries and exhibition halls of the Royal Ontario Museum are visited by more than one million people, making it one of the 10 most visited museums in North America. Additional visibility for an exceptional site!

Our national parks

Given the millions of visits to our national parks annually, harmful behaviors can cause permanent damage to the environment and negatively impact the experience of other visitors. Let's do our part to care for these extraordinary nature sites so we can all enjoy them for years to come.

5 GOOD PRACTICES TO ADOPT IN NATURE



Stay on trails and in designated visitor areas

Taking shortcuts can destroy vegetation.



Do not gather dead wood*

To preserve the natural environment, it is prohibited to remove natural elements, including animals, plants, dead wood, and rocks.



Do not feed wildlife*

Feeding wildlife negatively impacts their natural feeding habits. Keep all food out of reach of animals.



Keep your distance when observing wildlife

When animals are repeatedly disturbed, their natural behaviors can change, and they can develop problems to feed, find a mate, and communicate among themselves.



Respect the peace and tranquility, and comply with curfews

People come to national parks to relax and enjoy nature. Please respect curfews and avoid playing music at all times.

*Failure to comply with rules governing parks and authorized activities is considered a violation of the *Parks Act* and *Parks Regulation*.



Parc national
de Miguasha



PCF



Photos: Mathieu Dupuis, Olivier Matton, Julius Csotonyi, Johanne Kerr, François Miville-Deschênes, Robert Baronnet, Sylvain Desbiens

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landscape.



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