

SÉPAQ

# PARC NATIONAL DES ÎLES-DE-BOUCHERVILLE

**Protected area. Enriching nature experiences.**

A few kilometres away from Montreal, right in the middle of the majestic Saint-Lawrence River, the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*, a veritable haven of nature and biodiversity, beckons you. Hikers, picnickers, cyclists, canoeists, kayakers and campers come over to get away from it all and observe an exceptional fauna and flora. In winter, the park offers hikers, snowshoers, cross-country skiers and fatbike enthusiasts wonderful snowy scenery, and an atmosphere beyond just peaceful in a highly natural decorum.



# OUR TEAM'S FAVORITES



A

## Exploration on the Saint-Lawrence

In a canoe or sea kayak, on a stand-up paddle board (SUP), or even in a foot-pedal craft, glide into the fascinating world of the *îles de Boucherville's* internal waterways. A fleet of over 100 watercrafts at your disposal!



B

## Camping on *Île Grosbois*

Accessible on foot and by bicycle only, the camping and ready-to-camp sites on *Île Grosbois* are located in a delightful, bewitching section of the park where fields and meadows, forest sites and aquatic environments meet and mix wonderfully. Total change of scenery!



C

## Bicycle Riding on the Islands

Discover the park on our 21-km cycling trail network. The trails head out from the Discovery and Services Centre, bend and turn along the Saint-Lawrence and the *Grande Rivière*, and belt around all the park's major islands. As part of this family ride, take a break in one of our picnic areas sprinkled along the way.



## The Park in Winter

Winter is a splendid season for outdoor activities! During winter, the park offers cross-country skiing, winter hiking, snowshoeing, fatbike riding and snow scooter (kick-sled) enthusiasts a lot to revel in, and all the relevant equipment can be rented.



D

## Observation on *Île-aux-Raisins*

This 3.4 km-long trail, dotted with new discovery panels and sensory featurettes, lets you appreciate all the impressive wealth of the flood plain.



## Discovery Stops

All Discovery Stops are accessible in the summer! This original course is made up of eight outside stops and a large interactive fresco located at the Discovery and Services Centre. They offer visitors immersive experiences on the islands' fauna, flora and history.

# DISCOVER OUR TRAILS

		LENGTH AND DURATION*		LEVEL	DEPARTURE
	<b>Île-Grosbois</b> – This sun-drenched pathway provides an unobstructed view of the Saint-Lawrence River all along your trek.	7 km Loop	2 h	E	Dutch Footbridge
	<b>Île-Sainte-Marguerite</b> – On foot or bike, solo or in a group, this versatile trail enables you to go full circle right around the island.	7 km Loop	2 h	E	Discovery and Services Centre
	<b>Île-de-la-Commune</b> – Let this island's picturesque scenery win you over! The island's East section will overcome you with its pastoral landscape and its superb view of Old Boucherville, while in the West portion, a bit lush and on the wilder side, the observation tower offers an enchanting panorama of the wetlands.	5.1 km Loop	1 h 45	E	Antony Le Sauter Footbridge
	<b>Grande-Rivière</b> – From plain to woodlands along the magnificent Saint-Lawrence, this trail plunges into the very essence of the <i>Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville's</i> main sceneries.	4 km loop	1 h 30	E	Discovery and Services Centre
	<b>Île-aux-Raisins</b> – This island evolves with the seasons: icy in winter, submerged in spring, and dried in summer. Just what we call a flood plain! A bird-watcher's paradise for its diversified habitats, adored by hikers for its cozy, enveloping atmosphere among tall grass, this luxurious setting will charm you!	8.5 km Loop	2 h 30	I	
	<b>Petite-Rivière</b> – The <i>Petite Rivière</i> has quite a story to be told. Follow this pathway to take in some time travel and delve into the <i>Îles-de-Boucherville's</i> historical highlights.	2.5 km Loop	45 min	E	
	<b>Grand-Duc</b> – At the very heart of <i>Île Sainte-Marguerite</i> , this short rustic trail wonderfully represents this island cluster's country setting. Take a family excursion to explore the habitat of the great horned owl, the Virginia (white-tailed) deer, the red fox and the monarch butterfly!	1.5 km Loop	30 min	E	
	<b>Grand-Héron</b> – The Saint-Lawrence: mysterious and attractive. Take advantage of a canoe or sea kayak trip to explore the <i>Chenal du Courant's</i> expansive marsh with its purely zen atmosphere! Lush and lavish plants under the warm summer sun, soothing bird songs, letting yourself glide serenely on the calm waves of the Saint-Lawrence. You will savour a unique outdoor experience filled with treasurable memories!	8 km Loop	3 h	I	
	<b>Castor</b> – At the heart of wildlife action, immerse yourself in the enchanting world of the creatures inhabiting the various channels and thoroughfares in the parc national des <i>Îles-de-Boucherville</i> . You will make exceptional discoveries, including mister beaver!	4 km Loop	1 h	E	
*Durations and difficulty levels are mentioned as guides, and apply to the summer season.		<b>E:</b> Easy		<b>I:</b> Intermediate	<b>D:</b> Difficult

 Hiking
  Biking
  Pleasure Boating
  Brochure/Panels
  Family Experience
  Dogs Allowed - [sepaq.com/animaux](https://sepaq.com/animaux)





To Montréal  
Pont-tunnel  
Louis-Hippolyte-La Fontaine

To Montréal  
Mercier (Bellerive dock)

Fleuve  
Saint-Laurent

Grandes battures Tailhandier

Île Tourte  
Blanche

Île  
Lafontaine

Île  
Dufault

Île  
Charron

La Grande-Rivière

Île  
Sainte-Marguerite  
(7 km)

Île  
Saint-Jean

Île à  
Pinard

Discovery and  
Visitors Centre

Île de la  
Commune  
(5 km)

Passerelle  
des Hollandais

Boisé  
Grosbois

Île  
Grosbois  
(7 km)

Sentier nautique  
Le Castor

Île à  
Bleury

To Boucherville  
(Federal wharf)

Boucherville

Boucherville

- |  |                                   |  |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
|  | Registration centre / Information |  | Lookout                                |
|  | Playground                        |  | First aid                              |
|  | Picnic area                       |  | Food services                          |
|  | Amphitheatre                      |  | Boucher-de-Grosbois archeological site |
|  | Washroom facility                 |  | Fishing site                           |
|  | Bienvenue cyclistes !             |  | Parking lot                            |
|  | Shop                              |  | Observation tower                      |
|  | Administrative office             |  | Recreational vehicle dumping station   |
|  | Semi-serviced camping             |  | Marked water                           |
|  | Automated external defibrillator  |  | Bike path                              |
|  | Convenience store                 |  | Hiking trail                           |
|  | RV area                           |  | TEMPORARY TRAIL<br>(hiking and biking) |
|  | Golf                              |  | Marked water trail                     |
|  | Curiosity stand                   |  | Dogs allowed location                  |
|  | Mooring area                      |  | River shuttle                          |
|  | La Tanière Stand                  |  | Road network                           |
|  | Water games                       |  | National park boundary                 |
|  | Boat and bike rental              |  |  |
|  | Boat launch                       |  |  |
|  | Pavilion                          |  |  |

Bridge  
closed  
for work

Pavillon  
Le Grand-Duc

Passerelle  
Antony  
Le Sauteur

Grosbois  
Visitors Centre



Download via  
Avenza Maps

0 250 500 1 000  
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FRESH AIR AND PEACEFUL  
ENVIRONMENT JUST A FEW  
KILOMETERS FROM HERE  
AT PARC NATIONAL DU  
MONT-SAINT-BRUNO



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 : Années 2024  
Banque de données Sépaq : 2024  
Cartes topographiques : à l'échelle de 1/20 000 2005  
Source des données utilisées : Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts  
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# DISCOVERY TIME



## Picnic Areas

Prolong your enjoyment of the park and soak in the sunny weather in this exceptional haven in the middle of the mighty Saint-Lawrence just a hop and a skip away from Montreal. Our four large picnic areas are ideal for hosting families, groups and office teams! Located right by them are children's playgrounds bocce and volley-ball courts, children's water games, table soccer games and sanitary facilities. Those of you looking for greater tranquillity will still benefit: indeed, the cycling trails are also dotted with **several more picnic areas**.

## Fishing

In a fishing kayak, foot-pedal craft or canoe, or simply at ford, come and tease the fish in the Saint-Lawrence channels and thoroughfares. In addition, we have developed wade fishing areas to enable you to fish at your leisure in a truly delightful setting.

**Fishing licences (compulsory) available at the Discovery and Services Centre.**



**Did you know that over 50 fish species populate the park's channel waters, including the largemouth bass, pike, walleye (yellow pickerel) and yellow perch?**

## 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.



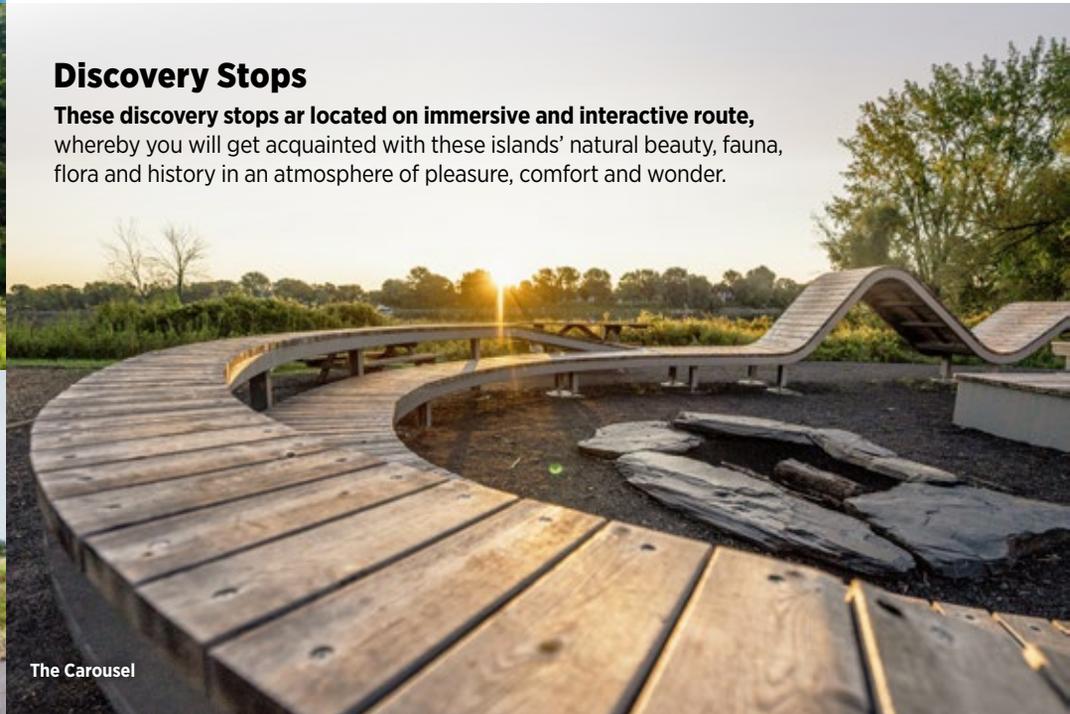
The Tower

## Discovery Stops

**These discovery stops are located on immersive and interactive route,** whereby you will get acquainted with these islands' natural beauty, fauna, flora and history in an atmosphere of pleasure, comfort and wonder.



The Barn



The Carousel



## Conservation is Everybody's Business!

The *parc national des îles-de-Boucherville* is currently contending with a touchy problem: the fauna's development of unusual behaviours toward humans.

Keeping one's distance and refraining from feeding wild animals make for a step in the right direction. **By the way, why not to feed them?**

- Animals find in their natural surroundings the food adapted to their needs.
- Not only can our food not be suited to them, but also, and worse, it can lead to health problems, discomfort and ailments, and even cause death.
- Feeding wild animals imparts a dependency that can make them vulnerable to predators.
- Our food's appeal increases their recklessness toward humans.
- Every time we disturb and/or disrupt their natural activities, we modify their behaviours at the risk of their own lives.



## L'Île-aux-Raisins, an Exceptional Trail to Discover!

A "Zen" excursion at the heart of the Great Marsh. Gazing at the scenery and watching wildlife are on tap.

**Do not miss it!**

## DISCOVERY AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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

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



## La tanière Stand

Which bird flies along the shore? Is this mammal a beaver or a muskrat? Which fish species move around in the Saint-Lawrence waters surrounding the park? The park's insular character attracts and promotes a rich fauna and a distinctive flora. **A naturalist and park warden awaits you at the La tanière stand to reveal the best kept secrets of the park, and remains available to answer your questions!**

**When:**

Week-ends in the summer



## 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](http://sepaq.com/security)**

# CONSERVE FOR TOMORROW



## When Response and Action Equate Protection

Since 2005, the park has been confronted by a Virginia deer overpopulation problem. A lead deer herd shrinkage operation took place in the fall of 2023. It enabled us to draw 319 out of a herd of at least 436 deer in the *parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*. The control measures intend to limit pressure exerted on the vegetation by these cervids' grazing, thus promote the ecosystems' natural restoration, and ensure survival of several rare plant species. This action, coupled with a similar initiative carried out at the *parc national du Mont-Saint-Bruno*, allowed us to re-distribute the meat to food banks through the auspices of the *Chasseurs généreux* program, and thus provide almost **89,000 meat portions!**

## Sentinel Trees

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of deer population control measures for plant regeneration, we implemented **18 silver maple seeding spots/quadrats** to measure the browsing rate relating to the Virginia deer population density. To reach this objective, we will have to repeat the protocol over several years. When the damage and mortality rate will be comparable to that of an area untouched by any excessive deer grazing, we will be able to believe that we will have attained the optimal population density for our habitats and that the natural regeneration process can be restored.



## Change of Scenery on *Île-aux-Raisins*

For several years now, the European buckthorn, an invasive exotic shrub, has tended to densely colonize the wetlands at *Île-aux-Raisins* and disrupt the forest dynamics by limiting germination, growth and survival of certain indigenous species. Major control operations took place in 2023 owing to financial support from the *Fondation de la faune du Québec*. **Indeed, 2,054 shrubs were pulled out in a 3,715-m<sup>2</sup> area.** Further to these initiatives, we will schedule plantations in order to promote forest regeneration.

# 5 good practices to adopt in nature

## 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.



### 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*.

