**A UNIVERSE TO DISCOVER**

Located at the foot of the mountain, ASTROLab offers three exposition rooms and one multimedia room with a giant screen. Daytime tours include the movie Cosmic Rhythms and a workshop and lift-off of rockets for kids.

Mont-Megantic Observatory, located at 1105 m altitude, can be visited during the afternoon. Accompanied by an enthusiastic guide, you will discover the best performing telescope in Canada.

- **Visit the ASTROLab** between noon and 4:30 pm.
- **Visit the Observatory** during afternoons, with an extra 11 am visit between July 22nd and August 19th. In French.
- **Access the summit with your vehicle** between 9 am and 5 pm.
- **40th anniversary special rate**: get a 40% rebate if you were born in 1978!

Check out the schedule and prices.

**A MOUNTAIN TO EXPLORE**

Mont-Megantic hills represent one of the top 4-season hiking trails. Observatory Sector gives access to 3 summits over 1,000 metres: mounts Megantic, St-Joseph and Victoria. Two easy walks are also available. With the same origins as the Monteregian hills, the massif was formed by lava cooling beneath the surface 125 million years ago. Its astonishing topography is the result of differential erosion of three rock types that make up its composition.

- **See the park map and trails** presented on page 6.
- **Rental of equipment** for age 17 and under is free.
- **Winter season rental**: snowshoes, crampons and cross-country skis.

**AN INSPIRING SANCTUARY**

The high elevation of the mountain paved the way for its celestial vocation. Toward the end of the nineteenth century, pilgrims erected a cross on Mont Saint-Joseph that would eventually become a sanctuary. At the summit, the landscape next to the old chapel is breathtaking. The conifer forest is characterized by a boreal-type forest group named fir-oxalis montana. This forest environment is exceptional in Québec due to its rarity and its age.

- **It is possible to go up to the mount St-Joseph** with your vehicle between 9 am and 5 pm.
- **Summer activities**:
  - **Plein la vue**: from 1 pm to 4:30 pm, some afternoons.
  - **La fabuleuse histoire du Mont-St-Joseph**: at 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm, some afternoons. In French.
ASTRONOMY EVENINGS

Astronomy evening at ASTROLab: The evening starts in the multimedia room with 2 presentations, *Mouvements célestes*, to understand the sky rhythms, and *l’Univers Infrarouge*, to discover the invisible light. For the second part of the evening, if the sky is clear, telescope observation, and if the sky is overcast, the evening continues inside, with astronomical news, a children activity, a night walk and interactive cosmos. Check out the schedule and prices. Reservations necessary. In French.

Astronomy evening at the Popular Observatory: The evening starts with a presentation in the Observatory: *Exoterra – à la découverte de nouveaux mondes*. Are there planets which are similar to ours in the Universe? Also, if the sky is clear, telescope observation. If the sky is overcast, all of our Observatory audiovisual equipment will be used to let you travel in the Universe. Check out the schedule and prices. Reservations necessary. In French. With shuttle.

POPULAR ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

Dedicated to the general public, this Astronomy Festival is the only time of the year when night observation is possible at Observatoire du Mont-Mégantic. Guest speakers, amateur astronomers, a schedule of fascinating activities and discoveries with something for all tastes!

The Festival runs Thursday-Saturday July 5-6-7, 12-13-14 and 19-20-21. The evening starts with a lecture by an astrophysicist, followed by an animated multimedia presentation at ASTROLab. After comes a bus trip to the summit to visit our two observatories.

*Check out schedule and prices at the reception. Reservations required.*

PERSEIDS

A not-to-be missed summer rendezvous, Perseids evenings are night observation of the famous meteorite showers with special presentations, telescopes, music and children make-up. Do you know why there are meteorite showers, and why people make a wish when they see a shooting star? Join us to learn more and make a wish!

From August 10 to 14, the evening activity starts at ASTROLab with a Perseids multimedia presentation, followed by a visit to the popular Observatory to observe the sky or attend an astronomy animation in case of cloudy sky. Check out schedule and prices at the reception.

*Reservations required. Bus included to the summit.*
DISCOVER THE SUMMIT (CIMES)

The Franceville area is noted for outstanding landform and rocky outcrops highlighted by trails offering hiking experiences to remember. Many trails are accessible to fit individual preferences. Three trails will let you hike along the mountain stream, admire waterfalls, go around huge rocky peaks, or walk over a syenite ridge.

- Parcours du Ruisseau: 2.6 km / 45 min to 1 h
- Parcours des Escarpements: 6.4 km / 2 h 30 to 3 h
- Parcours des Cimes: 11.6 km / 3 h to 5 h

BIKE ALONG CREEKS

Piste de la Vallée trail offers an 8 km roundtrip bike ride. It leads to Passerelle de la chute and Ruisseau-de-la-Montagne shelter. To extend the enjoyment, we suggest you to discover the neighbouring Parc du Marécage-des-Scots. Equipped with rest areas along the salmon river or the McLeod stream, offering many interpretation panels on wildlife, flora, forestry and the famous history of the Log hauler train. In fact, children will be able to come on board and create their own script! Two short walking trails offer beautiful viewpoints and picnic tables with the sound of waterfalls.

Bike rentals at the reception building. Free for 17 year olds and under.

STORYTELLING

To know more about the Park, let us tell you about its unique story, surprising shape, adapted plant communities and diversified wildlife. Get comfortably settled on the Reception building porch for a lecture, immerse your feet in the stream looking for ‘Aliens’, or turn your gaze on a magnificent starry sky.

- Causerie (Park Talk): Summer, some evenings. In French.
- Grand jeu (Big game): Summer, some evenings. In French.
- Lumière sur les étoiles (Lights on stars): Summer, some evenings. In French.
- Extra-terrestres dans le ruisseau (aliens in the stream): Summer, some mornings. In French.