

SÉPAQ

# PARC NATIONAL DES ÎLES-DE-BOUCHERVILLE

Protected area. Enriching nature experiences.

Just a few kilometres east of Montreal, the *Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville* beckons you to slip away into a nature haven. Whether you relish hiking, cycling or canoeing, our trails adjacent to the water and our thoroughfares teeming with life guarantee you an unforgettable time. Whether with your family, among friends or solo, come and discover an enchanting protected haven of biodiversity at the heart of the Saint-Lawrence River.

# 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 Visitors 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, and fatbike riding enthusiasts a lot to revel in, and all the relevant equipment can be rented.



D

## Observation on the *Île-aux-Raisins*

For a memorable trek combining relaxation and discovery, come and explore our all-new interactive 3.4-km trail. Along a series of stopovers, alternate between nature-embracing meditative breaks and fascinating fauna and flora observation that make up the treasure of a one-of-a-kind 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 Visitors 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	Passerelle des Hollandais
	<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 Visitors 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 lusher and on the wilder side, the observation tower offers an enchanting panorama of the wetlands.	5 km Loop	1 h 45	E	Antony Le Sauter Passerelle
	<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 Visitors 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!	9 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	Pavillon Le Grand-Duc
	<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 (nautical trail)</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	Discovery and Visitors Centre
	<b>Castor (nautical trail)</b> – At the heart of wildlife action, immerse yourself in the enchanting world of the creatures inhabiting the various channels and thoroughfares. You will make exceptional discoveries, including mister beaver!	4 km Loop	1 h	E	Grosbois Visitors Centre
		8 km Loop	3 h	I	Discovery and Visitors Centre
*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)





- |  |                                   |  |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
|  | Registration centre / Information |  | Lookout                                |
|  | Playground                        |  | Food services                          |
|  | Picnic area                       |  | Boucher-de-Grosbois archeological site |
|  | Le Jaseur Amphitheatre            |  | Fishing site                           |
|  | Washroom facility                 |  | Parking lot                            |
|  | Bienvenue cyclistes !             |  | Observation tower                      |
|  | Shop                              |  | First aid kit                          |
|  | Administrative office             |  | Recreational vehicle dumping station   |
|  | Semi-serviced camping             |  | Marked water                           |
|  | Automated external defibrillator  |  | Bike path                              |
|  | Convenience store                 |  | Hiking trail                           |
|  | RV area                           |  | Marked water trail                     |
|  | Golf                              |  | Dogs allowed location                  |
|  | Curiosity stand                   |  | River shuttle                          |
|  | Mooring area                      |  | Road network                           |
|  | La Tanière Stand                  |  | National park boundary                 |
|  | Water games                       |  |  |
|  | Boat and bike rental              |  |  |
|  | Boat launch (dogs not allowed)    |  |  |
|  | Pavilion                          |  |  |



**Sépaq**

FRESH AIR AND PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT JUST A FEW KILOMETERS FROM HERE AT PARC NATIONAL DU MONT-SAINT-BRUNO



**Grosbois Visitors Centre**

Le Manège

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, Cartes topographiques à l'échelle de 1/20 000, Source des données utilisées: Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts © Gouvernement du Québec

Années: 2025, 2005

# DISCOVERY TIME



Landing Net



The Wheel



## 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.

## Water Playground

Come enjoy our water playground area, the perfect spot to freshen up and revel in family fun! Amid laughter and splashes, young and old alike can whoop it up after a day of exploration at the heart of the park. A large wood playground area is also accessible near by! 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 Visitors 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.





## 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.

## Excursions by Night

**By night, the park's face changes altogether...**

Our excursions by night are reserved for campers, and wake up your senses to uniquely immerse you into Mother Nature's paradise. **Nocte Sylvam** invites you to a hike in the forest beside a naturalist park warden, while **our rabaska excursion** lets you slide on the water under the stars. Little noises, fragrances, sensations... The night transforms the experience.

**Will you dare discover the surroundings in another way?**



**Activity offered upon reservation.**

Find out more at Grosbois Visitors Centre.

## 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:** To find out about timetables and accesses, please inquire at the reception desk or consult our various buildings' signs!

## 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.



## 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



Bobolink

## When Response and Action Equate Protection

Since 2005, the park has been confronted by a Virginia deer overpopulation problem. A second deer herd shrinkage operation took place in the fall of 2024. It enabled us to draw **96 out of a herd of at least 156 deer** in the *parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville*. The control measures intend to limit pressure exerted on the vegetation by these cervids' grazing, in order to promote the ecosystems' natural restoration and ensure survival of many 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 **60,000 meat portions!**

## Operation Ash

For many years now, the park's forest ecosystem has been coming under steady attack by the emerald ash borer. Over time, this xylophilous insect impedes sap circulation within the ash trees, thus causing these to slowly but inevitably die. Recently, for safety reasons, we had to react to an excessive amount of dead ash trees. Thus in certain areas of the park, you will be in a position to notice a number of wood-cutting operations. **The stubs and snags we leave behind will be used by birds as perches and nesting places.** Mother Nature will eventually reclaim her rights, but we have already scheduled plantations to give her a little helping hand!



## From Birds to (Little) Birds!

**A sense of pride is filling all members of the conservation team: the work they have put in on Île de La Commune is bringing forth fruit!** Restoration of former farm lands has attracted certain bird species in unsettled situations, including **the bobolink and the barn swallow**, which are nesting from here on in the park! Even **the short-eared owl** has been noticed twice over the past year! With our eyes glued to the binoculars, we will very closely and attentively monitor the mating/breeding season about to begin. Who knows, maybe little owls will be born at the heart of this nature haven gotten back in its varied and generous groove!

# 5 ground rules to follow in nature

## Our national parks

get millions of visits each year. Harmful behaviors can cause permanent damage to the environment and hinder other visitors' experience. Let's do our part to protect nature so we can all enjoy it for years to come.



### Stay on trails and in designated visitor areas

Don't step off the trails or walk in the undergrowth to avoid trampling plants and compacting the soil.



### Do not gather dead wood

Help preserve the undergrowth by leaving dead wood in place. It serves as shelter for wildlife and enriches the soil after decomposing.



### Do not feed wildlife

Allow animals to feed themselves so they can follow their natural instincts. Keep all foods out of their reach.



### Keep your distance when observing animals

Repeated disturbances can alter their behavior and affect their ability to find food, mate, and communicate with each other.



### Be mindful of the peace and quiet and adhere to curfews

Noise frightens wildlife, and people visit national parks to enjoy nature. Please follow curfews and refrain from making noise at all times.

