

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 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. Mesmerizing scenery, peace and quiet all guaranteed!



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 **OFFICIAL INAUGURATION**

All Discovery Stops are now 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
	Île-Grosbois – 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
	Île-Sainte-Marguerite – 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
	Île-de-la-Commune – 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 lushier 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
	Grande-Rivière – From plain to woodlands along the magnificent Saint-Lawrence, this trail plunges into the very essence of the Parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville's main sceneries.	4 km loop	1 h 30	E	Discovery and Services Centre
	Île-aux-Raisins – 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!	7.3 km Loop	2 h 30	I	
	Petite-Rivière – The Petite Rivière has quite a story to be told. Follow this pathway to take in some time travel and delve into the Îles-de-Boucherville's historical highlights.	2.5 km Loop	45 min	E	
	Grand-Duc – At the very heart of Île Sainte-Marguerite, 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	
	Grand-Héron – The Saint-Lawrence: mysterious and attractive. Take advantage of a canoe or sea kayak trip to explore the Chenal du Courant's 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	
	Castor – 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 Îles-de-Boucherville. You will make exceptional discoveries, including mister beaver!	4 km Loop	1 h	E	Grosbois Services Centre
*Durations and difficulty levels are mentioned as guides, and apply to the summer season.		E: Easy		I: Intermediate	D: Difficult

 Hiking
  Biking
  Pleasure Boating
  Brochure/Panels
  Family Experience
  Dogs Allowed - sepaq.com/animaux





- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 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 (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 | Bus stop Réseau de transport de Longueuil |
| Boat launch | |
| Pavilion | |



0 250 500 1 000 m

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
Banque de données Sépaq	2023
Cartes topographiques	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 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 will develop **NEW** wade fishing areas during this season to enable you to fish at your leisure in a truly delightful setting.

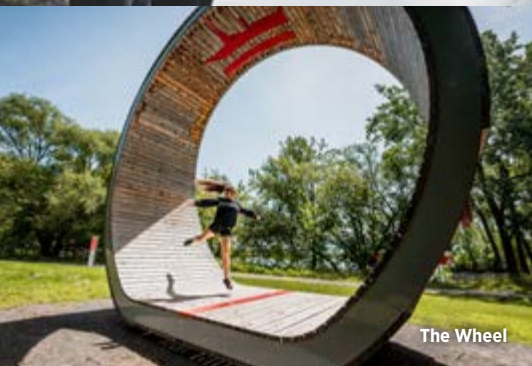
Fishing licences (mandatory) available at the Discovery and Services Centre.

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 Wheel



The Tower



The Channels

NEW IN THE PARK

Discovery Stops

This summer, the park will deploy a new path of discovery stops, an immersive, interactive route whereby you will get acquainted with these islands' natural beauty, fauna, flora and history in an atmosphere of pleasure, comfort and wonder.



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

During the 2023 summer, a new discovery trail will beckon you: the magnificent Île-aux-Raisins trail. Find out about the tree species that manage to survive in this flood plain, and perk up your senses thanks to the sensory featurettes positioned all along the trail!

Do not miss it!

When:
During the
summer of 2023



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.

DISCOVERY 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.

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

CONSERVE FOR TOMORROW



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.

Virginia Deer: More Populous than Ever

From this point on, the overabundance of Virginia Deer in the park represents a critical conservation issue, jeopardizing the park's conservation mission by causing and driving major harmful environmental impacts on its ecosystems. We identified nearly 436 Virginia deer in the territory of the parc national des Îles-de-Boucherville as part of the January 2023 aerial survey. The pressure exerted on the vegetation by these cervids' constant grazing and browsing curtails any regeneration and jeopardizes survival of several rare plant species. This major unbalance has led us to map out and implement a response plan in order to control and regulate this overpopulation.

Did you know that the Virginia deer population density at the park is 8 times higher than the optimal density?

Uplifting Plantations!

As a result of massive plantings carried out in 2017 in order to reclaim old farmlands, we had evaluated the average mortality rate to be 22%. This mortality is brought about by various environmental factors such as plant competition, periods of drought, strong winds, soil compaction, winter frost and freeze-up, or damage caused by meadow voles.

In order to compensate for these natural losses, the park's team planted a total of 1,815 plants, comprising 895 trees and 920 shrubs, in the fall of 2022.

We Are Expanding!

As part of our master plan for reclamation of old farmlands, we have gone to great lengths to control new common reed colonies. Over the winter of 2023, we covered up around one hectare of common reed colonies. The tarpaulins will stay in place for two years, following which we will move them over twice to stifle other colonies. By 2027, the control operation will have led to a 26-hectare expansion of the reed-free area, which has already attained 62 hectares.

Keeping Control!

Several invasive exotic plant species are henceforth part of the regional landscape, but some of them exercise adverse impact on conservation of the park's ecosystems, such as the common reed, European buckthorn, garlic mustard and Japanese knotweed. Thanks to the *Fondation de la faune du Québec*'s financial contribution, a major control project was initiated at the park in 2022, allowing us to choke the latter three plants on areas totalling almost 43,000 m².

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
des Îles-de-Boucherville



PCF



sepaq.com/ilesdeboucherville

Photos: Béatrice Trudeau-Duquette, Mathieu Dupuis,
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