

Kejimikujik

Visitor Guide and Map 2023

Pjila'si / Welcome

Come in and find your place at Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site. For generations, people have connected to nature and culture in this landscape of forests, lakes, rivers, and the Atlantic Coast.

Kejimikujik is the only national park in Canada that is also designated a national historic site in its entirety. It protects a rich cultural landscape, deeply understood and cared for by the Mi'kmaq for millennia through to today and into the future.

Kejimikujik is also a Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Dark-Sky Preserve. With some of the darkest skies on the eastern seaboard, it is a spectacular place to view and learn about the night sky.

Located 100 km from the inland site, Kejimikujik National Park Seaside is a coastal wilderness and hiking destination where the power of the Atlantic Ocean is on display.

No matter where you choose to explore, there's a place for everyone at Kejimikujik. This guide is meant to help you find yours.



Sleep Under the Stars



Jerry Black

Spend the night in Nova Scotia's only Dark-Sky Preserve!
Choose from non-electrical and electrical campsites, group camping, backcountry campsites, or one of four types of roofed accommodations (oTENTiK, Oasis, rustic cabins, or the yurt). For more information, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-camping.



All camping and roofed accommodation reservations must be made by calling 1-877-RESERVE (1-877-737-3783) or by visiting reservation.pc.gc.ca.

A Paddler's Paradise

Paddling is a great way to explore Kejimikujik! Dip in your paddle and follow the same canoe routes the Mi'kmaq have travelled for thousands of years.

From Jakes Landing:

1. Mersey River (1 to 2 hours)
Head upstream into the peaceful waters of a Red maple floodplain. Marsh birds, beaver activity, water lilies, and easy paddling make this trip ideal for families or beginners.

2. Kejimikujik Lake – Islands (2 to 3 hours)
Paddle among the lake's islands to experience vistas of huge granite boulders and windswept pines. Pack a lunch and take a break at the day-use picnic area at Nancy Cove.



Check weather conditions and paddling routes before heading out on the water. When paddling in Kejimikujik, you must follow the legally binding Transport Canada Minimum Safety Equipment Requirements for canoes and kayaks less than 6 m in length.

For other tips on staying safe, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-safety. Do not enter the Petroglyph areas.

Guided Activities

For more details, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-guided or pick up a schedule when you arrive. To register for a program, call 902-682-2772 or stop in at the Visitor Centre.

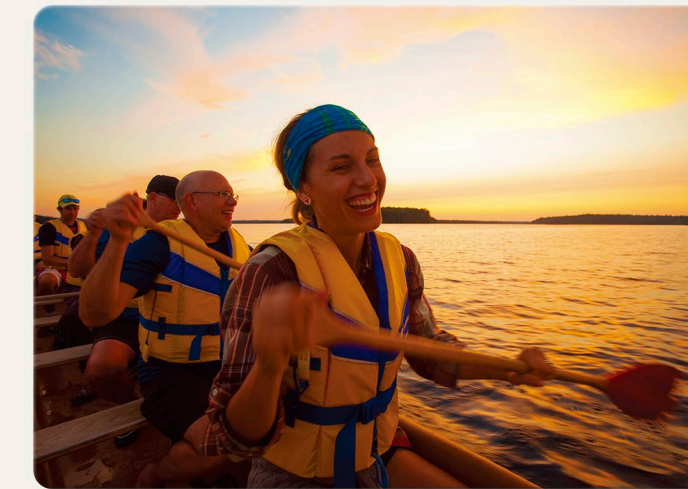
Petroglyph Tours

The only way to view the petroglyphs is with a Parks Canada guide. In July and August, choose between a daily walking tour (free) or a weekly **big canoe paddle** to the petroglyph site.



Mi'kmaq Birch Bark Canoe-Building

Witness the ancient craft of birch bark canoe-building with master craftsman **Todd Labrador**, a seventh-generation Mi'kmaq from the Kejimikujik region.



Guided Paddles and Hikes

Climb aboard a **big canoe** or head down a **hiking trail** and get the inside scoop on all things Kejimikujik. Your personal guides are treasure troves of essential natural and cultural knowledge!

Kejimikujik Stewards



Join the amazing community of people volunteering behind the scenes! There's something for everyone - from fishing in freshwater to looking for plovers by the sea, from watching turtles nest to tending butterfly gardens, from camphouse hosting to monitoring lakes for LoonWatch. Collect a unique patch for each volunteer activity you do!

To learn more about how to join this special community and make your mark, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-volunteer.



Stay Safe and Keep Wildlife Wild!

- Do not approach or feed wildlife.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times. Off-leash pets may disturb or harm wildlife.
- Avoid attracting wildlife by keeping your campsite clean and by storing food and waste securely at all times. Never store food or any smelly products (e.g. toothpaste, soap, etc.) in your tent.
- If you see a bear, don't run; back away slowly and speak in a soft voice.
- If you see a coyote, don't run; back away slowly, act big, and make noise.
- Please report any bear or coyote sightings to staff.

Afternoon Edutainment

Kids of all ages can visit us at the beach for a **"Creature Feature"** and discover some flora and fauna fun facts, or check out a short **puppet show** with special natural and cultural-based teachings.



Guided Gatherings

Finish your day with a group **campfire experience** in Jeremy's Bay Campground or a **Mi'kmaq encampment** program where traditions and customs are brought to life through demonstrations, stories, craft, and songs.



Dark-Sky Experiences

After dark, delve into distant celestial bodies in **Nova Scotia's only Dark-Sky Preserve**. Weaving together sky lore and modern discoveries, guided programs blend science and storytelling to create an experience as unique as a shooting star.

Prefer a **self-guided dark-sky experience**? Rent a **dark-sky kit** from the Visitor Centre. For more details, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-darksky.

Friends of Keji Cooperating Association

Providing for your enjoyment:

- **By the Mersey Gift Shop** inside the Visitor Centre
- **The Tuck Shoppe** in Jeremy's Bay Campground. Enjoy ice cream daily! June 30 to September 3 (1 pm to 8 pm)
- Firewood and ice for sale at the Campground Kiosk
- **Wi-Fi hotspots** outside the Visitor Centre and the Tuck Shoppe.
- Special events and programs such as the **Campground Host Program**, the annual **Friends of Keji Photo Contest**, the **Commemorative Bench Program**, and the **Pumpkin Carving Contest and Display** on Thanksgiving weekend.

Cash will not be accepted at any location in 2023.

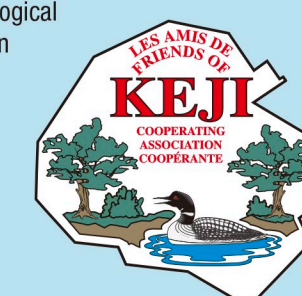


Celebrating 25 years of supporting Parks Canada's mandate to protect and present the natural and cultural heritage of Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site!

The Friends of Keji also support ecological protection and restoration through an active volunteer program.

Follow us on Facebook

Become a member today and make a difference!
friendsofkeji.ns.ca
info@friendsofkeji.ns.ca



Plan Your Visit

Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site
3005 Main Parkway
Box 236
Maitland Bridge, NS
BOT 1B0

Information

Web: parks.canada.ca/kejimikujik
Email: kejimikujik@pc.gc.ca
Visitor Centre: 902-682-2772
National Information Centre: 1-888-773-8888

Camping Reservations (including cancellations/refunds) reservation.pc.gc.ca or call 1-877-RESERVE (1-877-737-3783)

For details on the Parks Canada Perfect Picnic program, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-picnic.



Follow us:

[@kejimikujik](https://facebook.com/kejimikujik) [@ParksCanada_NS](https://twitter.com/ParksCanada_NS) [@parks.canada](https://instagram.com/parks.canada)

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

Police, Fire, Ambulance (Emergency only)
911

Ambassadors/Security (For First Aid, excessive noise, and minor disturbances in the campground)
902-298-0668
10 am to 12:30 am (Sunday to Wednesday)
10 am to 1:30 am (Thursday to Saturday)

Wildlife Incidents, Wildfire, Overdue/Lost person, Boating accident, REPORT A POACHER
1-800-565-2224

Looking For Ideas?

2 hour visit - Red Chair Treasure Hunt

Pressed for time but want to discover Kejimikujik in a fun way? Pick up a copy of the Red Chairs Map at the Visitor Centre and see how many sets of red chairs you can find. Have a seat, take a selfie, and at each location, learn what makes that spot special.



2 hour to a half day visit - Hit the Trails!

Weave your way through the landscape on Kejimikujik's newest shared-use trail! Set out from Mill Falls and cross the new pedestrian bridge over flowing waters to reach Ukme'k. Pronounced "ook-may-k", the name means "twisted" in Mi'kmaq and was inspired by the path the trail takes as it follows the Mersey River.

Choose your own adventure by challenging yourself with the optional rock jumps or bypass them by sticking to the main trail. Not ready to turn back when you reach the rainbow crosswalk? Connect to the Mersey River Trail and Slapfoot to follow the lakeshore to the campground, rounding out your visit with a swim at one of the beaches along the way.



A half day visit - Connect with Mi'kmaq Culture

Discover a story over 4,000 years in the making, here at Kejimikujik for you to hear, see, and feel. Start your cultural adventure at the Visitor Centre and learn how the Mi'kmaq have been, and still are, deeply connected to this landscape.

Bring a **Parks Canada Perfect Picnic** to enjoy on the shores of Kejimikujik Lake at Merrymakegde. Here you can visit the Birch Bark Canoe Shop and witness the resurgence of an ancient Mi'kmaq craft with Todd Labrador, a seventh generation Mi'kmaq from the Kejimikujik region. See the summer Guided Activities schedule for other cultural programs offered during your visit.



A day visit - Come for a Paddle, Stay for the Stars!

Experience what Kejimikujik is renowned for - paddling and stars! Rent a canoe or a kayak at Jakes Landing and set out for Kejimikujik Lake. Stop at Nancy Cove for a swim and enjoy a picnic on the sandy beach.

Once back on shore, go for an evening stroll on the scenic Slapfoot Trail. After watching the sun set, head to the Sky Circle to marvel at the Milky Way. Gaze upon star studded skies as you ponder the meaning of life... and plan your next visit.



Follow the Rules

Help protect Kejimikujik for generations to come. Please familiarize yourself with the regulations and follow them during your visit.

- In Nova Scotia, cyclists must wear a bicycle helmet. It's the law.
- Pets must always be on leash and never be left unattended. Please clean up after your pet.
- Alcohol may only be consumed on registered campsites.
- To learn where you can smoke or vape cannabis or tobacco, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-bulletins.
- Areas may be closed to protect natural or cultural resources.
- Petroglyph areas are closed to the public. Contact the Visitor Centre to book a Petroglyph Tour.
- It is illegal to operate a drone in Kejimikujik.
- Refer to your camping permit for campground-related regulations.
- Backcountry campsites are for registered campers only; please respect their privacy.

Campfires

- Campfires are only permitted in designated fire boxes and must never be left unattended.
- To protect Kejimikujik's forests from invasive insects like the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), only firewood purchased in Kejimikujik is permitted with some specific exceptions.
- Do not collect wood from the forest.



Did you Know?

- Provincial Motor Vehicle legislation is applicable and enforced in Kejimikujik.
- It is unsafe and illegal to ride in the back of a truck.
- Speeding and failure to stop at the entrance kiosk poses a safety hazard and is against the law.

Whynot Adventure



Want to explore Kejimikujik but don't know where to start?

Whynot Adventure can help!

Located at Jakes Landing, they rent canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, and bicycles at hourly, daily, and weekly rates. They also provide guided backcountry adventures, camping equipment, and cooking gear. Shuttles are available but must be booked in advance online.

For reservations: whynotadventure.ca
Questions: 902-682-2282



Take to the Trails

Explore an incredible variety of habitats and scenery on Kejimikujik's 35 km of front-country trails. With the addition of Ukme'k, you can travel all the way from Mill Falls to Meadow Beach almost entirely on trails!

Keep the following in mind so everyone can have an enjoyable and safe trail experience:

- **Share the trail!** Thank you for being courteous to other trail users.
- Cyclists, yield to pedestrians and wear a helmet.
- Staying on the trail protects trailside vegetation.
- **Take only photographs.** It is illegal to pick flowers, mushrooms, cut down trees, branches, remove rocks, cultural artifacts or otherwise cause damage to natural objects or living things.



Geocaching

Geocaching is an addictive treasure hunt the whole family can enjoy. For details on Kejimikujik's caches, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-geocaching.

No GPS? No problem! Download the Geocaching® app to your smart phone or borrow a GPS from the Visitor Centre.

The geocaching offer at Kejimikujik is made possible by a partnership with the **Association of Nova Scotia Geocaching**.



Fishing

Did you know National Parks of Canada Fishing Regulations differ from Provincial Regulations? Fishing permits are sold at the Visitor Centre and through local vendors. (Season: April 1 - August 31)

New Kejimikujik sport fishing rules were introduced in 2019 after the invasive Chain pickerel was confirmed in Kejimikujik's waters. These new rules continue in 2023:

- All non-invasive fish are catch and release only.
- Mandatory retention of invasive fish (Smallmouth bass and Chain pickerel)
- Fishing tackle may only include single barbless hooks.
- No person shall use natural bait of any kind, including minnows and earthworms.



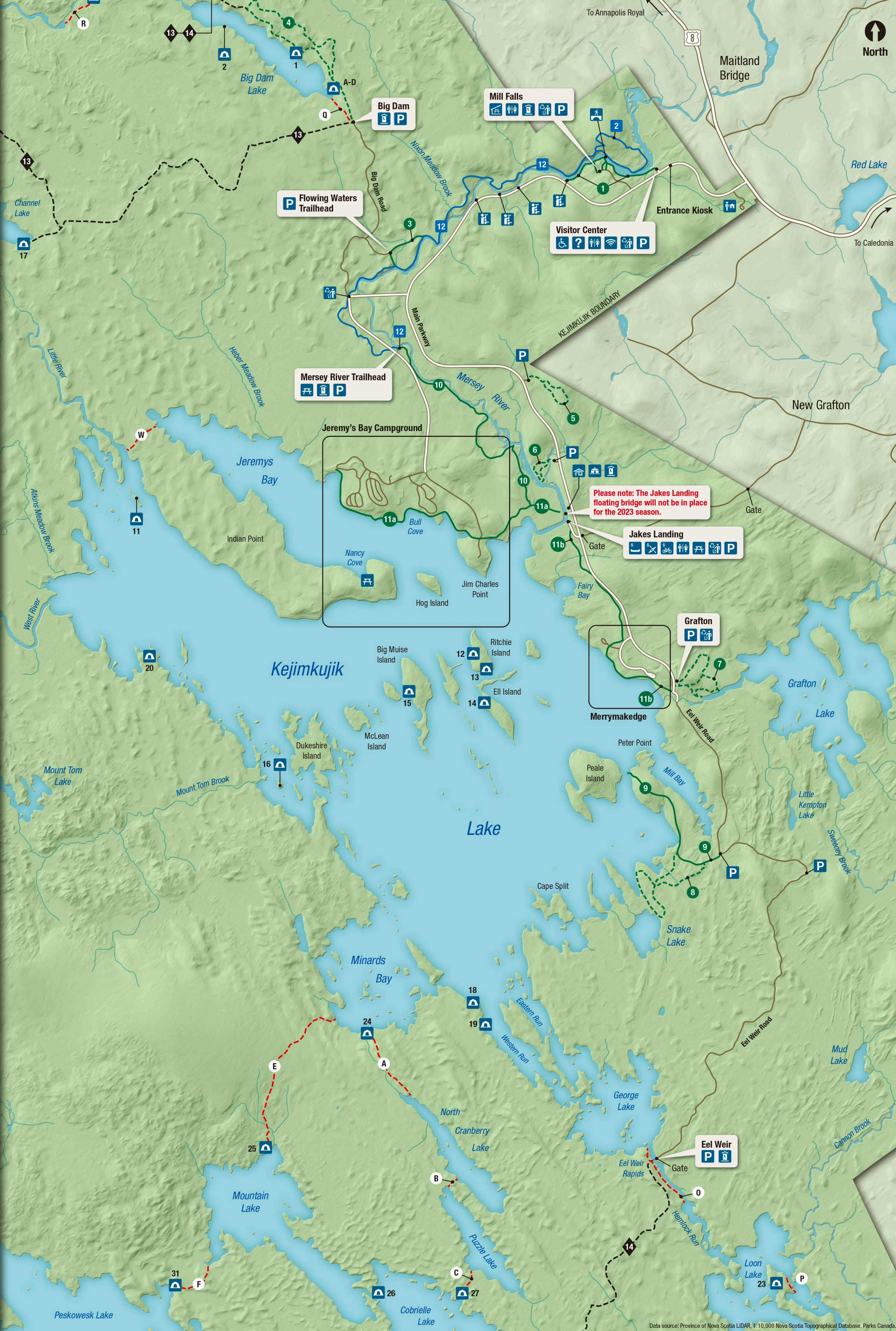
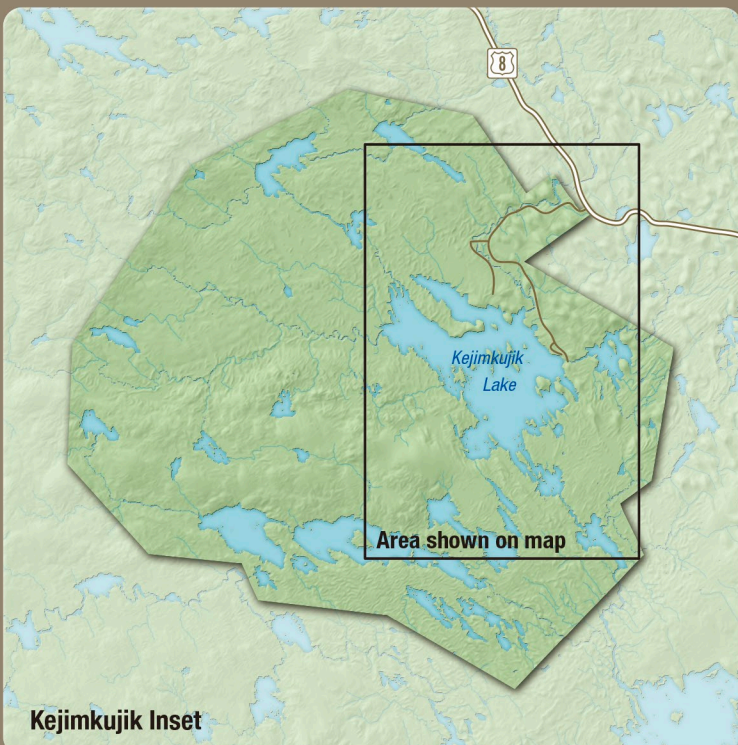
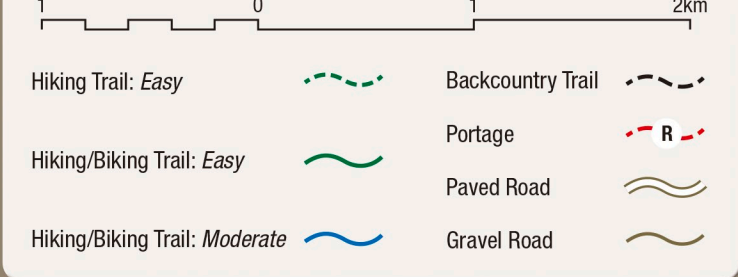
Your fishing permit comes with an **Angler Diary** for you to record the amount of time spent fishing, areas fished, and the number of fish caught. Please complete and return your diary to help Resource Conservation staff assess Chain pickerel abundance, new areas, and rate of spread, as well as native fish species abundance and distribution. As a thank you, you'll receive this year's commemorative Kejimikujik Fish Management Volunteer Researcher crest (Golden shiner) to wear proudly.

For more information on fishing in Kejimikujik, including where to buy a permit, visit parks.canada.ca/keji-fishing. Interested in fishing-related volunteer opportunities? Visit parks.canada.ca/keji-volunteer



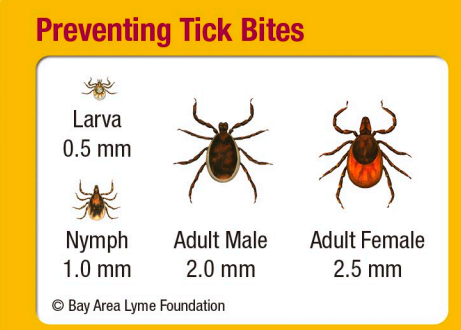
Services and Facilities

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Warden Office | Swimming |
| Barrier-free Access | Sky Circle |
| Information | Campfire Circle |
| Gender-specific Washrooms | Group Camping |
| Gender-inclusive Accessible Washrooms | Backcountry Camping |
| Outhouse | Canoe Rental |
| Wi-Fi | Kayak Rental |
| Parking | Bicycle Rental |
| Sorting Station | oTENTik |
| Pedestrian Bridge | Ôasis |
| Picnic Shelter | Rustic Cabin |
| Picnic Area | Yurt |
| Lookout | No Dogs |
| Playground | Dogs on Leash Allowed |



Front-country Trails	Distance	Type	Description
1 Mill Falls	2 km return	Linear	Big hemlocks calm the mind. Mill Falls lifts the spirit. <i>Gateway to Ukme'k.</i>
2 Beech Grove	2.2 km	Loop	Head uphill through a beech forest then down hemlock slopes to Mill Falls. <i>Gateway to Ukme'k.</i>
3 Flowing Waters	1 km	Loop	Wander through a wetland and along the banks of the Mersey River. <i>Gateway to Ukme'k.</i>
4 Hemlocks & Hardwoods	5 km	Loop	Travel through old-growth hemlocks, some of which sprouted when the Mi'kmaq were the only people to inhabit this landscape.
5 Farmlands	1.1 km	Loop	Discover the site of a 19th century farm, built atop a drumlin and since reclaimed by a White pine forest.
6 Rogers Brook	1 km	Loop	Meander through a Red maple floodplain, watching for turtles, frogs, birds, and beavers.
7 Grafton Woods	2 x 1.6 km	Loops	Amble among towering pines and gnarled beech trees on this two-loop trail.
8 Snake Lake	3 km	Loop	Explore diverse forests, wetlands, and shorelines on this figure-eight trail.
9 Peter Point	1.9 km one way	Linear	Pass maples, hemlocks, wetlands, and shorelines to arrive at a small but lovely sand beach.
10 Mersey River	3.3 km one way	Linear	Wind your way along the forested riverbanks of this ancient waterway known as "Oqomikikiaq" in Mi'kmaq. <i>Gateway to Ukme'k.</i>
11a Slapfoot	3.7 km one way	Linear	Skirt the forested shoreline of Kejimikujik Lake for views of iconic islands and points named after local legends.
11b Slapfoot	2.7 km one way	Linear	**Please note: The Jakes Landing floating bridge will not be in place for the 2023 season.
12 Ukme'k	6.3 km one way	Linear	Twist and turn with the Mersey River as you weave your way through the landscape. Take it easy or challenge yourself with the optional technical features. Visit parks.canada.ca/keji-ukmek to explore the trail using an ArcGIS StoryMap.

Backcountry Trails	Distance	Type	Description
13 Channel Lake	24 km	Loop	Consult the Kejimikujik Backcountry Guide for details on this wilderness hiking experience.
14 Liberty Lake	56 km one way	Linear	Consult the Kejimikujik Backcountry Guide for details on this wilderness hiking experience.



Blacklegged ticks are present in Kejimikujik and are known carriers of the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. They are found in most vegetated habitats and are similar in size to a poppy seed as nymphs and to a sesame seed as adults.

Protect Yourself

- **Cover up:** Wear long sleeves and tuck pants into socks to prevent tick bites.
- **Spray:** Spray feet, ankles, and legs with insect repellent.
- **Self check:** Daily self checks of yourself, your family, and your pets can reduce the risk of infection. If you find an attached tick, follow the Public Health Agency of Canada's guidelines for prompt removal.

Data source: Province of Nova Scotia LIDAR, 1:10,000 Nova Scotia Topographical Database, Parks Canada, Cartographic / Graphic Design: Marcel Morin (Lost Art Cartography)