

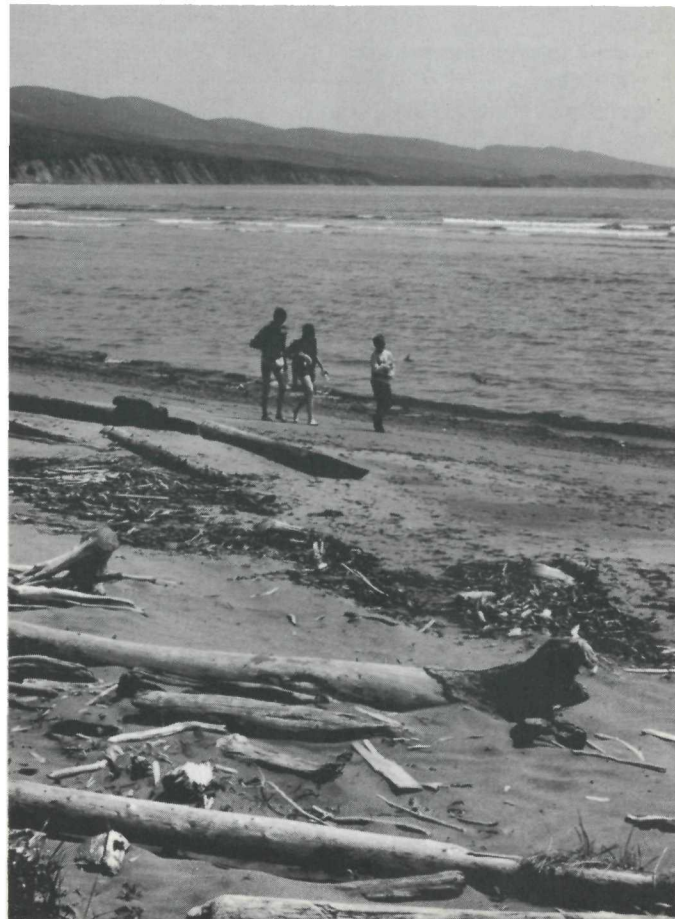
How Can I Benefit From Forillon National Park?

The charm and scenic beauty of the Gaspé Peninsula have already earned it fame as a tourist region. But Forillon National Park will draw even greater numbers of visitors to the area, and these numbers are expected to increase each year. This means that everyone living in the region will not only be able to enjoy the new park, but can also share in the growth Forillon will bring to the region.

These visitors will require a number of new services. They will need food, gasoline, auto repairs, laundry facilities and other necessities. They will also want to shop for souvenirs, clothes and sporting goods, and to bowl, attend a movie, dance or visit a beauty parlour.

To supply their needs, new restaurants, garages, laundries, theatres, shops... every type of establishment that caters to people's needs... must be provided in areas outside the park, in towns and villages.

Some visitors will stay for less than a day and others will camp in the park, but many will seek lodgings outside park borders. Therefore various types of accommodation will be in demand.



All this, of course, means potential economic growth for the owners and operators of stores, restaurants and other businesses. It will also create new employment opportunities for people living in the area and offer them a chance to learn those new skills and trades necessary to the tourist industry.

People will be required to manage and work in the stores, hotels, garages and restaurants. There will be a demand for construction workers for development both inside the park and in areas surrounding it. New faces will be drawn to the region and they will exert new demands for goods and services.

Although a large number of visitors will be from the Province of Québec, the park is also expected to attract tourists from other parts of Canada and the United States. Many will be intrigued by the unique charm of the Gaspé region and will want to spend time exploring the countryside, visiting the towns and villages and meeting the people. Whether they return, or whether they recommend Forillon National Park and the Gaspé to their friends, will depend a great deal on how they are treated as guests.

What is Planned for Forillon National Park?

Forillon National Park is approximately 90 square miles in area and was created in June 1970 by the signing of an agreement between federal and provincial authorities. This agreement calls for the transfer of all park lands to the federal government by December 31st, 1970.

The first permanent facilities will probably be installed throughout 1971/72, but some temporary facilities such as picnic areas are already in operation.

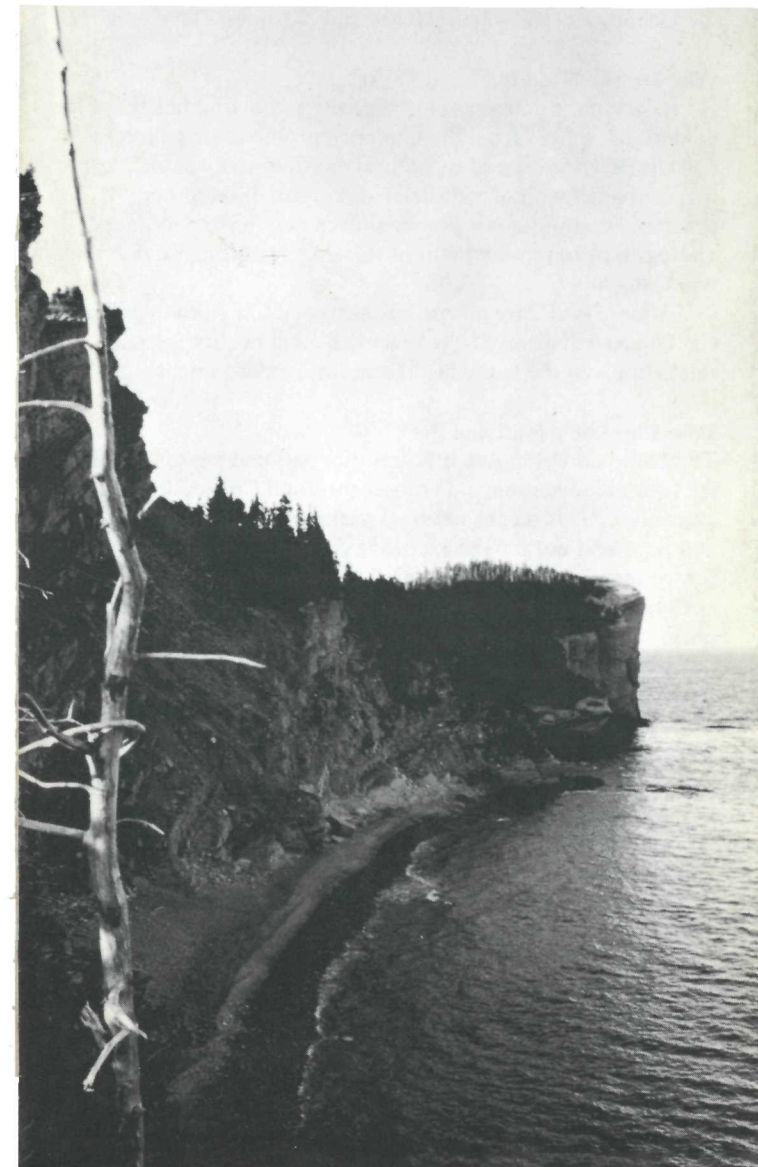
The park should be fully operational by 1975/76, but many people will have already visited it by that time.

When fully developed, Forillon National Park is expected to draw about 500,000 visitors a year. They will include many different types of people from every income level. Visitors will range from Boy Scout groups to honeymooners to businessmen, but most will be families with children. Many will be from large cities and Forillon National Park will offer them a rare chance to enjoy the peace and tranquility of both wilderness and seascape environments.

Facts on

Canada's National Parks

Forillon National Park



What is a National Park?

A national park is an area of unusual beauty, a living nature museum set aside to preserve the land and its wildlife in their original forms. Extending across the Canadian nation, Canada's constantly expanding national parks system presently measures approximately 30,000 square miles and includes almost 25 parks. Almost every type of Canadian landscape is represented in this system—the rugged mountains of the far west, forests and grasslands of the prairies, central Canada's lake-dotted woodlands, and the coastal beauty of the Atlantic and Pacific.

Canada's national parks system is administered for the federal government by the National and Historic Parks Branch of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Why Do We Need National Parks?

Even Canada, a country famed for the extent and beauty of its wilderness, suffers from the universal problems of pollution and the deterioration of its natural environment caused by the increasing demand of industrial and urban development. If this trend continues our grandchildren may have only faded photographs to remind them of the wilderness beauty that once was Canada.

National parks are a form of insurance... a guarantee that Canadians will always have places of quiet beauty for rest, relaxation and the study of their natural environment.

Who Can Use a National Park?

The National Parks Act specifies that national parks are for the benefit, education and enjoyment of all Canadians, now and future. This means national parks are for everyone, rich and poor and not for the exclusive enjoyment of a privileged few or members of private clubs.

Foreign visitors are also welcome to Canada's national parks.

Are National Parks Expensive?

Most services operated by park authorities are free, from guided nature hikes to picnic facilities.

Government campgrounds are inexpensive with daily fees ranging from \$1.50 for a primitive site to \$2.50 for one fully serviced with electricity, water, and sewage connections.

Some parks offer service and recreational facilities operated by private businesses; charges for these vary but are comparable to those found in most resort areas.

In some national parks there is a nominal charge (up to \$2.00) for each automobile entering the park, although there is no fee for visitors entering by other forms of private transportation.

What Can I Do in a National Park?

National parks are not designed to fill every recreational need. Rather visitors are encouraged to enjoy activities which bring them in close contact with nature, yet are not opposed to the natural environment.

Activities common to most parks include camping, hiking, swimming, fishing, boating, nature study, photography, sight-seeing and picnicking. Other types of recreation vary according to the park environment. In some, for example, you can ski, climb mountains or bathe in mineral hot springs. Others have facilities for sailing and saltwater swimming. All except the most remote parks maintain excellent campgrounds, and a system of hiking and riding trails and driveways leading through the park's most scenic areas.

An important service common to nearly all national parks is an interpretation program where skilled naturalists help visitors understand the park's complex natural environment and the roles played by its plants, animals, land formations and climate. These free programs include guided hikes, slide-illustrated lectures, special exhibits and self-interpreting walking trails.

National parks are sanctuaries and special care is taken to maintain them in their natural state so that everyone can continue to enjoy them. For this reason there is no hunting in national parks and visitors are asked not to disturb the wildlife, plants, trees, rocks...even the flowers.

What Facilities will I Find in a National Park?

Service and recreational facilities vary with each park. Some offer motels, resort hotels, tennis courts, cinemas, shops, golf courses...even summer art schools. Others, such as Banff and Jasper, have urban townsites, but they were established before the national parks policy was clearly defined and will not be included in new parks.

To keep damage of the environment to a minimum, development in new parks will be limited to those basic recreational and service facilities consistent with the natural-use theme. They will include picnic areas, sanitary installations, basic boating facilities, supervised swimming beaches, hiking and riding trails and scenic drives.

Accommodation in new parks will be limited to campgrounds.

Where Can I Find Additional Facilities?

The government is encouraging private businesses to establish motels, restaurants, stores, garages...all the services needed by the modern tourist...just outside park entrances. This keeps private development outside the park and at the same time allows the area to benefit economically from the influx of tourists which a national park inevitably produces.

Can I Buy Land or Build a Cottage in a National Park?

National parks belong to all the people of Canada and not just a special few, so private land purchase is not permitted.

There are cottages in some of the older parks, on land leased from the government, however this type of development will not take place in new parks.

How is a National Park Developed?

The first stage in a new park's development is the preparation of a master plan with a special park theme, and showing where and when roads, campsites and other facilities will be built. During the planning stages provincial authorities and the public are encouraged to submit ideas which will assist national park personnel in producing an imaginative and effective development plan.

Major development of a new national park takes from between three to six years, but temporary facilities are usually installed early during the development period so that the public can enjoy some areas of the park.

Where Can I Get More Information on Canada's National Parks?

For more information write to:

The Director,
National and Historic Parks Branch,
Department of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development,
400 Laurier Avenue West,
Ottawa, Ontario.