



Kouchibouguac
National Park

VISITOR GUIDE 2021



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

Canada

WELCOME!

Welcome home to Kouchibouguac National Park! What does Kouchibouguac mean to you? Is it a Mi'gmaq word meaning "the river of long tides" or "the river that flows and grows into the forest"? Is it your favourite beach or campground? Is it your favourite spot for trout fishing? Is it a place that brings back fond memories of a time before this park was a park? Most importantly, Kouchibouguac National Park is here for you and for all Canadians. It is here to preserve one of the most beautiful landscapes in our great country.

This 238 km² park protects and presents a spectacular and dynamic coastal zone composed of sandy barrier islands, estuaries, tidal rivers, salt marshes, bogs, forests, and freshwater lakes and streams. Our teams work tirelessly to protect the health of these ecosystems and the species that inhabit them. They also work to welcome you and ensure that everyone's experience is a safe and enjoyable one while making visitors aware of the importance of protecting this very precious place when they enjoy activities in the park.

As you explore Kouchibouguac National Park, you can camp, relax on the beach, swim, cycle, hike, or possibly take part in a guided activity. As expected, once again this year, we will need to adapt our behaviours to COVID-19 directives while visiting the park. That being said... how privileged we are to be able to get outdoors, and take in the natural setting and activities this park has to offer. The park is there for you. So have fun exploring! Make sure you keep these experiences in your hearts and memories... and come back and see us... in YOUR Kouchibouguac National Park.

Géraldine Arsenaault
SUPERINTENDENT
NORTHERN NEW BRUNSWICK FIELD UNIT
PARKS CANADA

EPTJILITAAG!

Eptjiasi Kouchibouguac National Park! Tal tetemen gil taloag Kouchibouguac otjit giil? Migemaoei na glosogagen teloag "sipo tan pitjipogogeg" gesnet "sipo tan pisgoitg nepogtog"? Maoigsatemen giil oot sitem tet gesnet tan gotjemog etl maoolting ag gentgonim? Gesatemen etg goitamen tet? Pogoitetemen ola magemigeo geseg menag Parkinogeg? Tan gepemeg na Kouchibouguac National Park ne eteg otjit giil ag emset Canadianag. Eteg na otjit maliaptemeneo tan maoi oelamog magemigeo tan eteg gemetinag.

Ola 238 km² park na maliapteg ag neatog tan memon oelamogel sitemel tjtajitgog tan negetategel menigol, nemetjigtenn, sipol, salaoegel emgogtel, nipogtel, gospemel ag tjjpotjijtjel. Logeoinoog na atigenitatjig tan tel maliaptemititj oelpemiagten ecosystem ag tan tesit oisis tan oigit. Oeltasoalessig tan totjo pegisin ag genoatagetitjig tan tel gepemeg ola magemigeo tan totjo eoegetotitj park.

Tan teli alasin Kouchibouguac National Park, gisi campeoites, sangeoetes sitemog, algasin, amalegan gesnet gisi etgoeioates tan notji gegenoatagetititeotjeg. Gato gogeo paseg otji telogetes neotei gogei? Pogelg gogei teloge, tje tlai emset gogei telogen! Eteg na park otjit giil. Egsalsi tan tel oetjigon gogei pilei gesnet apatji nasalsi tan gogei gesatemotep gesnet tan gogei nenemen. Egamlamong igato ag tan pegoitetes oetjigoategemg. Ap tjogoetes ag nemiitesnen... ola gignag Kouchibouguac National Park.

Géraldine Arsenaault
NIGANES
OGATNOGEI NEW BRUNSWICK FIELD UNIT
PARKS CANADA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	Entry Fees
5	Visitor Centre
6	COVID-19
7	Visitor Safety
8	Campgrounds
10	Trail Guide
12	Map
14	Biking and Paddling
15	Motorized Watercrafts
16	Beach Dreaming
17	Dark Sky Preserve
18	A Closer Look at Our Fauna
21	A Closer Look at Our Flora
22	Mi'gmaq Teachings
23	Programs and Activities

ENTRY FEES

Revenue generated from fees is reinvested in park services and facilities such as the maintenance of park roads, trails and day-use areas, public safety measures as well as information and interpretation services.

**FREE ADMISSION
FOR YOUTH 17
AND UNDER**

	Adult 18-64	Senior 65+	Youth 17 and under	Family ● Group Up to seven people arriving in a single vehicle.
Daily				
Summer June 26 - Sept. 6 Winter Dec. 1 - March 31	\$7.90	\$6.90	Free	\$16
Spring April 1 - June 25 Fall Sept. 7 - Nov. 30	\$3.90	\$3.20	Free	\$8
Kouchibouguac Seasonal Pass				
Early Bird April 1 - June 14	\$24.02	\$21.05	Free	\$60.09
Regular Rate	\$40.06	\$35.05	Free	\$80.23
Fall Season	\$24.02	\$21.05	Free	\$48.09



Parks Canada Discovery Pass

Enjoy unlimited opportunities at nearly **100 places** charging entry fees.

	Adult 18-64	Senior 65+	Youth 17 and under	Family ● Group Up to seven people arriving in a single vehicle.
	\$69.19	\$59.17	Free	\$139.40

VISITOR CENTRE

Details are subject to change due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health measures.

Let our staff help you plan your stay! While you are here, immerse yourself in our exhibits and learn about the rich history of the former residents of the park.

NEW PARKS CANADA GIFT SHOP!

You might not be able to bring Kouchibouguac home with you, but you can certainly grab souvenirs from your visit. Stop by the Visitor Centre for Parks Canada official merchandise, Kouchibouguac's Signature Series and Vintage collections.

Every purchase of official merchandise supports Parks Canada's administered places.

EXHIBITS*

MEMORIES OF OUR COMMUNITIES

Learn, contemplate and reflect on the history of the once-thriving communities and the turmoil caused by the expropriation of the former Acadian and English-speaking residents' lands to create the park.

WHERE LAND, SEA, AND PEOPLE MEET

Discover the park's awe-inspiring coastal geography and ever changing ecosystems, and its centuries old dynamic human history.

**Upon reservation only for 2021 season*

HOURS OF OPERATION

Peak Season

Daily:

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

June 19 - September 6

Shoulder Season

Daily:

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

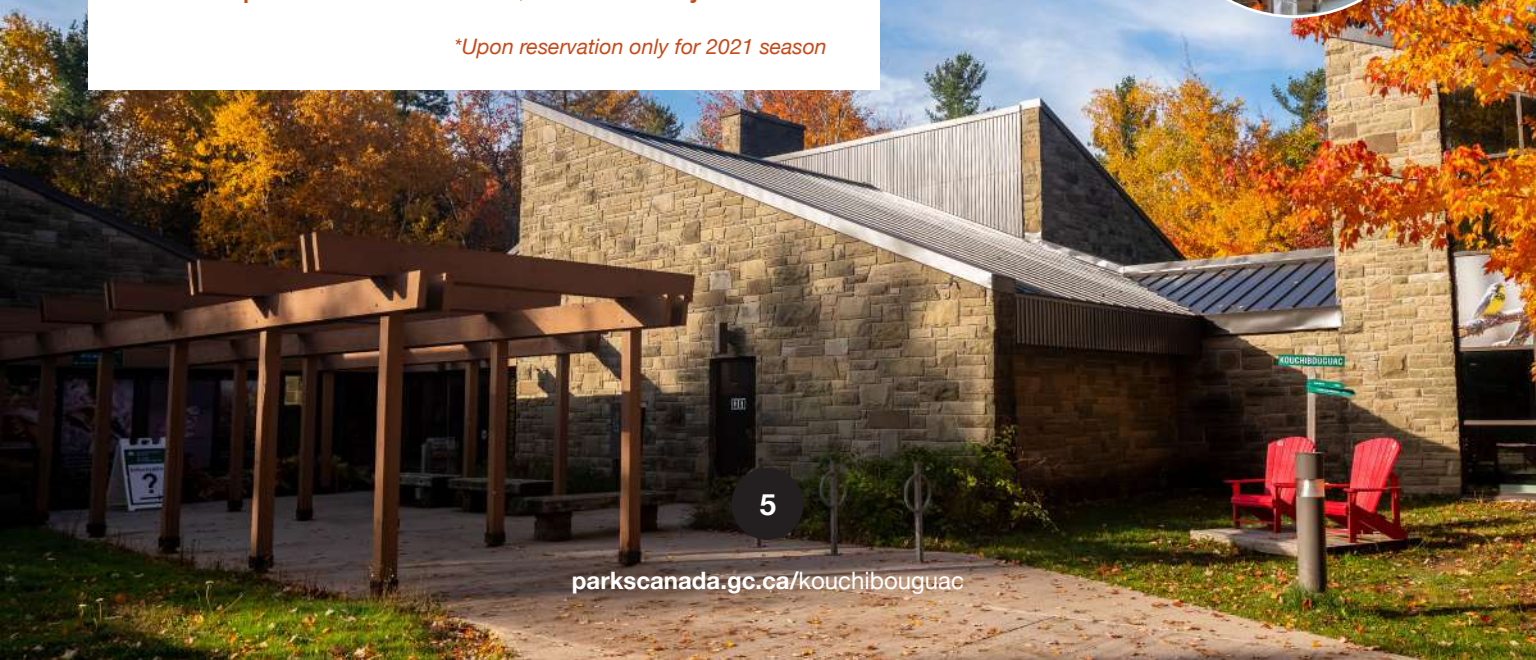
May 20 - June 18

September 7 - October 11

Visitor Centre

506.876.2443

All-terrain wheelchair available here.



COVID-19 AND YOUR VISIT

Visiting Kouchibouguac National Park will be different than it has been in the past.

To avoid traffic congestion and to respect public health guidance on physical distancing, visitors are encouraged to choose days and times when Kouchibouguac National Park is less frequented, and to plan ahead by checking the park's website before they travel.

PARKS CANADA'S OUTDOOR ETIQUETTE

Thank you for following outdoor etiquette during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Respect **physical distancing**.



Follow **hygiene rules**.

Adjust your plans. Avoid high-use situations and risky activities.



Yield to oncoming users where space is narrow.

Be **respectful** of others.



Respect **closures and restrictions**.

Slow down on trails.



Pack in and pack out.

Let others know of your **intention to pass** using your voice or a bell in a kind way.




STAY INFORMED

For the most up to date information, visit the Government of New Brunswick website: gnb.ca/coronavirus

 parks canada.ca/kouchibouguac

 KouchibouguacNP

 @KouchibouguacNP

 506-876-2443
Visitor information service by phone
daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

VISITOR SAFETY

Safety is everyone's responsibility.

At Parks Canada, we do our best to make sure you have a safe visit by managing hazards and providing up-to-date information through our staff, website and social media platforms. You can do your part as visitors to stay safe.

TAKE THE ESSENTIALS

Bring extra clothing, a communication device, extra food and water, a whistle and a first aid kit.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Plan your travel route, check the weather forecast, know the terrain and conditions before leaving and stay on designated trails.

LEAVE A TRIP PLAN

Always tell someone where you're going, who you're going with, what equipment you're bringing, which routes you're taking and when you plan on coming back. In case of an emergency, this will help Search and Rescue teams find you faster.

In winter, don't go out on the ice.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Treat wild animals with the respect they deserve and need. Do not approach or entice wildlife. **Keep pets on a leash at all times.**

To report a lost person, a person feeding or enticing wildlife, forest fire, aggressive animal, excessive noise or disturbances in the park, call 1-877-852-3100.

KIDS

Always **tell an adult** where you are going. If you become lost, "**Hug-a-tree**" and stay in one place. Keep warm and dry by **tucking in your shirt and pants**. Help searchers find you by **answering their calls**.

STAYING THE NIGHT? We've got you covered.

Visitors must follow local and provincial travel restrictions, including requirements for self-isolation. It is not possible to self-isolate at Parks Canada campgrounds. Visitors must complete any provincial or territorial requirements for self-isolation before arriving to camp at Kouchibouguac National Park.



DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD!

Because of the potential impact of introduced pests such as the Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle, the Emerald Ash Borer and the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid on New Brunswick's forests, it is prohibited to import firewood at Kouchibouguac National Park.

➔ **RESERVATION.PC.GC.CA**
☎ **1-877-RESERVE**

SOUTH KOUCHIBOUGUAC CAMPGROUND

Located only two kilometres from popular Kellys Beach, South Kouchibouguac is the park's main campground. On site, you will find shelters with washrooms and showers and nearby, a laundromat and a canteen.

EQUIPPED CAMPSITES are supplied with: Prospector tent, 3 cot bunk beds, bug tent, stove and lantern. Price includes site rental. *Note: dishes, cooking and cleaning supplies will not be offered for the 2021 season.*

oTENTik are a spacious blend of tent and rustic cabin equipped with beds and furniture on a raised floor. Sleeps up to six people. They are supplied with BBQ, propane, cleaning supplies and more. *Note: dishes and cooking supplies will not be offered for the 2021 season. Please visit our website for the complete list.*

	WATER, SEWAGE & ELECTRICITY	ELECTRICITY	UNSERVICED	EQUIPPED CAMPSITES	oTENTik
AVAILABLE SITES	128	59	98	3	25
PEAK SEASON	\$39.04	\$33.01	\$28	\$71.54	\$102.20
SHOULDER SEASON	\$36.08	\$30.05	\$21.97	\$71.54	\$91.98

➤ **RESERVATION.PC.GC.CA**
☎ **1-877-RESERVE**

CÔTE-À-FABIEN CAMPGROUND

The Côte-à-Fabien semi-primitive campground offers the most breathtaking views. It is located outside of the park's busy hub. Imagine waking up to the sound of the waves and the birds, then quietly sipping your coffee while looking at the water... The horizon seems never ending. 31 campsites are available, including 10 that have direct access to the beach. We are also offering 4 new Ôasis accommodations!

	DRIVE-IN SITES	WALK-IN SITES	ÔASIS
AVAILABLE SITES	21	10	4
PEAK SEASON	\$16.05	\$16.05	\$122.64



NEW ÔASIS: A DROP OF HEAVEN FOR A NIGHT

Make it a memorable family experience or couple's getaway in a tear drop-shaped 'duplex', with a convertible table/bed on the main level and suspended hammock loft above. Spend the night under a natural canopy and fall asleep admiring the stars! Exceptionally this year, visitors with a reservation for Ôasis D can add Ôasis E to their reservation by communicating directly with a park attendant.

POINTE-À-MAXIME

Nested along on the edge of the Kouchibouguac River, this site can easily be used as a departure point to visit the seals in the nearby Blacklands Gully. Watch for tides, winds and strong currents.

SIPU

Located along the Kouchibouguac River, this site is accessible by canoe/kayak or on foot.

PETIT-LARGE

Open year round, this campsite surrounded by forest is located close to the Major Kollock Creek trailhead. Accessible by foot and bike in the summer, and snowshoe or skiing in the winter.

OVERNIGHT

\$10.02 per person

ANNUAL

\$70.21 per person

RESERVATIONS
506-876-2443

Campers must register at the Visitor Centre upon arrival.

TRAIL GUIDE

Details are subject to change due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health measures.

● Easy ■ Moderate ● Shallow waters

WALKING	Difficulty	Length	Type	Description
1 Pines	●	0.9 km	Loop, self-guided	The Acadian forest has gone through many changes over the last 200 years. Under the canopy, discover the historical importance of the majestic white pines for the people who have been here before us.
2 Beaver	●	1.4 km	Loop, self-guided	Discover why beavers are considered to be ecosystem engineers while taking the time to observe one of their abandoned huts.
3 Migmag-Cedar	●	0.9 km	Loop, self-guided	Beginning at the far side of the open field at Callanders Beach, this deeply spiritual and healing place is sacred to the Mi'gmaq. Discover how by listening to the audio recordings.
4 Salt Marsh	●	0.9 km	Loop, self-guided	Explore the Salt Marsh Trail. You might see a great blue heron wading through shallow waters for small fish.
5 Kellys Beach Boardwalk ♿	●	1 km return	Linear, one-way, self-guided	Walk along the famous boardwalk. Look up to see terns and ospreys hovering over the lagoon, and look down to spot little fishes, moonsnails and rock crabs. View the park's dynamic dunes.
6 Bog	●	1.8 km return	Linear, one-way, self-guided	Discover how this unique habitat formed over thousands of years. Climb an eight-metre spiral staircase tower that offers a spectacular view of the peat bog.
7 Kouchibouguac River	■	11.3 km	Linear, one-way	Admire the spectacular geological phenomena of sandstone rock in addition to the famous leaning pine overlooking the river. The fields along the river give visitors a chance to see fauna and in some places, benches offer a panoramic view of the river.
8 Osprey	●	5.3 km	Loop	Access to the trail is located at the entrance of Côte-à-Fabien campground (i.e. at the end of Loggicroft Road). In some places, the trail runs along the coast and offers a view of the estuary. At the end of the cul-de-sac, a beautiful scene awaits.
9 Claire-Fontaine	●	3.3 km	Loop	Access to the trail is located just before the Black River bridge on Route 117. The trail follows Rankin Brook, Black River and the Kouchibouguac Lagoon in addition to crossing different forest stands.

● Easy ■ Moderate ● Shallow waters

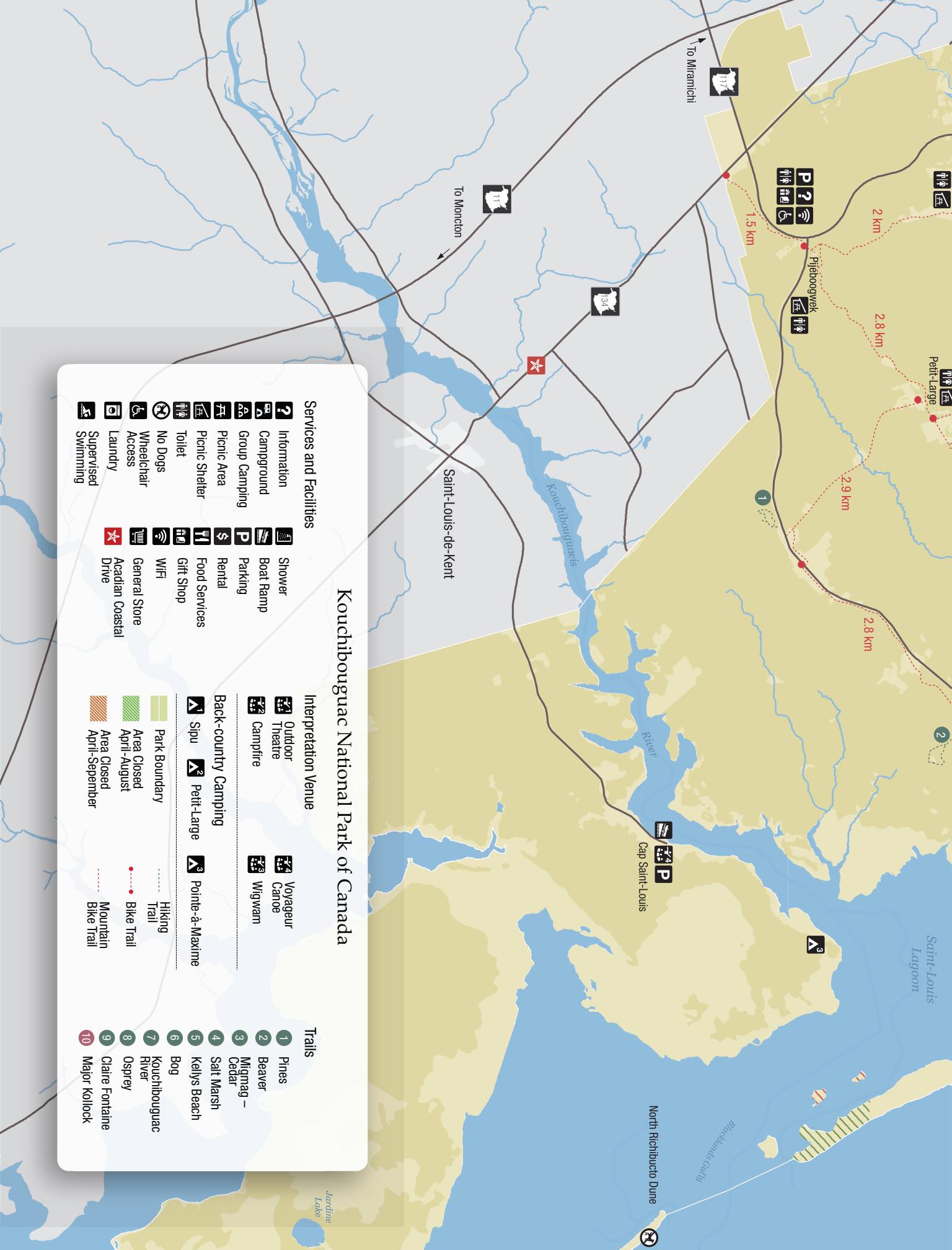
BIKING	Difficulty	Length	Type	Description
10 Major Kollock Creek	■	6.3 km	Linear, one way mountain biking	The more adventurous will enjoy this mountain bike trail on rugged terrain that winds the forest and the creek. Perfect for mountain biking and fat biking. The trail starts near the Petit Large shelter.
Biking trail network	●	60 km	Linear or loop (depending on the route chosen)	Pedal along well-maintained graveltopped trails that lead past striking fields of wildflowers, saltwater lagoons and grand Acadian woodland. Equal parts active and relaxing.

PADDLING	Difficulty	Length	Type	Description
Callanders to Blacklands Gully	● ●	5.4 km (45-60 mins. one way)	Lagoon	Depart from Callanders Beach and make your way to Blacklands Gully – you might see grey seals and Canada’s largest common tern colony along the way.
Saint-Louis Cape Wharf to Blacklands Gully	● ●	5.4 km (45-60 mins. one way)	Lagoon	Depart from Saint-Louis Cape Wharf, a beautiful lesser known part of the park and go down the Kouchibouguac River to make your way to Blacklands Gully – you might see grey seals and Canada’s largest Common tern colony along the way.
Ryans to the famous leaning red pine	● ●	1.5 km (45 mins. return)	Lagoon	Make your way up the Kouchibouguac River. The best way to really appreciate the view of this “bonsai tree” is from the water. The tree, which grows out of a sandstone outcropping, stretches itself horizontally over the river while its roots stay firmly planted in the stone (approx. 45 minutes return).

New for 2021!

We are pleased to begin the 2021 season with a wide variety of new interpretation panels and nodes. Some are very unique and required a significant amount of work from the assets team. Many thanks to all who worked on the creation and installation of our new panels.





Kouchibouguac National Park of Canada

Services and Facilities

- Information
- Campground
- Group Camping
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Toilet
- No Dogs
- Wheelchair Access
- Laundry
- Supervised Swimming
- Shower
- Boat Ramp
- Parking
- Rental
- Food Services
- Gift Shop
- WiFi
- General Store
- Acadian Coastal Drive

Interpretation Venue

- Outdoor Theatre
- Campfire
- Voyageur Canoe
- Wigwam

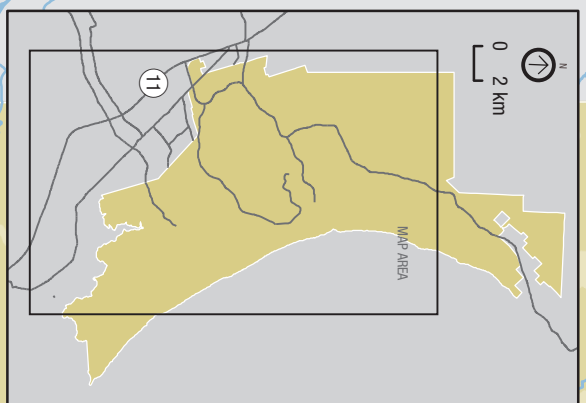
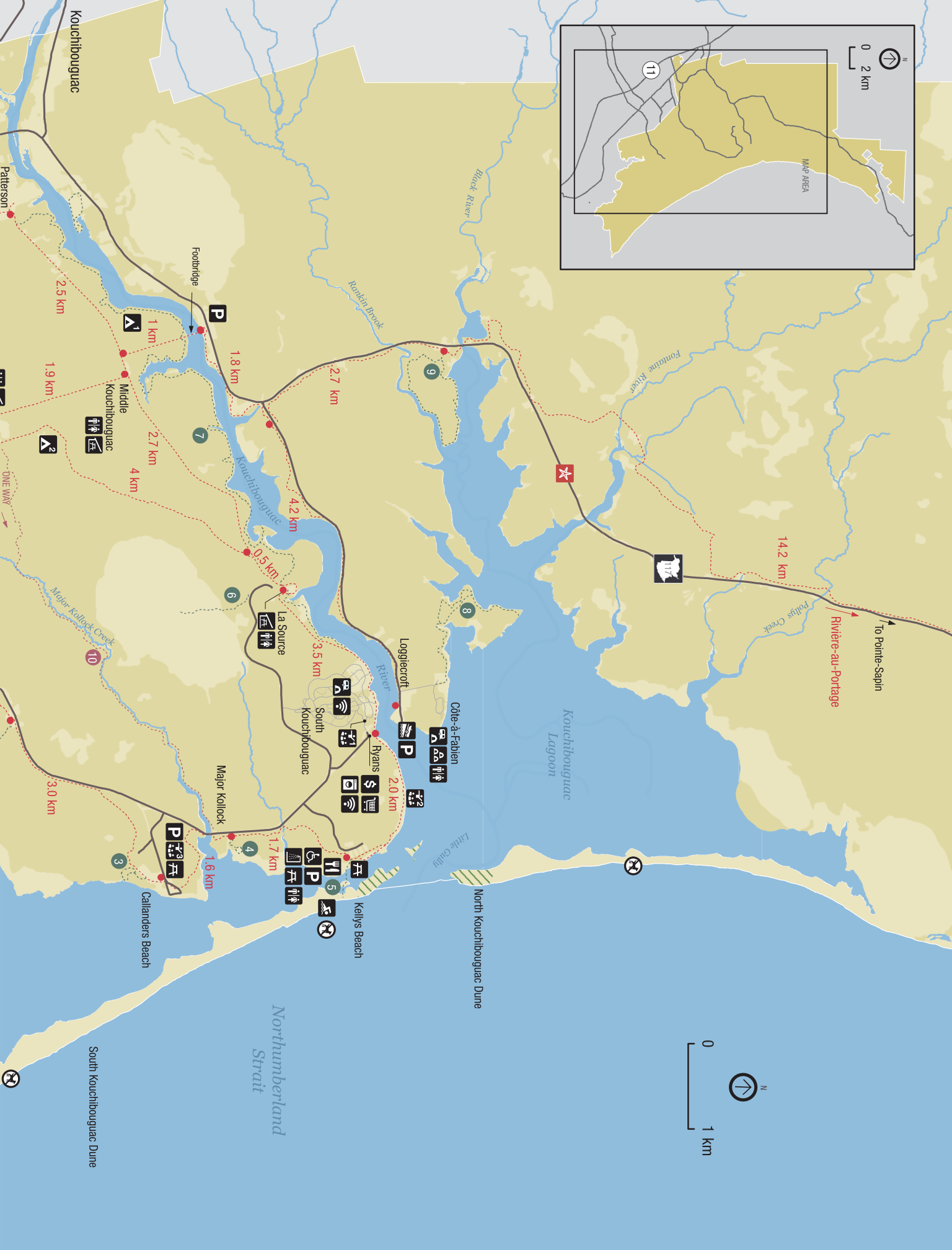
Back-country Camping

- Sipu
- Petit-Large
- Pointe-à-Maxime

- Park Boundary
- Area Closed April-August
- Area Closed April-September

Trails

- 1 Pines
- 2 Beaver
- 3 Milgmag - Cedar
- 4 Salt Marsh
- 5 Kellys Beach
- 6 Bog
- 7 Kouchibouguac River
- 8 Osprey
- 9 Claire Fontaine
- 10 Major Kollock



0 1 km

BIKING

Kouchibouguac's 60 kilometres of bicycle paths are ideal for gentle exploration. Pedal along well-maintained gravel-topped trails that lead past striking fields of wildflowers, saltwater lagoons and grand Acadian woodland. Fat biking is a fast growing sport that allows beginner to advanced cyclists to traverse a variety of terrain. Fat bikes are a special type of bike that accommodate a much wider tire, ranging from 3.5 to 5 inches in width. Imagine riding your fat bike through the Major Kollock mountain bike trail - what a ride! **Fat bikes are not permitted on the beach, dunes or coastal areas (beach, lagoons and rivers).**

MAJOR KOLLOCK CREEK MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

The more adventurous will enjoy Major Kollock Creek mountain bike trail. Major Kollock offers six kilometers of adventure on rugged terrain that winds the forest and the creek. It's quite the sport! Mountain biking fans will keep coming back. Have fun! **For safety reasons, the trail starts near Petit-Large and is designed to flow in one direction only.**

**OPEN
YEAR-ROUND!**
Check out our
website for winter
fat biking
information.

PADDLING

See the park like you've never seen it before!

Major Kollock parking, Callanders Beach and Côte-à-Fabien are excellent spots to launch your equipment and start your paddling adventure! Check out the trail guide on pages 10 and 11 for more detailed route options.

SAFETY FIRST



- Always wear your lifejacket.
- Always keep a safe distance between yourself and recreational or commercial fishing boats.
- Paddle within your abilities to avoid injury and exhaustion.

PRO TIP

Plan your excursion early morning or a few hours before sunset for calm waters. There is nothing quite like a sunset paddle.



MOTORIZED WATERCRAFTS

Important information to visitors and motorized watercraft users

For those who wish to discover the park by water, Kouchibouguac National Park's rivers and estuaries offer an unforgettable experience. It has long since been a traditional activity for local residents and visitors alike to explore this exceptional coastal environment by water in canoes, kayaks and small motorized boats. The following regulations are in place to ensure the safety of all visitors, including motorized boat users, as well as to protect the park's aquatic and coastal habitats along with their plant and animal species. Happy sailing!

- **Personal watercrafts** ("Jet skis") are prohibited in all park waters at all times.
- **Night-time boating** is only permitted within marked channels on the Kouchibouguac and Kouchibouguacis rivers.
- **Approved day-use launching sites**, which are located at Cap Saint-Louis and Loggiercroft wharves, must be used when launching a motorized boat in the park.
- **Overnight anchoring (mooring) of boats** is prohibited outside the authorized limits of the wharves.
- **Please respect the marked "closed" and "study" zones** of the park, where important nesting sites and sensitive ecological areas are located.
- **Boat hulls** must be thoroughly cleaned prior to entering the park to help prevent the spread of exotic invasive plant species, such as the Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*). The spread of these species in park waters would have a negative impact on the health of the ecosystem.
- As stewards and privileged visitors to this unique coastal environment, we ask all motorized watercraft users to **follow these regulations** so that present and future generations can discover and enjoy the beauty of the park's waterways for many years to come.

BEACH DREAMING

Please respect the fenced/closed areas protecting Piping Plover nesting sites and fragile vegetation.

Callanders Beach



Wade in the warm waters of the lagoon. The large field here is an excellent spot to fly a kite or host family picnics.



Pets are welcome at Callanders Beach. However, they must be kept on a leash at all times. Please scoop and dispose of your pets' waste in a sanitary manner.



Kellys Beach



The perfect spot to relax, swim and build a sand castle. Stroll atop a 500m boardwalk that leads to golden sand dunes.



Lifeguard services will **not** be offered at Kellys Beach for the 2021 season.

Pets are not permitted on the boardwalk or on the barrier islands of the park.



DARK SKY PRESERVE

WHY ARE DARK SKIES IMPORTANT?

In 2009, Kouchibouguac National Park was designated as a Dark Sky Preserve by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. Protecting the dark skylscapes of Kouchibouguac benefits stargazers and wildlife. Studies have shown that many of the biological and behavioural activities of plants, animals, and insects that rely on night darkness to forage, breed, and navigate, are adversely affected by light pollution.

On a clear night, Kouchibouguac's dreamy dome reveals a cavalcade of stars in the thousands. These are the same stars the Mi'gmaq, Acadians, and later settlers gazed upon, told stories about, and used for navigation on land, and while fishing at sea.

DARK SKY VIEWING TIPS

La Source, Kellys Beach and **Callanders Beach** are some of the best spots for a dark sky gazing experience.

Bring along a star chart or download a star gazing app, and a pair of binoculars, or telescope.

Use red cellophane over your flashlight. Red light is less obtrusive than traditional white light, and helps to retain your night vision.

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR FAUNA

Ecosystems are made up of living organisms and their physical environment. They commonly support numerous intertwining food chains, forming a complex web of life. If natural processes are altered, an ecosystem may lose its ability to bounce back from disturbance. Kouchibouguac National Park's Resource Conservation team has made a commitment to measure the integrity of ecosystems in the park. This is done by keeping a close eye on a variety of species and natural processes which serve as good indicators of change.

Piping Plover | Jijjuikate'j

SPECIES AT RISK: *CHARADRIUS MELODUS*

In the spring, this small shorebird nests along the park's golden sand dunes. After finding the perfect place, the piping plover makes a modest nest by digging a simple depression in the sand and camouflages its clutch (up to four eggs) among gravel and pieces of shells.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

In early May to the end of August, we conduct our annual census along the entire 25 km of coastline, where we locate and monitor piping plover nests. Since the nests and clutches are vulnerable, the park prohibits access to certain sections of the beaches and prohibits pets along barrier islands. These closures may change as more nests are located. We ask that you respect the posted closures and visit our website for the updated closure map to assist us in reducing disturbances and increasing the species reproductive success.



LEND A HAND

By picking up trash at the beach, even biodegradable items (apple cores and fruit peels), you help reduce the risk of artificially attracting the shorebirds' natural predators such as seagulls and crows who love snacking on the **Piping Plover's** vulnerable eggs.

Atlantic Salmon | Plamu

SPECIES AT RISK: *SALMO SALAR*

Atlantic salmon is a culturally significant species for First Nations and a prized catch for recreational fishers. This iconic species must overcome a wide array of challenges and evade numerous predators over its life cycle. After spending its first two to three years in freshwater, Atlantic salmon migrates to the ocean where it grows to adulthood over one to three years, later returning to its birthplace to spawn.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Each year, our Resource Conservation staff operate two smelt box nets to trap, count, and tag adult salmon in the park. Some healthy individuals are transported to a nearby hatchery for the production of fertilized eggs. Along with non-governmental partner organizations, the park is involved in efforts to implant these fertilized eggs in suitable spawning habitat within park watersheds. Genetic samples are also taken from each captured adult to survey genetic diversity and verify the effectiveness of our conservation efforts.



FUN FACT

The **salmon** can leap up waterfalls of up to 4.5 metres high (15 feet), hence its scientific name, *Salmo salar*, which means "leaping salmon" in Latin.

SARA: Species at Risk Act
Classifications (in decreasing order of severity):
Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern

Little Brown Bat, Tri-colored bat and Northern Long-eared Bat | Na'jipuktaq'nej

SPECIES AT RISK: MYOTIS LUCIFUGUS, PERIMYOTIS SUBFLAVUS AND MYOTIS SEPTENTRIONALIS

Bats are nocturnal mammals that emit short clicking sounds (ultrasounds inaudible to the human ear) which bounce off objects like an echo, guiding them to avoid predators or catch prey during flight. This phenomenon is called echolocation. Today, the province's hibernating bat species face important threats such as pesticide use in agriculture and the rapid spread of the White-Nose Syndrome.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS
In 2015 and 2016, machines capable of recording ultrasounds emitted by bats were installed at 34 observation sites in the park. Monitoring confirms the presence of bats in the area, as well as their levels of activity within park boundaries.

Following a recent analysis of sound recordings, we can confirm that all seven bat species present in NB are also present in the park, including three of our protected species affected by white-nose syndrome: the Little Brown Myotis, the Northern Long-eared Myotis and the Tri-colored bat. These are encouraging results.



FUN FACT

Bats are the main natural predators of flying insects and they can devour more than 50% of their total body weight in moths, beetles and mosquitoes in one night!

DID YOU KNOW?

Rather than create their own burrows, **river otters** usually use burrows or dens created by other species or naturally-occurring shelters such as hollow trees or logs, undercut banks, rock formations and flood debris.

River Otter | Giwnig

LONTRA CANADENSIS

River otters serve as an excellent indicator of the ecological integrity of freshwater ecosystems. As semi-aquatic, top-level predators, otters prey upon a wide variety of freshwater organisms. They are year-round residents and are closely associated with the health of riparian habitats, favouring undisturbed sites with overhanging vegetation and late succession stages of vegetation such as mature forests.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

River otters remain active throughout the year but detection of fresh activity signs is simplified in winter because of the conspicuous, corridor-like tracks each animal leaves in the snow. Using a snowmobile to travel on the frozen rivers, our Resource Conservation staff document all snow tracks found, along with other signs of otter activity (scats, water access hole, burrows, etc.).



A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR FLORA

Plants are the foundation of life on earth. They produce the oxygen we breathe. They provide more than 80 percent of the food we eat. We use them to make clothes, shelter, medicines, and many other things that are essential to our lives.

Beach Pinweed

SPECIES AT RISK: *LECHEA MARITIMA*

This rare coastal species is restricted to our largest stable barrier dunes. Although it ranges from Atlantic Canada to North Carolina, Canadian populations are considered to be of a distinct variety which is endemic to the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence. Gulf of St. Lawrence Beach Pinweed is only known from a total of 15 sites in NB and PEI. Sea-level rise and increased storm frequency related to climate change are the most significant threats to its survival.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Our Resource Conservation staff have done extensive work on this species in recent years, implementing long-term monitoring protocols, surveying all suitable habitat within the park and its surrounding region, and documenting over two thousand precise locations where plants occur. The park is committed to its important role as a steward of this species and its remaining habitat.

FUN FACT

Roughly half of the global Gulf of St. Lawrence beach pinweed population is found on Kouchibouguac National Park's dunes!



DID YOU KNOW?

In the 17th century, **Common Eelgrass** was often used as stuffing for mattresses and other household items by Acadians of the region.

Common Eelgrass | Gatasgool

ZOSTERA MARINA

One of very few truly salt-tolerant fully aquatic plants, Common Eelgrass represents one of the park's most important species. In the park's estuaries, this plant is essential to the maintenance of this ecosystem's productivity and its role as a nursery for many fish and shellfish. Without it, numerous species of marine wildlife would lose essential habitat. When deposited on shore by wave action, uprooted individuals are also key in the ecology of salt marshes and dunes.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Although Common Eelgrass remains abundant within the park's estuaries, recreational motorboat traffic can lead to local declines by tearing up plants and scraping shallow bottoms. The recent arrival of the European Green Crab, and an aggressive exotic species that uproots Common Eelgrass as it forages, represents a present and increasing threat. Our Resource Conservation team intends to implement Common Eelgrass monitoring efforts in the near future, using this species as an additional indicator of estuary health.



SARA: Species at Risk Act

Classifications (in decreasing order of severity):

Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern

DID YOU KNOW?
The **Gulf of St. Lawrence Aster** is found nowhere else in the world other than New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec's Magdalen Islands.



Gulf of St. Lawrence Aster

SPECIES AT RISK: SYMPHOTRICHUM LAURENTIANUM

The Gulf of St. Lawrence Aster is a small and fragile salt marsh plant, the number of which has declined due to habitat loss. This is mainly due to shoreline development and increased erosion caused by climate change (including sea level rise).

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

In 2017, we carried out a two-year collaborative project aiming to reintroduce the species. With the assistance of biologists from the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre and the University of Prince Edward Island, our Resource Conservation team installed 31 seed plots and 9 transplant plots in suitable habitat sites. The project was successful in establishing two small productive populations that remain to this day, proving that reintroduction is in fact possible. Good news for this rare endemic species!

American Beachgrass

AMMOPHILA BREVILIGULATA

American Beachgrass also stands among the park's most important plants. Considered a keystone species, it is essential to the formation and maintenance of our coastal dune ecosystems, where its dense extensive roots systems, stems and leaves capture and hold sand. In fact, this "architect of the dunes" is essential to the creation of habitat for numerous coastal species. Considering that dunes are in turn essential to the maintenance of salt marshes and estuaries, the true ecological importance of this species for coastal ecosystems is evident.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

To protect the park's American Beachgrass and dune ecosystems, our Resource Conservation team is active in monitoring dune movement, plant growth, severity of storms, and educating the public. Closure signs and restricted area panels are erected in fragile zones of the dune where beachgrass grows in an effort to keep visitors away.

LEND A HAND

Few environments are as fragile as dunes, also called barrier islands. They are held together only by the roots and rhizomes (underground stems) of the plants that grow on them, and are very vulnerable to winds, waves, and human trampling. Repeated foot and vehicle traffic kill the plant, which in turn destabilize dunes, resulting in increased erosion, blowouts and breaches. Please do not pick any plants, and stay off the vegetated dune areas.



MI'GMAQ TEACHINGS

The Mi'gmaq are the original inhabitants of the Kouchibouguac region. They represent the largest group of Indigenous Peoples in Atlantic Canada and are often referred to as the "People of the dawn," as they live in the East and are therefore the first to greet the sunrise.

The park is located on the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'gmaq people (Mi'gma'gi). Its name is rooted in the Mi'gmaq word Pigipogoek, which means "the river that flows and grows into the forest". Over the past few decades, many visitors of Kouchibouguac National Park have had the privilege to attend Mi'gmaq interpretation programs.

The **Seven Sacred Teachings** have always been -and continue to be- the guiding principles used towards the restoration of Indigenous cultural values, beliefs, and practices that were once prohibited and are still limited to this day.

Respect (gepmite'tg) is a large part of all cultures. As nature is a crucial part of Indigenous cultures, Indigenous children learn to be considerate of nature and animals. Many use the buffalo (iap) as the animal associated with the teaching, while others use the moose (tia'm).

Courage (melgita't) requires the mental and moral strength to overcome fears and challenges that prevent us from being our true selves and our true spirits. The bear (mui'n) will give us the understanding to seek resolutions through spiritual intervention.

Honesty (gi'wajiaq) in Mi'gmaq culture is being honest to yourself, to the people around you and to follow and keep the laws of the Creator. Honesty is carried by the Sabe or Bigfoot (maqsitat).

Truth (gegnumatl) is being true to yourself and is represented by the turtle (migjigj). According to Indigenous beliefs, the turtle represents Mother Earth because the great island of North America was created on its back.

Wisdom (ne'tata'suaqan) is associated with the beaver (gopit). Beavers are considered very intelligent as they are one of only a few mammals capable of changing a habitat.

Love (gesalatl) is associated with the eagle (gitpu). Since the eagle can soar so high, some say he is the only one who can reach the Creator. When you see an eagle fly so high that it seems to disappear, it is leaving our world to join the Creator.

Humility is to be not overly boastful, to be humble. It is associated with the wolf (paqt'sm). To ensure survival, the pack must be as one.

We encourage you to learn more about the rich Indigenous cultures by visiting:
indigenousspeoplesatlasofcanada.ca

Wela'lin, thank you!

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



Every year, Parks Canada offers family-friendly programming and activities for visitors which are included in your park entrance permit.

To find out what's available to you during your visit, check out our website parksCanada.ca/knp-activities or ask one of our friendly team members!

Visiting with Young Children? Explore with Club Parka!

With the Club Parka booklet, kids can explore, learn and have fun! The booklets are available on site. You can also download the Photo Missions App where kids are invited to help Parka and Chirp find and photograph specific items found at our place!



Picture Perfect!

Kouchibouguac National Park is an amazing place to visit, and there are no shortage of photographic opportunities! Share your beautiful images on Instagram by using the hashtag #Kouchibouguac, or tag us on Facebook or Twitter!

Photography tips

- Plan for **early morning** or **late afternoon** shoots to take advantage of the warm, golden light.
- Photographing a person, animal or perhaps a closeup of a flower? Find some **shade** to avoid bright spots and uneven light. Your subjects will thank you for it!
- Use a **tripod** to stabilize your camera. This will help make your image sharper.

Code of ethics for wildlife photography

Getting that perfect shot may be tempting, but there are important guidelines to follow in order to do it safely:

- You can be **finned** for approaching or attempting to lure or feed an animal. Not to mention it is dangerous for you and the animal.
- **Keep your distance** and use a **telephoto lens**. You will be rewarded with views of wildlife behaving naturally. Be sure to follow other wildlife guidelines, such as methods of storing food and other items that can attract wildlife.
- Use the **“Leave No Trace”** principles and always prioritize the wellbeing of nature when photographing in the park.

All Parks Canada places are “no drone zones” for recreational use. Please leave your drone at home. Flying a drone without park or site approval may result in law enforcement action and a fine of up to \$25,000.



Miramichi

Kouchibouguac National Park



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Parks Canada emergencies
(Lost person, forest fire, aggressive animal, etc)

911

All other emergencies

