



Canoe-camping guide

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW	2
TIPS	2
PARK MAP AND SECTORS	3
EASY ROUTES - WITHOUT PORTAGE	4
Wapizagonke Lake	4
Édouard Lake	5
EASY ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE	6
Lac à la Pêche	6
Lac du Caribou	7
MODERATE ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE	8
Lac du Caribou	8
Cobb Bay	9
Baie des Onze Îles	10
Marie Lake	11
Isaïe Lake	12
DIFFICULT ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE	13
Waber Lake	13
Anticagamac Lake	13
Dauphinois Lake	14
Lac des Cinq	15
DIFFICULT ROUTES - HIKING	16
Sector 4	16
VERY DIFFICULT ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE	17
Loop 1	17
Loop 2	18
APPENDIX 1 - TABLE OF DROPS	19

SUGGESTED CANOE-CAMPING ROUTES

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

1. Suggested routes are simply offered as a guide. It is possible to change itineraries and plan your trip on your own.
2. Descriptions and photos of the sites are available on the reservation website at www.reservation.pc.gc.ca.
3. You can spend several nights at the same campsite.
4. The letters A, B, C, and D are assigned to each campsite number to identify to your spot. These letters can be found on the tent pads for each site, which typically have two, three, or four campsites each.*
5. Canoeing, portaging** or hiking times depend on a number of factors, such as wind, the weight of the canoe, your experience, your equipment, and your physical capacity.
6. Various difficulty levels are offered. The following legend will help you choose the one that best suits you:

-  ————— **EASY** - Without portage
-  ————— **EASY** - With portage
-  ————— **MODERATE** - With portage
-  ————— **DIFFICULT** - With portage
-  ————— **VERY DIFFICULT** - With portage

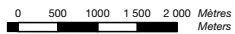
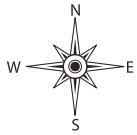
7. Do not hesitate to contact us for more information at 1-888-773-8888 (Parks Canada) or visit the website: <https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/qc/mauricie>

* Exception of Lac à la Pêche site 1, which has six campsites.

** The transport of all equipment and the boat on a route where navigation becomes impossible.

TIPS :

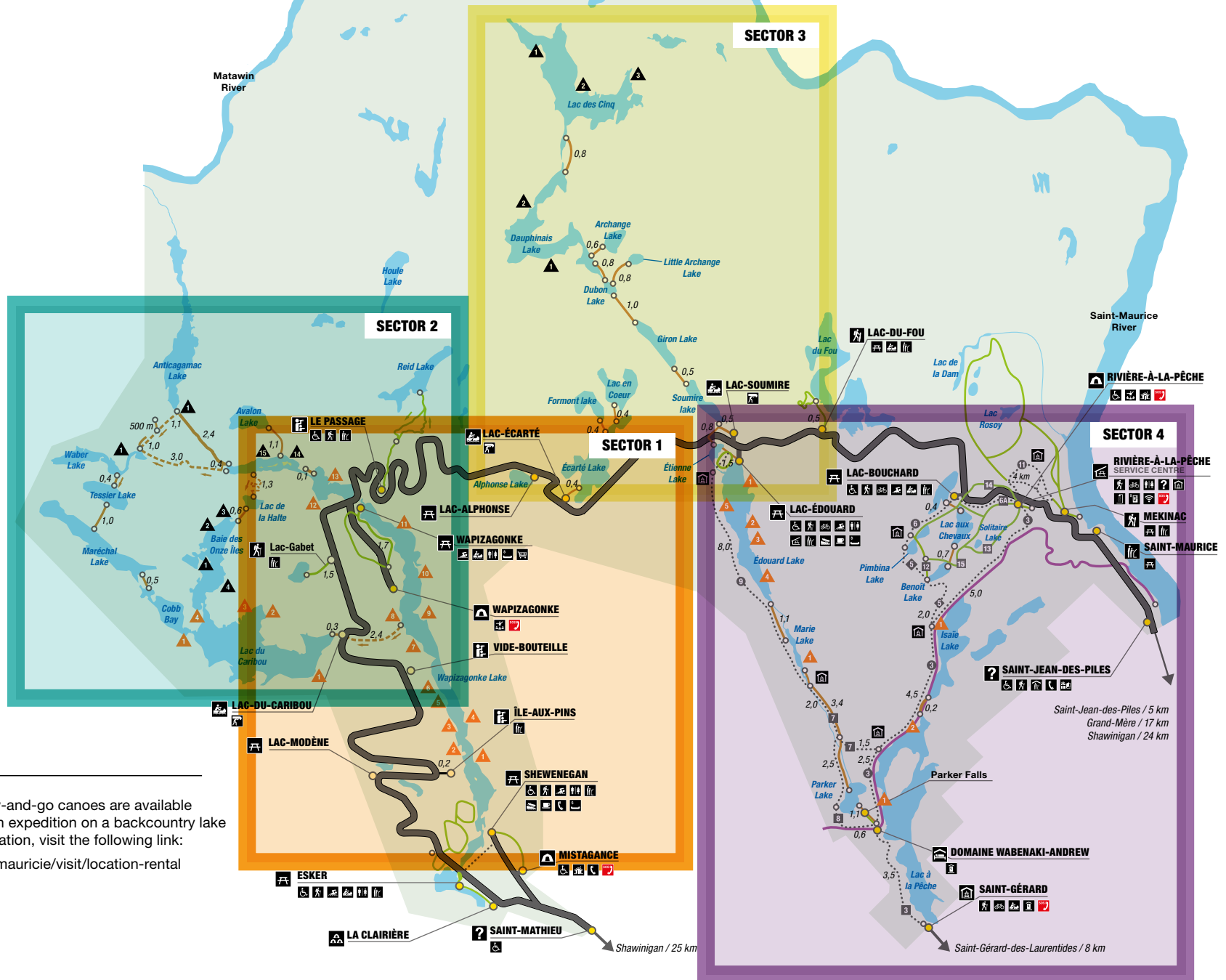
1. Print your itinerary map before you arrive at the park and check the weather forecast.
2. If you are a beginner, choose a single site for your stay. Take the day to discover your sector and portage a few times without equipment.
3. If your itinerary involves portages or if you decide to hike/bike to get to your campsite, prepare your equipment so that it can be transported in a single trip. This will save you from retaking the route.
(Note: Opt for routes without portages if you plan to transport any large equipment, such as a cooler.)
4. If you choose a difficult route, plan to use a lightweight canoe.
5. Consider using dry ice to keep your food cold during your stay.
6. Bring extra food in case bad weather delays your departure.
7. Do not go out if navigating conditions are beyond your abilities.



LEGEND

- The Parkway
- Trail
- Multi-use trail
- Portage
- Portage with significant drop
- Boat rentals
- Row-and-go canoe*
- With fire pit
- Without fire pit

* **DID YOU KNOW THAT** row-and-go canoes are available to rent? This allows you to go on an expedition to a backcountry lake without portaging. For more information, visit the following link:
<https://parcs.canada.ca/pn-np/qc/mauricie/visit/location-rental>



Saint-Jean-des-Piles / 5 km
 Grand-Mère / 17 km
 Shawinigan / 24 km

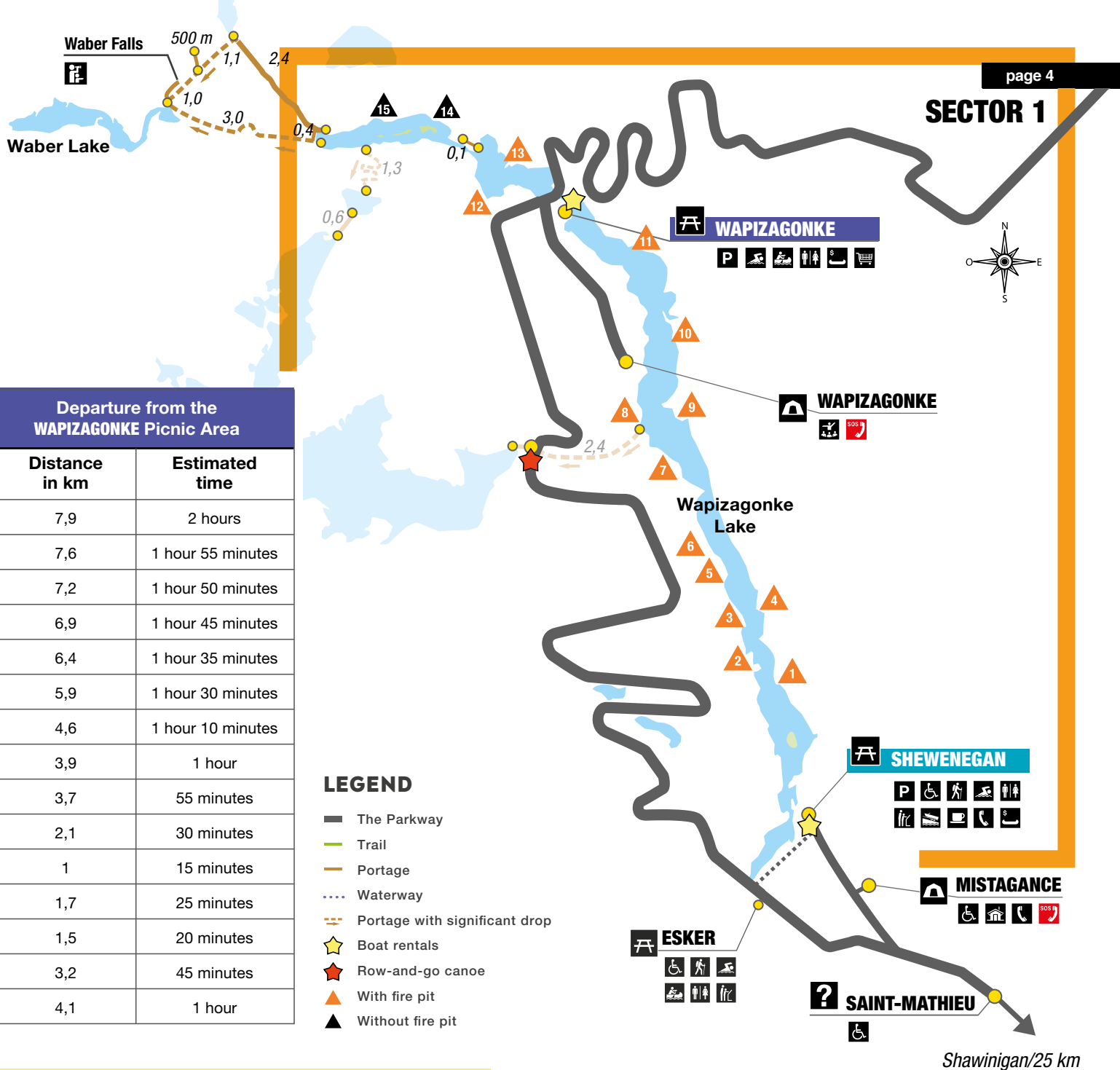
Saint-Gérard-des-Laurentides / 8 km

Shawinigan / 25 km



**EASY ROUTES -
WITHOUT PORTAGE**

**WAPIZAGONKE LAKE
Sites 1 to 15 (one night or more)**



SECTOR 1

Site	Departure from the SHEWENAGAN Picnic Area		Departure from the WAPIZAGONKE Picnic Area	
	Distance in km	Estimated time	Distance in km	Estimated time
1	2	30 minutes	7,9	2 hours
2	2	30 minutes	7,6	1 hour 55 minutes
3	2,7	40 minutes	7,2	1 hour 50 minutes
4	3,1	45 minutes	6,9	1 hour 45 minutes
5	3,6	55 minutes	6,4	1 hour 35 minutes
6	3,9	1 hour	5,9	1 hour 30 minutes
7	5,4	1 hour 20 minutes	4,6	1 hour 10 minutes
8	6,1	1 hour 30 minutes	3,9	1 hour
9	6,2	1 hour 30 minutes	3,7	55 minutes
10	7,9	2 hours	2,1	30 minutes
11	9,1	2 hours 15 minutes	1	15 minutes
12	11,5	2 hours 55 minutes	1,7	25 minutes
13	11,4	2 hours 50 minutes	1,5	20 minutes
14	12,9	3 hours 15 minutes	3,2	45 minutes
15	13,9	3 hours 30 minutes	4,1	1 hour

TIP : If you hope to make it to Waber Falls during your stay, opt for sites 10 to 15 to avoid having too far to canoe.



EASY ROUTES - WITHOUT PORTAGE

ÉDOUARD LAKE

Sites 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 with fire pit
(one night or more)

Departure from the LAC-ÉDOUARD Picnic Area

Édouard Lake

0.6 km of canoeing (10 minutes)

1 Site 1

1.4 km of canoeing (20 minutes)

2 Site 2

2.3 km of canoeing (30 minutes)

3 Site 3

3.4 km of canoeing (50 minutes)

4 Site 4

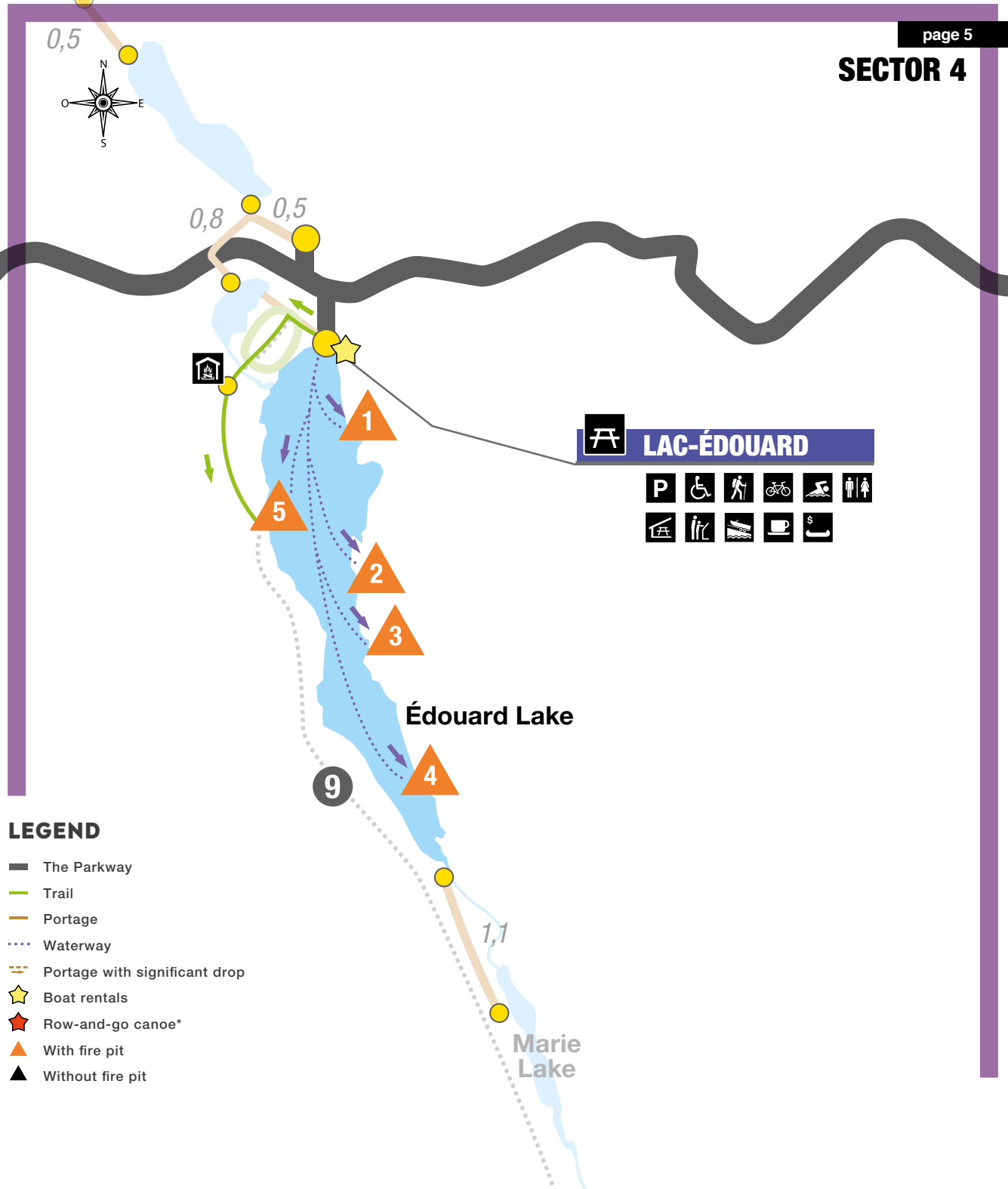
1.4 km of canoeing (20 minutes)

5 Site 5

OR

2.4 km of hiking (1 hour 10 minutes)

5 Site 5



LAC-ÉDOUARD





EASY ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE

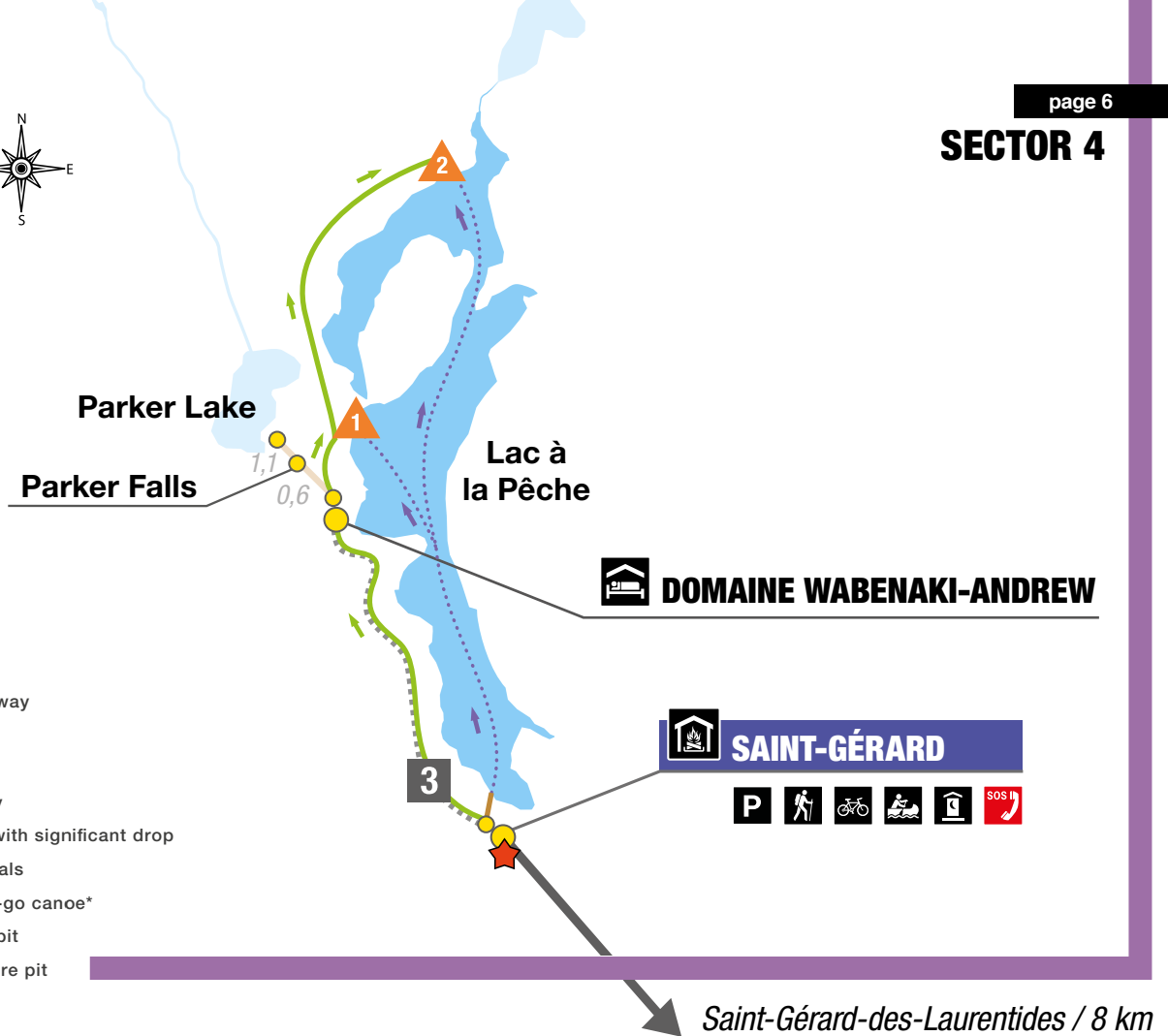
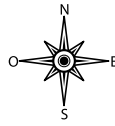
LAC À LA PÊCHE

Site 1 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the SAINT-GÉRARD parking lot	
	0.8 km of moderate portage (25 minutes)
Lac à la Pêche	
	3.7 km of canoeing (55 minutes)
	Site 1
OR	
	4.4 km of hiking (1 hour 50 minutes)
	Site 1

Site 2 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the SAINT-GÉRARD parking lot	
	0.8 km of moderate portage (25 minutes)
Lac à la Pêche	
	5.6 km of canoeing (1 hour 25 minutes)
	Site 2
OR	
	7.3 km of hiking (3 hours)
	Site 2



IMPORTANT INFORMATION—WHEN USING THE SAINT-GÉRARD ENTRANCE:

1. Registration at the Saint-Mathieu or Saint-Jean-des-Piles Visitor Reception Centre is REQUIRED before heading to your campsite.
2. If you are renting a canoe, you must go to the on-site boat rental at the Shewenegan Picnic Area (sector 1) to pick up the token for your rental. The token must be returned at the end of your stay.

* Did you know that row-and-go canoes are available to rent in this sector? This allows you to go on an expedition on a backcountry lake without portaging. For more information, visit the following link: <https://parcs.canada.ca/pn-np/qc/mauricie/visit/location-rental>.



EASY ROUTE—WITH PORTAGE

LAC DU CARIBOU

Site 1 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the LAC-DU-CARIBOU parking lot	
	0.3 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)
Lac du Caribou	
	1.2 km of canoeing (20 minutes)
	Site 1

TIP : Lac du Caribou is located at a high altitude: high winds and waves may take you by surprise. Luggage must be well secured inside your boat to ensure nothing is lost in the event of capsizing. It is also important to ensure your boat is stable. We recommend checking the weather forecast in advance and delaying your departure rather than heading out in hazardous navigating conditions.



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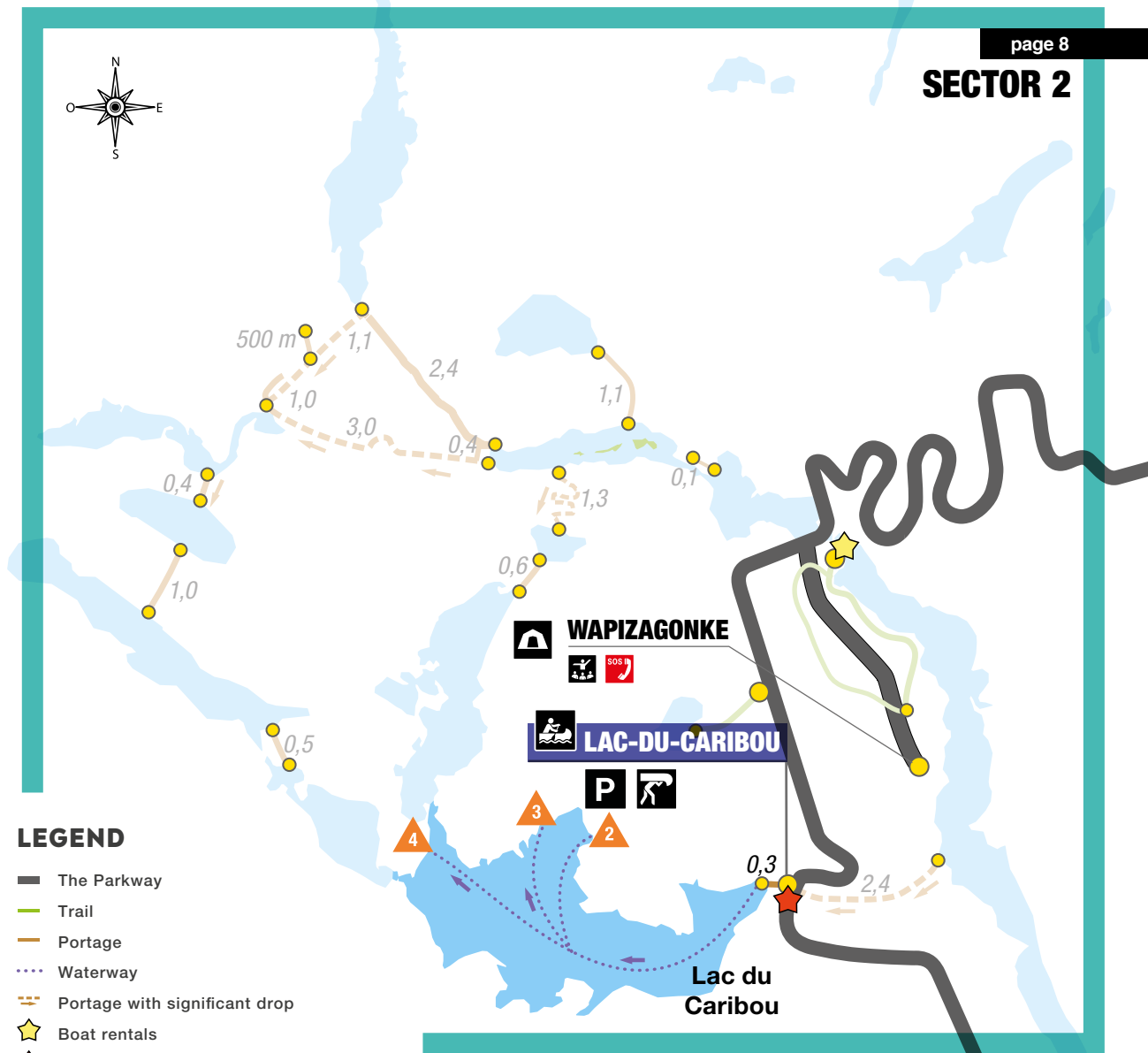
MODERATE ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE

LAC DU CARIBOU

Sites 2, 3, and 4 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the LAC-DU-CARIBOU parking lot	
	0.3 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)
Lac du Caribou	
	3.5 km of canoeing (50 minutes)
	Site 2
	3.4 km of canoeing (50 minutes)
	Site 3
	4.3 km of canoeing (1 hour 5 minutes)
	Site 4

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Wapizagonke Lake

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MODERATE ROUTE—WITH PORTAGE

COBB BAY

Site 1 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the LAC-DU-CARIBOU parking lot

0.3 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)

Lac du Caribou to Cobb Bay

5 km of canoeing (1 hour 15 minutes)

Site 1

TIP : Lac du Caribou is located at a high altitude: high winds and waves may take you by surprise. Luggage must be well secured inside your boat to ensure nothing is lost in the event of capsizing. It is also important to ensure your boat is stable. We recommend checking the weather forecast in advance and delaying your departure rather than heading out in hazardous navigating conditions.












* Did you know that *row-and-go canoes* are available to rent in this sector? This allows you to go on an expedition on a backcountry lake without portaging. For more information, visit the following link: <https://parcs.canada.ca/pn-np/qc/mauricie/visit/location-rental>



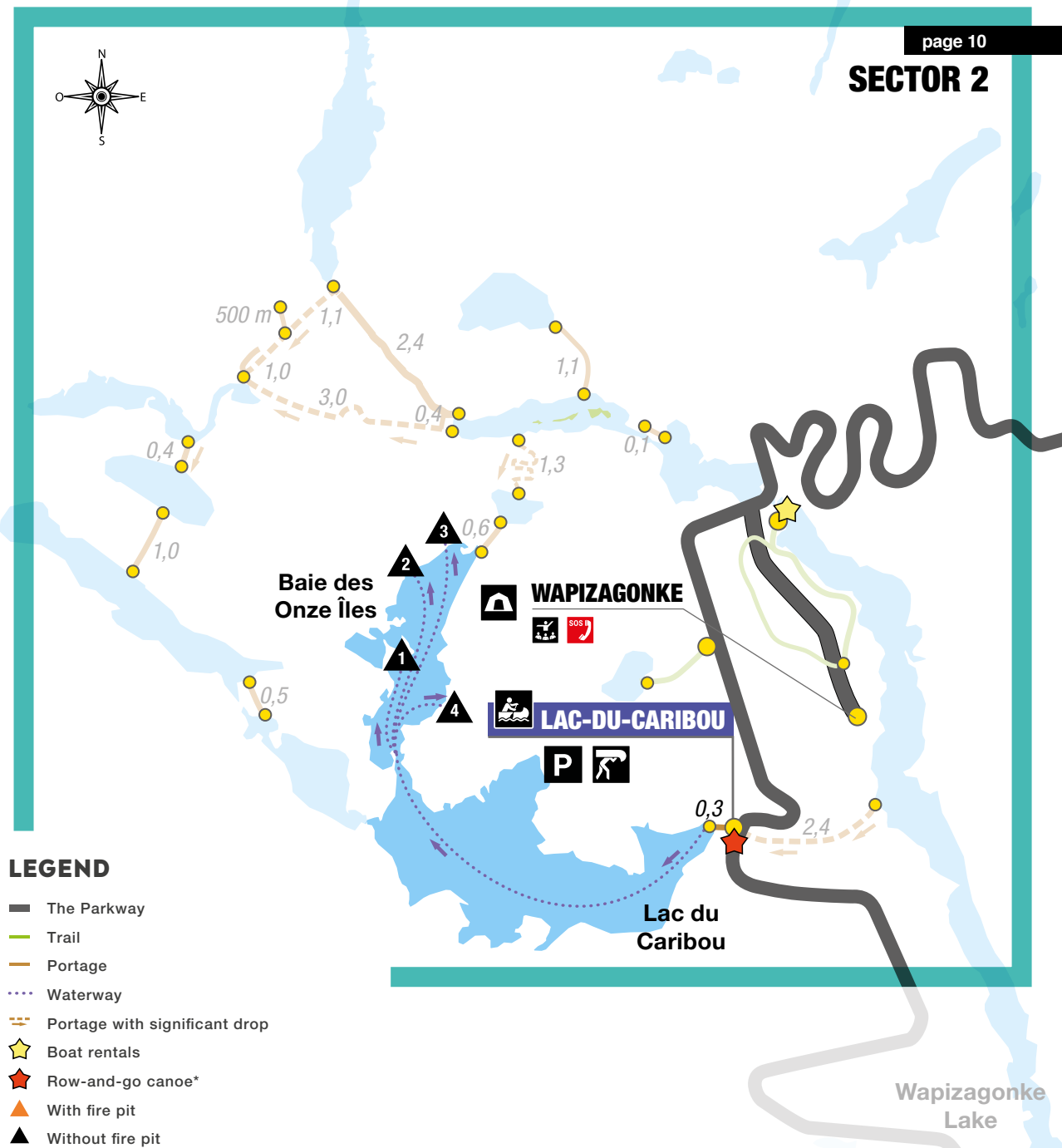
MODERATE ROUTES—WITH PORTAGE

BAIE DES ONZE ÎLES

Sites 1, 2, 3, and 4 without fire pit
(one night or more)

Departure from the LAC-DU-CARIBOU parking lot	
	0.3 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)
Lac du Caribou to Baie des Onze Îles	
	5.7 km of canoeing (1 hour 25 minutes)
	Site 1
	6.8 km of canoeing (1 hour 45 minutes)
	Site 2
	7.1 km of canoeing (1 hour 45 minutes)
	Site 3
	5.9 km of canoeing (1 hour 30 minutes)
	Site 4

TIP : Lac du Caribou is located at a high altitude: high winds and waves may take you by surprise. Luggage must be well secured inside your boat to ensure nothing is lost in the event of capsizing. It is also important to ensure your boat is stable. We recommend checking the weather forecast in advance and delaying your departure rather than heading out in hazardous navigating conditions.



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MODERATE ROUTE - WITH PORTAGE

MARIE LAKE

Site 1 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the LAC-ÉDOUARD Picnic Area	
Édouard Lake	
	3.9 km of canoeing (1 hour)
	1.1 km of difficult portage (30 minutes)
Marie Lake	
	0.8 km of canoeing (15 minutes)
	Site 1
OR	
	8.3 km of hiking (3 hours 30 minutes)
	Site 1

SECTOR 4



LAC-ÉDOUARD

- LEGEND**
- The Parkway
 - Trail
 - Portage
 - Waterway
 - Portage with significant drop
 - Boat rentals
 - Row-and-go canoe*
 - With fire pit
 - Without fire pit



MODERATE ROUTES - WITH PORTAGE

ISAÏE LAKE

Site 1 with fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the RIVIÈRE-À-LA-PÊCHE parking lot

4.2 km of hiking (1 hour 40 minutes)

Site 1

Departure from the SAINT-GÉRARD parking lot

Lac à la Pêche

6.1 km of canoeing (1 hour 30 minutes)

0.2 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)

Isaïe Lake

2.5 km of canoeing (30 minutes)

Site 1

OR

10.8 km of hiking (4 hours 30 minutes)

Site 1



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2. If you are renting a canoe, you must go to the on-site boat rental at the Shewenegan Picnic Area (sector 1) to pick up the token for your rental. The token must be returned at the end of your stay.

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DIFFICULT ROUTES - WITH PORTAGES

WABER LAKE

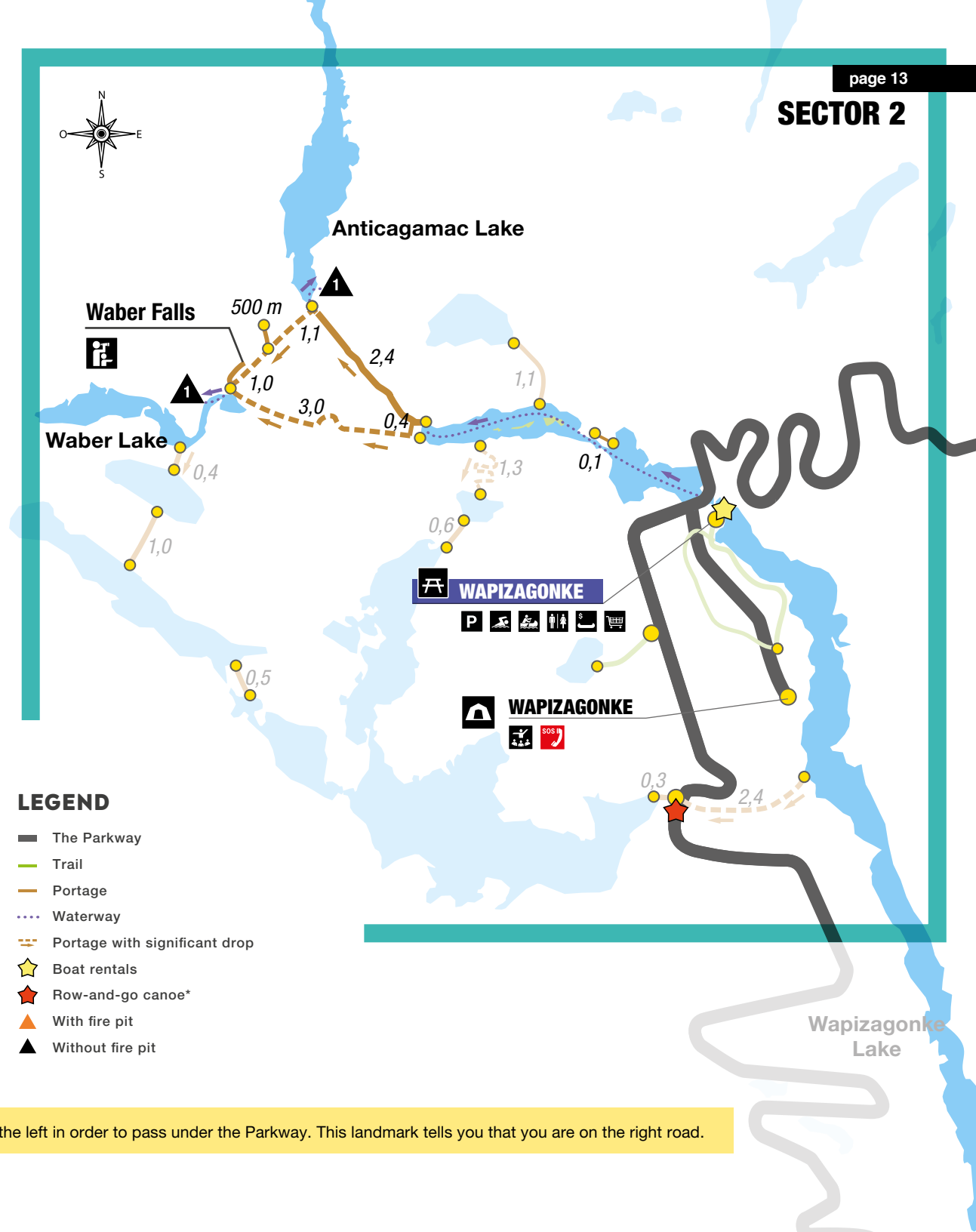
Site 1 without fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the WAPIZAGONKE picnic area	
	0.15 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)
Wapizagonke Lake	
	4.6 km of canoeing (1 hour 10 minutes)
	3 km of very difficult portage (1 hour 45 minutes)
Waber Lake	
	0.7 km of canoeing (10 minutes)
	Site 1

ANTICAGAMAC LAKE

Site 1 without fire pit (one night or more)

Departure from the WAPIZAGONKE picnic area	
	0.15 km of moderate portage (10 minutes)
Wapizagonke Lake	
	4.6 km of canoeing (1 hour 10 minutes)
	2.4 km of very difficult portage (1 hour 30 minutes)
Anticagamac Lake	
	0.2 km of canoeing (5 minutes)
	Site 1



ATTENTION : Once your canoe is on the water, make sure to keep the left in order to pass under the Parkway. This landmark tells you that you are on the right road.



DIFFICULT ROUTES - WITH PORTAGES

DAUPHINAIS LAKE

Sites 1 and 2 without fire pit
(one night of more)

Departure from LAC-SOUMIRE parking lot	
	0.5 km of moderate portage (15 minutes)
Soumire Lake	
	1.4 km of canoeing (20 minutes)
	0.5 km of moderate portage (15 minutes)
Giron Lake	
	1.8 km of canoeing (25 minutes)
	1 km of difficult portage (30 minutes)
Dubon-Dauphinais Lake	
	2.3 km of canoeing (30 minutes)
	Site 1
	3.6 km of canoeing (55 minutes)
	Site 2





DIFFICULT ROUTES - WITH PORTAGES

LAC DES CINQ

Sites 1, 2, and 3 without fire pit
(one night of more)

Departure from LAC-SOUMIRE parking lot	
	0.5 km of moderate portage (15 minutes)
Soumire Lake	
	1.4 km of canoeing (20 minutes)
	0.5 km of moderate portage (15 minutes)
Giron Lake	
	1.8 km of canoeing (25 minutes)
	1 km of difficult portage (30 minutes)
Dubon-Dauphinais Lake	
	5.4 km of canoeing (1 hour 20 minutes)
	0.8 km of difficult portage (25 minutes)
Lac des Cinq	
	3.1 km of canoeing (45 minutes)
	Site 1
	1.6 km of canoeing (25 minutes)
	Site 2
	3.1 km of canoeing (45 minutes)
	Site 3





DIFFICULT ROUTES - HIKING

SECTOR 4

SITES WITH FIRE PIT ACCESSIBLE BY HIKING OR TRAIL BICYCLING

Departure from the RIVIÈRE-À-LA-PÊCHE parking lot

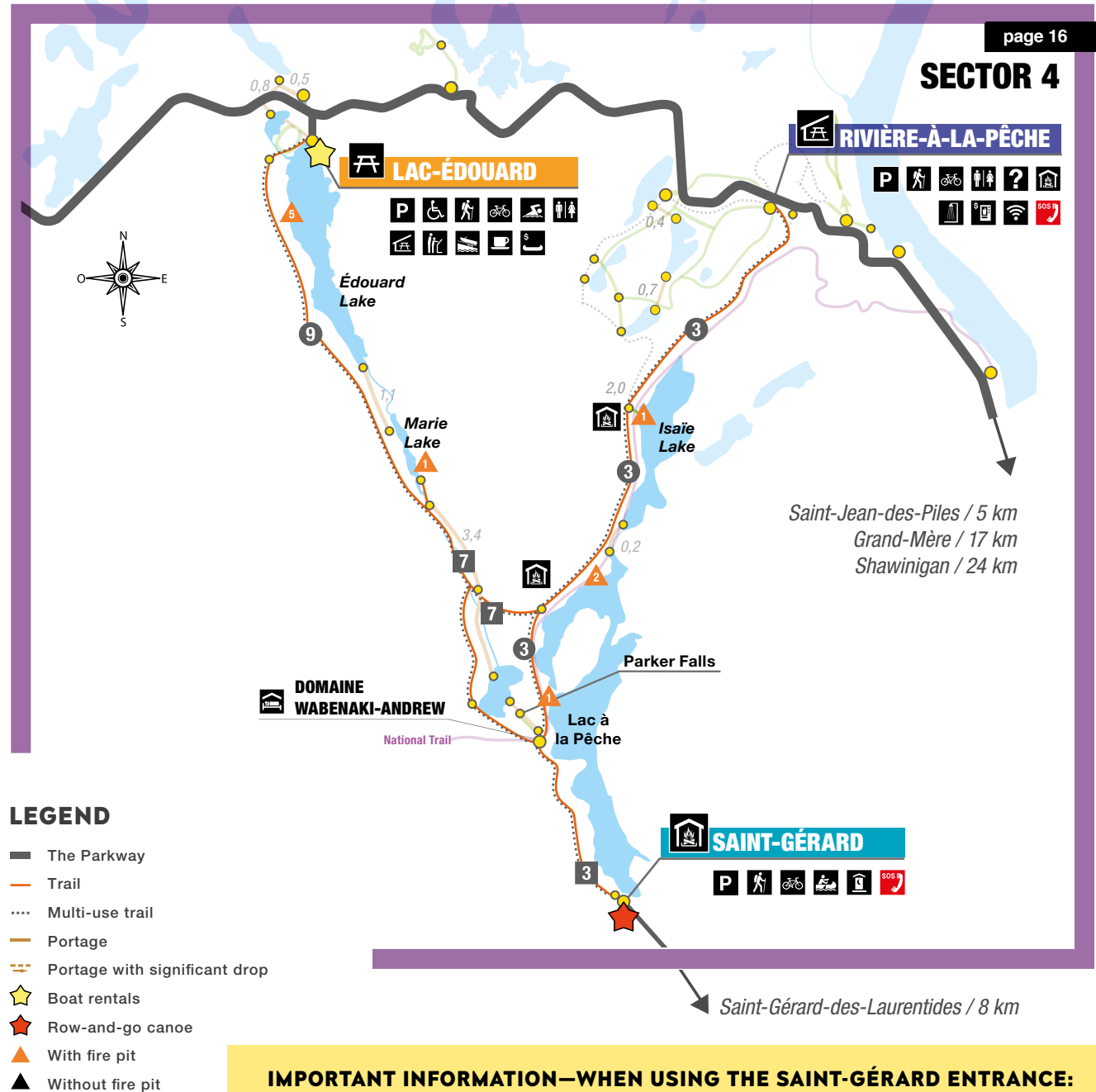
1	Isaïe Lake - 4.2 km (1 hour 40 minutes)
1	Lac à la Pêche - 10.5 km (4 hours 15 minutes)
2	Lac à la Pêche - 7.6 km (3 hours 15 minutes)
1	Marie Lake - 12.9 km (5 hours 15 minutes)
5	Édouard Lake - 18.1 km (7 hours 15 minutes)

Departure from the SAINT-GÉRARD parking lot

1	Isaïe Lake - 10.8 km (4 hours 30 minutes)
1	Lac à la Pêche - 4.4 km (1 hour 50 minutes)
2	Lac à la Pêche - 7.3 km (3 hours)
1	Marie Lake - 10.1 km (4 hours 15 minutes)
5	Édouard Lake - 15.3 km (6 hours)

Departure from the LAC-ÉDOUARD picnic area

1	Isaïe Lake - 16.2 km (6 hours 30 minutes)
1	Lac à la Pêche - 13.1 km (5 hours 30 minutes)
2	Lac à la Pêche - 12.7 km (5 hours)
1	Marie Lake - 8.3 km (3 hours 30 minutes)
5	Édouard Lake - 2.4 km (1 hour)



SECTOR 4

* It is possible to depart from Saint-Gérard parking lot, Rivière-à-la-Pêche parking lot or the Lac-Édouard Picnic Area.

** Several routes are possible depending on the distance you plan to travel and the time you have during the day. You can create your own itinerary with the map. Do not hesitate to contact us for more information.

*** The following sites are accessible by hiking or by trail bicycling: Isaïe Lake #1, lac à la Pêche #1 and #2, Marie Lake #1 and Édouard Lake #5.



DIFFICULT ROUTE—WITH PORTAGES

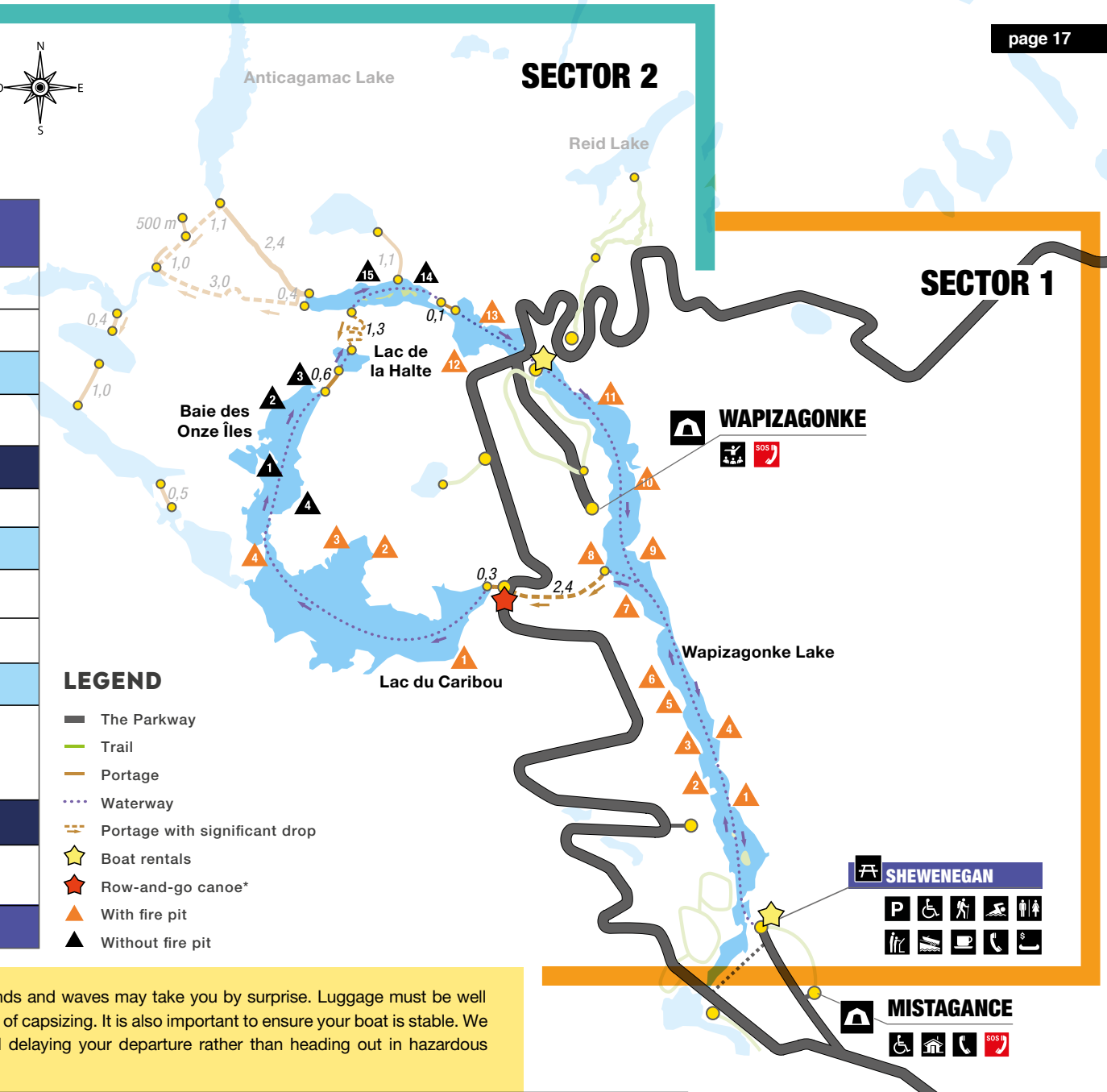
**LOOP 1
(recommendation - 2 nights/3 days)**

Departure from the SHEWENEGAN Picnic Area on Lake Wapizagonke	
	6.1 km of canoeing (1 hour 30 minutes)
	2.8 km of very difficult portage (1 hour 40 minutes)
Lac du Caribou to Baie des Onze îles	
	7.2 km of canoeing (1 hour 50 minutes)
Night 1 (Lac du Caribou or Baie des Onze îles)	
	0.6 km of difficult portage (20 minutes)
Lac de la Halte	
	0.4 km of canoeing (10 minutes)
	1.3 km of very difficult portage (55 minutes)
Wapizagonke Lake	
	3.8 km of canoeing to Wapizagonke Picnic Area (55 minutes) + distance depending on the site chosen for the night (see table on page 4)
Night 2 (Wapizagonke Lake)	
	Distance depending on the site chosen for the night (see table on page 4)
Arrival at the SHEWENEGAN Picnic Area	



LEGEND

- The Parkway
- Trail
- Portage
- Waterway
- Portage with significant drop
- Boat rentals
- Row-and-go canoe*
- With fire pit
- Without fire pit



TIP : Lac du Caribou is located at a high altitude: high winds and waves may take you by surprise. Luggage must be well secured inside your boat to ensure nothing is lost in the event of capsizing. It is also important to ensure your boat is stable. We recommend checking the weather forecast in advance and delaying your departure rather than heading out in hazardous navigating conditions.

* Depending on the distance you plan to travel and the time you have during the day, canoe-camping sites are available near Wapizagonke Lake, Lac du Caribou, and Baie des Onze îles.
 ** It is possible to depart from Lac du Caribou or the Wapizagonke Picnic Area.
 *** The loop can also be done in reverse (same level of difficulty).

Shawinigan / 25 km



VERY DIFFICULT ROUTE—WITH PORTAGES

LOOP 2

(recommendation 3 nights/4 days)

Departure from the **SHEWENEGAN** Picnic Area on Lake Wapizagonke

6.1 km of canoeing to portage (1 hour 30 minutes)
2.8 km of very difficult portage (1 hour 40 minutes)

Lac du Caribou to Cobb Bay

6.3 km of canoeing (1 hour 35 minutes)

Night 1 (Lac du Caribou or Cobb Bay)

0.5 km of difficult portage (15 minutes)

Maréchal Lake

1.7 km of canoeing (25 minutes)

1 km of difficult portage (30 minutes)

Tessier Lake

0.5 km of canoeing (10 minutes)

0.4 km of difficult portage (15 minutes)

Waber Lake

0.7 km of canoeing (10 minutes)

Night 2 (Waber Lake or + 2.1 km of moderate portage to Anticagamac Lake)

3 km (1 hour 45 minutes) or
2.4 km (1 hour 10 minutes) of very difficult portage

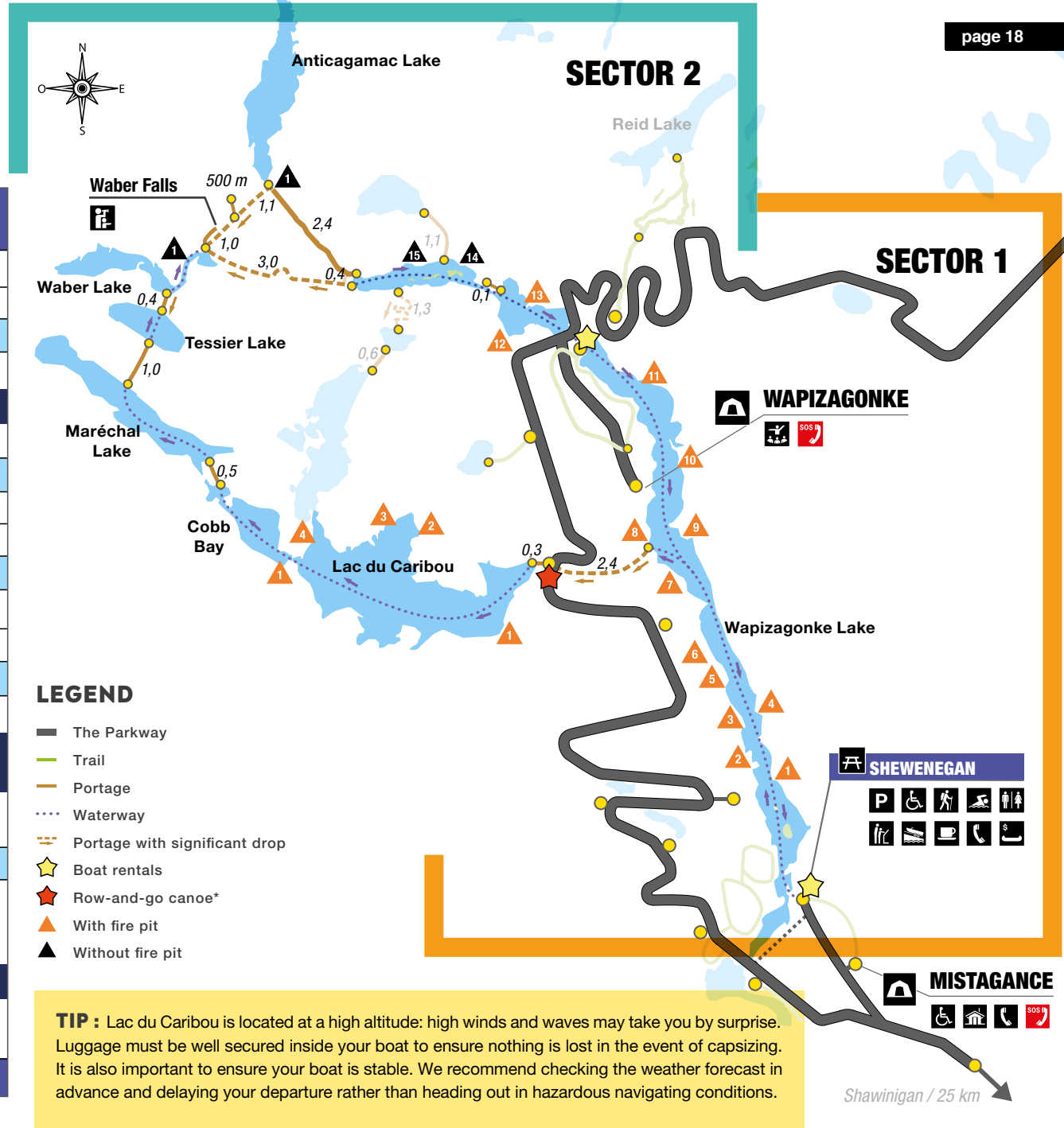
Wapizagonke Lake

4.6 km of canoeing to Wapizagonke Picnic Area (1 hour 10 minutes) + distance depending on the site chosen for the night (see table on page 4)

Night 3 (Wapizagonke Lake)

Distance depending on the site chosen for the night (see table on page 4)

Arrival at the **SHEWENEGAN** Picnic Area



LEGEND

- The Parkway
- Trail
- Portage
- ... Waterway
- - - Portage with significant drop
- ★ Boat rentals
- ★ Row-and-go canoe*
- ▲ With fire pit
- ▲ Without fire pit

TIP : Lac du Caribou is located at a high altitude: high winds and waves may take you by surprise. Luggage must be well secured inside your boat to ensure nothing is lost in the event of capsizing. It is also important to ensure your boat is stable. We recommend checking the weather forecast in advance and delaying your departure rather than heading out in hazardous navigating conditions.

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** It is possible to depart from Lac du Caribou or the Wapizagonke Picnic Area.

*** The loop can also be done in reverse (same level of difficulty).

APPENDIX 1

TABLE OF DROPS	
PORTAGE	DROP IN METRES
À la Pêche/Isaïe	- 3
Caribou (parking)/Caribou	- 19
Édouard/Marie	- 18
Dauphinois/Des Cinq	+ 2
De la Halte/Baie des Onze Îles	+ 5
Giron/Dubon-Dauphinois	- 21
Maréchal/Tessier	- 1
Parker/À la Pêche	- 49
Soumire/Giron	+ 2
Soumire (parking)/Soumire	- 5
Tessier/Waber	- 43
Waber/Anticagamac	- 127
Wapizagonke/Antigacamac	- 22
Wapizagonke/Avalon	+ 34
Wapizagonke/Caribou	+ 147
Wapizagonke/Halte	+ 141
Wapizagonke/Waber	+ 105



Original Version by Béatrice Landry,
2018-2019 for La Mauricie National Park

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