parcmarin.qc.ca | marinepark.qc.ca

Visitors' Guide 2011

Parks Canada: I 888 773-8888 • parkscanada.gc.ca | Parcs Québec: I 800 665-6527 • sepaq.com







A WORD FROM THE MINISTER

This year, Parks: Canada is celebrating its 100° birthday. In 1911, the government established the Dominion Parks Branch, the very first national parks service in the world. Today, Parks Canada protects 42 national parks, 167 national historic sites and 4 national marine conservation areas across the country.

Canada has the world's longest coastline, along three oceans, as well as the largest freshwater reserve in the world. These marrine and coastal regions are home to an extraordinary ecological diversity and abundance and are also the site of numerous human activities. As such, not only do they make a major contribution to the economy but they are also of incalculable social and culture value.

Stablished in 1998, the Sagneny-St. Lawrence Marine Park is one of Canada's first marrise protected areas. Coperation between the Canadian and Queber. Goenements for the management of this unique park along with achie participation from surrounding communities makes for a truly repring model. As minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency I am particularly proud to contribute to the protection of the parks exceptional marrise environment and to offer the public opportunities to discover and onjoy memorable experiences in these surroundings.

Linvite all citizens and our visitors to come celebrate our most cherished places and to take advantage of this opportunity to discover and become better acquainted with these protected areas. The launch of the Parks Canada centernial activities will take place across the country on May 19, 2011. Admission is free at all Parks Canada sites on Canada Day (Mu): 1) and Parks Day (Mu): 16).

join in the celebrations as we begin our second century of history!



Peter Kent

Canadian Minister of the Environment and Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency



Free admission

July 1s, Canada Day July 16, Parks Day

We look forward to seeing you!

Marine Environment Discovery Centre

41, rue des Pilotes, Les Escoumins

Cap-de-Bon-Désir Interpretation

and Observation Centre

13, ch. du Cap-de-Bon-Désir.

Pointe-Noire Interpretation and Observation Centre

Route 138 Baie-Sainte-Catherine









Message from the Minister

Over the years, Sépaq has become a true leader in the nature tourism field in Québec. Sépaq is unique in what it has to offer: 22 national parks, a marine park, 15 widlife reserves, Sépaq Anticosti, Aquarium du Québec and 7 resorts. The Société operates 47 establishments grouped in three networks: Parcs Cuébec, Widliffe Reserves and Resorts.

Parcs Québec, Wildlife Reserves and Resorts.

In 2010, it celebrated its 25 anniversary, and national parks have been part of the Sépaq family since 1999.

During the past 12 years, Parcs Quibbec has succeeded in increasing the quality standards in parks so that they compare advantageously with the other major national park networks around the world. It has also developed a feeling of belonging and pride in these exceptional protected territories, while making sure that their ecological integrity is maintained. This was ratural domain is dotted with hundreds of lakes and rivers. It is home to rich and diversified wildlift and flors, boasts several historical. sites, and serves as a backdrop for the majestic St. Lawrence River as it flows to the ocean and for the stunning Saguenay fjord, one of the world's most beautiful fjords.

For millennia, the song of the belaga whale, the emblem of the Saguenay— Sci. Lawrence Marine Park, has been heaved best estep walls of the flort. Other equally fascinating species are found in the park, the first marrine conservation area in Quebec. Saguenay—St. Lawrence Marine Park was created under two laws, one provincial and the other federal. Parks Canada and Parcs Quebec are working together to raise the level of protection of the ecosystems and the biodiversity of the Saguenay flord and the estuary of the St. Lawrence River for conservation scientific purposes. Let yoursel be surprised, let yoursel be filled with wonderment! The biodiversity of this marine territory is being enhanced for the benefit of both current and future generations.

Have a great vacation! Discover the region's other Day ACQUES-CARTIER OUÉBEC Lawrence Riv Gulf of St. Lawrence PRINCE EDWARD NEW ISLAND BRUNSWICK Charlotteto Moncton . NOVA SCOTIA Saint John ONTARIO Atlantic Ouébec's national park network Ocean

Summary

 Feature events
 I

 Discovery Network
 I

 Underwater diving
 2

 Winter fun
 2

 Notice Board
 2





Welcome to the Saguenay—St. Lawrence Marine Park!



Purpose of the Marine Park

Recognizing the importance of protecting the environment, wildlife, plant life, and natural resources of a part of the Sagueny Fjord and St Lawrence River estuary the Governments of Quebec and Canada created together with public support, the Saguenay-St Lawrence Marine Park

The purpose of the Marine Park is to increase, for the benefit of the present and future generations, the level of protection of its ecosystems for conservation purposes, while encouraging its use for educational, recreational and scientific purposes.

Activities in the Marine Park are regulated with a view to ensuring the sustainable use of this area and its resources. Regional stakeholders contribute to achieving the marine park's objectives.

Park sectors

The Marine Park protects the marine environment, the portion of the shoreline covered at high tide, the water column, and the sea floor, and all the life they support. The islands and islets are not included in the park, but many are nevertheless protected.

Covering an area of 1,245 km², the Marine Park is made up of three interconnected ecosystems at the confluence of the Saguenay and St. Lawrence Rivers.

1. Upper estuary: A nurturing area

With its islands set in a sea of turquoise, the upper estuary senency is one of the most beautiful along the St. Lawrence River The many lighthouses stunding tall on the rody shores, bring a final touch to this outstanding seasoape. The upper estuary is an ideal habitowhere hermig capelin, birds, seals, and belugas can reproduce, feed, and rest. In winter it is the preferred place of birds, and particularly Barrow's Goldeneye. This area represents 53 % of total park area.

2. Lower estuary: A gigantic pantry

This is without a doubt the most popular sector of the Marine Parld Every summer, whales, seals, and brids regale on the plethona of small fish and plarkton that thrive here. The Juywelling of cold satt water coming from the Gulf and Atlantic Ocean is at the origin of this abundant marine life. This is also where most of the excursion boats come to watch marine mammals. The area is also a preferred setting of sea-layslers it makes up 30 % of total park area.

3. Saguenay Fjord: A unique environment

Dark waters enclosed within dizzying offis give the Sagueny fjord a somewhat mysterious aspect. The Fjord is at once a soa and a river as cold salt water from the St. Lawrence estants inades its depths, while warmer fresh waters from its tributaries and take St. Jean run along the surface. This sector is a favourite of recreational boaters and fishing enthusiasts. It covers 1 7 8 of the park





A word from the Saguenay-St.

Lawrence Marine Park Co-Directors the Coordination Committee Welcome to the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park, a unique marine Navigating on the waters of the Marine Park or walking along

conservation area supported by two park networks that unite their strengths to provide two exceptional ecosystems with high levels of protection, and park users with high-quality nature experiences. Parcs Québec and Parks Canada invite you to come discover the countless gems this park has to offer.

Fall under the charm of the stories told by a boat captain; glide along the waters of the St. Lawrence estuary or Saguenay River on a guided kayak outing find out about the underwater world from a guideinterpreter; relax on a beach shaped by the comings and goings of the tides; let the Discovery Network unveil for you the many aspects of the park; and plunge into the heart of cultural heritage. Hear the song of belugas, the blowing of whales, breathe the sea breeze, and marvel at the beauty of the landscapes.

So many ways to experience the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park... Yours to discover! We hope this guide will help you get the most of your park experience.

Nother Buguer

Daniel Langlois Co-Director

Parks Canada

Nathaël Bergeron

Co-Director Parcs Ouébec

Discovery Network sites, the natural beauty of the surroundings will astound you as will the many activities offered. And if you had a chance to come backstage, you might be impressed by the sheer number of contributors who are wholly committed to the sound development of this magnificent marine environment.

A word from the President of

Formed upon the creation of the Marine Park, the Coordination Committee is made up of representatives from the regional county municipalities. Essipit Innu First Nation, scientific community, and from the fields of education and tourism. The committee plays a part in determining the management orientations of the park, and making sure the management plan is followed. Moreover, a committee on marine activities and a number of advisory committees oversee the various stakes of the park and contribute to the dynamics and sound management of the Marine Park.

In short, a large number of regional role players are active behind the scenes and collaborate with Parcs Québec and Parks Canada for you. In the name of Coordination Committee members, I wish one and all memorable moments at the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park.

Emil Porti

Émilien Pelletier President, Saguenay-St, Lawrence Marine Park Coordination Committee

Professor Institut des sciences de la mer de Rimouski (UQAR-ISMER)

A region known for its beautiful landscapes

A rich living and inhabited environment, the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park and surrounding areas are also places of natural and cultural heritage. Many neighbouring protected areas contribute to the Marine Park's protection: Charlevoix World Biosphere Reserve. Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay, the Baie de L'Isle-Verte and Îles de l'Estuaire National Wildlife Areas, certain Lower St. Lawrence private islands, and the St. Fulgence marsh.

Charlevoix World Biosphere Reserve

The Charlevoix region has been listed among the "World Network of Biosphere Reserves" for the diversity of its landscapes, wildlife, and plant life. This natural environment is in great demand for a multitude of uses. The local communities work together towards the sustainable development of the reserve and its natural resources. and the conservation of its biological diversity. www.biospherecharlevoix.com





Scientific research serving conservation

5/3

Protecting a given environment starts with understanding that environment, and scientific research is essential to the task by measuring the effectiveness of protection measures and helping to mitigate the effects of human activities on the marine environment.

The St. Lawrence estuary and Saguenay Fjord have for a long time fascinated scientists. Researchers have shown interest in the area's unique ecosystems and living organisms since the 1960s. Still loday, many scientists affiliated to universities and government and non-government organizations, conduct research on a wide range of topics. The Marine Park has not yet revealed all its secrets. Here are two of the projects under the microscope:

Keeping an eye on the beluga

In collaboration with Parcs Québec, a Parks Carada team is subying the beliga whale in two specific areas of the Marine Park at the mouth of the Sagueng, Kiew and in Bais Sainte-Marguerite, where pods of adult belgas and their calves spend a substantial part of the summer. The knowledge thus acquired and invaluable support of the local population will help us to better protect this magnificent manine mammal.

lust what do whales eat in the Marine Park?

On board "L'Alliance". Parks Canada

researchers navigate the Marine Park waters to find out whats on the menu for whales, seals, and birds Their equipment is specially designed to detect krill and fish below the surface. As cold water comes up the maritime estuary it brings along large amounts of these types of prey. But researchers have many questions on their minds. How abundant is the prey? What influences their numbers! What is the relation between prey numbers and predator distribution? What does the future hold for whales seals and hirds in terms of food?

Conducted each summer since 2009, the study will provide answers to these questions. We will better understand why whales, seals, and some bird species visit the area at specific times of the year:



Some species are threatened; it's up to us to protect them!

Around the world, wildlife species are threatened by human activities. Thanks to protection efforts, some species, like the Peregrine Falcon, have recovered or are in the process of recovering. Others, like the beluga and blue whale. still need our help.



The St. Lawrence beluga whale population numbered between 7.800 and 10,000 individuals in the mid-19th Century, Deemed to be the cause of their decline, hunting was banned in 1979. Since the 1980s, the population has stabilized to about 1,100 individuals. But this state of affairs is an indication that other factors may be harmful to the St. Lawrence beluga, which has been assigned the status of threatened species.

The blue whale, the largest animal on the planet, is endangered. Despite the hunting ban, the North Atlantic population only numbers 250 to 300 individuals of reproductive age, and a few calves. Estimates show that ten or so individuals occasionally visit the St. Lawrence maritime estuary.

Threatened and endangered whale species are the subject of special protective measures in the Sagueray-St. Lawrence Marine Park Help protect them by respecting the environment and by complying with regulations governing the approach distances and speeds to be maintained in the vicinity of marine mammals.



Complementary protection measures

Zoning

Zoning is a conservation measure used in land and marine parks to delimit areas where certain types of activities can or cannot be practiced, with a view to sustainable use of the protected areas.

Comprehensive preservation zones are designed to protect vulnerable species and fragle habitats. For example, the area around lie aux Friases is a comprehensive preservation zone because it is a resting area for seals and staging area for brds. Bai stante-l'Araguente is, for its part a preferred area of belugas, where they rase their calves, reproduce and rest that is the reason why it has also been declared a comprehensive preservation zone.

Zoning regulations will soon be in force. Boaters, hunters, fishermen, kayakers and other users are therefore invited to stay away of these comprehensive preservation zones.

Zoning category	Authorized activities
Comprehensive preservation: 3 % of the park	Scientific research under specific conditions
Specific protection: 42 % of the park	Navigation, marine tours, underwater diving, scientific research
General protection: 19 % of the park	Navigation, marine tours, underwater diving, scientific research, as well as recreational hunting and fishing
General use: 36 % of the park	Navigation, marine tours, underwater diving, scientific research, recreational hunting and fishing, as well as commercial fishing under specific conditions.

Marine Activities in the Saguenay— St. Lawrence Marine Park Regulations

Developed in partnership with the marine tour companies, the regulations provide a framework for the activities practiced in the Marine Park. The regulations indicate the maximum navigation speed permitted throughout the park as well as the distances and speeds to be respected when marine marrinals are present (see table). All watercraft in the Marine Park must comply with these regulations.

Boat captains and sea-kayaking guides of organizations with marine tour permits must pass the Parks Canada regulations course.



Speed

5 knots = 9.26 km/h = 5.75 mph 10 knots = 18.52 km/h = 11.50 mph 25 knots = 46.30 km/h = 28.70 mph

In the event of any disparity, the text of the Regulations shall take precedence over the information presented in this guide.

* Under certain conditions, marine tour permit-holders (i.e., whale watching vessels) are allowed to come as close as 100 m of whales other than belugas and blue whales,





Experience the sea!

Whether you are looking for adventure or a quiet tour on the water you will be delighted. Choose the type of boat and excursion that suits you best and take the full measure of wide open spaces. Each sea outing is unique!



To help you choose

Marine tour companies have many watercraft types and sizes. Contact the marine tour providers to determine which products best suit. your needs.

Guided excursions

Marine tour captains and guides have sound knowledge of the marine environment. They can put that knowledge at your service and answer your auestions.

Regardless of the type of boat you choose, your captain will stay within regulated speeds and respect the approach distances and speeds to be maintained in the vicinity of marine mammals. However, whales can sometimes unexpectedly emerge near a boat. Your captain knows what to do in such circumstances. When sea-kayaking, your guide will make sure you keep to the proper distances and navigate in complete safety. Follow your guide...

What you need

Even during summer, it is colder on water than on land. Warm, comfortable clothing is recommended.

For outings on a boat, we suggest:

- Long pants and closed shoes
- Hat, gloves and scarf Windbreaker or raincoat
- Sunscreen and sunglasses
- Camera Binoculars

For non-guided kayak outings, we suggest:

- Tide tables
 - VHF radio
 - Isothermal and spare clothing
 - Nautical Charts Food and water
- To notify a designated contact person of your itinerary

Visiting the whales

In summer, the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park is a gigantic, natural pantry. The whales, seals, and birds you see, for the most part, travelled thousands of kilometres to come feed here. These wild animals spend a large part of their time feeding and resting. You are privileged to be able to watch them in their habitat and witness their natural behaviour.

Six months of amazement

Through the seasons, landscapes undergo changes and new players enter the scene. In May and lune, countless birds can be seen and the first migrating whales are back in the park, In July, August, and September, several migrating whale species arrive in greater numbers. Seals and seabirds are also present. In September and October, nature puts on its colourful coat and great numbers of birds fly through the region.

To find out more

- · About the Marine Park: marinepark.gc.ca
- · About birds: explos-nature.gc.ca/oot/
- · About marine mammals: romm.ca

baleinesendirect.net

· About all these topics and much more: visit the Discovery Network sites

Did you know...

That four large migrating whales can be seen in the Marine Park in the summer: they are the minke whale, the fin whale, the humpback whale and the blue whale.

The beluga whale and harbour seal are the only marine mammals that spend the entire year in the St. Lawrence estuary.

Can you tell which is which?



















Your Safety: Your Responsibility

Outdoor activities can involve certain risks. Make sure that you have the skills and abilities required for the activity you choose. It is important to know the risks inherent to this activity, to respect your limits and to use appropriate equipment.

Experience the sea by boat



Croisières AML

1 800 563-4643

cmisieresaml com

AML, outstanding nature experience with certified bilingual guide-interpreters who will let you feel their passion for marine mammals!

Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine, L'Anse-Saint-lean, Rivière-du-Loup

Croisières Charlevoix inc. (Groupe Dufour)

1 866 638-1483

haleines ca

Located 25 minutes from La Malbaie, Saint-Siméon is your ideal place to embark on a whale-watching excursion in the Marine Park. Choice of boat or zodiac.

Saint-Siméon

Croisières Groupe Dufour

1 800 463-5250

dufourca

Groupe Dufour invites you to discover its fabulous whalewatching excursions. Eight departures per day from May to October: Only our cruises offer 5-heart service, and guaranteed unforgettable moments.

Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine

Croisière Personnalisée Saguenay

418 272-2739

croisieresaguenay.ca

Top of the range customized, contemplative excursions for an intimate, distinctive, and enriching experience on the majestic Saguenay Fiord, A delightful interlude...

L'Anse-Saint-lean

Croisières 2001

1 800 694-5489

croisieres2001.com

Palpitating 3-hour excursions in a warm atmosphere with whale-watching and a foray into the Saguenay Fjord.

Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine

Les Croisières du Fiord

1 800 363-7248

croisieremariolaine.com

On board our "bateau-mouche" tour boat, discover the most spectacular parts of the Saguenay Fjord. See Capes Trinité and Éternité and the statue of the Virgin Mary. Includes a moment of contemplation with the recitation of the Ave Maria!

Chicoutimi, Sainte-Rose-du-Nord, La Baie, Baie-Éternité, L'Anse-Saint-Jean, Saint-Félix d'Otis and Tadoussac

Société Duvetnor

418 867-1660

duvetnor.com

Cruise around the St. Lawrence islands (with or without stopover). See a great variety of seabirds (before the end of July), landscapes, and hear fascinating seafaring stories (smuggling, sea trading post...). Commentated, informative excursions,

Rivière-du-Loup



Experience the sea by zodiac boat



Croisières AML

1 800 563-4643

croisieresaml.com

AML, outstanding nature experience with certified bilingual guide-interpreters who will let you feel their passion for marine mammals!

Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine

Croisières Groupe Dufour / Croisières Charlevoix

1 800 463-5250 / 1 866 638-1438 dufour.ca / baleines.ca

Groupe Dufour invites you to discover its fabulous whale-watching excursions. Eight departures per day from May to October. Only our cruises offer 5-heart service, and guarantéed unforgettable moments.

Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine, Saint-Siméon

Les Écumeurs du Saint-Laurent

1 888 817-9999

lesecumeurs.com

Les Écumeurs du Saint-Laurent invites you to discover the fascinating world of whales on board one of our zodiac boats, in the company of our passionate captains.

Les Escoumins

Otis excursions

418 235-4197 / 418 235-4537

otisexcursions.com

Get close and intimate with whales and other marine mammals on board our quiet, ecological, 12-passenger zodiac boats.

Tadoussac

Croisières Essipit

1 888 868-6666

essipit.com

Exhilarating whale-watching excursions in safe zodiac boats, from Les Bergeronnes. Two-hour outing – get ready for a thrilling experience. Kuei! Welcome!

Les Bergeronnes

Croisières Neptune

418 232-6716 / 1 877 7NEPTUNE croisieresneptune.net

Croisières Neptune offers whale-watching excursions skimming the water in safe, modern zodiac boats. A fast, discrete, and fun way to meet the whales.

Les Bergeronnes, Les Escoumins

Les Pionniers des baleines

1 866 501-8725

croisierebaleine.ca

An excursion for passengers to breathe in the fresh sea air and observe whales aboard large zodiacs spacious enough for photo safaris. Vessels equipped with quiet, four-stroke engines, smoke and odor-free.

For information on boarding locations: I 866 501-8725

Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay

1 800 665-6527

parcsquebec.com

Come on board an OrganisAction zodiac boat for an unforgettable foray into the Fjord. Discover an ecosystem with world-unique diversity with our captain-naturalists.

Baie-Éternité



Experience the sea by kayak



Azimut Aventure

azimutaventure.com

Follow the rhythm of the tides and discover the astonishing cliffs along the Saguenay Fjord. Keep your eyes peeled for seals and minke whales. Guided expeditions from a few hours to several days.

Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine

Centre de vacances - Ferme 5 étoiles ferme5etoiles.com

1 877 236-4551

Discover the beauty of the Saguenay Fjord sea-kayaking. Rocky cliffs, beluga whales, and natural gems await. Guided outings and kayak rentals.

L'Anse-de-Roche*

Excursions Fanons

418 233-2846 excursionsfanons.com

Our experience is your guarantee of a well-organized sea-kayaking experience. Our guides and our zodiac boat are there to make sure your outing is safe and enjoyable.

Les Escoumins

418 237-4477

Fjord en Kayak

1 866 725-2925 fjord-en-kayak.ca

Follow your guide and choose between 2 to 5-day expeditions or short outings with family or friends. 2002 and 2010 province-wide Gold winner in Tourism.

L'Anse-Saint-lean

Katabatik - Air du Large

1 800 453-4850 / 418 665-2332 katabatik.ca

Discover the Charlevoix coast with half-day to four-day excursions; bird-watching, whale-watching, winter kayaking. Open March to October

Cap-à-l'Aigle, Saint-Irénée, Baie-Saint-Paul*

Kayak du Paradis

campingparadismarin.com

Guided tours with focus on safety and nature. This adventure makes you feel like you are holding wildlife in the palm of your hand!

Les Bergeronnes

Mer et Monde Écotours

1 866 637-6663

meretmonde.ca

Small groups (maximum 8 persons) with a professional guide sea-

kayaking on the St. Lawrence to the discovery of marine mammals.

Tadoussac, Les Bergeronnes

Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay

1 800 665-6527 parcsquebec.com

Explore the most beautiful parts of the Fjord with OrganisAction

naturalist-guides. On the menu: The dizzying cliffs of the Fjord at your own pace... and with the flow of tides!

Baie-Éternité

*Other boarding locations available.





Plonge-o-thon for Opération Enfant Soleil

May 27 and 28

A fundraising event for children's medical care in Québec, to be held at the Marine Environment Discovery Centre*.

Parks Canada is proud to partner with Plongée Aventure Québec in support of Opération Enfant Soleil.

Parks Canada centennial concerts

This summer, attend the Parks Canada 100th anniversary concerts and celebrate with us in so many unique places throughout Canada and Québec.

For more information about the concerts to be held in the Marine Park area, visit our website at www.marinepark.qc.ca or call 1 888 773-8888 (toll free).

Escoumins marine festival 2011

September 3 and 4 (Labour Day weekend)

See films on diving, and follow divers through a night dive, live! The marine life will amaze you!

At the Marine Environment Discovery Centre*

Produced by Les Escoumins municipality, Corporation de développement des Escoumins, Fédération québécoise des activités subaquatiques, Explos-Nature and Parks Canada.

Full moon evenings... Moonlight JAZZ!

June 18, July 16, and August 13

A one-of-a-kind event in Québec where the St. Lawrence and the whales quietly step aside for Lady Moon to shine her silvery light on outdoor jazz concerts.

Concerts held at the Marine Environment Discovery Centre*

An "Odyssée artistique" presentation, in partnership with Parks Canada, Les Escoumins municipality and Centre local de development Haute-Côte-Nord.



Visit our information offices at the following locations:

2820, boul. Malcom-Fraser La Malbaie (Saint-Fidèle sector) 418 434-2299

vaie (Saint-Fidèle sector)
4-2299
Les Escoumins
4-18 233-2663
te 132 Ouest
Musée du Fiord

51, Route 132 Ouest Trois-Pistoles 418 851-3698

es 3346, boul. de la Grande-Baie Sud 98 Saguenay (La Baie District)

154 Route 138

189, boulevard de l'Hôtel-de-Ville

Rivière-du-Loup 418 862-1981



^{*}The Marine Environment Discovery Centre is located at 41, rue des Pilotes, Les Escoumins.







CENTRE ÉCOLOGIQUE DE PORT-AU-SAUMON

3330, bout Malcolm-Fran (route 138)

(Saint-Fidèle sector) Tel: 418 434-2209

Tour the trails June 27 to Augus

Long tours: 10 AM and 2 PM

Short tours: 10 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, a 3 PM

Cabin rentals:

The Centre écologique de Portau-Saumon invites you to follow an experienced guide-interpreter along a special trail and discover the St. Lawrence upper estuary. The ecological centre has been a part of the Charlevoix heritage for over 40 years; a faithfully preserved exceptional site.

Discover a variety of marine and forest ecosystems; explore a crevasse and a 15-metre waterfall; see and touch various marine organisms.



PORT-AU-PERSIL DISCOVERY AREA

ort-au-Persil int-Siméon

Schedule

Admission

Haven of peacefulness to the rhythm of the tides, Port-au-Persil is a member of the "Most Beaufful Villages of Québec Association". Discovered by Samuel de Champlian, this harilet has inspired many an artist. The panoramic route leads you to the reception lodge where you will find shelter information, and boat ramp for leavaks.

Make the most of the hiking trails and picnic areas to breathe in the air from the sea and enjoy the scenery.



Schedule

Admission

9



POINTE-NOIRE INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATION CENTRE

Let the beauty of the landscape charm you, contemplate the rody cliffs of the Sagueray Fjord, and see the tides advance and recede. The centre is one of the best places to watch belugas from the shore. Visit the range-light station which, today still, guides ships at the mouth of the Saguerray River.

Become an Xplorator; information available at reception.

Visit three sites on the same day! For an extra \$2 per adult, visit the Cap-de-Bon-Désir Interpretation and Observation Centre and Marine Environment Discovery Centre also.



107, rue du Quai Petit-Saguenay

Td.:418 272-2323 Schedule

lay I to October II

Petit-Saguenay

Admission Site admission is fo

PETIT-SAGUENAY DOCK

Saguenay—St. Lawrence Marine Park discovery area, inspiration of painters and photographers, nature contemplation, magical sunsets, enchanting scenery...

Boat ramp for small craft, kayaking, seatrout fishing, hiking, interpretation, picnic area, and crafts.









L'ANSE-SAINT-IEAN

Tourist information

the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park. L'Anse-Saint-lean spreads its charms around a covered bridge and between stupendous capes on the Saguenay Fiord, from whence the scenery is simply breathtaking.

the shores of a natural bay neighbouring

The village has many services, a marina, sea-kayaking facilities, and short and long hiking trails.



Schedule

Admission

PARC NATIONAL

DU FIORD-DU-SAGUENAY (Baje-Éternité sector)

has a wide variety of land and water activities to offer. In addition to sightseeing cruises, zodiac sailing, and sea-kayaking, a vast network of hiking trails awaits. Campground, cabin, and shelter lodgings are also available for peaceful nights.

On the waters of Baje Éternité, go back to the time of the "coureurs de bois" with the activity: "Un commis voyageur à l'époque du rabaska".



MUSÉE DU FJORD

Touch the stars of the Fjord! Starting in June, discover a new exhibition featuring the biodiversity of the Fiord in a giant aquarium and touch pools.



Schedule

Admission HS / OS



CENTRE D'INTERPRÉTATION DES BATTURES ET DE RÉHABILITATION DES OISEAUX (CIBRO)

Owl and Falcon: Interactive activity on how birds of prey adapt. Contact us for more information.













SAINTE-ROSE-DU-NORD

Municipality of Sainte-Rose-du-Nord 126, rue de la Descente-des-Femmes

Tet 418 675-2250 ste-rosedunord.occ

Corporation nautique du quai de Sainte-Rose-du-Nord May to October Tel: 418 675-2250

Musée de la nature 199, rue de la Montage

Mid-May to mid-September Tel 418 675, 234

Les Croisières du Fjord May to October Tet 418 543-7630 The "Pearl of the Fjord", a town set in a valley between capes, has kilometres of trails with the most beautiful panoramic viewpoints over the Fjord.

Doorway to the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park, Sainte-Rose-du-Nord invites you to visit its distinctive tourist booth where the town's secrets are revealed. The site offers a dock and a pleasurecraft mooring area, the reception pavilion for sightseeing cruise passengers, and other nautical activities.



Schedule

every day: 9 AM to 9 PM

Admission

Parcs
Québec
Conserve: Protige: Décourir.

PARC NATIONAL

DU FJORD-DU-SAGUENAY
(Baie-Sainte-Marguerite sector)

whether you are staying at the campground or simply having a picnic, the principal attraction in this sector is without doubt beluga-watching from the shore. This small white whale and the history of the area are also featured in an exhibition at the discovery and visitors centre.

The "Halte du beluga" activity is held every afternoon all summer long, where a park warden tells all about this fascinating protected species.



ANSE-DE-ROCHE DOCK

Twelve nautical miles from Tadoussac in the Saguenay Fjord and less than ten kilometres for the town of Sacré-Cœur stands a seaport with a unique viewpoint on the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park Breathtaking scenery and a variety of land and sea activities are available.

Outstanding landscapes, mesmerizing sunsets, kayaking, bistro, pergola, interpretation and picnic areas await your visit.



08, rue de la Cale-Sèche fadoussac fal. : 418-235-4701

Schedule May 16 to June 11 and

September 25 to October 16 Noon to 5 PM June 12-18:9 AM to 6 PM June 19 to September 24: 9 AM to 8 PM

Admission Adults: \$12 Accompanied childre (17 and under): Free Seniors \$11 G R E M M

CENTRE D'INTERPRÉTATION DES MAMMIFÈRES MARINS (CIMM)

Meet a 13 m sperm whale and explore the world of whales. Original videos, sounds, games and skeleton collection, exclusive film (air-conditioned room): A complementary must to your excursion. Our experts will answer all your questions. All purchases made at the boutique contribute to whale protection endeavours.

See the all new garden called "Jardin de la grève": Côte-Nord flora and five beluga sculptures. Get the full measure of a life-size blue whale.



Admissio Boat launc Boats: \$7.5

Space in the marina available upon reservat (spaces sometimes available for sailboats or cruisers): 418 236-4325

Two mooring buoy a









PARC NATIONAL DU FJORD-DU-SAGUENAY (Baie-de-Tadoussac sector)

750, ch. Moulin-Bar Tadoussac Tel: 1 800 665-652 418 235-4238

Schedule
Mid-June to mid-Octob
10 AM to 5 PM

Admission Fee charged Get an exceptional view of time immenseness of the oceans. The last great glacier left behind two marine terraces called the "dunes" by the local population. Discover the remains of the glacial period where thousands of birds stopover in the fall, on their way south.

Set at the confluence of the Fjord and estuary, Pointe-de-l'Islet is a spectacular site for land-based seamammal observation.



Schedule

Admission

ARCHÉO TOPO

CENTRE ARCHÉO TOPO

For thousands of years the Haute-Côte-Nord region has seen Amerindian communities travel the land and hunt seals. Archaeological digs reveal occupation of the shoreline and use of marine resources dating back nearly 8,000 years. An amazing journey back in time...

Take part in pottery or bead-making workshops and discover how ancient Amerindian communities lived in harmony with the marine environment.



Admission

100 YEARS parkscanada.gc.ca CAP-DE-BON-DÉSIR

INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATION CENTRE

18 202-6751

Hear the whales blow from the shore, breathe the sea air, and observe abund marine wildlife. Bring warm clothing, binoculars, and your picnic fare. The guide-interpreters have a range of family activities to offer.

NEW! Be among the first to see the new exhibition "Cap sur l'observation". Discover the true nature of the St. Lawrence River!

Be a Parks Canada Xplorator, a family activity.



I, rue des Plotes

Tel: 418 233-4414 418 235-4703 (off-seaso

Schedule June 23 to September 5 Every day: 9 AM to 6 PM September 6 to October 10 (incl.) Fridays, Saturdays, and

Admission ADMISSION TO: CENTRE (AC) /

CENTRE (AC) / ADMISSION PLUSTHE STLAWRENCE LIVE ACTIVITY (A+) Adults Ac \$7.80 / A+ \$14.20 Seriors Ac \$6.80 / A+ \$11.95

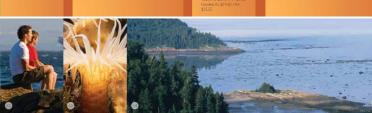


100 YEARS

MARINE ENVIRONMENT DISCOVERY CENTRE

Explore life below the surface starfish, the Northern sea anemone; the Atlantic Son Lumpsucker, and much more; Join the "Saint-Laurent en direct" (St. Lawrence Live) activity with our guide-interpreters and expenence underwater diving in dry comfort. Reservations recommended: 418 233-4414.

Find out about our services for certified divers by visiting the Underwater diving section on page 20 of this guide.





ÎLE AUX BASQUES

ILL AOX BASC

Tet 418 851-1202 (ward provanchengica Schedule

Then, visits are arranged depending on demand

Admission
Admission

Admission Adults:\$26 fouth (7-15):\$14 Children (6 and under): faxes included lie aux Basques sits near the north shore of the St. Lawrence River and across from the town of Trois-Pistoles, 250 km east of Québec City. The island, owned by the Société Provancher since 1929, is a gern of our natural and historic heritage. The island is an ideal site for bird and seal observation with hiking trails throughout. See the ancient ovens used by Basque fishermen.

Historic monuments, Basque ovens, small rustic interpretation centre.



Parc de *l'aventure basque* en Amérique

PARC DE L'AVENTURE BASQUE EN AMÉRIQUE

Relive the great saga of Basque fishermen in Americal From the fur trade with Ameridan peoples to whale fishing in the 16th Century, follow their adventures on the 5t. Lawrence River. Archaeological finds and much more! Commentated visits at 11 AM, 1PM and 3 PM, Self-guided towns at all times.

Challenge France, June 20-26 Rendez-vous basque, July 8-10 International pelota tournament July 29 to 31



BAIE DI

BAIE DE L'ISLE-VERTE NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA

The coastal sector of the "Baie de L'Isle-Verte" National Wildlife Area has several discovery trails to offer: de la Montagne, de la Savane, des Passereaux, des Rottelets, de la Spartine et de la Digue, in addition to the Maison Girard Interpretation Centre.

From mid-August to mid-September, the "Baguage de canards" (duck banding) package will give you a close look at the animal world and its environment.



Admission

Special rates

Les Maisons du Phare de l'île Verte

418 898-2730

Schedule

May 15 to October 20 lle Verte is accessible every day, according to the

Admission

rassport for the three museums on the island:\$

Activities Exhibitions, confere hiking, sea mammal ÎLE-VERTE LIGHTHOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA

Since 1809, the oldest lighthouse on the St Lawrence lights the way for all navigators. Stay at the "Maisons du phare" bed & Dreakfast for an unbelievable experience. The houses of the former lighthouse keeper and assistant-keeper will let you go to sleep to the sounds of the waves, in the comforting glow of the lighthouse.

The site offers cultural activities and films. The museum tells the history of the lighthouse and their courageous keepers' lives.



Schedule

Guided activities Guided activities are

Guided activities are offered by PARC Bar Laurent reconstitions













Schedule

Admission

Located near the shore, this interpretation centre explains marine life in the St. Lawrence River Come and see marine mammal skeletons, touch a starfish, see films on the marine environment watch shoreline wildlife in action, and more! Terraces and souvenir boutique

mammals and underwater wildlife Touch the animals and feed them in the aguarium!





ÎLES DU POT À L'EAU-DE-VIE AND ÎLE AUX LIÈVRES

conservation of natural environments with a range of ecotourism products in the following bird sanctuaries: Îles du Pot à l'Eau-de-Vie archipelago and Île aux Lièvres, Îles Pèlerins archipelago and Île aux Fraises. Lodgings available as well as daily commentated excursions with or







Underwater diving

Dive into the heart of magnificently coloured gardens and discover animal life below the surface. The cold salt waters of the St Lawrence estuary are home to varied, impressive marine life. These sites offer divers special access to the Marine Park (fees apply).

Customized packages let you adapt your dive to your preferences, or offer one as a gift to a certified diver:

Paradis marin

4, chemin Émile-Boulianne, Les Bergeronnes Tel: 418 232-6237 Services on location: Launching site, showers and washrooms. Marine Environment Discovery Centre, a Parks Canada site

Diving base operated by the Fédération québécoise des activités subaquatiques (FOAS)

41, rue des Pilotes, Les Escoumins Tel: 418 233-4025

Services on location: Equipment rentals, air refills, guided dives, customized packages, launching platforms, hot-water showers, and washrooms.

Off-season

May 20-23, Friday to Monday

May 27 to June 19, Friday to Sunday

October 7-10. Friday to Monday

Fridays, noon to 6 PM, Saturdays, 8 AM to 6 PM, Sundays and Mondays, 8 AM to 4 PM

The diving base will be closed from September 6 to October 6, but diving will be allowed on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 9 AM to 5 PM.

High season

June 23 to September 5: Every day 8 AM to 6 PM



Winter fun

Ice fishing on the Fjord

In winter, when the ice is at least 30 cm thick, fishing hus start to appear on the pack, ice grouped into small colourful villeges. There are seen ice fishing sites on the Saguenay Fjord Livnes-Sairt-Jean Rivière-Éternis Sairte-Rose-du-Nord, Saint-Fulgence, Les Battures, Grande-Baie and Arne-à-Benjamin. The most common species are rainfown symel and bottom-dwelling fish like redfish, Atlantic cod, Greenland cod, and Greenland hilbst.

Ducks as far as the eye can see

The Marine Park and surrounding area provide an excellent venue for winter bird-watching (see free areas, such as bays and river mouths, are places where ducks can find the food they need to survive the winter Hundreds, even thousands of American Black Ducks, Common Goldeneyes, Oldsquavs, Lesser and Greater Scaups, and scoter ducks gather. One may also see Barrow's Goldeneye, a threatened species and Buffleheads. Winter is a great time to see naturely beauties!







Notice Board

Geocaching enthusiasts

Parks Canada now offers a geocaching experience in the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park, Look for the "white whale". "Magtogoek", or a "fragile ecosystem" at geocaching.com.



August is archaeology month!

Throughout Ouébec in August, a large number of archaeological activities will be offered at Archéo Québec. member locations.

Near the Marine Park the Centre Archéo Topo proposes a tour through the Bergeronnes digs accompanied by a guidearchaeologist. The archaeological dig simulation workshop is a unique experience for children; they will discover arrowheads, pipes, pottery shards, and other artefacts.

Have a great archaeology month!

Further information:

I 877 boniour or I 877 266-5687

Centre Archéo Topo: 418 232-6286

"Species at risk" trail at the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park

This hiking and cycling trail, 18 km in length, offers breathtaking viewpoints of the St. Lawrence estuary. Alone or with your family, you can watch birds and marine mammals from observation points and rest areas as you go along the way. Set between two Parks Canada sites, the Cap-de-Bon-Désir Interpretation and Observation Centre and Marine Environment Discovery Centre, the trail provides information on species at risk.



"For the birds"

The Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park area sees a surprising variety of bird species. In the fall, the Observatoire d'oiseaux de Tadoussac (OOT) team goes to the "dunes" sector in Tadoussac to observe a spectacular migration. Ornithologists here count and identify thousands of birds. Banding activities give you a very special proximity with the birds. For further information, see the OOT Website at explos-nature.gc.ca or call toll-free at 1 877 MFR-1877



- Parks Canada / M. Loiselle 2 Parks Canada / I.-G. Beliveau
- 3 Paris Canada / F. Di Domenico
- 4 Paris Canada / M. Loiselle
- 5 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle
- 7 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle.

- 13 Sépag / Mathieu Dupuis

- 18 Parks Canada / J.-L. Provencher 19 Parks Canada / L. Falardeau
 - 20 Parks Canada / L. Falardeau
 - 22 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle

 - 25 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle
 - 28 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle 29 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle

- 35 Parks Canada / J-L. Provencher 36 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle

- 45 Parks Québec / S. Turcotte 47 Jean Tremblay

- 41 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle
- 49 Parks Canada / M. Loiselle 50 Parks Canada / I-L. Provenche

- 58 Parks Québec / S. Turcotte
- 60 Parks Canada / J. Pleau 61 Parks Canada / C. Auger
- 63 Parks Canada / F. Lussier

- 67 Service canadien de la faune / L.-G. de Repentigny

- 66 Parks Canada / I. Beardsell

INFORMATION

Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park

Parks Canada 182, rue de l'Église Tadoussac (Ouébec) G0T 2A0 Tel: 418 235-4703

To find out more about the Parks Canada network

Tel: 1 888 773-8888 parcscanada-que@pc.gc.ca parcscanada.gc.ca

Parcs Québec

91, rue Notre-Dame Rivière-Éternité (Québec) GOV IPO parcmarin@sepag.com parcsquebec.com

Send us your comments at parcscanada-que@pc.gc.ca

IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

CANADIAN COAST GUARD

Marine Rescue Centre and Marine Pollution VHF Channel 16 (156.8 MHZ) Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week Cellular Phone #16 Marine Rescue Centre I 800 463-4393 Marine Pollution, I, 800, 363-4735.

PARKS CANADA

Concerning collisions with or disturbances of marine mammals | 866 508-9888 Available 24 hours a day 7 days a week

RÉSEAU QUÉBÉCOIS D'URGENCES POUR LES MAMMIFÈRES MARINS (Quebec marine mammal emergency network)

Concerning a marine mammal who is either wounded or in trouble 1 877 722-5346



To help you plan your stay...

You are planning a seagoing activity without a certified guide? Before you set out, find out about the directives you need to follow to make sure your outing is safe and enjoyable. Indeed, weather conditions change rapidly and strong marine currents could make your outing hazardous.

Ferryboat schedules and information

Escoumins / Trois-Pistoles Tel: 418 851-4676

Rivière-du-Loup / Saint-Siméon

Rivière-du-Loup Tel: 418 862-5094 Saint-Siméon Tel: 418 638-2856

Baie-Sainte-Catherine / Tadoussac

Tel.: 418 235-4395 traversiers.gouv.qc.ca See the tourist guides for the four tourist regions surrounding the Marine Park: accommodations, restaurants, special attractions, leisure activities, all are here!

Tourisme Bas-Saint-Laurent

Tel.: 418 867-1272 • 1 800 563-5268 tourismebas-st-laurent.com

Association touristique de Charlevoix

Tel.: 418 665-4454 • 1 800 667-2276 tourisme-charlevoix.com

Association touristique du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean Tel.: 418 543-9778 • 1 877 BLEUETS (253-8387)

saguenaylacsaintjean.ca

Association touristique de Manicouagan

Tel.: 418 294-2876 • 1 888 463-5319 tourismemanicouagan.com







