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ALL PROFITS ARE REINVESTED IN THE PARKS TO ENSURE THEIR PRESERVATION.

## AVENTURE ÉCOTOURISME QUÉBEC at parc national d'Anticosti

The outfitters, members of Aventure Écotourisme Québec, in collaboration with Sépaq, offer you several stays and guided activities especially conceived for having you discover exceptional natural spaces.

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- Sea kayaking in Minganie
- Hiking to Anticosti
- 418 949-0051

For more information on the Association and his members:  
[www.aventure-ecotourisme.qc.ca](http://www.aventure-ecotourisme.qc.ca)



## DID YOU KNOW...

Approximately 220 white-tailed deer were imported to Anticosti Island by Henri Menier in 1896 and 1897? Today, the population is estimated at 166,000.

Henri Menier, an avid Atlantic salmon fisherman, hated black flies and mosquitoes? To help fight these biting insects, Menier introduced leopard frogs, which now inhabit the entire island.

The last official report of a black bear on Anticosti dates back to 1996? The population is believed to be in rapid decline and extinction is almost inevitable.

Each meter of stratified rock on Anticosti represents approximately 15,000 years of marine deposits?

Vauréal Falls features a 76 meter drop, or 22 meters more than Niagara Falls? While the waterflow is lower, it is the second highest waterfall in Québec after Montmorency Falls and one of the island's main attractions.

Patate Cave, discovered in 1981, is one of the longest caves in Québec with a total length of 625 meters, nearly 580 m of which have been explored?

Anticosti's foxes come in many different colors but are all a single species, the red fox? Just as humans can have red, blond, brown, or black hair, red foxes can have coats of various shades.

Several years ago, one of our guides, Mr. Trefflé Jennis, pointed out a stand of cedars, an unusual species on Anticosti? In upcoming years, we will work to ensure its protection.

# Park Journal



## PARC NATIONAL d'Anticosti

2007-2008 Edition



This document was printed on 100% recycled paper made in Québec, containing 100% post-consumption fibres and produced without using elementary chlorine. The inks used for this production contain vegetable oils.

[ParcsQuebec.com](http://ParcsQuebec.com)



# THE GRAND TOUR OF QUÉBEC'S NATIONAL PARKS



Environmental protection is at the heart of the concerns of our society. Not a day goes by without this topic being discussed in the media and public forums. In addition to adhering to the strict conservation mission of national parks, Sépaq has chosen to adopt an ecological approach in the day-to-day management of territories.

Most of the good practices implemented aim to reduce energy consumption, drinking water consumption, and greenhouse gases emissions associated with the improvement of and access to national parks.

Among the many actions taken to improve our management-related environmental scorecard, mention may be made notably of the residual material management program, the use of 100% post-consumption recycled paper, the reduction of our fleet of vehicles, greater reliance on public transit services, the use of solar energy, better

water management by controlling shower utilization times, the use of biodegradable household products, and the reduction of grass-covered surfaces.

We would like to thank all Quebecers and visitors from outside Québec who have chosen to frequent national parks over the last seven years.

Your comments have enabled us to improve our approaches as well as the range of activities and services that we offer. Your many visits, close to 3.6 million visit-days in 2006, have encouraged us to offer you, on a daily basis, a high-quality "Park Experience" tailored to your needs. Continue to inspire us... For our part, we promise to keep up our work: promoting the discovery of and access to Québec's most beautiful protected natural heritage while ensuring an acceptable minimum impact.

National parks are here for you to enjoy!

Discover our regional parks



*Raymond Desjardins*  
Raymond Desjardins  
Vice-president of Operations  
Parcs Québec

*Yvan Bilodeau*  
Yvan Bilodeau  
President and CEO  
Sépaq

## The mission of Parcs Québec

With a view to achieving harmonious development at the cultural, social, economic and regional levels, Parcs Québec is responsible for the conservation and development of territories that are representative of Québec's 43 natural regions or exceptional sites, while ensuring that they are accessible for educational and outdoor use.

All of Québec's national parks were created in accordance with World Conservation Union standards. The criteria are defined as follows:

- A relatively vast area that represents one or more ecosystems that are moderately or not at all transformed by exploitation;
- Where animal and plant species, geomorphological sites and habitats are of particular interest from a scientific, educational or recreational viewpoint, and that offers scenery of great beauty;
- In which the highest competent authority of the country has taken measures to eliminate exploitation and to instil respect for the ecological, geomorphological or aesthetic aspects, on the whole;
- Where a visit is authorized, under certain conditions, for educational, cultural or recreational purposes.

## Welcome!

Jewel of the Saint-Lawrence River, Anticosti Island invites you to discover its natural resources. Its white tail deer, its cliffs, its canyons are part of this summer dream destination. The park's 45 km of trails will allow you to furrow this vast and rich territory.

With your journal, you will be able to discover the hidden treasures of Anticosti Island. Do not forget that it is possible to take part in the posted activities offered in the various sectors. The park personnel will be pleased to share with you their passion for this splendid island. Also, we invite you to become a partner in the protection and the conservation of this exceptional natural inheritance.

Enjoy your stay!

*Dave Boulet*  
Dave Boulet  
Director

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# Genesis of the Show

## Birth of a masterpiece

A work in progress for over 430 million years, Anticosti Island and its 572 km<sup>2</sup> of scenic wonders were not designated a national conservation park until April 2001. Parc national d'Anticosti is a series of spectacular landscapes and unusual natural features including canyons, coastal cliffs, caves, fossils, and more. With its wide open spaces and crystal-clear lakes, rivers, and sea, the park puts on a natural performance like none other. Divided, this park has three distinct entities. The first one with a surface of 3,5 km<sup>2</sup> includes the Patate Cave area. The second, the canyon of the Observation River, has a surface area of 11,4 km<sup>2</sup>. Finally, the last one covers a surface area of 557 km<sup>2</sup> and includes, a maritime frontage of more than 26 km, the Vaureal Canyon and the Chicotte Canyon.

Punctuated by breathtaking vistas, a network of short, medium, and long hiking trails threads through the park, offering 45 kilometers of pure enchantment. Visitors won't want to miss the opportunity to kayak along the base of towering cliffs for a chance to hear whales blowing and seals splashing. While Vauréal Falls is undoubtedly Anticosti's leading attraction, the park has much more to offer... See for yourself!

## Prelude...

Since 1985, Sépaq Anticosti has welcomed visitors and offered vacation activities. The advent of Parc national d'Anticosti has bolstered the education and environmental protection initiatives begun nearly twenty years ago. You will probably be staying outside the park during your visit. But you can still count on the same top notch service and warm welcome.



# Admiring the Masterpiece

## The Show Must Go On

### Treat nature with respect!

Over time, Anticosti Island has maintained its wild and mysterious side for us to enjoy. That's why protecting the environment and its natural treasures is important to us. We are proud and delighted to introduce you to the park and let you share this jewel with us. *Respect the environment and help us preserve it!*

## Keep it Going

### Caution... fragile!

Stay on the hiking trails in order to protect the rare and fragile plants growing nearby. Trampling or picking them speeds environmental degradation. When you treat Anticosti's plants and animals with care and respect, you help protect them for future generations. *When you see a beautiful flower, let it grow!*

### They're cute — but they're not pets!

Feeding the animals may seem like a kind gesture. Quite the contrary! Animals can become dependent on humans and will have a harder time finding their regular food in winter. *The kindest thing you can do for a wild animal is to observe and appreciate it in its natural habitat!*

### Keep it clean

You can help protect Anticosti from the ravages of civilization by packing out your trash, including cigarette butts, peels, tissues, cans, and plastic bags. Although some items may be biodegradable, they create visual pollution for other hikers. Trash cans are available near entrance kiosks and lodging sites. Thank you for your cooperation!

### An island to share!

When you visit Parc national d'Anticosti, you'll meet other people who have come to enjoy the island's nature, charm, and scenic beauty. Be respectful of others, who also have a right to enjoy nature at its best.

Make sure to leave areas as they were when you arrived. That way, the next visitors can enjoy a show just as spectacular as the one you just saw!



## A few tips for an enjoyable visit

### Drinking water

On Anticosti Island, drinking water is available in all inn buildings. At other sites, cabins and campgrounds, you'll need to bring enough water bottles to last your entire stay.

### Fire danger index

Campfires are permitted in designated areas. Since summers on Anticosti are generally dry and windy, the fire index is often high. Be sure to check it daily and respect the bans during critical periods. *Be vigilant!*


# Entry fees


## Your contribution to park conservation and development

CATEGORY OR GROUP	DAILY RATES	ANNUAL PARK CARD	ANNUAL NETWORK CARD
Adult (18 or over)	\$3.50	\$16.50	\$30
Child (6 to 17)	\$1.50	\$7.50	\$15
Child (0 to 5)	Free	Free	Free
1 adult with children 6 to 17	\$5	\$25	\$45
2 adults with children 6 to 17	\$7	\$35	\$70
Organized adults group (per person)	\$3	N/A	N/A
Organized youth group (aged 6 to 17)	Free	Free	Free
School or student group	Free	Free	Free

Taxes included  
Park or Network card is valid for 12 months from date of purchase.

By following these tips, you can help preserve Anticosti's beauty, natural treasures, and abundant flora and fauna!  
**Thank you for treasuring the island!**



**Recycle! It's important...** 

Cans are recycled on Anticosti Island. Recycling bins are available at the various inn buildings. For returnable bottles, we ask that you bring them to the village and leave them in the designated areas. Thank you for doing your part to help protect the environment!

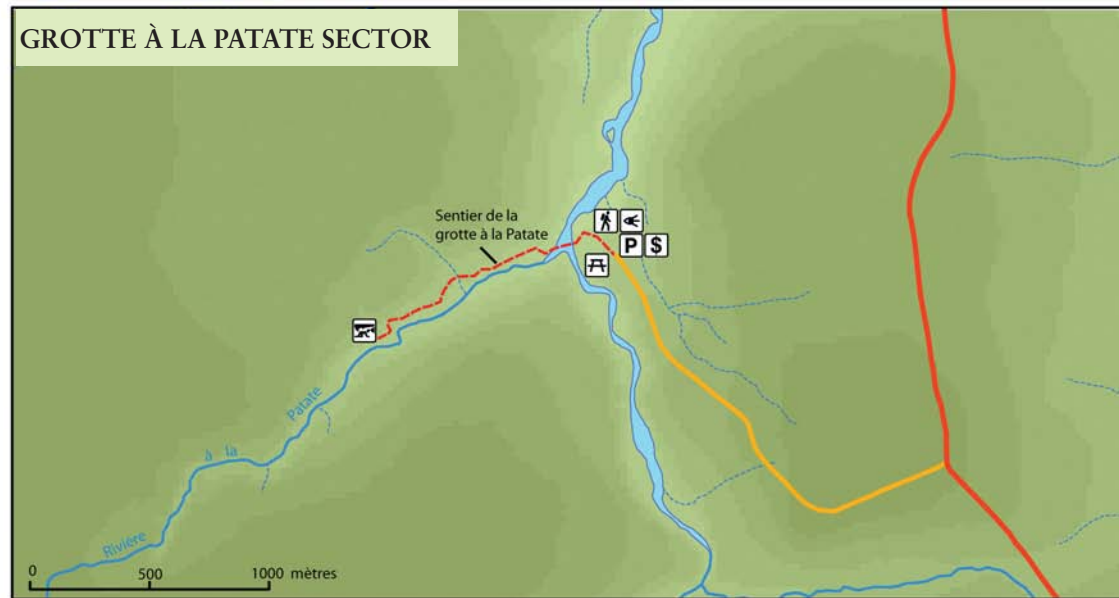
# Leading Hiking



Chute Vauréal



Vauréal-la-Mer



GROTTE À LA PATATE SECTOR				
<b>NORTHERN SECTOR OF THE ISLAND (MCDONALD) NEAR THE PARK</b>				
La Sauvagesse		14 km	Intermediate	McDonald Visitors Center
La falaise Puyjalon		9 km	Easy	Anse-de-la-Sauvagesse parking lot
<b>PATATE SECTOR (PARC NATIONAL D'ANTICOSTI)</b>				
La grotte à la Patate		3 km	Intermediate	Grotte à la Patate parking lot

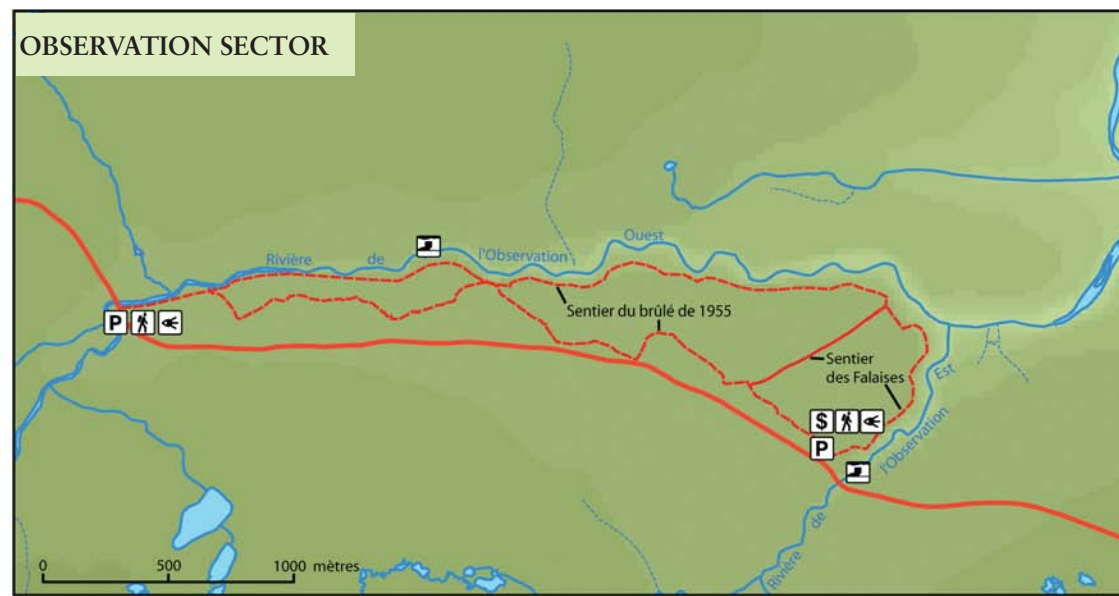
- Hiking
- All-terrain biking



Entrée de la Grotte à la Patate



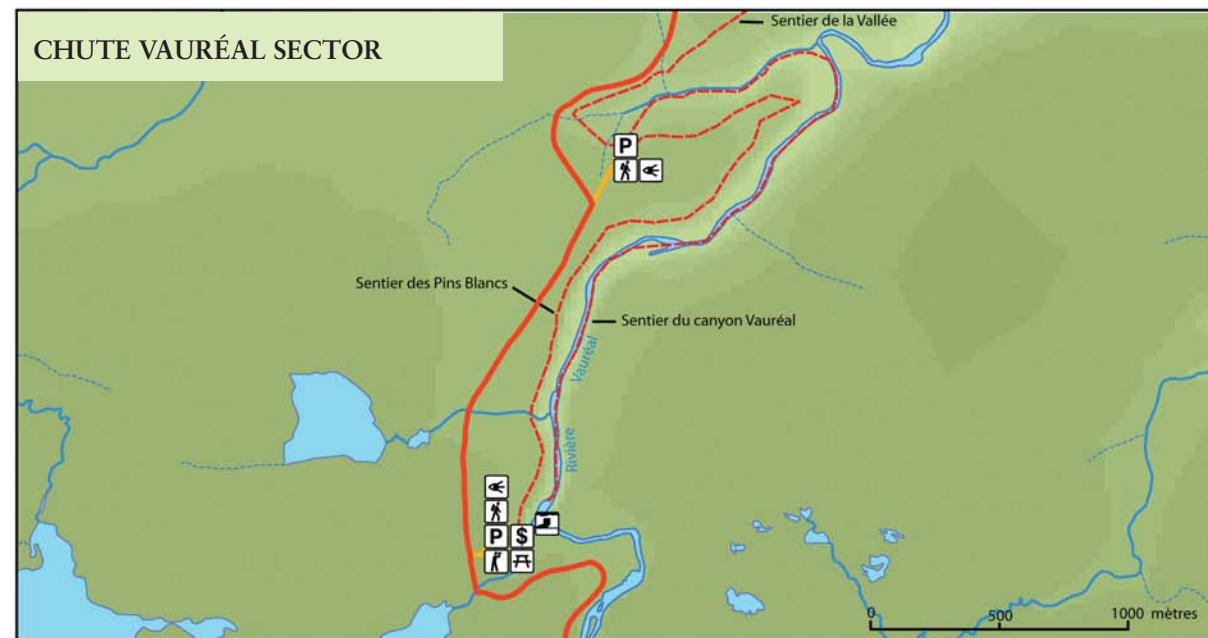
VAURÉAL-LA-MER SECTOR				
<b>VAURÉAL-LA-MER SECTOR (PARC NATIONAL D'ANTICOSTI)</b>				
Le sentier des Cerisiers		4 km	Easy	Vauréal-la-Mer parking lot
Le sentier de la Vallée		24 km	Intermediate	Vauréal-la-Mer or Canyon parking lot



OBSERVATION SECTOR				
<b>OBSERVATION SECTOR (PARC NATIONAL D'ANTICOSTI)</b>				
Des Falaises		3 km	Intermediate	Observation parking lot (branche Est)
Le brûlé de 1955 – Self-guided		8 km	Easy	Observation parking lot (branche Ouest)
Observation-la-Mer		24 km	Easy	Route Transanticostienne
		4 km	Easy	Observation-la-Mer parking lot

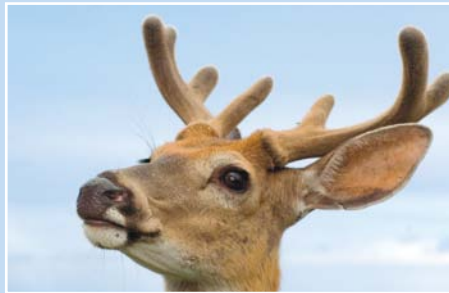


Canyon de l'Observation



CHUTE VAURÉAL SECTOR				
<b>CHUTE VAURÉAL SECTOR (PARC NATIONAL D'ANTICOSTI)</b>				
Les Pins Blancs – Self-guided		6 km	Easy	Canyon parking lot
Le canyon de la Vauréal		7 km	Intermediate	Canyon parking lot
La Vallée		24 km	Intermediate	Vauréal-la-Mer or Canyon parking lot

# Now Playing Here



## LEGEND

- Auto-collection point
- Parking
- Campground
- Kayak Campground
- Cabin
- Picnic area
- Underground exploration
- Hiking
- Lookout
- Observation
- Falls
- Observation of marine mammals
- Bird-watching
- Observation of seals
- Henri-Menier Road (Transantcostienne Road)
- Secondary road
- Tertiary road
- Hiking trail
- Limit of the park
- Service Zone
- Atmosphere Zone
- Preservation Zone
- Sépaq Anticosti territory
- Outside limited

This chart integrates geographical information taken from governmental sources. For the needs of this representation, certain data underwent transformations and adaptations which could have modified the original data.

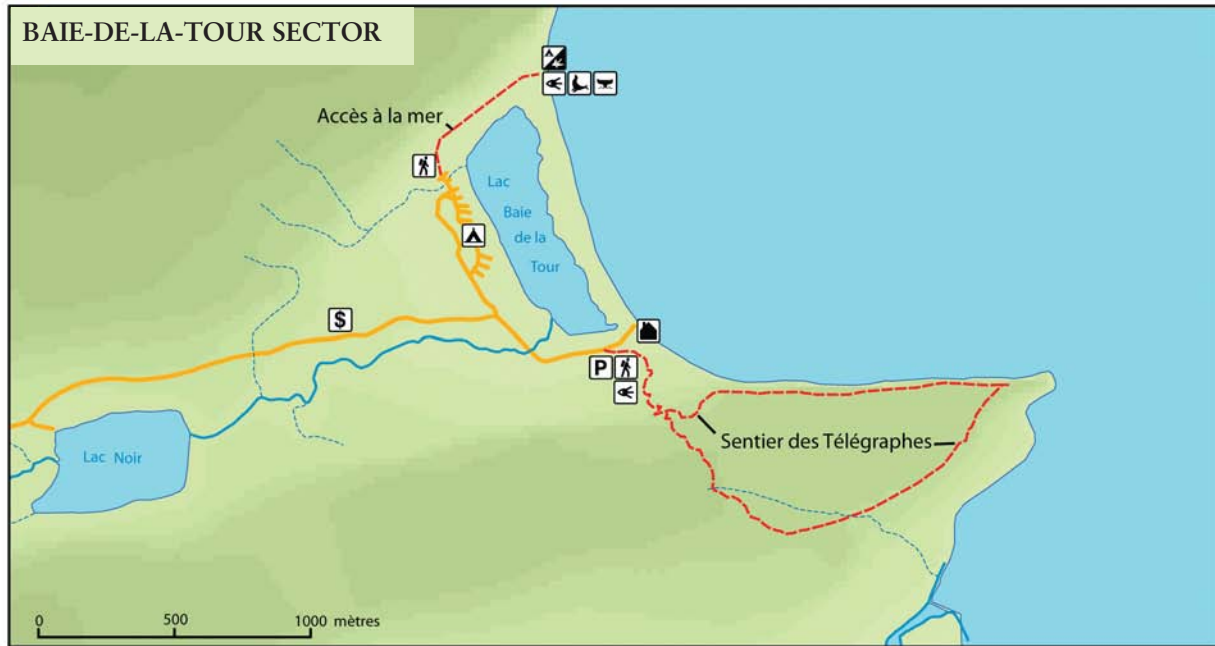
Original data used  
Data Year Base of Quebec for 1999 (BDTQ)  
1/20 000 scale

The data used are those of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife,  
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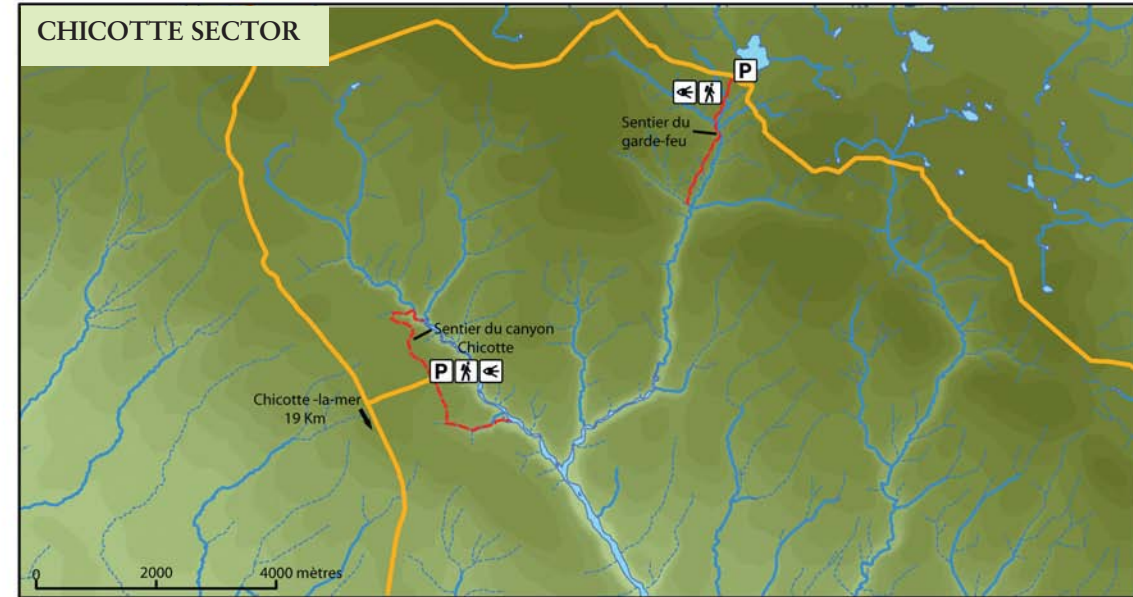
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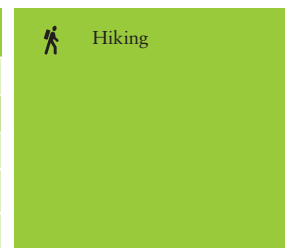
# Leading Hiking



Lac Baie-de-la-Tour



BAIE-DE-LA-TOUR SECTOR (PARC NATIONAL D'ANTICOSTI)	TYPE	LENGTH (ROUND TRIP)	DIFFICULTY	STARTING POINT OR INFORMATION
Des Télégraphes	🚶	5 km	Easy	Lac Baie-de-la-Tour parking lot
Des Sentinelles	🚶	2 km	Easy	Picnic area (Anse du Sentier Vert)
Les Aigles	🚶	1 km	Easy	Anse du Sentier Vert parking lot
BAIE-DE-LA-TOUR SECTOR NEAR THE PARK				
La chute Baie-de-la-Tour	🚶	3 km	Intermediate	Chute Baie-de-la-Tour parking lot



CHICOTTE SECTOR (PARC NATIONAL D'ANTICOSTI)	TYPE	LENGTH (ROUND TRIP)	DIFFICULTY	STARTING POINT OR INFORMATION
Canyon de la Chicotte	🚶	7 km	Intermediate	Canyon parking lot
Du Garde-Feu	🚶	5 km	Easy	Sentier parking lot
SECTEUR CHICOTTE-LA-MER NEAR THE PARK				
Le Petit canyon de la Chicotte	🚶	2 km	Easy	Chicotte-la-Mer Visitors Center
Des Échoueries	🚶	12 km	Easy	Chicotte-la-Mer Visitors Center or Chicotte Campground
Des Iris	🚶	4 km	Easy	Chicotte-la-Mer Visitors Center
Le canyon du Brick	🚶	12 km	Intermediate	Brick-la-Roche cabin



Baie-de-la-Tour



Petit canyon Chicotte

# Fossils of Anticosti Island



Coral of the tabulata group

While hiking on the trails or in the canyons, you will certainly see different types of fossils. Anticosti Island is essentially made up of fossilised limestone rocks. This type of sedimentary rock comes from 415 to 500 million years of sediment accumulation. On the Island, we find seven geological formations. The oldest of these is the Vauréal and the youngest is the Chicotte. More than 600 fossilised species have been found to date. Here are some examples:

**Crinoids** are marine organisms in the Echinoderm family which lived in shallow ocean waters several million years ago. These animals have been found in large quantities in the Chicotte geological formation. What we notice the most often is the more or less complete stem of the crinoid.

**Cnidaria** are corals of soft-bodied marine animals living in rigid cups which they secrete. They are found in colonies or individually. On Anticosti, we find two groups of these animals; the rugosa and the tabulata corals.

**Brachiopods** are marine invertebrates having two asymmetrical shells. They are the most abundant of the fossils found in the Island's Paleozoic rocks.

1. Crown
2. Chalice
3. Stalk
4. Radicular part
5. Anal part of the digestif tract
6. Arm
7. Pinnules



## Conserving for all humanity

The presence of fossils on Anticosti Island constitutes an exceptional patrimony which must be preserved and protected for all of humanity. **The Parks Act stipulates that it is illegal to remove samples within national park limits. While hiking, appreciate the fossils, but leave them where they are. In this way, others may also appreciate them.**

## OUR GREEN APPROACH TO THE DAILY MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL PARKS

Sépaq thinks and acts green in managing the national parks under its care. It knows how important national parks are to the success of sustainable development and lets this guide every environmental decision it makes. Concrete measures include:

- An **ecological integrity program** to monitor the state of health of parks
- More and more buildings powered by **solar energy**
- **Public transportation** in the Hautes-Gorges-de-la-Rivière-Malbaie, Gaspésie, Jacques-Cartier and Oka national parks
- **Electric vehicles** in the Oka and Îles-de-Boucherville national parks
- Downsizing and rationalization of the **vehicle fleet**
- Reduction in **drinking water consumption** in campgrounds thanks to water meters in showers
- A **waste management program**
- Progressive discontinuation of the use of plastic bags for consumers
- Promotion tools printed on **100% postconsumer paper**
- **Biodegradable household products**
- **Natural or neon lighting**

These actions are proof of our commitment to help improve the use of resources and preserve the land for the benefit of current and future generations.

# A Multiscene Event



## Southern Sector

### The Great Salt Lake

The Great Salt Lake is a remarkably well-preserved natural treasure. Now classified an ecological reserve, it is off limits to all but researchers. However, you can see the brackish lake (mixture of fresh and salt water) from a panoramic viewpoint. Our naturalist guide can tell you about the many characteristics of the lake and its fascinating inhabitants.

### Southwestern Point

You'll love this area that's steeped in mystery. Built in 1831, the lighthouse on the Southwestern Point has witnessed numerous shipwrecks and bears testimony to a tumultuous past. It's very likely that, if the guardians of the lighthouse could join us again, they'd have many tales to tell about life on this enchanting point.

### The Chicotte River Canyon

In contrast to the canyons of the Northern Sector, the Chicotte River Canyon is located at the head of a river. In this majestic canyon, where the cliffs are much less steep, you will find monoliths not yet completely detached from the cliffs.

### Chicotte-la-Mer

This marvellous site, nearby the sea, offers a multitude of activities (horseback riding, hikes, swimming, etc). Near the Inn, you can take advantage of beautiful sunny days with a visit to the little Chicotte River canyon or a swim in the inviting little basins of turquoise water. In addition, a magnificent trail awaits you. On the 'haul-out trail', you can explore both the shoreline, to see the seals, and the forest, to observe the animals that are particular to Anticosti Island.

## Northern Sector

### Patate Cave

Have you ever experienced total darkness? Well, here's your chance! Plunge into the depths of one of Québec's longest underground cavities, with a total length of 625 meters/2050 ft. Enter Anticosti's underground world and discover the park's buried treasure.

### Important

- Danger of falling rocks. Helmets and headlamps available at McDonald Visitors Center.
- Trail includes two ford crossings and river level may vary. Inquire about conditions before you go!

### Vauréal Falls

The area around Vauréal Falls is dotted with breathtaking viewpoints so you can admire the waterfall in all its splendor. Why not grab the opportunity to truly experience this island landmark?

### Observation River Canyon

Located near the Transanticostienne road, the Observation River Canyon is worth the trip, whether it's for a hike or simply to admire the landscape. The two trails in the sector lead to spectacular views of the canyon.

### Baie de la Tour

This sector offers a breathtaking landscape with immense cliffs from one end of the bay to the other. What a wonderful place for watching the marine birds, some of which nest in the walls of the cliffs. At the east end of the bay, the magnificent Telegraph trail leads to the top of Pointe de la Tour. From here, you have a spectacular view of the shoreline and the marine environment.

### Vauréal Canyon

Access to this canyon is made possible by a trail which leads to the Vauréal River. Taking this trail, you will walk along both sides of the river at the foot of rocky cliffs more than 90 meters tall. Each bend in the river gives you a new and more amazing view. The highlight of this hike comes when you reach the foot of the 76-meter high Vauréal Falls. The view from here is what Anticosti Island is all about.

### Brick canyon

The island subsoil holds a rich fossil past. Look beneath your feet and you're bound to find fossilized brachiopods, gastropods, corals, sponges, and-if you're lucky-trilobites. By the way, how do we know that these fossils are 430 million years old?

# Leading Activities



## GUIDED OUTINGS

### SOUTHERN SECTOR

The island on horseback –  
Information: Chicotte

Discover the peaceful scenery of the Chicotte and Aux Plats rivers on horseback. Ride for kilometers on the beach in search of deer, seals, bald eagles, and other island denizens. You'll be amazed at how the deer react when they spot you perched on your mount.

Adult \$25/hour + taxes  
(14 and over)

9:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.  
Sunday to Friday

### NORTHERN SECTOR

Sea kayaking – Information:  
McDonald Visitors Center

Experience Anticosti from a new angle as you admire its coasts, bays, and cliffs while seated comfortably... in the water! Spy seals, blue whales, and porpoises in their natural habitat. For a little romance, catch a spectacular sunset on one of our evening paddles. Get a front-row seat! Service offered by Expédition Agaguk.

Depending of the activity length,  
rates vary between  
\$45 and \$100/person + taxes



## SELF-GUIDED HIKING TRAILS

### NORTHERN SECTOR

#### Le brûlé de 1955 Trail

An unspoiled view awaits at the Observation Canyon detour, including a magnificent multilevel waterfall and a highly unique geological phenomenon: sinking and resurgence. Also see how forest fires have affected Anticosti's vegetation. An excursion you won't want to miss!

#### Les Pins Blancs Trail

Ninety meters up, the Les Pins Blancs Trail snakes along the cliff, offering a magnificent view of Vauréal Falls and the canyon. And the loblolly pines bordering the trail are simply majestic, with some over 100 years old. You'll be all eyes.

# Services



## At Port-Menier

- **Grocery store, butcher shop:**  
Coopérative de consommation de l'île d'Anticosti
- **SAQ liquor store:**  
Coopérative de consommation de l'île d'Anticosti
- **General store:**  
Accommodeur Malouin
- **Gas station:**  
Centre de réparation mécanique de l'île
- **Banking:**  
Caisse populaire
- **Restaurant, bar:**  
Auberge Port-Menier
- **First aid:**  
Dispensaire – Port-Menier
- **Souvenirs:**  
Auberge Port-Menier  
Boutique des artisans
- **Bike rental:**  
Auberge Port-Menier

## Within Sépaq Anticosti territory and Anticosti National Park

- **Dining:**  
Auberge McDonald (by reservation)  
Auberge Chicotte (by reservation)
- **Campgrounds:**  
Wilcox, Chicotte and Baie de la Tour
- **Gasoline:**  
McDonald Visitors Center  
Chicotte Visitors Center
- **Equipment Rental:**  
McDonald Visitors Center (Bike, Headlamps, Helmet)  
Chicotte Visitors Center (Horse)



## Summer

### Nature discovery activities

During the summer season, discover the park with our team of naturalist guides. For the latest news or schedule changes, check the bulletin boards or inquire at the Port-Menier, Pointe-Carleton, or Chicotte-la-Mer Visitors Centers.

### Posted activities

During your stay, you may come across one of our guides at the entrance to the various island attractions. Please consult the schedule of posted activities and check the show times.

Information: McDonald and Chicotte-la-Mer Visitors Centers

POSTED ACTIVITIES	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>NORTH</b>					
Patate Cave	9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.	–	9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.	9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.	9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.
Vauréal Falls	12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	–	12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
<b>SOUTHERN</b>					
The Great Salt Lake	–	9:45 a.m. – 10 a.m.	–	9:45 a.m. – 10 a.m.	–
Brick Canyon	–	10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	–	10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	–
Southwestern Point	–	12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.	–	12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.	–

## THE GREAT OUTDOORS AND CONSERVATION - THE 7 PRINCIPLES OF *Leave No Trace Canada*

Because its role encompasses more than conservation alone, Parcs Québec wants to use every possible occasion to foster support among visitors to its national parks for the adoption of ecologically responsible practices in outdoor activities. This is the reason Parcs Québec is proud to have chosen to promote the principles of *Sans trace*, the french version of the popular American *Leave No Trace* program. This code of outdoor ethics is based on the following seven principles:

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimise Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors



These principles are of course inherent in the regulatory framework that governs our national parks.

At the same time, awareness and application of *Leave No Trace* values in every single one of our outdoor activities, even the most unnoteworthy among them, can help reduce their impact on our natural environment.

To learn how you can best play your part inside Québec's national parks, you can consult [www.parksquebec.com](http://www.parksquebec.com), and click on the *Conservation Mission* tab.

To find out more about *Leave No Trace*, go to [www.aventure-ecotourisme.qc.ca](http://www.aventure-ecotourisme.qc.ca), choose English, then click on the *Leave No Trace* tab.