Park Journal



PARC NATIONAL

de l'Île-Bonaventureet-du-Rocher-Percé

2007-2008 Edition







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!



La bonne aventure

Message from the management committee

Proud of having won the People's choice award at Québec's Grands prix du tourisme gala in 2006, we have great expectations for 2007 as this new season gets underway.

We expect to continue to charm you and meet your needs not only to make your visitor experience an exceptional one but also to raise your awareness about the conservation and education mandates that are a park's raison d'être.

The park wardens in the field and research play important roles, but you also, through everything you do, help us fulfil this mandate.

Welcome to Parc national de l'Ile-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé

The mission of Parcs Québec

With an aim 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 ecolo-gical, geomorphological or aesthetic aspects, on the whole:
- Where a visit is authorized, under certain conditions, for educational, cultural or recreational purposes.



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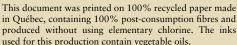












Protect and Discover ParksQuebec.com

Charles-Robin sector



Le Chafaud

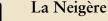
Interpretation centre on the ground floor

May 28 to October 8, from 9 am to 5 pm

Take time out to visit our exhibition called "A rock, an island,...a national park". Come and discover the park's themes. This is surely the best way to get ready for your excursion in a natural environment.

Le Chafaud Museum, upstairs:

June 21 to September 21, 10 am to 8 pm. Québec art print pioneer, painter and illustrator, Maurice Le Bel, a native of Montréal, celebrated traditional rural life in Québec and immortalised the charm of its landscapes, particularly those of the Gaspé and ... Percé.



Reception lounge

June 3 to September 22, 9 am to 5 pm Our staff will be happy to answer your questions and suggest activities. Interpretation activities on the park's themes.

Boutique Nature

June 3 to September 22, 9 am to 5 pm

Extended visiting hours from June 16 to September 1, 9 am to 9 pm

Take advantage of our Boutique Nature to pick up anything you might need for the day or simply to buy a souvenir which will remind you of your stay.



La Saline

June 17 to August 18, every evening at 7:30. Around 60 minutes.

Take part in the free talks offered by our park warden naturalists. Please note that these talks are presented in French only.

Sunday

"Une histoire de pêche, une histoire salée séchée!!!" History and daily lives of the inhabitants of Bonaventure Island

Monday

"L'eau magicienne de la nature"
The world of water and all its secrets

Tuesday

"Parole de souris, vivre sur l'île, toute une aventure"

The Bonaventure Island animal king-dom

Wednesday

"Truc du Fou"

A demonstration of how seabirds adapt, performed by a Gannet

Thursday

"Le rocher, petite et grande histoire d'un géant de pierre"

Discover the Rock through the images and the stone that tell of its past and foretell its future.

Friday

"Phoques à Percé"

The seals that inhabit our waters

Saturday

"Les îles percées : leurs premiers habitants méconnus"

History of the first people to arrive in the Percé region











Fish, seafood, brochettes, meats, pastas, fine or traditional pizza, proposed by our Chefs.

New: Chinese food – New: Sushi
All our products are guaranteed fresh

Beginning of June to October Open at 11 a.m. everyday **The Place** where you can find the Gaspesian, French and Italian flavours in a decor that will remind you of the good moments of cod, lobster and crab fishing, from yesterday and today!

.UNCH

Delightful fish soup or seafood chowder.

Relax ambiance at the Café-Terrasse with the music of the world.

EVENING

The restaurant Cage du pêcheur offers you a great choice of plates of authentical flavours of fresh lobster and crab.

House specialities, Paella and bouillabaisse by our Chef Jeannot. Chinese food with the well-known Chef of the Gaspé Coast George Yip.

The Sushi in partnership with the Sushi Lounge of Gaspé.

Protect and Discover — 5



Île-Bonaventure sector

Île-Bonaventure sector



June 24 to August 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our "seafarers" accompany you on the cruise boats that go around the park. With lively presentations and information about the park throughout the crossings.

Reception

May 28 to October 12, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The members of our staff will meet you as you get off the boat on île Bonaventure. They will take a few minutes of your time to give you information about the services and activities offered there. They will also inform you about the special regulations that govern the park. They will remain at your service during your entire stay; feel free to question them.

Maison Le Boutillier

June 4 to September 22 (guided tour) May 28 to June 4 and September 23 to October 12 (guided afternoon tour)

Among others, one of the treasures that Parc national de l'Île-Bonaventureet-du-Rocher-Percé preserves is the historical heritage left by hundreds of years of cod fishing. A guided visit of magnificent Maison Le Boutillier will reveal the subtle workings of the codfish companies, fishing techniques, the life of the island's inhabitants and much more.





Guided excursion

June 4 to September 22, departure at 10:15 a.m. (around 1 hour 30 min.) The meeting place for the departure of our guided excursion called "Nature's exube-rance" is at the picnic area in front of Maison Le Boutillier. Accompanied by a park warden naturalist, you will take the road to the colonies. A number of subjects including geology, ecosystems, animal and plant life, will

The colony

A must!

May 28 to October 12,

Northern gannet, a magnificent bird.

Full moon evenings



*

be discussed during the numerous stops.

from 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

And there you are! You are now face to face with more than 50 000 couples of Northern gannets. A breathtaking experience! Slowly, a whirlwind of questions come to your head. The park warden naturalists on site will satisfy your curiosity. Furthermore, the "Feathers by the thousands" activity will help you get acquainted with the

June 30, July 29 and August 28. Meeting place: Boutique Nature. Departure time: 7 p.m. (around 4 hours) Few people can boast about having seen the Northern gannet colony asleep: an almost silent carpet of snow made up of 100 000 birds! During the summer we offer you three opportunities to take part in this show. The "Full moon evenings" package includes: boat transport and the guided visit to the colony. Information about costs at the Boutique Nature.



from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

something on the mainland? You don't have anymore film or batteries to immortalize your stay here? You want to do a little bit of shopping while waiting for the boat? Then by all means, come and visit our new Boutique Nature in the Île-Bonaventure sector.



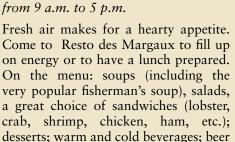
colony

If you have arrived at the colony and suddenly realize you are thirsty or hungry, beverages and a few snacks are









Boutique Nature

and wine.

Resto des Margaux

June 9 to September 28,

July 8 to August 19,

You have just realized you forgot

Service point at the

July 8 to August 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

available directly on the site.









Vacation package available

The dining Room Two steps from the wharf in Percé, with its The "Café de l'Atlantique" Situated on the Boardwalk of offers an exceptional choice of fresh fish and seafood, local lobster pm July 1st to October 31th.

relaxing atmosphere and maritime setting, the Maison du Pêcheur Percé, the Café de l'Atlantique offers you breakfast to the rhythm of the waves, specialities from the grill, and the famous « Steak-frites ». The all season long, meats, and thin-crust pizzas baked in a maple-wood bistro is the ideal place for those late evenings in a deep-sea atmosphere. oven. Wine list and fine liqueurs. Everyday from 11:30 am to 10:30 Québec micro-brewery beers are available on tap. Everyday from 8:00 am to midnight June 24th to September 2nd.

At la Maison du Pêcheur we personally guarantee the quality of all fish, seafood, and shellfish served to you.

155, route 132 Ouest, C.P. 201, Percé (Québec) GOC 2L0 Information and Reservations: (418) 782-5331 (in season) (418) 782-5326 (winter) E-mail: pecheur@globetrotter.net or yolily@globetrotter.net

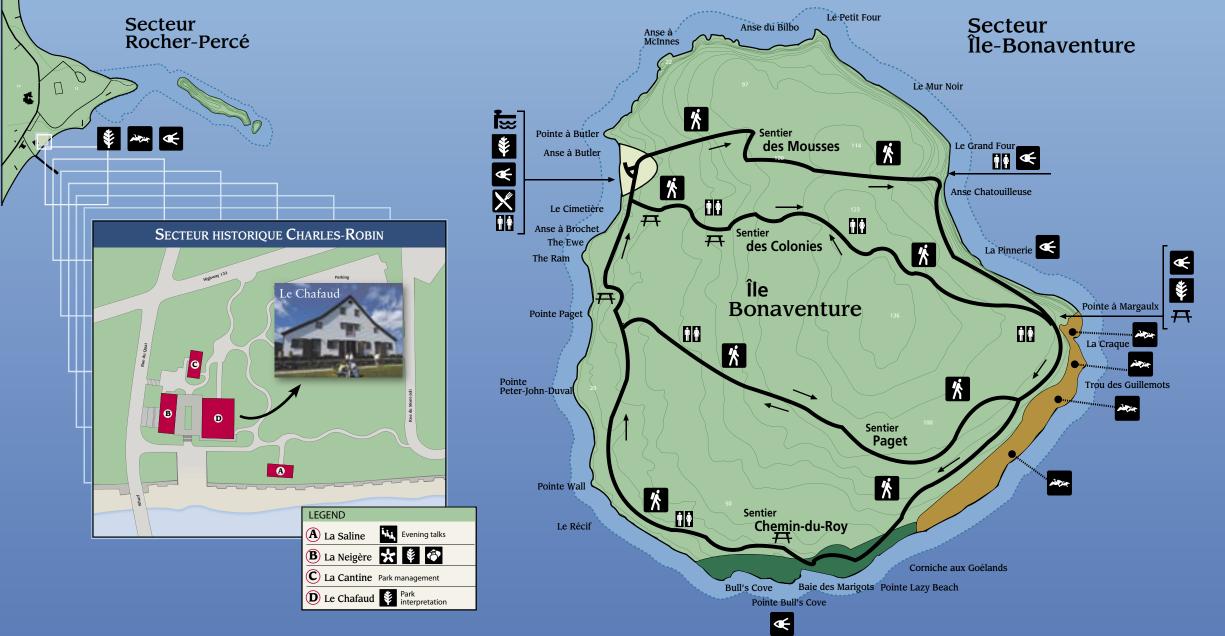
ParcsQuebec.com Protect and Discover



CROISIÈRES

LES TRAVERSIERS DE L'ÎLE INC.

More than just an excursion!



LEGEND

Seabird colony

Picnic areas

Lookout

Washrooms

TRAILS

Des Mousses • 75 minutes 3.5 km **Des Colonies •** 45 minutes 2.8 km Le Paget • 60 minutes 3.7 km 4.9 km **Chemin-du-Roy** • 90 minutes

The indicated times are for a one-way hike only.

ZONING

Extreme preservation zone

Preservation zone Land / sea atmosphere zone

Two adventures on the sea await you!

- Guided boat tour of Parc de l'Île Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé (with or without stopover on Bonaventure Island)
- Guided lobster fishing excursion with real lobster fisherman (approximately 2h) Ticket office: 9 rue du Quai and on 224 route 132 (facing the Normandie hotel). Individual, family and group rates available. Free parking

BOAT RENTAL SERVICE AVAILABLE

Reservations: TOLL FREE: 1 866 782-5526

Tel: (418) 782-2750 and (418) 782-5526 (summer)

Fax: (418) 782-5712 E-Mail: homard99@globetrotter.net

Jean-Pierre Cloutier, prop.



Packages available! Heated outdoor pool, air-conditioning (section), tennis, tours of the rock, deepsea fishing, various cruises.

1-800-463-9011 288, route 132 ouest, Percé (Québec) G0C 2L0

Tel.: (418) 782-5151 Fax: (418) 782-5536





Marine sector

Our conservation and protection mission is not limited to the land portion of the park. It continues under water. Hundred-meter coastal strips, one around Île-Bonaventure sector and the other around the Rocher-Percé sector are an integral part of our territory.

They are, among other things, essential for the tranquillity of some 250 000 nesting birds. In fact, we have noticed that when the birds are disturbed, they become nervous and fly away in a hasty manner. Many eggs or chicks fall of the cliff each year swept away by parents' sudden flight. If some young succeed in surviving this terrible fall, it doesn't take long for them to die also. Even the silent approach of a kayak can get them into a panic.

The marine strip around the island is also the meeting place of seals who rest on the outcrops of rocks at low tide. These marine mammals need to spend a few hours out of the water to bask in the sun. The Île-Bonaventure sector is a paradise for these curious and playful animals.

Moreover, we have the chance of protecting and preserving luxuriant aquatic fauna and flora. The Club Nautique de Percé, a partner of Parc national de l'Île-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher Percé, offers the possibility of discovering this marvellous seabed and the organisms that live there by going scuba diving. For more information, don't hesitate to consult the members of their staff.





AVENTURE ÉCOTOURISME QUÉBEC The outfitters, members of Aventure Écotourisme Québec, in collaboration with Sépag, offer you several stays and quided activities especially conceived for having you discover exceptional natural AEQ groups together more than one hundred producers in adventure tourism and in ecotourism that join forces for offering you high-quality products. Consult the Association's website for planning your guided activities in Sépag's national parks, wildlife reserves and tourist centres For more information on the Association and his members: www.aventure-ecotourisme.gc.ca

Qualité tourisme Gaspésie certification

Entrance fees

All income from entrance fees is reinvested in the parks in order to allow them to pursue their conservation mission and improve Québec's park network. Therefore, this measure is important not only for people who come here today but also for future visitors.

ENTRANCE FEES								
Persons, categories or groups	Day pass 1 park	Annual pass 1 park	Annual pass All parks					
1 adult, 18 years of age and over	\$3.50	\$16.50	\$30					
1 child, 6 to 17 years of age	\$1.50	\$7.50	\$15					
1 child, 5 years of age and under	Free	Free	Free					
1 adult, 18 years of age accompanied by children between the ages of 6 and 17	\$5	\$25	\$45					
2 adults, 18 years of age accompanied by children between the ages of 6 and 17	\$7	\$35	\$70					
Organised groups of adults, 18 years of age and over	\$3 per person	Not applicable	Not applicable					
Organised groups of young people or school groups: Children between the ages of 0 and 17 and the adults, 18 years of age and over, who accompany the children	Free	Free	Free					

Our vision of quality visitor services

At Parc national de Ile-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé, offering professional and attentive visitor services is a commitment on the part of both the management and the visitor services team. Visitor services are central to the strategic vision of the park; to this end, we do our utmost to provide quality visitor reception, offer distinctive activities and services, respect our visitors and appeal to their intelligence. The ultimate goal of this vision is to make our visitor services the keystone of the park experience for visitors of all ages and origins.

Anyone who uses the park must:

- Have an access pass;
- Have a permit to stay in the park between 5 pm and 9:15 am;
- Have a park fishing permit to practice this activity;
- Show these documents to park staff who ask for them;
- Use only marked roads and trails;
- Engage only in offered activities at the specified places and times; and
- Dispose of waste in containers designated for this purpose.

Furthermore, it is prohibited to:

- Damage, introduce or remove any natural element;
- Kill, catch, wound, molest, harass, feed or tame an animal;
- Bring animals into the park (except guide dogs); and
- Camp outside designated sites.

You can do your part to protect the natural environment by respecting the regulations!

Please tell us about your experience at Parc national de Ile-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé.

		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Reception				
	Interpretation services				
	Les Margaux restaurant				
	Nature boutique				
	Cleanliness				
	Contact with park team				
	Trail signage				
	Overall park experience		П	П	

How did you hear about the park?

Please drop in the box at the park reception desk. Thank-you!



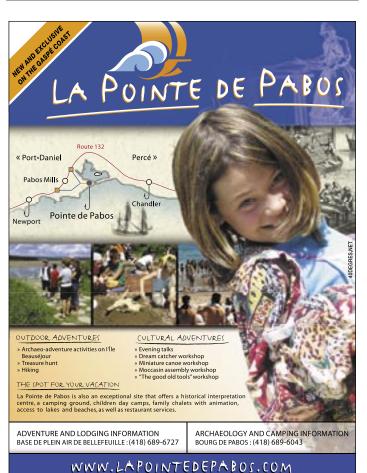
A WELL-KEPT SECRET ON YOUR CAMPING ITINERARY IN GASPÉSIE

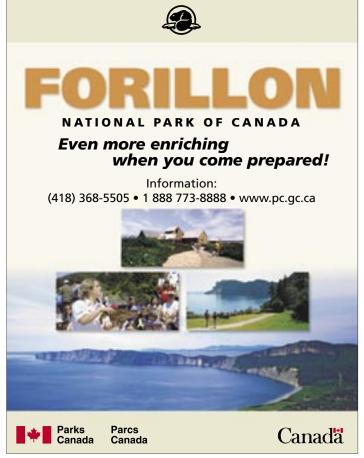
Reservations: 1 800 665-6527 or www.sepaq.com

















A sixth wave of extinction?

Human activities inevitably have an impact on the environment; their significance is intrinsically connected to their intensity and the vulnerability of the environment. As our societies become more complex and our use of natural resources more intensive, environmental problems are becoming more serious and far-reaching. In fact, it is now believed that the human race uses 40 percent of the earth's primary production for its own needs; all other known species combined (about 1.5 million) share the remaining 60 percent....

The great catastrophes that have from time to time affected most of the planet's living beings led to what is known as "mass extinctions". Such major extinctions have occurred five times since life first appeared on the planet. Based on what we know, they were caused by various natural and cosmic phenomena: volcanic activity, meteorites, climate change, etc. Each time, 50 to 90 percent of the species that then existed disappeared. In the geological eras of the past, a vertebrate species became extinct every 50 to 100 years while in the last four hundred years alone, 150 have disappeared forever. The rate at which biodiversity is dwindling today is 100 to 10,000 greater than during the greatest waves of extinction.

We have now entered a biodiversity crisis that some qualify as the sixth wave of extinction. It is believed that if species continue to become extinct at the same rate as today, half of the world's plant and animal species will have disappeared by the end of this century.

These figures are impressive and seem unbelievable. And yet, they are supported by the most learned scientists, who all agree. How can current data be compared to what we know about the mass extinctions of the past? We need to understand that climate changes accentuate the major habitat and ecosystem modifications that have occurred in recent years and that these disturbances come in many forms - deforestation, wetland destruction, over-harvesting of plants and animals, and pollution of the water and soil – all of which are responsible for today's biodiversity crisis.

Maintaining biodiversity is crucial since the more species there are, the more stable the ecosystem and thus, the greater the chances of survival for the species that are part of this ecosystem. This means that the key to preserving diversity is safeguarding the integrity of habitats that are essential to the survival of species. Parc national de

l'Île-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé and other protected areas play a crucial role in habitat protection, but only a tiny portion of the planet (about 3 percent of Québec territory and 12 percent of the Earth's surface) is protected and sheltered from industrial use. Needless to say, most of the planet's habitats are not protected in any particular way and as a result, they are more vulnerable.

We invite you to use any area you have access to just as you use your park. We sometimes say you can't judge a book by its cover. I imagine we could also say that a book without a cover is still a book. In the end, a park is a place that we preserve and where we respect natural processes. But NO MATTER WHERE WE GO, there are opportunities to behave as we would if we were in a park. Why not create virtual parks here and there and everywhere? The areas we truly protect would then be immeasurably larger.

The fight against climate change is of the utmost importance in terms of saving biodiversity. Once again, we can all take action. Another adage says we must think globally and act locally. Each and every one of us has the power to change things in our own backyards.

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*, and click on the *Conservation Mission* tab.

To find out more about *Leave No Trace*, go to *www.aventure-ecotourisme.qc.ca*, choose English, then click on the *Leave No Trace* tab.

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:

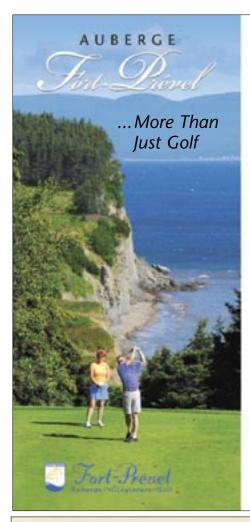
- An ecological integrity program to monitor the state of health of parks
- More and more buildings powered by solar energy
- Public transportation in the Hautes-Gorges-de-la-Rivière-Malbaie, Gaspésie, Jacques-Cartier and Oka national parks
- Electric vehicles in the Oka and Îles-de-Boucherville national 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.





14 Protect and Discover Protect and Discover



GOLF PACKAGE

\$132.75 taxes not included

in double occupancy

- Accommodations
- Golf (including a 702-yard par 6)
- Breakfast
- Supper
- Tips (meal)

Halfway between Gaspé and Percé

INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS: 418 368-2281 www.sepaq.com



BUY NATURE

Did you know that Parcs Québec "Boutique Nature" stores offer a wide range of souvenirs, clothing, and nature discovery products?

And now, to gradually eliminate the use of plastic bags in its network, Parcs Québec is offering reusable bags – a tangible way of helping preserve our precious environment!

100%

recyclable reusable made in Québec ecological environmentally friendly

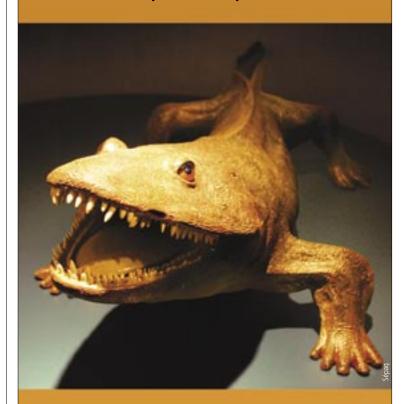
Visit our virtual boutique at ParcsQuebec.com

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





This cute little guy is part of your family tree





Miguasha Natural History Museum, witness to the distant origins of the human race

One of the true gems of the Chaleur Bay, named to UNESCO's World Heritage List. Open year round. Summer hours: Daily, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.









www.ParcsQuebec.com

