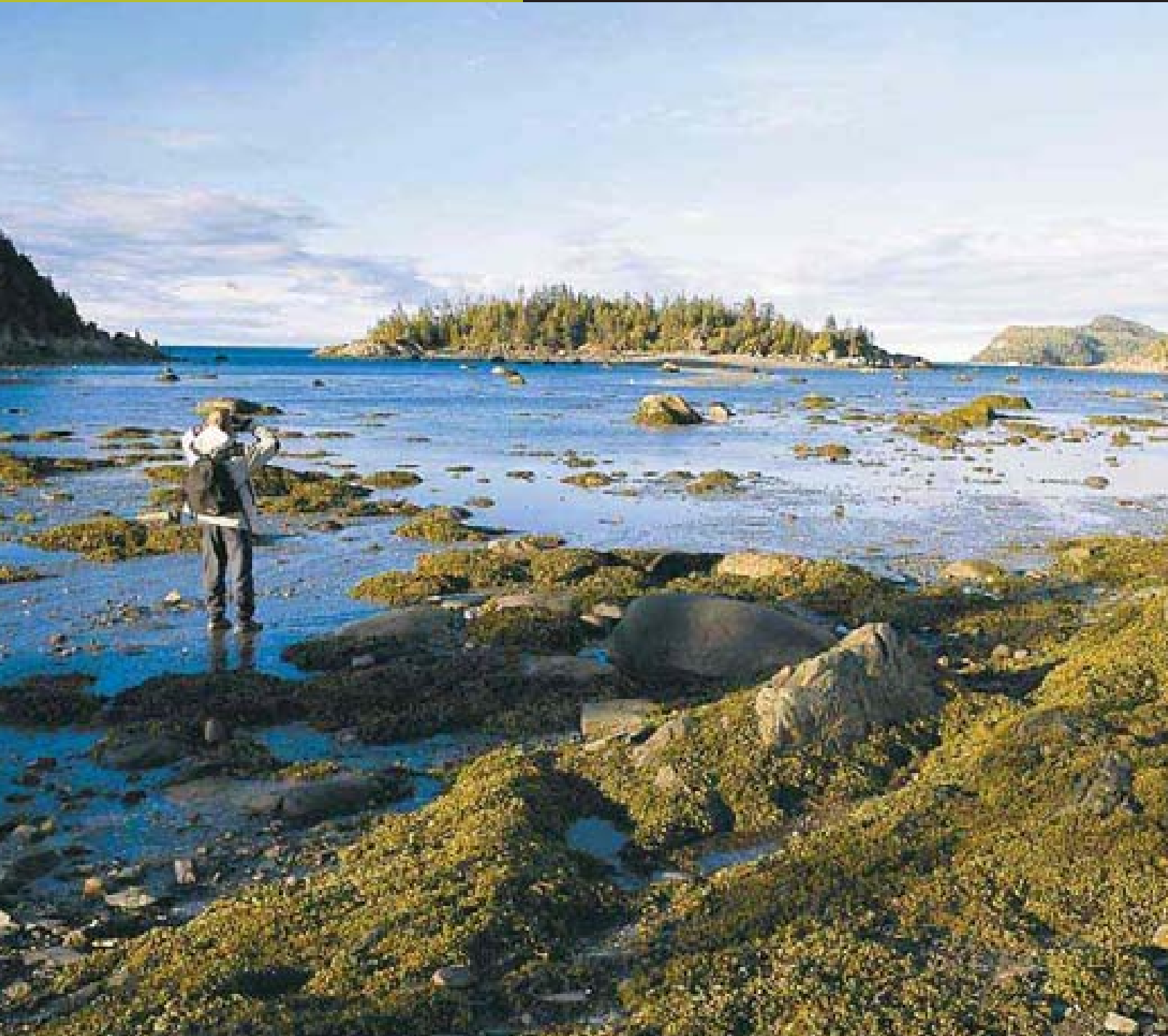


Park Journal



PARC NATIONAL
du Bic

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!



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!

The entire team of Parc national du Bic is happy to join me to make you welcome. Your visit will offer you a privileged and unique moment, allowing you to get back in touch with the exceptional nature that surrounds us.

Here, the relation between land and sea is omnipresent. Whether you are biking, walking or sea kayaking, you will come across striking panoramas.

The smell of shrub roses along the coves, seals lazing on the rocks and the tranquillity of a sunset are but a few of the show-stoppers that will surely bring back fond memories.

During your tour, your curiosity will without doubt be aroused by such names as *Anse à Mouille-Cul*, *Fourche à Louison* or *île aux Amours*. Many questions will come to mind as you are walking along : What is this small organism sighted along the shore? What is the name of this small plant found on the bedrock? Naturalists park wardens are on site to recommend exciting discovery activities that will provide the answer to all your questions. The atmosphere is always casual and favourable to an exchange of ideas. Do not forget that the Park livens up with every season.

Just imagine springtime with the migration of the birds of prey at the Raoul-Roy lookout; fall in all its glory of colors and winter with its unique landscapes, and do not forget our weekly activities called "Les joues rouges".

Have a pleasant stay and enjoy the here-and-now to its fullest.

Herven Holmes

Herven Holmes
Director

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Discover our regional parks



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A Legendary Landscape



“At the time of Creation, God, having shaped the mountains, tasked an angel to distribute them all over the earth. Upon arriving at Bic, the end of his journey and his coat still heavily laden, the angel did what we all would have done under the same circumstances: Turning his coat over he shook it vigorously. The saying goes that this is the reason why so many mountains are found at Bic.”

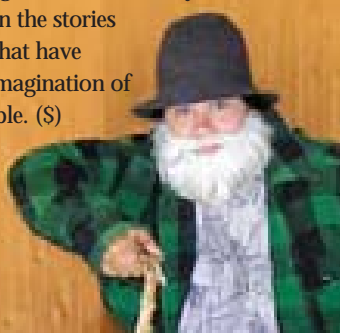
(Legend off-print from Michaud, Abbot J.D.)



Stories and Legends

Spend an evening in the quiet atmosphere of the Lyman Chalet and get to meet Nazaire.

This charming character will let you relive with a passion the stories and legends that have marked the imagination of the local people. (S)



A landscape shaped by the sea...

The Parc national du Bis is part of the vast Appalachian Region and is characterized by the presence of rocky outcrops running parallel to the River. It is punctuated by ancient sea beds. With the passing of time, the united efforts of erosive agents, glaciers and the seas that followed have left their mark on the Bic shore line. The alignment of the mountain ridges, made up of sedimentary rock, has brought about the formation of shore line accumulations that include beaches, tombolos, trailing spits and marshes as well as shapes of ablation such as marginal escarpments, bays, coves and islands... Still to this day, the cold and salty waters of the Saint-Lawrence continue their task of shaping the landscape.

A toponymy inspired by the presence of humans and the spirit of its location

Bic : According to the ethnologist Pierre Rousseau, one of the possible origins of the name “Bic” would come from the French word “bec (beak)” and its variant “biec” meaning point or peak.

Le pic Champlain : Named in honour of Samuel de Champlain who drew the “Pic” as a landmark on a navigation chart and described the high mountain in detail during his first trip in 1603.

L'île Brûlée : It seems that the name of this island comes from a fire that at one time destroyed all vegetation on the island, leaving it with a gloomy aspect.

L'île aux Amours : Local tradition has given the island the name “Île aux Amours” due to the fact that it might have been witness to idyllic loves. The story says that young couples would travel to the island at low tide by walkin on the sandbar and would even arrange their visits to coincide with the flood tide that would hold them prisoner. For a few more hours of time alone...

Le mont Chocolat : A few decades ago, a fire completely destroyed the mountain, leaving it bare and of a brownish color. Because of its color and allowing for its shape, the youngsters at the summer camp dubbed it “Mont Chocolat”, on account of its similarity to the famous “Cherry Blossom”.

Le Contrebandier et l'anse à Mouille-Cul : During prohibition, smugglers would use their boats to take delivery of loads of whiskey transported by boats from Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon. To land without making any noise, the smugglers would jump out of their boats and push them towards the shore. At times, as the tide was higher than predicted, quite a few would get their... “cul” wet (according to a popular expression at the time).

L'îlet au Flacon : The French vessel the Cerf was shipwrecked on this small island in September of 1749. The ship was carrying a cargo of wine and spirits. As only part of its cargo was salvaged, we can assume that the shores of the islet were overrun with broken bottles.

Le cap à l'Original : They say that a moose chased by hunters jumped into the sea to avoid capture.

A Tale to Tell



Its history is marked by the River

“On Sunday the 29th of August, in sight of a place of great beauty, the captain orders the anchors to be dropped in a natural haven surrounded by islets and promontories. He has found a natural refuge against the winds and the currents of the River. [...] Very observant, the captain and navigator from Saint-Malo describes the location in great detail in the ship's log, and on Wednesday the 1st of September, the small flotilla weighs anchor and sets sails. Jacques Cartier and its crew were sailing away from Bic.” (M.L.C.P., Lemieux, Paul)

Well before the arrival of the European explorers, the Amerindians had spent time on the territory. There is no doubt of their earlier presence at Bic. Archeological researches have revealed many relics testifying to the existence of native campgrounds, some of them dating back to almost 8,000 years.



A known landmark and a strategic location

Bic's development holds strong ties with maritime history. Beginning in the 17th century, Pic Champlain, the highest mountain in the area, becomes the main landmark for all navigators. Years later, the site will play a determining role in the military defense plan of New-France.

A dream panorama for vacationers

Even though the locality gained a certain popularity as a seaport until 1930, its charming character is the element that characterized its entry into the 20th century: It then became a holiday paradise held in high esteem, welcoming the wealthier Americans and English Canadians.

For decades, the area remained the place of choice for outdoor lovers, ornithologists, geologists, boaters, painters and photographers that have praised its beauty. In the early 60's, it was suggested that it be turned into a park to make it accessible to all Quebecers.

Yet, the Parks Act that would allow its creation in 1984 was only adopted by the Government in 1977. With more than half of its 33 km² geographic size consisting of a maritime environment, the park answers to two criteria: First, to be the representative of a natural region of Quebec and the other, the exceptional character of its flora and its geomorphology.

Today, thousands of visitors patronize this land of exceptional beauty.

The pilots of the Saint-Lawrence

From Bic, sailing upstream on the Saint-Lawrence River requires a deep knowledge of the lay of the land. The many islands, shoals and often very thick fog banks render navigation difficult. At the beginning of the 17th century, the French established a pilotage system to put a stop to shipwrecks. Ships' captains sailing up the River take an experienced pilot onboard to navigate up to the port of Québec. At that time, pilots would venture on the River in rowboats or in sloops to sell their services to ships' captains. The “first aboard” rule would prevail.

This system remained under the English regime and in 1762, Governor Murray regulated navigation and established the first official pilot station on Île du Bic.

Pilots, the first residents of Bic

In 1768, a decree specified that between 8 and 10 pilots must reside in permanence at Bic and remain available during the navigation season. Having to house their family, the pilots will set up “hearth and home” at Cap à l'Original and at Pointe du Vieux Bic. Consequently, they became the first true permanent residents of Bic. The Wooton, the eldest house in the Park, is believed to have been owned by the pilot François Régis Michaud during the second half of the 19th century.

Still today, the expertise of the Saint-Lawrence pilots is required for ships sailing on the Saint-Lawrence. The Pilot Station is now located at Les Escoumins (1961), on the north shore of the River.

To learn more, participate to the activity “The pilots of Bic: Let us tell you the story...”



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Seal Watching

Things you must know...



Seal watching is without a doubt the major attraction of the Park. While discovering the Park, you will perhaps get to meet and watch the emblem of Parc national du Bic, the Harbor Seal. This small seal is very playful, easy to observe from shore, and an annual resident of the estuary. It is highly representative of our marine coastal park. Around the middle of July, another specie can be observed from the shore and shares haulout sites with the Harbor Seal. It is called the Grey Seal.

During the summer period, the Park and its surrounding reefs provide shelter for a population of around 150 Harbor Seals and 50 Grey Seals. Since seals love to laze on the rocks emerging in the coves and bays of the Park, seal watching is possible in two main areas.

From half-tide to high-tide:
Pointe aux Épinettes

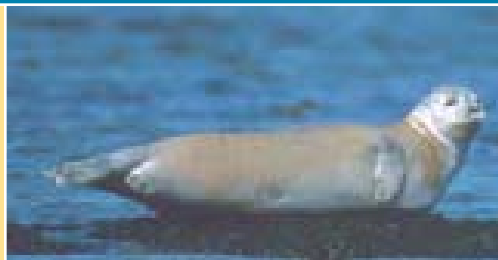
At low-tide:
Cap Caribou and Anse aux Bouleaux-Ouest.

Choosing a seal rest area depends on the height of the tide since the water level must be high enough to allow them easy access to the rocks.

At high-tide in a particular area, the visitor must remain attentive as the seals are found swimming due to the unavailability of emerged rocks.

The months of August and September are of particular interest for seal watching.

During this period, seals congregate in great numbers on the resting sites to laze in the sun and to complete their moult, and important step of their life cycle.



The Harbor Seal



The Grey Seal

Limite de la zone d'observation des phoques
« Aidez-nous à protéger cet habitat »

In order to observe the seals at leisure, it is essential for everyone to respect the Watching Zone Limits. If you get too close to the seals, they feel threatened, leave their rest area and move away. By remaining on the beach, you will allow other visitors at the site and those that will follow, the privilege of observing in turn this fascinating and playful animal.

The Harbor Seal... not so common...

The Harbor Seal is known in French as "Phoque Commun", literally translated as "Common Seal". The coastal habits of this small seal often wrongly lead to believe that the specie amounts to a great number of individuals... Although missing from the list of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) due to a lack of data, the Harbor Seal population in the estuary is considered as fragile by the environment people.

Parc national du Bic also gathers data on the seals. It is transmitted to the Réseau d'observation des mammifères marins (ROMM) (Marine Mammals Observation Network (Litt.)). This data is used to document the habits of the specie and provide a better understanding of the health status of the seal population.

Short Identification Guide

Harbor Seal	Grey Seal
Dog head	Horse head
Short muzzle	Long muzzle
Close nostrils joining somewhat in a V shape	Spread nostrils in a W shape
Mean Weight	
Male: 198lb	Male: 399-815lb
Female: 155lb	Female: 220-815lb
Newborn: 22lb	Newborn: 38 lb
Mean Total Length	
Male: 5ft	Male: 7ft
Female: 4.7ft	Female: 6.5ft
Newborn: 2.5ft	Newborn: 3ft
Life Expectancy	
Mean: 20yrs	Mean: 30yrs
Maximum: 29yrs	Maximum: 40yrs

Did you know...

You must never touch a seal... even a young one that appears to be in difficulty. It most likely means that it has missed its mother's call to return to the water with the ebbing tide.

Wildlife Under Observation



The Fisher, an animal with a bite...

The Porcupine, a meal that stings!

A few years ago, the Park was known as the largest porcupine shelter in North-America. The porcupine population on Mount Michaud was evaluated as 40 individuals per km² (0.386m²). Today however, a drastic reduction of its population has been noted. How can we explain such a reduction?

A recent research project carried out by the Université du Québec à Rimouski (UQAR), concludes that the porcupine population follows an abundance cycle of 11 years. Small core samples taken from the tree trunks of the pine forest allowed us to decipher the past! Thanks to the tree's annual growth rings, the relation between the age of the tree and the location of the feeding scars left by the porcupine allowed us to identify peaks of activity, indicators of the abundance cycles of this specie through time. This does not explain everything however... the arrival of a formidable predator follows!

Tracking the Fisher

For the last three years, we have been gathering data on the winter tracks of the fisher.

The data is recorded by the UQAR in order to document the habits and the evolution of the Park's population, and to validate the hypothesis according to which the arrival of the fisher coincides with the reduction in number of porcupines.

The fisher is the least known of the Mustelidae family. With its short legs and weighing between two and six kilograms (4.5 to 13 pounds), it can easily face the porcupine.

Its speed and agility help the fisher avoid the porcupine's tail and back. With its strong bite, it can then attack the face and belly of the porcupine as they are not protected by quills. In addition to porcupines, the fisher eats small mammals: snowshoe hares, squirrels, chipmunks, mice and voles. It kills its prey with a quick bite to the nape of the neck and, depending on the size of its prey, eats it whole or not. It also appreciates small birds, carrion, berries and lichens.

Generally, the fisher moves by bounds; its front limbs move together and its rear limbs land squarely into the tracks left by its front paws. In deep snow or on thin ice, the fisher walks on the sole of its paws to spread its weight uniformly. Being extremely agile when climbing a tree, it can turn around and come down head first. Its semi-retractile claws allow it to cling to tree bark and its rear limbs can pivot by 180°.

As they many more of them are now found in the Park... and maybe with a bit of luck, you may spot a large animal that looks like a marten quickly crossing the road, jumping on a snowshoe hare or facing a porcupine with all its quills sticking up.



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The Migration of Birds of Prey



Parc national du Bic, an exceptional location for the observation of birds of prey

The Raoul-Roy lookout, originally called “*la butte à Gérard*”, is located at the western tip of the Park, in the geographical area of Saint-Fabien. It was in 1981 that two passionate ornithologists, Gérard Proulx and Guy Gendron, discovered the exceptional potential of this area to observe of the migration of birds of prey. In the spring, most birds of prey arrive from the south of the Appalachians and migrate north. On their way, they encounter a barrier that they must inevitably by-pass: The Gulf of Saint-Lawrence. They fly along the estuary, following an air corridor until they find a location narrow enough to cross on their way to their summer nesting grounds. From the end of March until early June, thousands of these birds of prey fly over the Raoul-Roy lookout. This phenomenon attracts more and more ornithologists.

Since 2001, the systematic population count of these birds of prey from the Raoul-Roy lookout

is carried out within the frame of a project started by the *Club des ornithologues du Bas-Saint-Laurent*, in collaboration with the Park.

To this day, 17 species of birds of prey have been identified from this lookout post. From this number, 14 are reported each year, including the Bald Eagle and the Peregrine Falcon.

This inventory project has many objectives:

- To evaluate with better accuracy the quantity and the diversity of the migrating species
- To study the tendencies of these populations
- To acquire knowledge on endangered species
- To find out the conditions favourable to migration
- To determine if the lookout post is important enough to be integrated into the Canadian Landbird Monitoring Strategy.

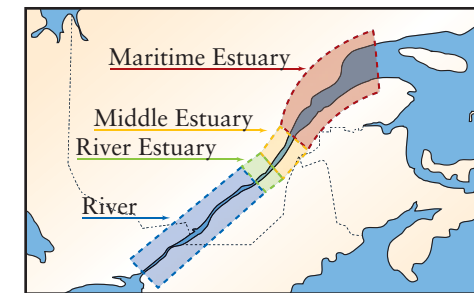
This project situates the Lower Saint-Lawrence on the map of the major migration sites in

North-America. Every year, it informs the hundreds of people that visit the Park on the species of birds of prey and their migration.

Specie	2004	2005	2006
Turkey Vulture	31	58	29
Osprey	89	16	19
Bald Eagle	70	93	130
Northern Harrier	30	19	28
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1003	652	386
Cooper's Hawk	5	12	1
Northern Goshawk	31	95	38
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	3	2
Broad-winged Hawk	138	48	41
Red-tailed Hawk	4879	3634	1221
Rough-legged Hawk	414	317	134
Golden Eagle	49	28	46
American Kestrel	32	77	32
Merlin	12	16	16
Gyrfalcon	4	1	0
Peregrine Falcon	3	3	6
Short-eared Owl	1	0	0
Total Individuals	6949	5175	2179
Number of Species	17	16	15

Source : Denis Desjardins, Club des ornithologues du Bas-Saint-Laurent

The Estuary at the Heart of the Saint-Lawrence



Is it the sea or a river?

Did you spend your holidays by the sea or by the river? Well... Not quite one or the other! In fact, the Parc national du Bic and its bordering zone are located on the shores of the **Estuary**.

In general, the term **estuary** means the mouth of a river. The Saint-Lawrence Estuary is the contact zone between the River and the Gulf, meaning between salt water and fresh water. It is subdivided into three distinctive zones.

Lac Saint-Pierre (near Trois-Rivières) marks the end of the tidal flow, it's where the **river** ends and becomes the **river estuary**. The waters of this area are fresh and flow down from the Great Lakes. With a depth between 13 and 60 meters (43 and 197 feet), this zone ends at Île d'Orléans, part of the estuary where the highest tides are reported (up to 7 meters (23 feet)).

The **middle estuary** spreads down as far as the mouth of the Saguenay River and the western tip of Île Verte. This is the actual meeting point

between fresh water from the River and salt water from the Gulf and the Atlantic Ocean.

The **maritime estuary** and the Laurentian Channel begin at the level of Tadoussac. This 320 meter (1,050 feet) deep natural channel follows the entire northern portion of the geographical area and ends in the gulf. Currents from the Atlantic Ocean use this channel to carry their denser waters loaded with nutrients. At Tadoussac, the depth quickly goes from 340 m (1,115ft) to less than 40m (130ft) for a distance of approximately 20 kilometers (12 miles). The currents bring the rich waters to the surface, contributing to the proliferation of plankton. The currents then carry these waters towards the South Shore.

Located on the **southern** portion of the **maritime estuary**, the **Parc national du Bic** is a rich and diversified environment. During the summer, the cold waters and the plankton carried by the currents, together with the shallower and warmer waters, the vast foreshores often consisting of salt marshes, and the occurrence of many islands, promote the presence of a great variety of fish, mammals, and sea birds.

Finally, at the level of Pointe-des-Monts and Cap-Chat, the Saint-Lawrence widens and becomes an inland sea linked with the Atlantic Ocean. This is the **Gulf of Saint-Lawrence**.

To find out more about this marine world both so rich and fragile, participate to our discovery activity “*The Estuary, at the Heart of the Saint-Lawrence*”

Littoral'Explo

You are between the ages of 7 and 12, a discovery enthusiast, and fascinated by marine organisms... Then, you are the perfect candidate to become a marine research apprentice!

In company with a naturalist park warden, you will explore the edge of beach, looking for fascinating organisms, able to spend half of their life underwater and the other in fresh air... What are they? How do they do it?

Check and find out the date and time of our next activity! (\$)



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.

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.

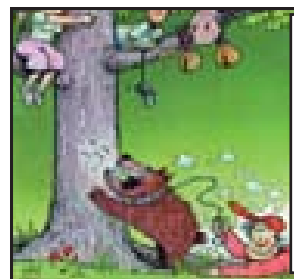
Conservation is everyone's business...



Respect all road signs and in this way, participate actively to the protection of habitats, of species and... of privileges.



Do not feed the animals as this practice modifies their behavior and creates a dependence on their part.



Pets are not allowed as they may affect the behavior of the wildlife, carry sickness, and disturb other visitors.

Know better... to better protect

Participating to the various discovery activities is an opportunity for the whole family to acquire a better knowledge in a most enjoyable context. It is also the occasion for everyone to become more aware of the fragility of certain environments, of the impact of human intervention, and of the important role that everyone can play, at the park or at home, to ensure the preservation of nature for present and future generations.

Your security is our greatest concern

One of the major concerns of the park-wardens is to reduce the risks of accident to their minimum. Their presence on the hiking trails, biking trails, and the road network guarantees their quick intervention in case of accident. To intervene quickly in case of emergency, the park wardens see to the good condition and the availability of first aid equipment. Never forget that you are the first in line to ensure your own security and that of others. Good preparation, proper evaluation of the risks involved in the activity, a map, a first-aid kit, proper clothing and footwear, a little water and a light meal are essential for an enjoyable experience.

Caution... Fragile

Protection of the natural environment is at the heart of our Conservation and Education Team. The team ensures the follow-up of various research works on the territory. It also evaluates the various development plans in order to minimize their impact on the environment. You can better your knowledge of the park by reporting all information concerning rare plants and animals, or particular situations that you have observed.

Regulations... an awareness and protection tool

Parks are a protected area and one of their main reasons for being is the protection of the environment. With many visitors each year, the implementation of certain regulations and their respect are required. Prevention, awareness and the application of regulations are some of the many tasks of the park warden. It is clear that he cannot carry them off alone. The collaboration of visitors and of local people is essential to carry off this mission successfully. Meaning that if you notice any poaching action or damage to the environment, do not hesitate and inform the park personnel.

A few rules to respect

-  Park entry fee are required at all times in order to travel through the park.
-  Camping is only allowed in areas reserved for this purpose.
-  Overnight permits are mandatory to spend the night in the park.
-  Pets are not allowed.
-  It is prohibited to kill, capture, wound, manhandle or feed the animals.
-  It is prohibited to damage, introduce or to remove any natural item.
-  Campfires are only allowed in accommodation and camping areas and in parts reserved for this purpose. Visitors must respect off-limit periods.
-  The carrying of weapons, hunting or trapping equipment is prohibited.
-  Mountain or cliff climbing is prohibited.

Failure to respect these regulations may result in prosecution.



Hiking Trails

* (Please refer to the map on the following page to geographically locate these hiking trails)

* Hiking Trail	Time (one way)	Difficulty	Starting Point	Description and points of interest
1 Le Contrebandier	1.1 km 20 min	Easy	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	This trail criss-crosses ancient terraces.
2 Le Miquelon	1.9 km 40 min	Easy	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	Traces of ancient farmlands can be found on this trail.
3 Les Escaliers	0.9 km 30 min	Difficult	JCT Le Miquelon	This shortcut links the trails Le Scoggan and Le Miquelon.
4 La Pinède	1.0 km 35 min	Difficult	JCT Le Scoggan	A course through a jack pine forest slowly overgrown by a new population. View-points on the Baie du Ha! Ha! and Anse à l'Original.
5 Le Scoggan	2.9 km 1 h 30	Intermediary	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	Le Scoggan crosses the Montagne à Michaud and follows the peaks from east to west. At your feet, a highly fragmented landscape and the Baie du Ha! Ha!
6 Le sentier Archéologique	0.2 km 20 min	Easy	JCT Le Chemin-du-Nord	On this course, six interpretation panels relate a page of the history of the area and the presence of ancient Amerindians.
7 Le Chemin-du-Nord	1.9 km 40 min	Easy	Ferme Rioux	Here is an easy way to immerse oneself with the coastal characteristics while enjoying superb views of the Estuary.
8 La Colonie	2.9 km 1 h 30	Easy	Pic-Champlain and Discovery Centre parking lot	Sometimes taking to the fields then to a small mountain peak. This small trail links La Citadelle to the Ferme Rioux land while giving you access to the Discovery Centre and to the summer camp.
9 Le Pic-Champlain	3.0 km 1 h 30	Intermediary	Pic-Champlain parking lot	A gradual climb to the culminating point of the Park (346 meters (1,135ft)). From this very popular view-point, you will enjoy the beauty of the relief and the richness of the vegetation.
10 Les Murailles	4.5 km 2 h	Difficult	Raoul-Roy lookout parking lot	This trail, with its many steps, leads you to a rocky peak. The Appalachian landscape and part of the Estuary will delight you. In the spring, the Raoul-Roy lookout post is also a privileged location for the observation of birds of prey.
11 La Citadelle	4.6 km 1 h 50	Intermediary	Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest and Pic-Champlain parking lot	This route takes the old logging road dating back to a modest traditional logging operation. The vegetation has kept all its richness and variety.
12 Les Anses	1.4 km 25 min	Intermediary	Île-aux-Amours parking lot	On this half forest half coast route, you will discover the diversity of the littoral. The trail takes you to Anse aux Bouleaux Ouest, one of the best seal watching spots at low-tide.

Some unserviced hiking areas are also accessible along the shore (see the map on pages 10-11). The visitor must however consult the tide tables ahead of time as certain paths may be difficult to access at high-tide.



Biking Trails

* Biking Trail	Time (one way)	Difficulty	Starting Point	Description and points of interest
A Le Portage	4 km 15 min	Easy	Discovery and Visitor Centre	On your bike, you can follow the harmonious carving of the terraces and mountain peaks that are characteristic to the Lower Saint-Lawrence.
B La Grève	5 km 25 min	Easy	Discovery and Visitor Centre	This course takes you to the most advanced tip of the Cap à l'Original peninsula, while criss-crossing a filigree of coves and rock bars.
C La Coulée à Blanchette	5 km 45 min	Intermediary	Discovery and Visitor Centre	"La Coulée" offers one of the most beautiful panoramas of the park: the majesty of Pic Champlain that dominates the western portion of this route.
D La Pointe-aux-Épinettes	0.7 km 5 min	Easy	Discovery and Visitor Centre	This route takes you to a marsh that turns out being an exceptional wildlife observation point.

Fleuve Saint-Laurent

Location



Legend

Areas		Trails and Roads	
	Atmosphere and Service Areas		Biking Trail
	Conservation Area		Hiking Trail
	Extreme Conservation Area		Unserviced
	Park Limits		Difficult at high-tide
	Information Kiosk		Railroad Tracks
	Park Gatehouse		Main Road
	Discovery and Visitor Centre		Secondary Road
	Historical Building		Shuttle
	Launching Ramp		Picnic Area
	Marina		Information Kiosk
	Departure point for sea kayak and zodiac trips		Convenience Store
	Picnic Area		Croque Nature (Food Stand)
	View-point		Vending Machine
	Yurt		Nature Store
	Observation Area		Amphitheater
	Comfort Station		Authorized Stopping Area
	Pit toilets		View-point
	Parking		Yurt
	Shuttle		
	Accommodations for the handicapped		
	Seal Watching		

Zoning: to combine recreation and conservation

In order to reconcile conservation and land improvement in the natural environment while allowing the practice of outdoor recreation activities, the Parc national du Bic has been divided into four areas:

Extreme Conservation Area

This area represents the territory allocated for the preservation of the environment in its entirety. This is an extremely fragile environment. No form of development is allowed, passage and stays are prohibited and only those activities of an educational or scientific character are authorized.

I.e.: Cap Enragé

Conservation Area

This is a portion the the territory that is characterized by a fragile environment and its weak autogeneration capacity. Travel is only allowed on the trails that have been set up to allow visitors to visit, observe, and appreciate this type of environment. All removals are prohibited.

I.e.: Cap à l'Original, Anse à l'Original, Les Murailles, La Citadelle.

Atmosphere and Service Areas

These areas are meant for the discovery and exploration of the ambient milieu. Restaurants, accommodations, information kiosk, etc. are also found in these areas. These are the only areas where removals are authorized such as clam digging and berry picking.

I.e.: old farmlands along the roadways, Baie du Ha! Ha!, Havre du Bic, Summer Camp Cap-à-l'Original, campgrounds.

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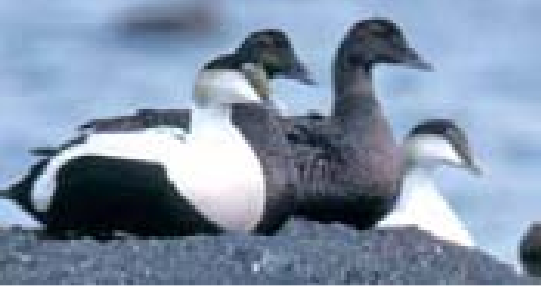
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Discovery Activities

These activities are offered mainly in french



Spring: From the 25th of May until the 22nd of June 2007

Activity	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Discovery and Visitor Centre Permanent Exhibition	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wildlife Observation : Feathers and Down	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Guided Walks						🌿 10:30 a.m.	🌿 10:30 a.m.

Summer: From the 23rd of June until the 3rd of September 2007

Activity	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Discovery and Visitor Centre Permanent Exhibition	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wildlife Observation : Feathers and Down (Until July 1 st)	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Wildlife Observation: The Seal (Starting July 2 nd)	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Wildlife Slide Show with Commentaries	🌿 4 p.m.	🌿 4 p.m.	🌿 4 p.m.	🌿 4 p.m.	🌿 4 p.m.	🌿 4 p.m.	🌿 4 p.m.
Mountains Born in the Sea	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.			🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
The Estuary at the Heart of the St-Lawrence	🌿 2:30 p.m.				🌿 2:30 p.m.	🌿 2:30 p.m.	
Guided Walks	🌿 10 a.m.	🌿 10 a.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m.	🌿 1:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m.	🌿 10 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	🌿 10 a.m. 1:30 p.m.
Theater Activities	🌿 12:15 p.m.				🌿 12:15 p.m.	🌿 12:15 p.m.	🌿 12:15 p.m.
Nightly Activities	🌿 7:30 p.m.	🌿 7:30 p.m.	(S) 7:30 p.m.	🌿 7:30 p.m.	🌿 7:30 p.m.	🌿 7:30 p.m. (S)	(S) 8:30 p.m.
Littoral'Explo			🌿 Time depending on the tide (S)				🌿 Time depending on the tide (S)
Minibus Drive : From the 22 nd of June until the 19 th of August, on the 25 th , 26 th of August and the 1 st and 2 nd of September	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset	🚍 (S) 4 p.m. and at sunset

Fall: From the 4th of September until the 8th of October 2007

Activity	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Discovery and Visitor Centre Permanent Exhibition	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	🏠 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wildlife Observation: The Seal	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	🌿 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Guided Walks						🌿 10:30 a.m.	🌿 10:30 a.m.

🏠 Discovery and Visitor Centre

Drop in to discover our permanent exhibition and to get an overview of the Park. Attend a slide show on the Park, the eiders or the seal population.

🌿 Wildlife Observation

A naturalist park warden awaits you with an information package, telescopes and binoculars to let you observe these fascinating species at closer range. **Duration:** Free activity

🌿 Feathers and Down

Come and watch the eiders and other species of seabirds that nest in the Estuary.

Location: Pointe aux Eiders (Chemin-du-Nord)

🌿 The Seal

Come and learn the difference between the Grey Seal and the Harbor Seal. Spy on these stars of the Park as they laze on the boulders.

Location: Varies with the tides

🌿 Narrated Slide Shows

Presentation of narrated slide shows by a naturalist park warden.

Duration: 40 minutes.

Feathers and Down: June 23rd until June 1st

The Seal: July 2nd until September 3rd

Location: Ferme Rioux

🌿 Mountains Born in the Sea

From the highest peaks of the Park, learn and understand the geological events that have sculpted the landscape that as we say, was "Inherited from the Sea". **Duration:** Free activity

Location: Pic Champlain Lookout

🌿 The Estuary at the Heart of the Saint-Lawrence

During this talk, discover the Saint-Lawrence Estuary, a dynamic sea world, both well orchestrated and Oh! so fragile... **Duration:** 1 hour

Location: Chalet Feindel (Chemin-du-Nord)

🌿 Guided Walks

These walks are guided by a naturalist park warden and intended for the whole family.

Duration: 1 hour

🌿 A human occupation inspired by the landscape...

While walking along the coves, you will discover the Park's history from the arrival of the first Amerindians until today.

Leaving: Ferme Rioux
(Beginning of Chemin-du-Nord)

🌿 A landscape in constant evolution

At the will of the seasons, erosive agents deploy their force in a constant reorganization of the shapes of the littoral. This tour will let you enjoy setting foot on the "trailing spit" of Île aux Amours.

Leaving: Île-aux-Amours parking lot

🌿 The hard living conditions of the shore organisms

Tame the littoral, the contact zone between land and sea. You will discover a fauna and a flora that have both adjusted to the harshness of their environment.

Leaving: La Pointe-aux-Épinettes parking lot

Theater Activities

Enjoy a short humoristic play – an entertaining way to find out more about the Park.

Duration: 30 minutes

Location: Outdoor amphitheatre, Ferme Rioux

🌿 A not so common seal

Meet Bicquette, a not so common seal. Play on words, jokes and intrigues lead us to the discovery of various species of seals.

🌿 History... It's child's play

Two students on holidays at their grandparents' discover a suitcase containing their mother's old costumes. These costumes will help them retrace the history of the occupation of the territory by humans.

🌿 Nightly Activities

At night, special guests and naturalist park wardens invite you to a show that will help you better understand the various aspects of the Park.

Duration: 1 hour

Location: Discovery and Visitor Centre

ACTIVITIES ON RESERVATION

🌿 Stories and Legends

Nazaire, a charming character, will let you live with a passion the stories and legends that have marked the imagination of the local people.

Duration: 1 hour and 30 min.

Leaving: Chalet Lyman (Chemin-du-Nord)

Fee: Adults: \$4.39 and Children: \$2.19

🌿 Littoral'Explo

In company with a naturalist park warden, the marine research apprentices within the ages of 7 and 12 can scour the beach edge for fascinating organisms.

Duration: 2 hours

Leaving: Chalet Feindel (Chemin-du-Nord)

Fee: Children: \$8.78

🚍 Minibus Drive

During this guided drive, let yourself be seduced by the landscape, the history and the legends. Discover the nicest areas of the Park: Île-aux-Amours, Cap-Caribou, Pointe-aux-Épinettes, Ferme Rioux and the Pic-Champlain Lookout.

The late day drive will let you enjoy the unique luminosity of a sunset at an altitude of 346 meters (1 135 feet). **Duration:** 2 hours

Leaving/Arriving: Information kiosk Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest.

Fee: Adults: \$14.26

65 and over: \$12.03

Children 6 to 17: \$10.75

Family: \$39.27

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Following the pace of the water

Free as a bird!

To prevent your excursion from going overboard...

You intend to take a walk along the shore or taking a trip on a sea kayak? To enjoy your day to its fullest and to avoid slight problems, it is most important to check the tide tables and plan your trip accordingly.

Tides, a predictable phenomenon.

Tides follow a daily rhythm that varies according to the position of the sun and the moon. This phenomenon is recurrent; it is therefore possible to find out exactly the height and time of the tides (tides occur twice daily). This information is found in the tide tables.

Therefore, do not let yourself be taken by surprise before taking your trip. Get informed:

- Visit the Canadian Hydrographic Service's website at www.niveauxdeau.gc.ca or call 1-877-775-0790
- Get a copy of the tide tables
- Get advice at our auto-information booths
- Check with the Information kiosk personnel.



Sea kayak and Zodiac

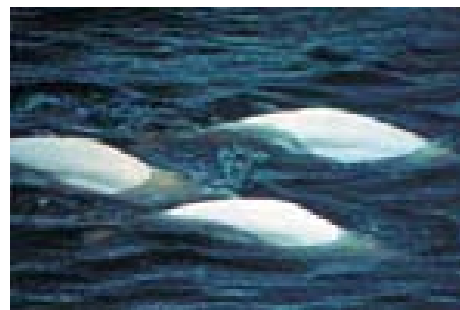
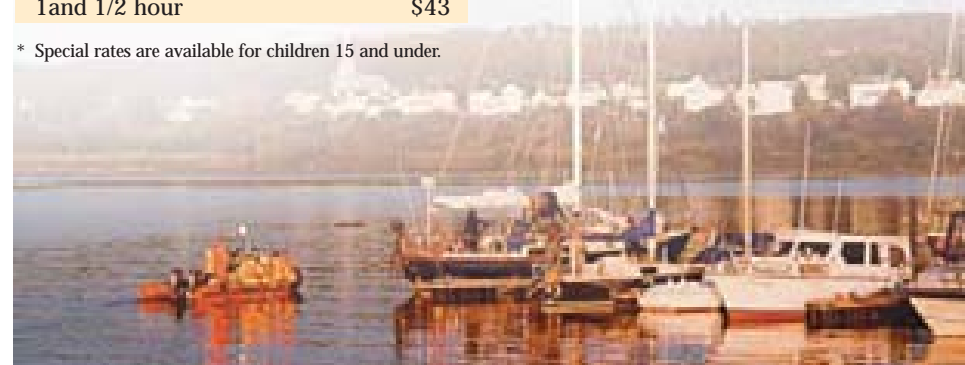
Paddle slowly through the majestic Havre du Bic and observe the fascinating wildlife that lives there. You may get the chance to meet a curious young seal only a few meters away from your kayak. Or better still; enjoy a narrated zodiac trip that will take you on the open waters, as far as Île du Bic and Île Bicquette. You will then discover the amazing local history while being lucky enough to sight a whale or a few belugas. Kayak Zodiac Archipel du Bic offers you guided trips including all the necessary equipment to ensure your comfort and safety. Reservations are strongly recommended.

May 18th until October 8th 2007
(time varies with the tides)

Rates*

Kayak	Rates
1/2 day	\$41
1 day	\$75
Sunset	\$41
Zodiac	Rates
1 and 1/2 hour	\$43

* Special rates are available for children 15 and under.



Marina

Our marina can accommodate 27 crafts, 30ft. or less

May 25th until October 8th 2007

Rates

Marina	Rates
Launching	\$5.26
Day pass	\$22.82
Weekly pass	\$133.61
Monthly pass	\$227.51
Season pass	\$181.00 + \$4.17 per foot



Jump on your bike and explore the 15 kilometers (10 miles) of biking trails available in the Park. Walk through the Park's main ecosystems and enjoy its most beautiful panoramas.

If you take the **Le Portage** trail, do not forget to make a short detour and visit Pointe aux Épinettes. This little extra pedaling will be worth your while. Once at this view-point that cannot be ignored, take a moment to spy on the wildlife and examine its particular vegetation.

Back at your handlebars, travel northward on the **La Grève** trail. Let yourself be transported by the aroma of shrub roses that line the Baie du Ha! Ha! Then, caressed by a sea breeze, extend your tour as far as the Cap à l'Original Peninsula by following the coves and the bays.

Upon your return at the Discovery and Visitor Centre, push your exploring a little further and venture on **La Coulée à Blanchette** trail. A little more "sporty", this trail takes you to Îlet au Flacon, a wonderful peninsula, the alleged burying place of a legendary treasure.

Our biking-trail network has recently been resurfaced and our trails of easy and intermediate level are perfectly suited for family hikes.

CELEBRATING CYCLING ON THE ROUTE VERTE BIKEWAY

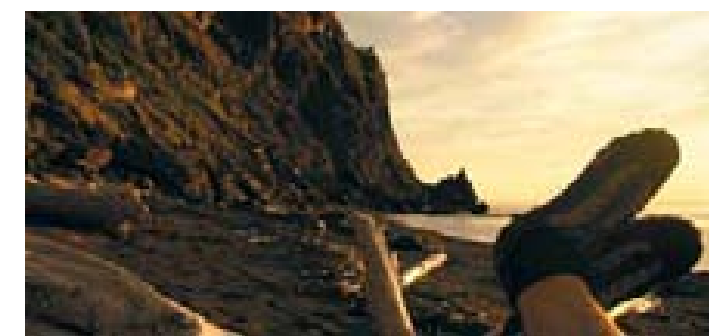
Biking across Québec from north to south, east to west—the dream is about to come true with the official opening of the Route verte bikeway in 2007! This over 4,000-kilometre-long bike route is the longest in North America, linking 16 of Québec's regions and passing through over 320 municipalities.

Société des établissements de plein air du Québec is proud to contribute to the development of Route verte at its territories and wishes you a pleasant ride!

Numerous events are being planned in all regions for the official opening of the Route verte bikeway on August 10, 2007. Look for the program at www.routeverte.com.



ROUTE VERTE IS AN ORIGINAL IDEA BY VÉLO QUÉBEC, CARRIED OUT JOINTLY WITH THE QUÉBEC GOVERNMENT, MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS, AND CLOSE TO A THOUSAND REGIONAL PARTNERS.



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Discover winter's little pleasures

Les Jours Rouges

Weekly through the winter months, the Park offers you an original and stimulating activity good for the whole family or between friends. Consult our Discovery Activities and Outdoor program "Les Jours Rouges".

Activities



Hiking
Here, hiking is possible even during winter: these hiking snow trails are mechanically kept open Wednesday through Friday. The route allows access to magnificent view-points on the River and its many islands.



Snowshoeing
As for snowshoers, they can enjoy 30 kilometers (18.5 miles) of marked trails. Would you like to try this sport? You can rent snowshoes from our Information Kiosk.



Nordic skiing
More than 15 kilometers (9 miles) of trails will delight the Nordic skiing enthusiasts. These trails cover the four corners of the Park and are marked but not stamped out.

Shelters spots

Two stopping spots: "Le Porc-épic" and "Le Pékan" allow hikers, skiers and snowshoers to stop and warm up before continuing on their hike.



Winter camping

Once the ice pack is set on the River, the view from the first boxes is impressive. Be prepared to feel the complete serenity and undisturbed atmosphere of this enchanting natural kingdom.

Location: Two distinctive areas: l'Île-aux-Amours and Pointe-aux-Épinettes, respectively located 900 meters (1/2 mile) and 2.5 kilometers (1.5 miles) from the Information kiosk area and the parking lot. Accessible on foot, snowshoes or Nordic skis.

Support capacity: 2 campgrounds per area, one tent per ground. A minimum of 2 adults per area is required to ensure the safety of the visitors.

Conveniences:

- Picnic table
- Campfire area
- Access to "Le Porc-épic" stopping spot in the Île-aux-Amours area
- Pit toilets

Rates*

\$22.11* per campground (2 adults + children)
\$4.83 per additional person
*Includes: One bundle of wood.



Igloos

These snow shelters of "queeny" style allow the room temperature to remain at 0°C (32°F) and offer a unique and safe experience for a few lucky people. Each igloo can shelter between 2 and 4 people.

They are accessible on foot, snowshoes or Nordic skis

Conveniences:

- Picnic table
- Campfire area
- Access to "Le Porc-épic" stopping spot
- Pit toilets

Rates*

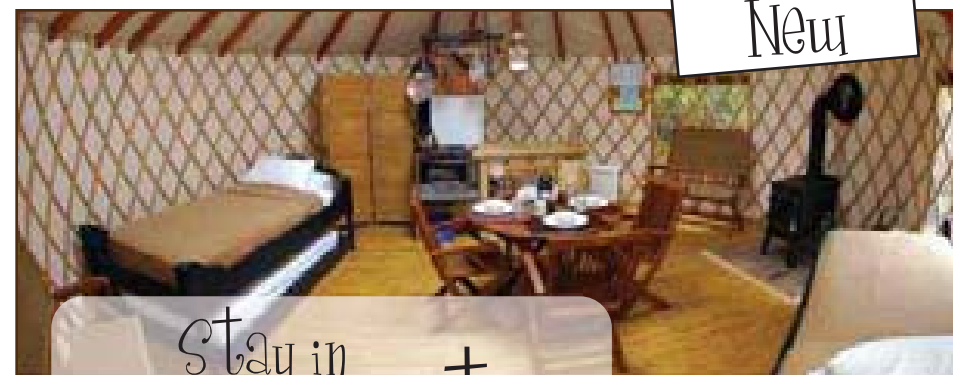
Adults: \$24.50 per person
Children 6 to 17: \$18.38 per person
*Includes: A transport sled, a tarp, a shovel and a bundle of wood.

Ask about our «NunaBic» Package

This value package includes a night in an igloo, a pair of snowshoes, a sleeping bag, and a ground mattress.

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Accommodations



New

Stay in a yurt

The yurt is the traditional home of the nomads living on the steppes of Central Asia. Summer or winter, you can stay in a yurt and enjoy a unique life experience.

The yurt is an alternative housing for the four seasons. Cosier than traditional camping, it nonetheless offers plenty of charms and a rustic character. Its rounded shape invites respite and evasion; its keystone lets you watch the stars and its wide fenestration offers you a great view on the bay of Anse aux Bouleaux Est.

In other words, everything for a pleasant change of scenery and tranquillity for the whole family, as a couple or between friends!



Location:

Located 100 meters (330 feet) from the Île-aux-Amours parking lot, with a view on Anse aux Bouleaux Est and beach access.

Fee: : \$99/night

Bedding available for rental

Capacity: 4 people

Equipment:

- Bed with mattress and pillows
- Fridge, stove, and propane lighting
- Cooking pots and utensils
- Wood stove
- Outdoor fireplace
- Picnic table



Hut - "Le Harfang"

The shelter is located on the campground at Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest, 900 meters (1/2 a mile) from the information kiosk area and the parking lot. Available from September 14th 2007 until June 9th 2008.

Capacity: 4 dormitory-type bedrooms with partition curtains, each with 2 single beds.

Maximum: 8 people.

Conveniences:

- Picnic tables
- Wood stove and firewood
- Pit toilets

Fee

Adults: \$21 or \$22 per person (depending on the season)

Children 6 to 17: 75 % of the adults fee

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4 months in advance!
By telephone: **1 800 665-6527**
On line: www.parksquebec.com



Steve Deschênes

READY FOR CAMPING?

Discover the joy of camping without having to bring all the required equipment.

\$85/night*
* Taxes and access fee extra.

The package includes:

- A fully equipped campground
- A camping trailer that can accommodate 2 adults and their children under 18
- A propane stove with fuel for the entire stay
- Everything that you need to prepare your meals

Location: Near 132 Provincial Highway and Rivière du Sud-Ouest.

This campground has a long story. As early as the 50's, it was one of the first stops for the tourists visiting the region. Since the creation of the Park, its location was questioned many times because of the noise from the near highway and railway tracks. However, the campground remains the only one available to offer an area of this size with services in the light of the small size of the Park, of the presence of many fragile areas and finally, of the complexity of its water supply network.

We therefore ask for your comprehension for the inconvenience of its location.

138 equipped campgrounds, with or without services.

Conveniences within proximity:

- Modern comfort stations
- Playground
- Shelter hall
- Laundry
- Convenience store
- Outdoor shop
- Bike rental

Fee* (ground/night)

Equipped without service	\$21.06
1 service - water	\$24.13
2 services, 30 amp.	\$28.52
2 services, 50 amp.	\$30.02
Ready for camping	\$85.00

*These basic fees cover 2 adults with children (maximum of 6 persons).

Extra person	\$4.83
Extra vehicle	\$7.46



Location: Near Baie du Ha! Ha! and Ferme Rioux, these campgrounds are accessible by car.

The name of this campground comes from a family that lived in the Park in permanence before its creation. Located in a quiet area, this campground offers a magnificent scenery and is close to a forest cover in full growth.

50 grounds without service.

Conveniences at close proximity:

- Washroom facility
- Shelter hall (Ferme Rioux)
- Food stand (Croque-Nature)
- Boutique Nature
- Discovery and Visitor Centre

Fee (site/night):

Equipped, without service \$21.94



Location: 1.3km from Îlet au Flacon parking lot. Sites are accessible by bike, on foot or by sea kayak.

Located off-trail, this rustic campground offers campers woody sites and access to the River in close proximity. To get there, the self-sufficient camper must take the Coulée à Blanchette Trail or paddle the Saint-Lawrence by sea kayak.

You are thinking about staying in an intimate and rustic area without finding yourself too far away from civilization? La Coulée is for you!

8 rustic campgrounds (4 meter by 4 meter (13x13ft) platforms with ropes for tent anchoring).

Conveniences:

- Pit toilets
- Campfire area on each ground

Fee (ground/night):

Rustic \$22.11*

*This fee includes one bundle of firewood

Help! Water Conservation

Did you know that drinking water is a rare resource in the Park?

It seems paradoxical however, that a park surrounded by water would suffer from this problem! Here at the Park, the search for drinking water available in sufficient quantity remains a permanent challenge. The geology, the particular geomorphology of the territory and the often thin substrate explain this lack because the ground only has little water retention qualities.

During your stay, you will notice various devices installed to reduce water consumption. Faucets and urinals fitted with electric eyes, pay showers with auto or manual stopping devices and spring-loaded faucets on certain campgrounds are but a few examples.

By paying particular attention, you will also contribute to minimize this waste: inform the Park personnel of all malfunctions and use drinking water diligently.

Dead trees... An unimagined treasure for the biodiversity

The presence of dead wood or fallen trees in the forest is due to various causes; severe winter conditions, violent winds, ageing, etc. However, notwithstanding appearances, the life cycle of this wood is not yet at an end. In fact, in a discrete way, its decomposition slowly enriches the soil of the forest and gives back to mother earth the essential nutrients for its regeneration. These trees find a new life and become a shelter, a resting place, a nest, a lair, and a feeding area for many species. Remain attentive and watch the insects, birds, small mammals, mushrooms... you will quickly realize that they teem with life!

Because of their essential contribution, dead trees are only removed when they adversely affect the safety of the visitors. Furthermore, by remaining on the trails and preserving the campgrounds' undergrowth and wooded areas, we contribute to the protection of these environments, so important for the Park's biodiversity.

Services



Pic Champlain Shuttle

A minibus transportation service, the shuttle takes you to the Pic-Champlain Lookout (346 meters) (1,135 feet), most certainly one of the nicest view-points of the Lower Saint-Lawrence.

Schedule: every half-hour, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., from June 22nd until August 19th, August 25th and 26th and September 1st and 2nd.

Leaving: Pic-Champlain parking lot

Fare:

Adults: \$5.70
 Children 6 to 17: \$4.38
 65 and over: \$4.82
 One way or return - Adults: \$3.51
 One way or return - Children: \$2.63

Taxi Service

You wish to go hiking on a trail without necessarily having to come back the same way? Call Taxi des Îles and plan your own itinerary. This company offers you a taxi service with fixed fares that can accommodate up to 4 people.

Call (418) 725-8959

Rivière-du-Sud-Ouest Area

Outdoor Store and Convenience Store

Enjoy our outdoor store and discover "Parcs Québec's" collection items, clothing and goods of quality and good taste. Also for sale: beverages and various convenience items!

Park entry fee (including taxes)

Category	Day Pass	Annual Park Card	Annual Parks Québec Card
Adults	\$3.50	\$16.50	\$30.00
Family (1 adult with children)	\$5.00	\$25.00	\$45.00
Family (2 adult with children)	\$7.00	\$35.00	\$70.00
Children 6 to 17	\$1.50	\$7.50	\$15.00
Group* 15 people & more	\$3.00 per person		

* Group sharing a single transportation mode

Ferme Rioux Area

Boutique Nature

Remember your trip to the Parc national du Bic by buying a souvenir from one of our local craftspeople or a "Parcs Québec" item. More than a simple "shop", this magnificent building itself is really worth the trip.

Le Croque-Nature

A food stand and vending machines are available inside of Ferme Rioux. After a good hike, take a moment to quench your thirst and have a snack. Fruit juices, sandwiches, dried fruits and surprises await you!

AVENTURE ÉCOTOURISME QUÉBEC at parc national du Bic

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.

AEQ groups together more than one hundred producers in adventure tourism and in ecotourism that join forces for offering you high-quality products.

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- Détour Nature
 - Cross country skiing
 - Snowshoeing
 - Hiking
- 514 271-6046

- Kayak Zodiac Archipel du Bic
- Sea kayaking
- Zodiac trip

Reservation line:
 Year-round, Sépaq Sales and Reservations office: 1 800 665-6527
 During season at the Bic Marina: 418 736-5232

For more information on the Association and his members:
www.aventure-ecotourisme.qc.ca



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!

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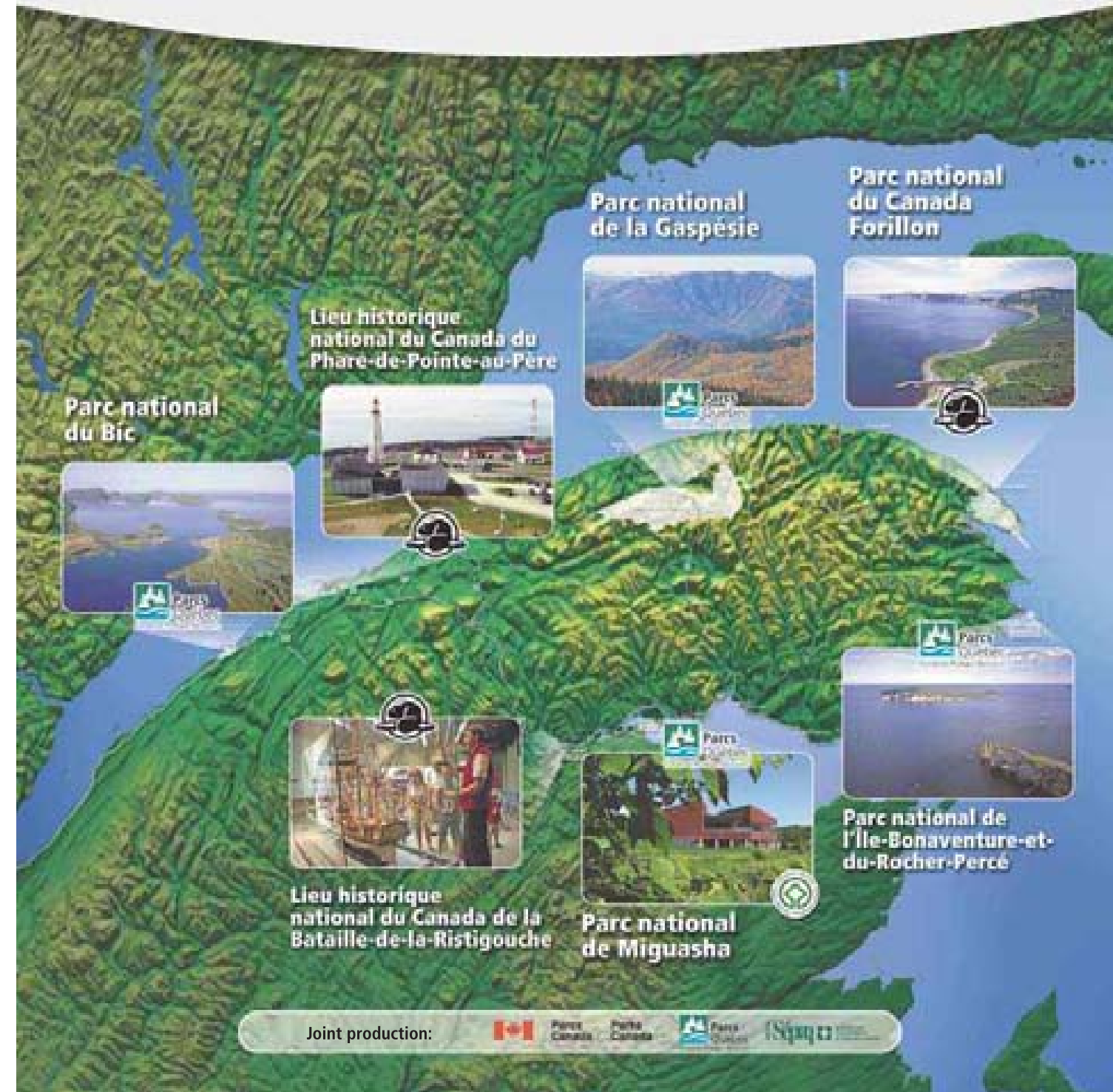


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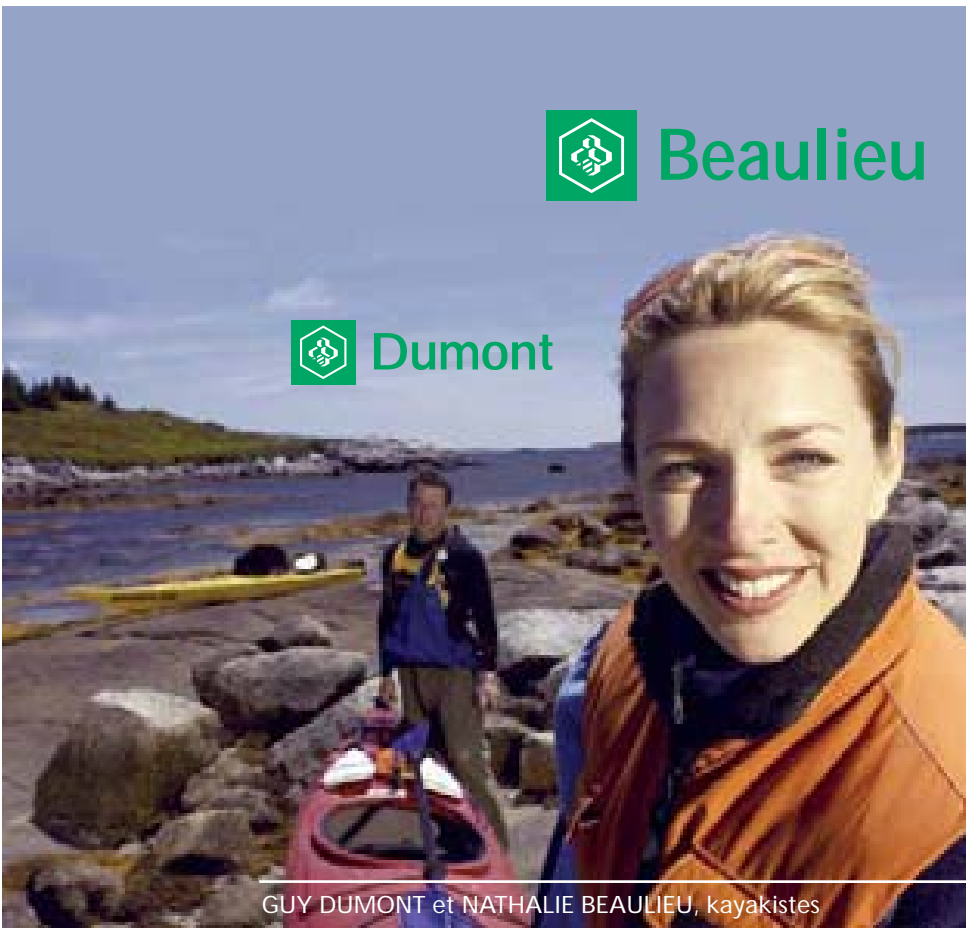




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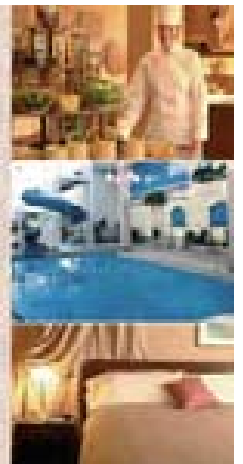


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