



VISITOR'S GUIDE 2018



20 YEARS OF GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS

OFFICIAL FOUNDING OF THE SAGUENAY-ST. LAWRENCE MARINE PARK AND MANAGEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AT SEA TO PROTECT WHALES



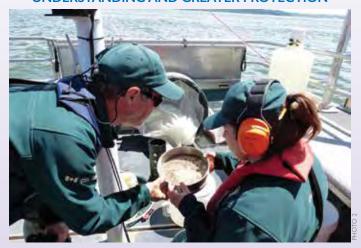
In 1998, the governments of Canada and Quebec united their forces to formalize the first marine protected area in the province. This was the year the acts creating the Marine Park were passed at Quebec's National Assembly and in Canada's House of Commons.

Quebec law prohibits prospecting, the use and exploitation of resources for mining or energy resource production, as well as the passage of oil or gas pipelines and power lines within the park.

The enactment of the Marine Activities in the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park Regulations, developed under Canadian Law, ensured the protection of marine mammals. A first in Canada, the Regulations were created in collaboration with regional bodies and the whale-watching industry. They were adopted in 2002 and revised in 2017 to better protect beluga whales, among others.

In support of the Regulations, awareness-raising measures have been undertaken to publicize good behaviours to be adopted while in the protected area. Furthermore, much effort has been made to ensure training for captains and guides at sea, and to raise awareness of thousands of pleasure boaters and kayakers.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FOR INCREASED UNDERSTANDING AND GREATER PROTECTION



To date over 120 research and monitoring projects have been carried out in the Marine Park since its creation. The work of researchers from numerous institutions has led to the acquisition of precious knowledge that helps park managers make appropriate decisions concerning conservation and the management of activities at sea. This research also contributes to expanding information disseminated to the public.

A NETWORK OF PARTNERS FOR THE DISCOVERY OF THE MARINE PARK



In collaboration with numerous regional stakeholders, Parks Canada and the Sépaq have formed the Discovery Network. With twenty-two sites bordering the park, the network offers visitors a vast choice of recreational, educational and contemplative activities. Museums, interpretation centres, historical sites, nature reserves and spectacular view points present different features of the Marine Park.

SLOWING LARGE VESSELS TO PROTECT WHALES



Under the initiative of Parks Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, a working group has proposed voluntary measures to reduce the risk of ship strikes on whales. Since its inception in 2013, the initiative has had the effect of significantly reducing the speed of merchant vessels and cruise ships in areas frequented by whales. Pilots now pay particular attention to the presence of animals, slow down in feeding areas and avoid navigating in the area most often frequented by blue whales.

AN ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE WHALE WATCHING



The Eco-Whale Alliance includes tour-boat operators working in the Marine Park, Parks Canada, the Sépaq and the Group for Research and Education on Marine Mammals. Its objective is to work together to develop best practices for whale watching at sea. Among other initiatives, it offers training courses for captains and naturalists, creates interpretive tools and measures progress since its creation. This is a shining example of a remarkable collaboration for the sake of conservation.



A WORD FROM THE CO-DIRECTORS OF THE SAGUENAY-ST. LAWRENCE MARINE PARK

It is with considerable enthusiasm that we invite you to celebrate the Marine Park's twentieth anniversary. Twenty years is young, yet, as one of the oldest marine protected areas in the world, this majestic park is an inspiring example both here at home and abroad.

At a time when marine protected areas did not exist in Quebec, and were scarce elsewhere, the Marine Park model had to be invented from scratch. Progressing from the dream of promoting and protecting a marine space to the reality of a functional park was a major challenge.

Park teams, in collaboration with local stakeholders and communities, successfully surmounted this crucial step. Various initiatives have been developed over the years and contribute to public awareness, the quality of visitor experiences and the protection of the park's natural treasures.

Thank you to all who have made a valuable contribution to the collective project that is the Marine Park. We can be proud of progress achieved and confident in our ability to face future challenges together.

Enjoy your stay in the Marine Park!

Daniel Langlois

Co-director Parks Canada Jérôme Perrin-Gouron

Co-director Sépag

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

It is with great pride that in this 20th anniversary year I extend an invitation to all Quebeckers, Canadians and visitors from the four corners of the world to follow the current of the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park.

Celebrating the Marine Park's 20th anniversary is also about acknowledging accomplishments resulting from ongoing dialogue with stakeholders from all walks of life. The coordination committee, which consists of representatives from the regions bordering the park, the Essipit Innu First Nation, the scientific community and the fields of education and tourism, is committed to the harmonious development of this protected area.

We invite you to learn more about the management, history and ecosystem conservation of the Marine Park in the June 2018 thematic edition of the *Naturaliste canadien* and the scientific symposium set to take place from October 17 to 19 at the Hôtel Tadoussac.

Twenty years of involvement from waterfront communities, collaboration with government stakeholders, regional dialogue and popular mobilization, now that's worth highlighting! We are also looking to the future, for much work remains to be completed to preserve this unique shared natural treasure.

Welcome to YOUR Marine Park!

Emilien Pelletier

President of the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park coordination committee,

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



THE ESSENTIALS



THE SE SE SE







WHALE WATCHING BY BOAT

What fun it is to hear a whale blow or to catch a glimpse of one of these incredible animals at the surface! Take in the fascinating spectacle of marine animals from aboard a boat. Get ready for a journey to the kingdom of whales, seals and seabirds. Select the type of excursion that suits you best.

See pages 5 to 9.

WHALE WATCHING FROM SHORE

Keep your eyes peeled and your ears open while out walking, biking or driving along the Marine Park's shorelines! You might well glimpse or hear beluga, minke or fin whales, or possibly harbour porpoises, as they swim along the coast. There are surprises in store for you from Baie-Sainte-Catherine to Les Escoumins, with Sacré-Coeur in between.

See the Discovery Network section (pages 10 to 15).

DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

To satisfy your thirst for knowledge, partake in any one of several activities on offer. Enthusiastic guide-interpreters and fascinating exhibits will give you valuable insights into the many facets of the Marine Park. These helpful resources tell the full story of marine life, from starfish to sharks, as well as the history of local lighthouses and Indigenous populations.

See the Discovery Network (pages 10 to 17).

KAYAKING

Whether you paddle with a professional guide or head out on your own, sea-kayaking is a great way to appreciate the vast beauty of the Marine Park. Carefully prepared kayak outings provide all of the pleasures of the great outdoors in complete safety. For an excursion lasting several days take advantage of campsites located along the edges of the park.

See pages 5 and 8.

SPECTACULAR VISTAS

Discover the numerous vantage points that border the Saguenay Fjord and St. Lawrence Estuary on foot, by car or by bicycle. Once you begin to admire the sights along the shore, listen to the crash of waves on the beach and breathe in the salt air, it won't be long before you've left the daily grind behind. The Discovery Network guarantees a real change of scenery all along the perimeter of the Marine Park.

See pages 10 to 15.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Four migratory great whale species can be seen in the Marine Park in the summer; they are the minke whale, the fin whale, the humpback whale and the blue whale.

The beluga whale and harbour seal are the only marine mammals that live year round in the St. Lawrence Estuary. Can you tell which is which?

To learn more about whales, visit marinepark.qc.ca/get-to-know/



















KAYAKERS AND RECREATIONAL BOATERS: TAKE PART IN THE PROTECTION EFFORT!

Beluga whales and blue whales are endangered; these animals need protection to help in the recovery of their population. While navigating through the Marine Park, you will be in the centre of their habitat and may encounter these species. It is a privilege to be able to see them in their natural environment. Keep your distance.

CAUTION, BABY BELUGA WHALE!

Beluga whales give birth in summer, particularly in July and August. This is a crucial period for the survival of mothers and their offspring. Females require calm to raise their newborn calves. When beluga whales approach your vessel, they react to your presence and modify their behaviour. Your presence could possibly interrupt resting, feeding or even calving and nursing. Repetitive disturbance can affect the survival of young animals, beluga whale health and reproduction. Remain at a distance of at least 400 metres.

To learn about best practices when in the presence of beluga whales, visit: marinepark.qc.ca/protect/#beluga











A beluga whale and her calf. Photo taken with respect to the aforementioned.

IF YOU SEE ONE OR SEVERAL BELUGA WHALES:

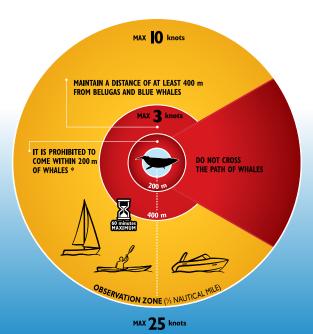
- I. Do not try to approach them: remain at a distance of at least 400 metres.
- 2. If a beluga whale approaches your vessel:
 - Do not stop. Continue navigating or paddling to a distance greater than 400 metres from all beluga whales.
 - As long as you are within one half of a nautical mile (926 metres) of beluga whales, maintain a constant speed of between 5 and 10 knots, with the exception of kayakers.
 - Avoid repetitively changing direction. If it is impossible to remain at a distance of 400 metres, maintain your course.

MARINE ACTIVITIES IN THE SAGUENAY—ST. LAWRENCE MARINE PARK REGULATIONS

The Regulations indicate the maximum navigational speed permitted throughout the park, as well as distances and speeds to be respected when marine mammals are present.

Regulations were modified in 2017 to better protect marine mammals. Consult marinepark.qc.ca/protect, or contact us for further information. Here is an overview of the new measures:

- Stopping within $\frac{1}{2}$ nautical mile of beluga and blue whales is prohibited.
- The maximum speed permitted at the mouth of the Saguenay is 15 knots.
- The use of personal watercraft (jet skis), hovercraft and traction water sports are prohibited within the boundaries of the park
- Do not disturb marine mammals, for example, by feeding, touching or attempting to swim with them.



ALL WATERCRAFT IN THE MARINE PARK MUST COMPLY WITH THESE REGULATIONS.

OBSERVATION ZONE

I/2 nautical mile = 926 metres SPEED

3 knots = 5.56 km/h = 3.45 mph

10 knots = 18.52 km/h = 11.50 mph

15 knots = 27.78 km/h = 17.26 mph

25 knots = 46.30 km/h = 28.77 mph

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

* Under certain conditions, marine tour permit holders (whale-watching vessels) may navigate up to a distance of 100 metres from a nonendangered whale species.

EXPERIENCE THE SEA!

Whether you are seeking adventure or a quiet tour on the water, you will be delighted. Take the full measure of wide open spaces, each excursion is unique!

WHAT IS THE BEST TIME TO SEE WHALES?

Opportunities to see whales in the Marine Park are good at any time of the day from early May to the end of

WHAT BOAT TO CHOOSE?

The rules governing approaches are the same for whatever type of boat you choose. Your captain will stay within regulated speeds and respect the approach distances to be maintained in the vicinity of whales. While sea-kayaking, your guide will make sure you maintain appropriate distances and navigate in complete safety.

WHAT TO BRING?









Even in summer, it is colder on the water than on land. Warm, comfortable clothing is highly recommended.

A GUIDED AND SUPERVISED **EXCURSION**

All businesses presented in this guide hold Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park marine tour permits. Captains and sea-kayak guides working for these businesses must successfully complete relevant regulations training offered by Parks Canada.





Eco-Whale Alliance: Choose a Proud Member of the Eco-Whale Alliance for your next outing!



Aventure Écotourisme Québec

BOAT EXPERIENCE

Croisières AML

| 800 563-4643 | croisieresaml.com





Cast off and head offshore to encounter giants of the sea! Our certified bilingual naturalist guides are keen to narrate the life stories of these impressive marine mammals.

Departures from Tadoussac, Baie-Sainte-Catherine, Rivière-du-Loup

Croisières Neptune

| 877 7NEPTUNE | croisieresneptune.net

Discover marine mammals in the company of our experienced captains and our bilingual naturalists aboard our glass-topped boat. We welcome people of all ages. A family-owned business for 28 years.

Departures from Les Escoumins

Les Navettes maritimes du Fjord

418 543-7630 / 1 800 363-7248 | croisieresdufjord.com



Transform your travels to include an unforgettable cruise on the Saguenay Fjord (from June to October). Discover various villages and attractions along the way, like the Notre-Dame-du-Saguenay statue and the impressive capes Trinité and Éternité!

Departures from La Baie, Saint-Fulgence, Sainte-Rose-du-Nord, Rivière-Éternité, L'Anse-Saint-Jean and Tadoussac

Société Duvetnor

| 877 867-1660 | duvetnor.com

Escape to the islands of the Lower St. Lawrence (Bas-Saint-Laurent) region! Here you will find remarkable biological diversity, cliffs teeming with seabirds and a fascinating maritime history. Guided tours are offered on a daily basis with or without landing.

Departures from Rivière-du-Loup

INFLATABLE BOAT EXPERIENCE



Croisières AML

| 800 563-4643 | croisieresaml.com



For an outstanding nature experience aboard one of our inflatable 24 and 60 passengers boats. In the company of certified bilingual naturalist guides, enter the whales' compelling environment. Ideal for thrill seekers!

Departures from Tadoussac and Baie-Sainte-Catherine

Croisière Escoumins

| 866 baleine | 418 233-4061 | croisierebaleine.ca

Set out on an adventure to the whale paradise aboard a new generation of safer and more ecological zodiac-type craft. Experienced captains, theme cruises, whales guaranteed or your money back.

Departures from the private wharf in Les Escoumins

Croisières Essipit

| 888 868-6666 / 418 232-6778 | vacancesessipit.com



Personalized whale-watching cruises aboard 12 and 36-passenger inflatable boats. Our experienced guides will share their knowledge of the marine environment. Simply unforgettable: respect and protect whales. Kuei! Welcome!

Departures from Les Bergeronnes

Croisières Neptune

| 877 7NEPTUNE | croisieresneptune.net

Come aboard our latest generation zodiac-type boats to discover marine mammals. Safety and comfort are guaranteed with experienced captains. Complete high-quality equipment is provided. A family-owned business for 28 years.

Departures from Les Escoumins

Les Écumeurs du Saint-Laurent

| 888 817-9999 | lesecumeurs.com



The Écumeurs offer you a personalized cruise to observe whales and other marine mammals in the Marine Park. Live a unique experience with our professional captains aboard our 12- or 30-passenger vessels.

Departures from Les Escoumins

Organisaction - Le Québec Hors Circuits

418 579-8763 | organisaction.com



Come aboard for a natural experience on a human scale. Travel to the mouth of the majestic Saguenay Fjord, where it converges with the St. Lawrence Estuary, and encounter whales and other marine mammals.

Departures from l'Anse de Saint-Étienne (Petit-Saguenay)

Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay

| 800 665-6527 | sepaq.com



On leaving one of the most beautiful bays in the Marine Park, take your place aboard an inflatable boat and begin your adventure with our experienced naturalist guides. Discover a protected ecosystem with a biodiversity that is unique in the world.

Departures from the Baie-Éternité wharf

Tadoussac Autrement

1 418 235-3333

Experience your whale-watching cruise in a different way! Aboard an enclosed 12-passenger Zodiac with removable windows, two enthusiastic and authentic young captains will lead you on a discovery of marine mammals and the Saguenay Fjord.

Departures from Tadoussac beach



418 675-2625 | aventurerosedesvents.com



Treat yourself to a stunning view of one of the most beautiful villages in Quebec. You will discover utterly incredible stories of its first inhabitants. Personalized tours accessible for all.

Departures from Sainte-Rose-du-Nord

Centre de vacances - Ferme 5 étoiles

418 236-4833 / 1 877 236-4551 | ferme5etoiles.com



Nature lovers, admire spectacular sunsets or explore the Saguenay Fjord. Half-day to five-day excursions available. Professional guides, meals and equipment included for excursions of one day or more.

Departures from Anse-de-Roche near Sacré-Coeur

Fjord en Kayak

| 866 725-2925 | fjordenkayak.ca



"Canadian Signature Experience." Short, guided excursions on the Fjord (children three years of age and older) and multi-day expeditions with cuisine. Distinctions: small groups, fibreglass kayaks, personalised service, skilled guides.

Departures from L'Anse-Saint-Jean

Katabatik – Aventure dans Charlevoix

| 800 453-4850 / 418 665-2332 | **katabatik.ca**



Paddle the Upper St. Lawrence Estuary with expert seakayak tour guides. Abundant marine wildlife, amazing geomorphology, the Charlevoix coast is a paradise for paddlers.

Departures from Baie-Saint-Paul, Cap-à-l'Aigle and Baie-des-Rochers

418 232-6237 | campingparadismarin.com

Guided tours with a focus on safety and nature discovery. This adventure sport will give you the feeling that wildlife is so close you can touch it!

Departures from Les Bergeronnes

Mer et Monde Écotours

| 866 637-6663 | meretmonde.ca



Mer et Monde has offered a unique and intimate experience connecting humans to nature for over 20 years. Sea kayaking is a beautiful way to observing the marine environment. Half-day or full-day excursions available.

Departures from Les Bergeronnes and Tadoussac

Organisaction – Le Québec Hors Circuits

418 579-8763 | organisaction.com



Discover the secrets of the Saguenay Fjord in the company of keen and professional guides. From a simple half-day excursion to a multiple-day expedition, take advantage of personalized outings.

Departures from Sainte-Rose-du-Nord and Petit-Saguenay

Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay

| 800 665-6527 | **sepaq.com**



Explore the most beautiful portions of the Fjord with our experienced naturalist-guides. An intimate rendezvous in the heart of an impressive natural setting and a unique marine environment.

Departures from Baie-Éternité

ARE YOU PLANNING A SEAGOING ACTIVITY WITHOUT A CERTIFIED GUIDE?



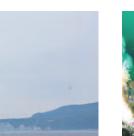
Before you set out, learn the directives you will need to follow and the required equipment to ensure your outing is safe and enjoyable.

See tc.gc.ca/marinesafety.

Weather conditions can change rapidly and strong marine currents could make your outing hazardous. For your safety, stay close to the shoreline and always keep it in sight, particularly in foggy conditions. Due to regular shipping traffic, avoid making "shore-to-shore" crossings.

See marinepark.qc.ca/visit/at-sea/sea-kayak/

EXPERIENCE ON A SAILING VESSEL



Damacha - École de voile croisière

| 866 278-5355 / 418 434-2435 | damacha.qc.ca

Damacha trains all levels of sailors. Cruise the Fjord, the Estuary and the Gulf from Tadoussac. Experience life aboard a sailboat in the splendour of nature as it was in the days of the discoverers of this

Departures from Tadoussac

Voile Mercator

| 888 674-9309 | voilemercator.com



Navigate by sail on the Saguenay Fjord and the St. Lawrence Estuary. Three- to seven-hour beginner excursions, learning sessions and two- to twelve-day courses. Accredited by Sail Canada and Aventure Écotourisme Québec.

Departures from L'Anse-Saint-Jean, Baie-Éternité, Tadoussac and La Baie

EXPERIENCE DIVING



Accès plongée Saguenay

1 800 PLONGÉE (756-6433) - 418 699-1000 accesplongeesaguenay.com

Accès Plongée Saguenay offers guide services from aboard a boat. Discover the subaquatic treasures of the St. Lawrence in complete safety with our qualified personnel. Advanced divers can experience a night dive in the middle of the day in the Saguenay Fjord.

Departures from Les Escoumins and the La Baie marina

Marine Environment Discovery Centre

418 233-4025 / 418 233-4414 | parkscanada.gc.ca/saguenay

Experience Nordic Snorkelling: a near-shore swim in a wet suit, flippers, mask and snorkel (equipment included). Equipment rental, tank filling (Hyper Pure available), and guided dives are also available. Developed access, change rooms and showers.

41, rue des Pilotes, Les Escoumins

École de plongée Immersion Côte-Nord

418 232-6249 / 1-877-MER-1877 | explosnature.ca/plongee/

From initiation to Divernaster, as well as specialized and upgrading courses, Immersion Côte-Nord invites you to explore the sea from beneath the surface. Prolong the pleasure by means of all-inclusive dive

Departures from Les Escoumins, Les Bergeronnes,

LIVETHE EXPERIENCE ON LAND!

The Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park DISCOVERY NETWORK



LEGEND



DISCOVERY SITE

Saguenay

Côte-Nord

Bas-Saint-Laurent

Charlevoix

22 ways to discover the Marine Park:

meet genuinely enthusiastic people, take in fascinating exhibits, enjoy fabulous outings and explore the great outdoors.

FIND COMPLETE DESCRIPTIONS ON PAGES 12 TO 15.



LIVETHE **PARKS CANADA** EXPERIENCE

FREE ADMISSION **FOR YOUTH 17 AND UNDER**



POINTE-NOIRE INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATION CENTRE

141, route 138 Baie-Sainte-Catherine

418 237-4383 418 235-4703 (off-season) parkscanada.gc.ca/saguenay

Latitude: 48.122849 Longitude: -69.718231



Schedule

Sept. 4 to Oct. 8: Friday to Sunday and holiday

Admission

Adult: \$5.80 Senior: \$4.90 Youth: free Family/Group: \$11.75 Taxes included

lune 16 to Sept. 3: Everyday



on a big screen or take the dive yourself! (See p. 9).

CAP-DE-BON-DÉSIR INTERPRETATION AND OBSERVATION CENTRE

13, ch. du Cap-de-Bon-Désir Les Bergeronnes

418 232-6751 418 235-4703 (off-season) parkscanada.gc.ca/saguenay

Latitude: 48.276413 Longitude: -69.476064



Schedule

lune 16 to Sept. 9: Everyday Sept. 10 to Oct. 8: Wednesday to Sunday and holiday

Admission

Adult: \$7.80 Senior: \$6.80 Youth: free Family/Group: \$15.70 Taxes included



MARINE ENVIRONMENT **DISCOVERY CENTRE**

41, rue des Pilotes Les Escoumins

Exceptional views onto the Marine Park! See whales, seals and seabirds near the shore. Encounter

naturalist-guides and benefit from their knowledge. Daily activities proposed. Sea life exhibits and

visit of a light station. Binoculars and spotting scopes are available for your use. Follow divers live

418 233-4414 418 235-4703 (off-season) parkscanada.gc.ca/saguenay

Latitude: 48.3 | 9463 Longitude: -69.413187

Schedule

lune 16 to Sept. 3: Everyday Sept. 4 to Oct. 8: Friday to Sunday and holiday

Admission

Adult: \$7.80 Senior: \$6.80 Youth: free Family/Group: \$15.70 Taxes included



Indulge in outdoor activities on land, at sea and in the air! Hiking trails provide extraordinary views

onto the Fjord from Tadoussac to Éternité Bay. Try the Via ferrata des Géants with its impressive

aerial pathways. Observe beluga whales from the lookout terrace half way along the Fjord on the

shores of Sainte-Marguerite Bay and discover the fascinating universe of this protected species

Marine Environment Discovery Centre

EXPERIENCE **SÉPAQ**



Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay

FREE ADMISSION FOR YOUTH 17 **AND UNDER**



BAIE-ÉTERNITÉ SECTOR

91, rue Notre-Dame Rivière-Éternité

L 800 665-6527 418 272-1556 sepaq.com/saguenay

Latitude: 48.2576 Longitude: -70.4016

Schedule:

May 18 to October 8, everyday

Admission

Adult: \$8.60 Youth: free Taxes included

sepaq.com/saguenay

with the help of our naturalist-guides.



BAIE-SAINTE-MARGUERITE SECTOR

1121, route 172 Nord Sacré-Coeur

L 800 665-6527 418 236-1162 sepaq.com/saguenay

Latitude: 48.264924 Longitude: -69.945434

Schedule:

May 18 to October 8, everyday

Admission

Adult: \$8.60 Youth: free Taxes included



BAIE-DE-TADOUSSAC SECTOR

Pointe-de-l'Islet and Sentier le Fjord Tadoussac

L 800 665-6527 sepaq.com/saguenay

Latitude: 48.141032 Longitude: -69.725468

Schedule:

lune 8 to October 21, everyday

Admission

(Le Fiord trail only) Adult: \$8.60 Youth: free. Taxes included

SAGUENAY



Discover the Fjord at two exceptional locations: the wharf, with its magical sunsets, and Saint-Etienne beach, a haven of peace in rhythm with the tides. Tourist information 61, rue Dumas Petit-Saguenay 418 272-3219

petit-saguenay.com Latitude: 48.209261

Longitude: -70.067463 **Schedule**

May 15 to November 1

Admission



One of the most beautiful villages in Quebec, L'Anse-Saint-Jean invites you to experience nature along the shores of the majestic Saguenay Fjord. Take advantage of a wide range of quality outdoor activities for the whole family.

L'AMSE-SAINT-JEAR

3, rue du Couvent L'Anse-Saint-Jean

418 272-2633 lanse-saint-jean.ca

Latitude: 48.233554 Longitude: -70.205869

Visitor kiosk

ScheduleLate June through

mid-September: Every day 418 272-2974

Admission



Discover the undersea world of the Saguenay Fjord. Get to the bottom of life in the Fjord in a wonderful learning environment through exhibits, excursions and entertaining animations.

3346, boul. de la Grande-Baie Sud Saguenay (La Baie borough)

418 697-5077 1 866 697-5077 museedufjord.com

Latitude: 48.3 | 7447 Longitude: -70.853845

Schedule

June 24 to Sept. 3: Every day September 4 to June 23: Tuesday to Sunday

Admission

Adults: \$16 Children (6 to 17): \$9 Family and group rates available Taxes included







Visit the "Pearl of the Fjord", a town set in a valley between capes with kilometres of trails that lead to the most beautiful panoramic vantage points onto the Fjord.

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

418 675-2250 ste-rosedunord.qc.ca

Latitude: 48.388247 Longitude: -70.58699 I

Corporation nautique du quai

Schedule:

May to October

Tourist Information

213, rue du Quai

Schedule

June to September 418 675-2250, ext. 2608

Admission

Free



A seaport surrounded by majestic landscapes with unforgettable sunsets. Picnic area, kayak outings. Situated 12 nautical miles from Tadoussac. 346, ch. de l'Anse-de-Roche (Via route 172) Sacré-Coeur

Latitude: 48.218251 Longitude: -69.87456

Schedule

Early June to the end of September

Admission

Free entry **Boat launch:**Boats: \$11,50 + tx

418 236-4325

Kayaks: \$6,35 + txInformation for the marina:







CÔTE-NORD

CENTRE D'INTERPRÉTATION DES MAMMIFÈRES MARINS (CIMM)



Where are the whales? Who are they? What are researchers doing? A visit to this centre is a must! Exhibition, collection of real skeletons, film, specialists. Take part in world-renowned whale-song classes.

108, rue de la Cale-Sèche Tadoussac

418 235-4701 baleinesendirect.org gremm.org

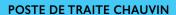
Latitude: 48.138325 Longitude: -69.719292

Schedule

Mid-May to mid-October: Every day

Admission

Adults: \$12 (plus taxes) Accompanied children (17 and under): Free





Relive the birth of New France through a reconstitution of the site of the earliest exchanges between Amerindians and Europeans. Discover the history of first contacts through a playful, interactive exhibit. 157, rue du Bord-de-l'Eau Tadoussac

418 235-4657 418 235-4446, ext. 229 tadoussac.com

Latitude: 48.140815 Longitude: -69.716425

Schedule

June to October: Every day May: upon reservation, with groups

Admission:

Adults: \$5 Seniors: \$3 Children and students: \$2.5

CENTRE ARCHÉO TOPO



Explore the exhibit on human occupation of the North Shore (Côte-Nord) from the first Indigenous to the present day. Discover the lives of ancient Indigenous communities. Pottery, beading, dreamcatcher fabrication and stone-cutting workshops.

498, rue de la Mer Les Bergeronnes

418 232-6286 archeotopo.com

Latitude: 48.228976 Longitude: -69.553217

Schedule

May to mid-October

Admission

Family: \$17 Adults: \$8 Seniors: \$7 Students: \$5 Children (7 to 12): \$4 Group rates Taxes included



GREMM

CHARLEVOIX

CENTRE ÉCOLOGIQUE DE PORT-AU-SAUMON



Hike our interpretive trails. Observe and handle various marine organisms. Explore the bay at low tide.

3330, boul. Malcolm-Fraser (route 138) La Malbaie (Saint-Fidèle sector) 418 434-2209 1 877 434-2209 cepas.qc.ca Latitude: 47.765055

Longitude: -69.952247 **Schedule**June 23 to August 16

Admission

Nature Trail (1 or 2 hours) Adult: \$5 or \$10 Child: \$3 or \$5 Pools with marine organisms (1 hour) Adult: \$10 Child: \$5 Low tide (2 hours) Adult: \$10 Child: \$5

Taxes included

PORT-AU-PERSIL



A haven of peace in phase with the tides, Port-au-Persil is a member of the "Association des plus beaux villages du Québec" (Association of Quebec's Most Beautiful Villages). 555, chemin de Port-au-Persil Saint-Siméon Municipality of Saint-Siméon 418 620-5010

saintsimeon.ca Latitude: 47.807676

Longitude: -69.899472 **Schedule**

Year round

Admission

Admission

PARC MUNICIPAL DE LA BAIE-DES-ROCHERS



Hike one of the marked trails and take time out to enjoy the delightful surroundings and breath-taking views of the St. Lawrence Estuary.

Baie-des-Rochers Municipality of Saint-Siméon 418 620-5010 saintsimeon.ca

Latitude: 47.953704 Longitude: -69.812831

Schedule Spring to fal

Admission







BAS-SAINT-LAURENT

PARC NATUREL ET HISTORIQUE DE L'ÎLE AUX BASQUES



A heritage treasure trove, I'île aux Basques is a national historic site, migratory bird refuge and nature reserve. Visit its historic monuments, Basques ovens and interpretation centre. Enjoy a stay in a rustic cottage.

Boarding:Trois-Pistoles Marina

418 851-1202 provancher.org

Latitude: 48.133079 Longitude: -69.184890

Schedule

June 5 to September 5 Variable, depending on tides

Admission

Adults: \$30 Youth (7-14): \$17 Children (6 and under): \$7 Taxes included

BAIE DE L'ISLE-VERTE NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA



Follow the trails on the Estuary's south shore and observe the largest grassy salt marsh along the St. Lawrence. La Maison Girard Interpretation Centre 371, route 132 Est l'Isle-Verte

418 898-2757 418 867-8882, ext. 201 (Low season) ec.gc.ca/ap-pa parcbasstlaurent.com/ kiskotuk

Latitude: 48.023512 Longitude: -69.327132

Schedule

Mid-June to mid-September

Admission

Free

ÎLE-VERTE LIGHTHOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA



Guided visit of the lighthouse and museum. Observe whales and seals from the shore. On July 13, participate in activities related to the Journée québécoises des phares (Quebec Lighthouse Day). Accommodation available at the Les maisons du Phare Inn.

1809-2009

Les Maisons du Phare de l'île Verte 2802, chemin du Phare

2802, chemin du Phare Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs

418 898-2730 phareileverte.com

Latitude: 48.051006 Longitude: -69.423616

Schedule

June 10 to September 17 Off season: group reservations only.

Ferry crossing regulated by the tide traverseileverte.quebec/

Fees

Applicable for lodging



ST. LAWRENCE EXPLORATION CENTRE



Discover St. Lawrence marine resources in their natural surroundings. Touch, observe and allow yourself to be guided to the core of an amazing array of flora and fauna.

80, rue Mackay, Rivière-du-Loup

418-867-8796 418-867-8882, ext. 206 romm.ca

Latitude: 47.860305 Longitude: -69.552173

Schedule

June 10 to September 2

Admission

Adults: \$7.50 Children (6-17): \$4 Family and group rates available

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



Ecotourism
experience, with
a visit to bird
sanctuaries, romantic
nights on an island,
guided cruises,
hiking in a natural
environment and
exploration of
historical sites.

200 rue Hayward Rivière-du-Loup

1 877 867-1660 duvetnor.com

Latitude: 47.84729 Longitude: -69.567567

Schedule:

Early June to the end of September

Admission:

Depending on the tour and duration of the stay







DON'T MISS...!

ALL SUMMER

EMBARK UPON A MODERN-DAY TREASURE HUNT: GEOCACHING!

Equipped with a GPS, set off in search of Parks Canada's geocaches. Do a search for "The White Whale," "La Fidèle," "Magtogoek" or "A Fragile Ecosystem" on geocaching.com.

DO YOUR CHILDREN LOVE TO EXPLORE?



Ask for the Xplorer program booklet when you enter one of the Parks Canada sites.

ON THREE FULL-MOON EVENINGS...WE JAZZ IT UP UNDER THE MOON!

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 30, JULY 28 AND AUGUST 25, 2018, at around

8 p.m. (about one hour before moonrise).

Experience magical outdoor evenings on the river's edge. Whales gradually give way to Lady Moon and her silvery ribbon as a backdrop to a concert with jazz overtones. A unique experience in Quebec!

Marine Environment Discovery Centre,

41, rue des Pilotes, Les Escoumins (Activity to be held indoors in the event of inclement weather).

For reservations, call 418-232-6653.

EXPLOS-NATURE: ÉDUCATION-RECHERCHE

Children discover the natural sciences through their five senses! Nature classes for educational institutions, family camps and science daycamps. This non-profit organization is dedicated to education and research of the natural world.

JULY

QUEBEC LIGHTHOUSE DAY

JULY 13, 2018



Participate in special activities and discover the Marine Park's lighthouses. Along with other navigational aids, they contribute to improving safety on the St. Lawrence.

Check out scheduling at: routedesphares. qc.ca/journee/

AUGUST

AUGUST IS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!

The Centre Archéo Topo proposes a tour through the Les Bergeronnes digs accompanied by an archaeologist guide. The archaeological dig simulation workshop is a unique experience for children to discover arrowheads, pipes, pottery shards, and other artefacts.

Centre Archéo Topo: 418-232-6286

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

FESTIVAL MARIN DES ESCOUMINS

(LES ESCOUMINS MARINE FESTIVAL)

SEPTEMBER I AND 2 (LABOUR DAY WEEKEND)



Gaze in wonder at the St. Lawrence's underwater seascapes. Attend film screenings and follow divers as they perform a night dive. You'll be amazed by the marine life on display! Photo contest and underwater treasure hunt.

Marine Environment Discovery Centre, 41, rue des Pilotes, Les Escoumins.

Details available on our Facebook page!

LET YOURSELF BE CHARMED BY BOREAL OWLS



Learn about research carried out at the Observatoire d'oiseaux de Tadoussac (Tadoussac Bird Observatory) and see a master bird bander work with these tiny night owls. As an observer, you can even participate in making the rounds of the nets! (Activity offered in French).

Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay sepaq.com/pq/sag

Reservation required: 418 236-1162

FESTIVAL DES OISEAUX MIGRATEURS DE LA CÔTE-NORD (NORTH SHORE MIGRATORY BIRD FESTIVAL) SEPTEMBER 13 TO 16



Experienced birdwatchers and nature lovers are invited to participate in the following activities: bird-watching excursions (pelagic birds and shorebirds), bird banding, and conferences open to the general public.

festivalmigrateurs.com



302, rue de la Rivière, Les Bergeronnes 418 232-6249 | explosnature.ca

LET'S CELEBRATE THE MARINE PARK'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY!



COME AND MEET US! ALL SUMMER, MEMBERS OF THE PARKS CANADA AND SÉPAQ TEAM WILL PARTICIPATE IN FESTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY COASTAL COMMUNITIES.

MAD ABOUT SCIENCE FESTIVAL

May 25 to 27, 2018, Saguenay (La Baie)

Both science and the Marine Park are in the spotlight at the Musée du fjord over the course of this weekend. Captivating activities and surprising discoveries await you through a variety of stands, conferences and animations.

LE NATURALISTE CANADIEN TO PRESENT A SPECIAL EDITION DEVOTED TO THE MARINE PARK!

The Société Provancher d'histoire naturelle du Canada will publish an issue of its scientific journal dedicated entirely to research conducted in the Marine Park. Consult the summary and article abstracts for free on the site www.erudit.org/fr/revues/natcan starting on June 15. (French only)

FREE ADMISSION ON JUNE 16!

Parks Canada and the Sépaq invite you to celebrate Marine Park's 20th anniversary. Surprises in store! Consult names and addresses of participating sites on page 12.

Check out the complete schedule on our Facebook page and by visiting parcmarin.qc.ca.

SAGUENAY-ST. LAWRENCE MARINE PARK BIOBLITZ

September 15, 2018

Would you like to contribute to Marine Park knowledge? Participate in this citizen science activity! Who knows you could make some amazing discoveries concerning the Marine Park's biodiversity! Share your observations using the iNaturalist application.

· At the Marine Environment Discovery Centre

Close-up on the St. Lawrence's tiniest residents! An amusing activity for the whole family! Observe, identify and catalogue the organisms that inhabit the park.

At Baie-Sainte-Marguerite and Baie-Éternité

Open your eyes and ears! Would you be able to detect the park's rarest bird? Help our naturalists enrich the Fjord's family album of avian fauna.



TIME TO CELEBRATE!

September 15, 2018

You are cordially invited to celebrate the Marine Park's 20th anniversary. Details available on our Facebook page and on marinepark.qc.ca.

SAGUENAY-ST. LAWRENCE MARINE PARK SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

October 17 to 19, 2018, Hôtel Tadoussac, Tadoussac

Thirty years after the *International Forum for the Future of the Beluga*, what are the perspectives for the animal that led to the creation of the Marine Park? Thematic conferences and encounters with experts on the challenges of protecting marine environments.



THE ST. LAWRENCE BELUGA WHALE IS ENDANGERED: PARKS CANADA AND SÉPAQ CONTRIBUTE TO PROTECTION EFFORTS

Beluga whales were historically abundant in the waters of the St. Lawrence. There were between 7800 and 10 000 individuals at the end of the 19th century. Unfortunately, intensive commercial whaling in the early 20th century very nearly wiped them out. The St. Lawrence beluga whale population has not recovered, despite a whaling ban that has been in place since 1979. The population is presently thought to be in decline. There are only an estimated 889 belugas remaining in the St. Lawrence.

The need to protect beluga whales and a large part of their summer habitat prompted the creation of the Saguenay–St. Lawrence Marine Park in 1998. It also led to the implementation of a number of protection, research and awareness activities. Numerous organizations, institutions and governments contribute to these efforts.

Parks Canada and Sépaq are also doing their part to protect and heighten awareness of this magnificent animal. On your visit to the marine park area, you may witness some of their initiatives.

INCREASED AWARENESS:

- Tour boat captains and the sea kayaking guides participate in annual training courses. If you embark with them, you will benefit from their knowledge;
- By visiting Discovery Network sites you will explore various facets of the Marine Park while gaining access to information about beluga whales;
- You may encounter one of the teams dedicated to research, awareness or monitoring who ply the waters of the Marine Park aboard a Parks Canada or a Sépaq boat;

ACTIVITIES MANAGEMENT:

- The Marine Activities in the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park Regulations were developed in collaboration with marine excursion companies. Parks Canada park wardens oversee the application of these Regulations;
- Changes made to regulations in 2017 have resulted in improved protection for beluga whales: as well as a 400-metre buffer zone to be respected, cruising speeds must be adjusted in the presence of these animals and reduced at the mouth of the Saguenay, an area often visited by female beluga whales and their offspring.

RESEARCH:

 In addition to contributing to a number of studies, our teams study the distribution and abundance of beluga whale prey and vessel movements of within its habitat.

PARTNERSHIP:

- We are working with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to educate recreational boaters and kayakers to take care of beluga whales by keeping their distance.
- Marine excursion companies, Parks Canada, Sépaq and the Group for Research and Education on Marine Mammals (GREMM), came together to form the Eco-Whale Alliance in order to improve visitor experience and whale-watching practices within the Marine Park;



- We work in consultation with maritime transport specialists in order to reduce the risk of collisions with whales and to limit disturbances;
- The beluga whale carcass recovery and examination program furthers understanding of the state of health of these animals and identifies causes of death;

Our efforts supplement those of a large number of stakeholders. Protecting the St. Lawrence beluga whale is everyone's business.



TOGETHER, LET'S PROTECT BELUGA WHALES IN SAINTE-MARGUERITE BAY!

Sainte-Marguerite Bay is known as one of the best places to observe St. Lawrence beluga whales from shore. This site offers nature lovers unique opportunities to admire the natural behaviours of these magnificent animals.

Herds of females accompanied by their offspring regularly visit the Bay, situated in the Saguenay Fjord, in July and August. With a bit of luck, attentive observers can observe feeding, resting, socializing, and even



Every year, the Parks Canada team studies beluga whales in Sainte-Marguerite Bay in collaboration with the Sépag. Knowledge gained over the years has led to the identification of a specific area in the Bay that requires greater protection. Charts indicate the zone most often used by beluga whales and the measures that have been implemented to protect it.

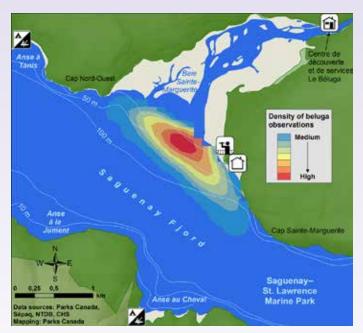
THE FUTURE OF BELUGA WHALES DEPENDS ON ALL OF US: LET'S AVOID NAVIGATING IN SAINTE-MARGUERITE BAY

While their habitat extends beyond the limits of the Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park, beluga whales spend a lot of time in specific areas of the park, like Sainte-Marguerite Bay. Areas for calving and the rearing of young animals are important for the population's future and require special protection in summer. This is why sailors must navigate outside of the zone indicated in red, whether they travel by motor or sail. Paddlers and fishermen must follow a precise route to enter the bay (see map).

The Fjord-du-Saguenay provincial park lookout point offers an exceptional view overlooking this habitat. A great place to watch them from shore!

Researchers have clocked over 1600 hours of observations since 2003. This study has led them to conclude that beluga whales are present most days (66%) during the months of July and August. Also, nearly all of the herds are made up of adults and young (91%) and nearly half of these herds also include newborn calves (49%).

Beyond the necessity of remaining in proximity of its mother in order to nurse for the first two years of its life, a calf must also spend time with its peers to learn how to communicate, understand its habitat and recognize and hunt its prey. It also requires rest in an area that offers safety and tranquility.





For more information concerning current regulations, consult our website: marinepark.qc.ca.

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NEED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARINE PARK?

Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park

info.marinepark@pc.gc.ca | marinepark.qc.ca

Follow us on facebook.com/SaguenayStLawrenceMP

Share your #marineparkmoment #SSLMarinePark

PARKS CANADA

182, rue de l'Église Tadoussac (Quebec) GOT 2A0

418 235-4703 1 888 773-8888

information@pc.gc.ca parkscanada.gc.ca

SÉPAQ

91, rue Notre-Dame Rivière-Éternité (Quebec) GOV 1P0

418 272-2767 1 800 665-6527

parc.marin@sepaq.com sepaq.com

TO HELP YOU PLAN YOUR STAY...

Tourisme Bas-Saint-Laurent

418 867-1272 • 1 800 563-5268

bassaintlaurent.ca

Association touristique de Charlevoix

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

Association touristique du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean

418 543 9778 • 1 877-BLEUETS (253-8387)

saguenaylacsaintjean.ca

Tourisme Côte-Nord

418 294-2876 • 1 888 463-5319

tourismecote-nord.com

FERRY SCHEDULES AND INFORMATION

Escoumins / Trois-Pistoles

418 851-4676 traversiercnb.ca

Rivière-du-Loup / Saint-Siméon

Rivière-du-Loup: 418 862-5094 Saint-Siméon: 418 638-2856 traverserdl.com

Baie-Sainte-Catherine / Tadoussac

418 235-4395 traversiers.gouv.qc.ca

VISIT ONE OF THESE INFORMATION OFFICES:

La Malbaie (Saint-Fidèle sector)

VISITOR CENTRE

2820, boul. Malcom-Fraser

418 434-2299

Rivière-du-Loup TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

189, boulevard de l'Hôtel-de-Ville

418 862-1981

Baie-Sainte-CatherineBAIE-SAINTE-CATHERINE
WHARF

151, route 138

Les Escoumins TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE

154, route 138 418 233-2663

YOUR SAFETY: YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Outdoor activities can involve certain risks. Make sure that you have the skills and abilities required for the activity you choose. It is important that you be aware of the risks inherent in each activity, respect your limits and use appropriate equipment.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

CANADIAN COAST GUARD

Search and Rescue: 1 800 463-4393 VHF Channel 16 (156.8 MHZ) Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Cellular Phone: *16

Marine Pollution: I 800 363-4735

PARKS CANADA

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

RÉSEAU QUÉBÉCOIS D'URGENCES POUR LES MAMMIFÈRES MARINS

(Quebec Marine Mammal Emergency Response Network)

Concerning a marine mammal that is either wounded

or in trouble: 1 877 722-5346 Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

