

SÉPAQ

PARC NATIONAL DES-GRANDS-JARDINS

Protected area. Enriching nature experiences.

Great Northern landscapes, steps away from town. A territory carved by mountains and high plateaux, made of taiga and tundra. An inspiration for explorers, nature lovers and artists alike. To those who dare the adventure, this majestic scenery unfurls everywhere, nature in its raw, untouched beauty.

TEAM PICKS



A

Paddle!

This 9km waterway is perfect: paddle along at your own pace, between contemplation and wonder. Escape to Lac Arthabaska's quiet meanders, by kayak or paddleboard, to discover the flora and fauna forming its rich aquatic ecosystem.



B

Winter in Les Grands-Jardins

Put on your boots, skis or snowshoes and get ready to experience a true winter wonderland, here in our backcountry territory. See the Canadian Shield draped in pristine white snow appear before your eyes! Travel along 22km or so of trail in the Laurentian plateau sector, with an easy incursion into a burn area – unique, the scenery invites you to connect with the elements.



C

Back to the Source – Adventure fishing

Combine hiking, fishing and wilderness camping at the park's outer limits, on an unforgettable backcountry getaway. This adventure fishing package is an invitation to pare down to what matters – and it's all about teasing trout in utter freedom, deep in the boreal forest!



D

Both Feet in La Pinède

The beauty of La Pinède trail is beyond compare. Travel through a forest of jack pine, carpeted in lichen, along a shoreline path skirting ancient lakes once shaped by glaciers. A relatively flat trail sure to please all hikers, especially fans of Nordicity and atypical landscapes.



E

Damsels and Dragons

A unique family activity pairing creativity and discovery of the life cycle of aquatic insects. An exciting educational trip into the singular world of fireflies!








F

Via Ferrata

Push back your limits by taking a via ferrata, on an ascent of the majestic Canadian Shield's mountainous rocky face, with the sumptuous decor of an ancient glacier valley as a backdrop. Thrills and awe guaranteed!

DISCOVER OUR TRAILS

		LENGTH AND DURATION*		DIFFICULTY/ HEIGHT DIFFERENCE	OPEN DATES	DEPARTURE POINT
	Le Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés – The viewpoint on Charlevoix Crater (981 m) and on the Laurentian mountains is one of the most impressive! Don't forget to look under your feet, where an arctic-alpine mountain vegetation grows. Be careful! Fragile!	8.6 km round-trip	4 hrs	D 480 m	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	La Chouenne – Trail leading to a 730 m high summit. Magnificent viewpoints on the valley and on the face of mont du Gros-Bras. A dazzling spectacle right from the first kilometer.	4.8 km round-trip	2 hrs	I 250 m	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	Le Pioui (rustique) – After a sustained ascent, the hike on the ridges will dazzle you. Admire the scenery, then spot the small bog and arctic-alpine vegetation that colonizes the summit. Take care of your knees: follow the route in the direction suggested on the map! Psst! Add 1.2 km to your tour and zip up to the summit of Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés!	10.4 km loop	5 hrs	D 480 m	Year round	Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnés Visitors Centre (route 381, km 21)
	Le Gros Pin – Take a stroll under tall trees to the sound of poplar leaves rustling, woodpecker cries and the murmur of the stream.	2.1 km loop	1 h	E 23 m	Year round	Pied-des-Monts sector (route 381, km 19)
	Le Boréal – Offer yourselves a pleasant stroll in one of the park's oldest boreal forest. Discover the park's typical atmosphere and take a short tour into a sector regenerating itself since the 1991 fire.	3.4 km round-trip	1 h 30	E 2 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	La Pinède – In a single trail, get to see a boreal forest, a gray pine forest and many interesting views on Ice Age lakes.	9.5 km loop	2 h 30	E 15 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	Le Pommereau – Follow this trail to get to La Roche campground and observe the lake Soucoupe water plant community that is slowly becoming a peat bog.	11.6 km round-trip	3 hrs	I 25 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**
	La Chute – Discover landscapes typical of the taïga, viewpoints on the Malbaie river, and have lunch at the Hume-Blake falls.	6.6 km round-trip	3 hrs	E 20 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Route 60, km 20
	Les Pionniers – As well as a view of Lac Pointu, your hike takes you out to discover sectors blanketed in moss, and a forest in regeneration after the 1999 wildfire. Perfect for embracing the park's very essence.	6.6 km round-trip	2 hrs	E 73 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Étang-Malbaie campground (route 381, km 34,5)
	De La Tour – The trail offers a short walk to a nice lookout point on the shores of Lake Arthabaska. The shelter installed there evokes the presence of the fire towers that once lined the area.	1.4 km round-trip	40 min.	E 10 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska camping, near campsite 21.
	Le Brûlé (rustique) – A trail to discover! This gentle climb to the top of the hills of the Arthabaska sector will allow you to appreciate the contrasts left by the forest fires in the park.	10.2 km loop	4 hrs 30	I 164 m	Mid-May to mid-October	Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre**



Hiking



Family Experience



Dogs allowed
sepaq.com/animals

E : Easy I : Intermediate D : Difficult

*The duration and the degree of difficulty indicated are indicative and refer to the summer season. Note that some trails may be closed temporarily during the thaw period.

** Directions to Arthabaska Discovery and Service Centre: take the Thomas-Fortin park entrance (km 31, rte 381), and follow the paved road for 8.5 km.

Arthabaska Sector

Le Pommereau

La Pinède

Château-Beaumont (km 9)

Le Boréal

Le Brûlé

De la Tour

Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre

Camping Arthabaska

Camping La Roche

0 250 500 1 000 1 500 m

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Registration centre / Information | | Lookout |
| | Picnic area | | Fishing-camping |
| | Self registration post | | Parking lot |
| | Shop | | Toilet |
| | Evisceration hut | | Pit toilet |
| | Semi-serviced camping | | Via ferrata |
| | Rustic camping | | Recreational vehicle dumping station |
| | Cabin | | Wifi |
| | Waste and recycling | | Road network |
| | Automated external defibrillator | | Nautical route |
| | Convenience store | | Trail |
| | Shower | | Fishing and portage trail |
| | Drinking water | | Dogs allowed location |
| | Not drinking water | | Length of trail sections |
| | Rustic accommodation | | Km reference point |
| | Equipment rental | | National park boundary |
| | Location de moteur | | Wildlife reserve boundary |
| | Wade fishing | | |
| | First aid | | |

WINTER TRAIL MAP AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Download the Avenza Maps at the Mont-du-Lac-des-Cyignes service center or before arriving at the park. Available on App Store and Google Play.

Le Pommereau

La Pinède

Le Boréal

Le Brûlé

De la Tour

Château-Beaumont (km 9)

Arthabaska Discovery and Visitors Centre

Camping La Roche

See enlargement Arthabaska Sector

Le Pommereau

La Pinède

Le Boréal

Le Brûlé

De la Tour

Camping Arthabaska

Mont-du-Lac-des-Cyignes Visitors Centre (Km 21)

Mont-du-Lac-des-Cyignes Sector

Le Piouli

Le Mont-du-Lac-des-Cyignes

La Chouenne

Le Gros-Pin

Camping Le Pied-des-Monts

0 250 500 1 000 m

0 2 4 6 km

L'information fournie sur cette carte peut changer sans préavis. En cas de disparité, l'information sur le terrain doit prévaloir en tout temps.

Cette carte intègre de l'information géographique de source gouvernementale. Pour des besoins de représentation, certaines données ont subi des transformations et des adaptations qui ont pu modifier la donnée originale. Données originales utilisées : Années 2024 Banque de données Sépaq

Cartes topographiques à l'échelle de 1/20 000 1996-2001

Source des données utilisées : Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts © Gouvernement du Québec

RENDEZVOUS WITH DISCOVERY



The Mega World of Tiny Mushrooms!

They are everywhere, in all shapes and sizes – and to suit every taste: mushrooms! Go mushroom hunting with a seasoned expert guide who explains all about mushroom ecology, and the differences between species. Learn to identify the park's own mushrooms and yes, you'll never look at mushrooms the same way, ever again!

Family Experience Yippee, it's absolutely free!

For kids 17 years of age and under, access, accommodations, and certain equipment loans are free of charge.

The offer varies from one establishment to another.



Dusk in a Kayak or Rabaska Canoe!

A lake awash in end-of-day light, nature in sync with looming nightfall. Live privileged moments in stillness and contemplation, in a kayak or rabaska canoe. With a park naturalist guide, fully experience this exquisite time of day.

Out Teasing Trout

Both feet in the water or a rowboat, les Grands-Jardins' legendary trout are calling! Trout have long been the obsession of all types of anglers, across the territory's rivers and dozens of lakes. Whether fly fishing or light casting, drop a line in the water and get away from it all!



EQUIPMENT RENTAL



Do you want to explore
the park in a different way?

Consult the list and prices
of equipment available for rent.

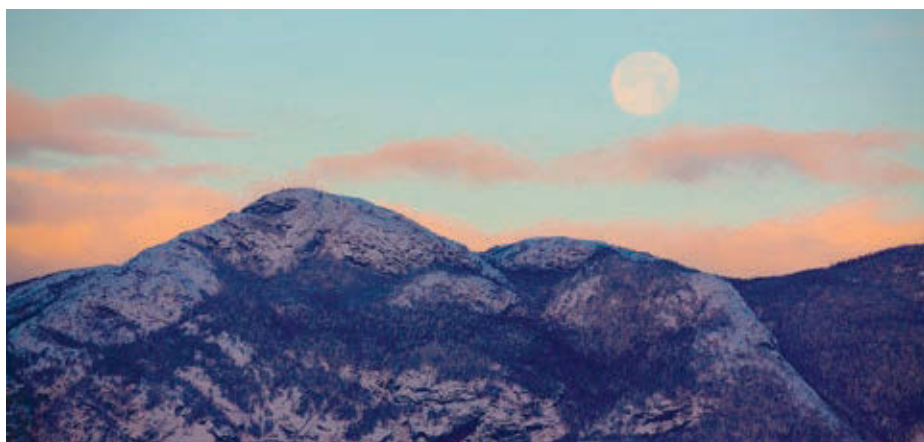


The Whiteness of Winter!

On its high plateaux, burn areas and snow-capped peaks, winter in Les Grands-Jardins comes in countless shapes and forms. On snowshoes or skis, come explore a territory where snow tells of those who have tread before us. Explore the Mont-du-Lac-des-Cygnes sector where the winter air sharpens the senses. Travel along the plateaux where nature cloaks itself in untamed splendour.

Open Books

Our rangers love chatting, early evening. Meet up with them at the Pied-des-Monts campground's screened porch, or at your campsite. They love sharing their knowledge on an array of topics – from the fauna to the stars, and from the infinitely tiny to the immeasurably big. Consult the activity schedule for details about these chats, or for a talk around your campfire.



Explore the Taiga

A faraway trip to the outer limits of the taiga, where lichens form an endless carpet. A park naturalist guide takes you on a tour of a Great Northern forest, sharing the mysteries of its origins, here in the park. Privileged moments and one of the park's best-kept secrets, and a unique opportunity to grasp the true Nordic essence of Les Grands-Jardins!

Poetry Tour

Rediscover Sentier de la Tour trail, with its new and upbeat interpretation points enhanced with poetic writings and visual arts. A student project pairing Baie-Saint-Paul high school students with the region's professional artists.



IN THE WILD, YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Outdoor activities can involve certain risks.

Always be sure to have the skills and abilities required for the activity you choose. It is very important to find out about the risks involved in the activity, to know and respect your own limits and to use appropriate equipment. Preparing yourself adequately is the first step in the safe and enjoyable practice of your favourite activities.

For more information, visit our website at sepaq.com/security

DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

Consult the program to enrich your visit. (in French only)

You will find entertaining activities to explore the park from every angle.



CONSERVATION FOR TOMORROW



Knowing How to Identify is Key!

Some of our lakes are home to Arctic char populations. This species, which can no longer be fished in Grands-Jardins National Park, is listed as vulnerable due to its low numbers.

Knowing how to tell the difference between Arctic char and brook trout is very important. The wavy markings on the dorsal fin of brook trout are a distinguishing feature, whereas the Arctic char's dorsal fin is clear. Our park wardens are happy to share their tips and tricks with you, either to help you identify your catch or to show you the best release techniques.

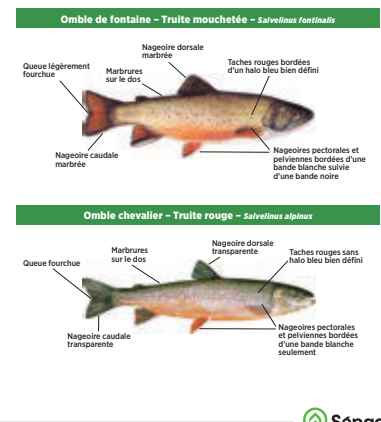
Anglers to the Rescue!

Loons visiting Grands-Jardins' lakes and surrounding territories have a very bad habit. Clever strategists, they are now stealing anglers' catches! Such behaviour goes against their nature and could ultimately affect their survival.

Anglers, we need you! Always store your fish in your cooler; never tow your catch behind your boat.

New this year: use the whistle you've been given to scare off loons that come too close. Report your observations and suggestions to us. Together, let's work on this very real conservation issue.

Sachez distinguer l'omble de fontaine et l'omble chevalier



5 good practices to adopt in nature

Our national parks

Given the millions of visits to our national parks annually, harmful behaviors can cause permanent damage to the environment and negatively impact the experience of other visitors. Let's do our part to care for these extraordinary nature sites so we can all enjoy them for years to come.



Stay on trails and in designated visitor areas

Taking shortcuts can destroy vegetation.



Do not gather dead wood*

To preserve the natural environment, it is prohibited to remove natural elements, including animals, plants, dead wood, and rocks.



Do not feed wildlife*

Feeding wildlife negatively impacts their natural feeding habits. Keep all food out of reach of animals.



Keep your distance when observing wildlife

When animals are repeatedly disturbed, their natural behaviors can change, and they can develop problems to feed, find a mate, and communicate among themselves.



Respect the peace and tranquility, and comply with curfews

People come to national parks to relax and enjoy nature. Please respect curfews and avoid playing music at all times.

*Failure to comply with rules governing parks and authorized activities is considered a violation of the *Parks Act* and *Parks Regulation*.