

2022  
Vacation  
Guide

# GASPÉ PENINSULA

# ENJOY THE OUTDOORS!

Your adventure awaits



**FREE**

*The Gaspé* **Spec**

ESTABLISHED • MAY 1975



## Welcome! Bienvenue!

The breathtakingly beautiful Gaspé Peninsula awaits you. There is so much to explore and experience! You can choose from so many vacation experiences. Make it your own! Explore the past! Explore the culture! Find your wild side! Enjoy family fun, rain or shine!

This unspoiled area of over 30,000 square kms consists of five geographic areas: the Coast, Land's End, the Chaleur Bay, the Valley, and the Upper Gaspé.

Plan to stay for a while to enjoy the natural beauty that abounds – mountains, forests and water. Choose how you will spend your time here, but many visitors change their itinerary once they arrive here and stay longer than they anticipated. There are camping grounds, motels and hotels, and Bed & Breakfast establishments, offered at reasonable rates, that will make you feel comfortable and well rested. The Gaspé offers the perfect destination for solo travellers as well.

You can relax on the beach, swim in the salt or fresh water, or laze all day while enjoying a good book.

Those who prefer a more active experience may choose to fish, go boating or rent a canoe or kayak. Bring your bike and enjoy cycling around the Peninsula. Hiking opportunities exist at different levels of difficulty and in a wide variety of locations.

There are many museums and Interpretation Centres for those who enjoy history and culture.

Highway 132 circles the Peninsula and offers you an almost constant view of the Bay of Chaleur and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. But don't deny yourself the enjoyment of discovering more of the Gaspé, which is a little bit more "off the beaten path." Take your time because the Gaspé is best enjoyed at a leisurely pace.

Some of the residents of the coastal towns and villages along the southern coast are English-speaking and many residents are bilingual. The three main languages spoken are French, English and Mi'gmaq. Many of the English-speakers are the descendants of Scottish, Irish and English immigrants. Acadians also settled here, many around the town of Bonaventure where you may see the distinctive Acadian flag. The residents of the Gaspé Peninsula are a blend of multitude of influences and cultures and its rich and varied history is evident. Names of towns, churches, style of homes and even names of streets are a clear indication that the Gaspé is a blend of cultures.

The Gaspé has something for every visitor, young or old. There are opportunities to enjoy the water, whether the salt water of Chaleur Bay and the Gulf of St. Lawrence or the pristine lakes and rivers that abound here. If you are looking for a vacation for total relaxation or a more active holiday, that is up to you! Opportunities to take memorable photos abound. Snap a selfie in every location you visit. What memories you will create!



# EXPLORE *The Past*

The Gaspé Peninsula boasts a unique and rich history and is a blend of many cultures. The predominant ones you will encounter are French, English and Mi'kmaq, but every culture has a deeper story to tell. How can you explore the past? By visiting some of our uniquely fascinating museums and interpretation centres. Visit sites such as fossil rich Miguasha and the agate mines of Mont Lyall, the Gaspésie National Park and so much more!

## *Museums*

Museums on the Gaspé Peninsula are rich in artifacts and information, generally available in French and English. While visiting local museums you will learn about explorers, politicians and businessmen who played vital roles in developing the Gaspé, including Jacques Cartier, Charles Robin, John LeBoutillier, Pierre Nadon, John Henry Kempffer, René Lévesque. The museums are all "home-grown," so their exhibits are presented in a way that best demonstrates the history they reflect.

## *Historical sites*

Visit Miguasha National Park, Nouvelle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that tells the story of the origin of vertebrates from over 380 million years ago! The fossils found here are from the time when life was evolving from water to land. Exhibits and panels explain the "Evolution of Life." The Battle of Restigouche National Historic Site, Pointe-à-la-Croix, commemorates the last naval battle between England and France, 1760. The British destroyed a French fleet at the mouth of the Restigouche River. There is an exhibit including the remains of a French frigate.

## *Indigenous heritage*

The first people to live in this area were Indigenous people. There are three Indigenous communities on the Gaspé: Listuguj, Gesgapegiag and Gespeg. Stop by these communities and learn about the rich, Indigenous culture. Locally made art and crafts, such as baskets made using traditional methods are available to purchase. If you visit during a Pow Wow, enjoy a beautiful spectacle of traditional costumes and dancing.



### THE MOUNT LYALL AGATE MINE

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418-731-0656





## A rich history

Museums and heritage sites are important because they help to preserve local history. Historical documents and artifacts are a concrete way of recording history. Sharing the history of the Gaspé is accomplished effectively by using these venues. Written history provides one way of knowing about your past, but museums and historical sites bring that history alive.

The history of the Gaspé Peninsula did not begin with the arrival of the Europeans. Indigenous people were already here, and though very impactful, the arrival of the cod fishing monopoly is not the only history there is to tell. An area so rich in history: The tragic history of deported Acadians, the influx of immigrants from Scotland, Ireland and England, the blend of English and French cultures, the settling of Portuguese cod fish workers in Paspébiac and the rich history and impact of Robin, Jones and Whitman, and the Channel Islanders who came here in the 18th and 19th century.


As you travel around the Peninsula, there are so many historical venues to choose from: Military Museum, New Richmond; Kempffer Cultural and Interpretation Centre, New Carlisle; Vielle Usine, l'Anse-à-beaufils; Berceau du Canada, (Birthplace of Canada), Gaspé; Centre Culturel Griffon, l'Anse-au-Griffon; Musée Acadien, Bonaventure, Paspébiac Historic Site, Paspébiac, Manoir Le Boutillier, l'Anse-au-Griffon, Pabos Interpretation Centre, Pabos.

## THE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE OF THE GASPÉ PENINSULA

Theater  
Art gallery  
Artisan shop  
Restaurant  
Bar with singer

WWW.LAVIEILLEUSINE.COM  
418-782-2277  
55, RUE À BONFILS  
ANSE-À-BEAUFILS  
(PERCÉ) QC G0C 1G0

**LA VIEILLE  
USINE**  
DE L'ANSE-À-BEAUFILS





**Bay Chaleur  
Military Museum**  
*Explore local Gaspesian history!*

*Keep the memory alive!*

June 27<sup>th</sup> to August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Monday to Friday  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Price: Donation at the door

*Admission includes access to our reading room with our growing library and to our expanding veteran data base.*



351 A, boul. Perron Ouest  
New Richmond  
Québec, G0C 2B0  
chaleurmilitarymuseum.com

**Kempffer**  
Cultural & Interpretation Centre



Located along a beautiful tree-lined village by Chaleur Bay, the Kempffer Cultural and Interpretation Centre reveals New Carlisle's history through its permanent exhibition, "New Carlisle: A Vibrant History." The story unfolds with the arrival of the Loyalists in 1784 and follows through until WWII and the capture of a German Spy in 1942.

**YOUR CULTURAL CENTRE**

- Tourism Info Kiosque (Boutique)
- Genealogical Centre (Library)
- Permanent Historical Exhibition
- Temporary exhibitions
- Internet access

Open July 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 28<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday to Thursday  
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Afternoon tea fundraiser, every Wednesday. Reservation required  
Adult 12\$, \$10 Children (under 12)

**Kempffer Cultural & Interpretation Centre**  
125 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd  
New Carlisle, Quebec

418-752-1334  
heritagenc@globetrotter.net  
centre culturel et d'interprétation Kempffer - page officielle





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GASPESIAN CUISINE  
EXHIBITION HALL



SUMMER HOURS  
JUN/OCT

8AM-9PM

557, boulevard du Griffon  
L'Anse-au-Griffon, G4X 6A5  
info@culturegriffon.ca  
facebook.com/culturegriffon  
418-892-5679



# EXPLORE *The Culture*



The Gaspé is a treasure trove of culture! We can boast about our art galleries featuring local artists, unique craft shops offering items made right here and music and music festivals, featuring a wide variety of music genres, including traditional fiddle music, country music, and contemporary genres. Festival Musique du Bout du Monde, Gaspé from August 11 to 14 features music, crafts, food and street entertainers.

If you are searching for a souvenir of your vacation on the Gaspé, you are in luck because authentic made on the peninsula items are available in many locations. Browse shops for jewellery, pottery, paintings, textiles, handmade soaps, and home décor items, often at very reasonable prices. You will be enchanted by the unique, one-of-a-kind items. Check out the Circuit des arts de la Gaspésie: Pick up a free brochure available at tourist information sites and at many cafés and restaurants. Over 40 Gaspesian artists will invite

you into their home studios for a memorable and special browsing and shopping opportunity.

For the aficionado of spirits, we offer award winning beers and unique gin – all made right here! In some locales, such as Marigot Gin in Caplan you can see part of the process of making gin onsite! Beer made locally at Pit Caribou Microbrewery, Cap-d'Espoir and Naufrageur Microbrasserie, Carleton, can be enjoyed here and take some home with you for an enjoyable reminder of your holiday here!

The beautiful environment of the Gaspé also offers visitors a chance to visit Reford Gardens in Métis which is one of the country's most memorable gardens. Now a historic site, the gardens span over two hundred acres and 3,000 species of native and exotic plants.



Committee for  
**ANGLOPHONE**  
SOCIAL  
ACTION

The Committee for Anglophone Social Action, established in 1975, is a non-profit community organization dedicated to serving the English-speaking population of the Gaspé Coast by representing the community's interests and designing and delivering programs that respond to its needs.

The entire CASA team would like to wish you a memorable vacation. If you are in town, drop by our friendly office for a warm welcome to our beautiful area!

168 Gérard D. Levesque  
New Carlisle

T: 418-752-5995 | F: 418-752-6864

[www.casa-gaspe.com](http://www.casa-gaspe.com) | 





## PHANTOM SHIP

Part of the folklore of the peninsula is about the Phantom Ship of the Bay of Chaleur. There are several versions of the tale. One version implies that the haunted ship sails the waters of the bay because the crew was murdered. Other tales recount the kidnapping of a young bride.

There have been reports of sightings for over two hundred years and those who have witnessed the phenomenon say that they have seen "balls of fire" in the Bay. Others claim to have seen a three-masted ship engulfed in flames. One of the people claiming to have seen the Phantom ship is a local mayor! When you are visiting, especially on a dark and stormy night check the waters of the Bay.

## New Carlisle

Situated midpoint on the south side of the Gaspé Peninsula, this tree-lined community was founded by the United Empire Loyalists in 1784. New Carlisle today boasts a harmonious mix of both French and English cultures. An important administrative center in the 19th century, New Carlisle is also well-known as the hometown of René Lévesque, an influential politician in Quebec and Premier of the province from 1976 to 1985.

The mayor, councillors, and employees of the municipality, together with the residents, extend a warm welcome and sincerely hope your stay with us will be one of the highlights of your summer!



**Mayor:** David Thibault  
**Councillors:** Clyde Flowers, Brent Hocquard,  
Cathy Lise Belisle, Cindy Carney,  
Stephen Leberre, Robert Benwell

### NATURAL BEAUTY

Sandy beach-lined coast, two picturesque lakes at the end of Christie's Lane. Hiking to unique rock formation at Christie's Rock. Fascinating bird watching at Jean Paul Dubé Bird Sanctuary.

### SPORTS & LEISURE

Parks, playgrounds, tennis court, arena and ball field, basketball and walking trails.

### MUNICIPAL BEACH

Enjoy a stroll on the beautiful new boardwalk and discover our sculpture.

### HERITAGE TOUR

Leaving the Kempffer House and featuring the Thompson House, Hamilton Manor, Rene-Lévesque House, René-Lévesque Statue and numerous others.

For more information, please  
contact the Town Hall at 418-752-3141  
[www.new-carlisle.ca](http://www.new-carlisle.ca)



# Linguistic Culture

Much of the peninsula around 85%, are francophones, people who speak French. As you explore the Gaspé, you'll discover that several towns have thriving anglophone populations, such as: New Carlisle, Cascapedia-St-Jules, Hope Town, Shigawake, Port Daniel (Gascons), Barachois (Percé) and Douglastown (Gaspé).

English was once far more common as a first language than it is today. Settlers from England, Ireland, Scotland, the United States and the Channel Islands arrived here in the 19th century. French speaking settlers came from France in the 19th century and the Acadians who were expelled from Acadia (Nova Scotia), settled here in the mid-18th century.

It is helpful to know a few common phrases and words in French (see page 11), but you may find that many of the residents of the Peninsula are bilingual and more than happy to converse with you in English.

# Gaspesian Way

Check out Gaspesian Way on Facebook. They bring you "the culture and heritage of the English-speaking community of Quebec's Gaspé Coast. We are the people and the place. We are the Gaspesian Way. Come, discover our coast." It is an excellent source of information about happenings, including festivals, concerts, local food, arts and crafts and sometimes you can enjoy virtual concerts and story telling. In addition, they offer for sale at local markets and shops, their high quality Gaspesian Way merchandise, such as t-shirts, hoodies and mugs.



The Gaspesian Way helps to promote the English diversity of the Gaspé Coast by educating tourists and locals from all over Canada about this great destination for everyone to enjoy. We focus on having the most up to date information for English tourists to experience a wide range of different cultural activities while they visit this beautiful destination

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram  
@thegaspesianway

or

www.thegaspesianway.com  
for more information

Lifestyle

Tradition

History

Adventure



# Seafood - and a way of life

The Gaspé is surrounded by water and its history was greatly shaped by cod fishing and the Robin, Jones and Whitman Co. For years cod was a big part of the diets of the Indigenous people of the Gaspé. In the 17th century, Europeans sailed here and fished cod extensively. As a result, the cod stocks of the Bay of Chaleur were severely depleted and cod fishing is no longer a big industry. Visit the Paspébiac National Historic Site and you can see displays and enactments of the history of cod fishing over 250 years. On the site you can visit 11 period structures as well as the oldest and largest wooden structure in North America.

Fishing remains a large commercial activity in the region and sports fishing is immensely popular as well. During lobster and crab fishing season you can spot fishing boats on the waters of the Bay and Gulf. Many towns have a seafood store. When visiting, try Gaspesian lobster, crab and shrimp.

What is more delicious on a warm summer evening than a fresh lobster served with chilled white wine, a baguette, garlic butter and a side of crispy green salad?

Many people are reluctant to eat a whole lobster because it is an intimidating prospect to crack it open. Fear not. Some essential tools, patience and a sense of humour along with a relaxed Gaspesian attitude will make for an enjoyable and memorable dining experience.



## How to eat lobster

**You need:** a whole cooked lobster for each adult, seafood scissors, crackers and metal seafood picks (available at many stores on the Gaspé), plastic bags to dispose of shells, loads of serviettes and wet wipes.

**Method:** Twist off the claws, then twist and pull the tail and remove it from the body. Pull off the legs and bits and suck the meat out of the legs. Separate the claws where they are jointed and use the scissors and cracker to get the meat. The seafood picks come in handy at every stage of eating your lobster. The tail is often the best part of the lobster and with luck and some skill you might get all the tail meat out in one big piece. The lobster body contains a lot of meat. Pull off the top shell and you might see tomalley (green stuff which is basically the liver). It is edible if you wish to eat it. In the body shell there are thin papery bits that separate the meat, and you can pick the meat out of there to eat. Dispose of all shells and other uneaten bits, tie the bag tightly!

*There! You have enjoyed a true Gaspesian experience!*



THE BONAVENTURE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PRESENTS ITS  
**113<sup>TH</sup> SHIGAWAKE FAIR AND**  
**14<sup>TH</sup> SHIGAWAKE MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
**AUGUST 11-14, 2022**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: [WWW.SHIGAWAKEFAIR.CA](http://WWW.SHIGAWAKEFAIR.CA)



## Municipality of Shigawake

Shigawake is a farming and fishing community, settled in the 1800s by mostly Irish and Scottish people. To this day the majority of its residents are English-speaking, living in harmony with their francophone neighbours cultivating the land and harvesting the sea.

This lovely little pastoral village gets its name from the Micmac Chigouac, meaning "land of the rising sun". Indeed, the sun rises right out of Chaleur Bay here, turning the local sandstone cliffs a brilliant red.

**Shigawake Music Festival  
and Agricultural Fair**  
**August 11-14, 2022**



Mayor: Rolande Beebe  
Councillors:  
Seat #1: Marcel Gagnon  
Seat #2: Nancy Skene  
Seat #3: Georgette Chapados  
Seat #4: Michael Hayes  
Seat #5: Heather Imhoff  
Seat #6: Jeffrey Vautier  
Director General:  
Maria Marroquin  
**418-752-2474**



# NEW RICHMOND

A TOWN TO EXPERIENCE



## ATTRACTIONS

### TAYLOR'S POINT PARK

#### RENTAL OF CANOES AND KAYAKS AND PADDLE BOARDS

<b>1 hour:</b>		<b>3 to 6 hours:</b>	
Single kayak	\$20	Single kayak	\$40
Double kayak	\$25	Double kayak	\$45
Canoe	\$25	Canoe	\$45
Paddle board	\$20	Paddle Board	\$40
Stand up Paddle Board	\$25	Stand up Paddle Board	\$45
<b>2 hours:</b>		<b>1 day and off site</b>	
Single kayak	\$30	Single kayak	\$60
Double kayak	\$35	Double kayak	\$65
Canoe	\$35	Canoe	\$65
Paddle Board	\$30		
Stand up Paddle Board	\$35		

- **Desjardins Track** (walking and roller blades)
- **Rotary Cascapedia Trail** (walking and biking)
- **Playground, picnic area**
- **Food services nearby**
- **Kite shop** (sale and beginner's course)
- The **"Bay Gardens Tour"** (artistic gardens).  
Information: **418 392-7722**

### TAYLOR'S POINT CAMPGROUND

The Taylor's Point Campground is located at the mouth of the Little Cascapedia River and along the shore of Chaleur Bay. Right by the sea, the campground offers an exceptional location for participating in a great number of summer fun activities. 125 campsites with full, partial and no amenities, shaded and non-shaded sites also available. Open from May 17 to September 29, 2022.

Information :

**www.campingbaiedeschaleurs.com**

Call : **418-392-5134 #121** or **418-392-2400**

### NEW RICHMOND GEOCACHING PASSPORT

A geocaching tour of our municipality's many cultural, historical and scenic sites. Obtain a free passport at the Tourist Information Office or at Taylor's Point Park and follow the coordinates to our hidden caches. You may use your smartphone (download the application for geocaching) for most caches or choose to rent a

GPS device from us for a small daily fee. Come and discover our town and you could leave with a treasure of your own!

Information: **418-392-7075** or  
**www.villeneuve-richmond.com**

### THE PIN ROUGE TOURIST STATION

Open year-round, this resort is renowned for the beauty of its surroundings and its rich cultural heritage. Mountain biking, hiking, ATV trails, access to the Little Cascapedia River, canoes and kayaks (close by), swimming pool, water games, terrace, exterior games, basketball, volleyball, activities for children and deer watching. This picturesque village composed of 32 chalets that offer excellent accommodations is located at the base of the mountain. Fatbikes are available for rental.

This resort is situated 15 minutes from the center of the Town of New Richmond.

Information : **www.pinrouge.com/en**

Call: **418-392-5134 #121**

or toll free **1 866-992-5134**

### DUTHIE POINT

Walk to Duthie Point and explore this enchanting site with forestry trails and a magnificent view of the Bay. Our pebble beach is perfect for a picnic.

### NEW RICHMOND PUBLIC MARKET

The New Richmond public market is open every Saturday throughout the summer from July 9 to September 10, 2022. Don't miss the farmer's market on September 17. Local products and artwork are featured.



Marché public de New Richmond

### ZEC PETITE CASCAPEDIA

Fishing enthusiasts can discover our beautiful salmon rivers, lakes, and brooks. Outfitting services are available.

Information and reservations:

**418-392-4105** or toll free **1-877-392-4105**

**www.zecpetitecascapedia.com**

### HENDERSON BEACH

An unsupervised municipal beach, open from the end of June to mid-September, located in the scenic Black Cape area, to the east of the center of the Town of New Richmond.

## EVENTS

### RALLYE BAIE-DES-CHALEURS

July 1 to July 3, 2022. This world renowned rally is a key segment of the Canadian Rally Championship as well as the North American Rally Cup. A challenging course, skilled drivers, awesome cars, amazing crowd, a spectacular show and a festive atmosphere make this an excellent event to kick off the summer. Don't miss the family day on July 1 in front of the town hall from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Information: **www.rallyebdc.com**

**info@rallyebdc.com** or **418-392-3544**

### QUÉBEC NATIONAL DAY

Don't miss the activities for the national day of Québec on June 24 at Taylor's Pointe. Activities start at 10 a.m. Music show in the evening starting at 7 p.m. All the activities are free.

For the program:

**www.villeneuve-richmond.com**

### BLUE GRASS FESTIVAL

Bluegrass and folk music festival, with more than 40 shows performed on 2 stages from August 31 to September 4, 2022.

Information:

**www.newrichmondbluegrass.com**

**418-391-6907**



Ville de New Richmond

**www.villeneuve-richmond.com**

Tourist Information Office:

**418-392-7075**

*Located at the intersection of*

*Routes 299 and 132. Open from June until September.*

Ville de



**NEW RICHMOND**



# Speak a little French...

French is the official language of Quebec so try your French skills and it might be part of your fun experiences here!

**Bonjour** – Hello, good morning

**Bonsoir** – Good evening

**Oui** – Yes

**Non** – No

**S'il te plaît / S'il vous plaît** – Please

**Merci** – Thank you

**Bienvenue or de rien** – You are welcome

**D'accord** – Okay

**Bonne journée** – Have a good day

**Au revoir** – Goodbye

**Désolé or Je m'excuse** – I am sorry

**Comment ça va** – How are you?

**Pardon or excusez-moi** – Pardon me

**Bien, merci** – Fine, thanks

**Je suis malade** – I am sick

**Parlez-vous anglais?** – Do you speak English?

**Répétez, s'il vous plaît** – Please repeat

**Quoi?** – What?

**Je ne parle pas français** – I don't speak French

**Enchanté** – Pleased to meet you

**J'aimerais** – I would like...

**Où sont les toilettes?** – where are the toilets?

**C'est combien?** – How much is it?

**Bonne chance** – Good luck



No matter where or when, the Gaspé Peninsula has everything for you. From the beach to the mountains, from the sea to your plate, and from sunrise to fabulous sunset, you will pass a most pleasant stay.

I wish you a pleasant and relaxing time during your trip here.

Mégan Perry Mélançon

Member of the National Assembly of Quebec for Gaspé







# LA MAISONART

The *John Wiseman* Art Gallery



A Unique Exhibition:  
Original Watercolours,  
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Hand Knitted Ware  
by Lucie Lagueux

Limited Edition  
Giclée Prints,  
Stone Sculptures

Open Daily  
9 AM to 6 PM

Free Entrance

# 826 Route 132  
Anse à Beaufils  
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[www.johnwiseman.net](http://www.johnwiseman.net)



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



# FIND YOUR *Wild side*



It's a Gaspesian summer and this is your opportunity to find your wild side. Step a wee bit out of your comfort zone and try something new! Look for the unusual and different because these experiences make wonderful memories and fabulous photo opportunities. Stay in your comfort zone but nudge those boundaries just a little. Take a chance – spontaneous adventures can be very gratifying.

Why not you? Why not now? The Gaspé is yours to discover! Don't forget your camera!



## *Unique experiences*

As you travel around the Gaspé watch for places to visit that fascinate you and pique your interest. There are many unusual possibilities. Nova Lumina in Pabos Mills is an amazing opportunity for having an adventure. They boast, "Stars are falling from the sky, filling the beaches with light as they wash ashore." A memorable light show set to music, as you walk through the woods and along the beach. La Grotte in Saint Elzéar offers scenic caves that you can explore. Visit Cime Aventure located in Bonaventure, a place with possibilities to explore your wilder side – canoeing, kayaking, paddleboarding and tubing. You can stay onsite where you can choose from camping, glamping, ecolodges, cabins and yurts! Visit Pin Rouge, New Richmond where you can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities, including biking (rentals available), fishing and hiking. The Gaspé offers visitors an opportunity to visit the highest vertical axis wind turbine in the world, Projet Éole (Cap-Chat). A great photo opportunity and you get bragging rights if you climb to the top! Also look out for Nature Aventure (Matapédia), whale watching (Percé, Forillon) and Fort Ramsay (Sandy Beach), a former WWII naval base.



PHOTO - KIM MEYER

## WHALE - WATCHING CRUISE

Forillon  
National Park

Grande-Grave  
Harbor

**418-892-5500**

[www.baleines-forillon.com](http://www.baleines-forillon.com)

**BOOK ONLINE**



# BIOPARC

Wildlife Park



Privileged contact with wildlife.

*40 native animal species*

Insectarium - Amphibians and reptiles pavilion

Little farm - Playground

Bonaventure

[bioparc.ca](http://bioparc.ca)



# Camping

Camping on the Gaspé offers you a wide variety of locations, views and types of camping. Camping is an ideal way to get in touch with nature and can be an economical adventure. After a long day of sightseeing or hiking, setting up your tent and enjoying a campfire under the clear Gaspesian skies is a memorable experience. The Gaspé has little "light pollution" so on a clear night you can enjoy star gazing. If you camp near the waters of the Bay of Chaleur or Gulf of St. Lawrence, you can wake up to the soothing sounds of the waves lapping on the shore. Breathe in that fresh Gaspesian air!

There is a myriad of choices for where to camp. Forillon National Park is a popular site, and rightly so. This park offers a range of levels: rustic campsites, RV campgrounds and Glamping opportunities. Port Daniel Wildlife Reserve is also a popular camping spot with hiking and fishing activities for all levels of experience. Look around and you will discover many interesting camping experiences on offer. You can even spend the night with wolves at the Bioparc in Bonaventure.

Be prepared! If you are tenting, many sites include a picnic table, but a camp table will be handy if it is not provided. Bare necessities include sleeping bags, camping pillow, flashlights or lanterns, camp chairs, a cooler to store drinks and food, matches

and bundle of firewood. Also consider bringing: a hammock, a plastic tablecloth and clips, clothesline for wet towels and bathing suits. If you have room, bring duct tape (there are a thousand uses for duct tape!), extra cord, and a mallet or hammer to pound in tent poles.

If you find that you are missing items to make your camping experience enjoyable, there are numerous places to buy necessities, such as Canadian Tire. There are many stores where you can buy food, including local produce in season. Some campgrounds provide drinkable water but if not just buy your own. If you want to cook at your campsite, and let's just say that eating outdoors is so enjoyable, you will need a few supplies. Consider a camp stove and fuel, pots and a frying pan, matches, utensils, a can opener (the most forgotten item), plates/bowls, mugs/cups, a dish towel, garbage bags and clear plastic storage tub. Don't forget the sticks to cook smores over the campfire!

If you are RVing, all you need is the perfect site, grab some food supplies, relax and enjoy the Great Gaspesian outdoors! You won't regret it.



**Canadian Tire Paspébiac**  
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Paspébiac, Québec  
418-752-5050

**Canadian Tire Gaspé**  
39, Montée de Sandy Beach  
Carrefour Gaspé, Gaspé, Québec  
418-368-6868





## Hiking

If you want to enjoy the wild, rugged and unspoiled beauty of the Gaspé get up close and personal by hiking. Trails are available in all levels with views of the sea, mountains and forests. For the adventurous and experienced hiker, there are over twenty peaks that are over 1,000 metres high! The gorgeous Chic-Choc Mountains, part of the Appalachian mountain range, include Mt. Jacques Cartier and Mount Albert. A challenging hike can be had at Mount Carleton, in Carleton-sur-Mer.

Other trails are found in this region in Forillon National Park, Gaspé and the Percé UNESCO Geopark, where you will discover a lovely waterfall.

What do all these trails have in common? Breathtakingly beautiful views!

For those who prefer a more leisurely hike there are many trails to enjoy in the wooded areas or along the shoreline. Just be sure to have appropriate hiking shoes, forget sandals and dress in layers. Be prepared for the changing weather of the Gaspé! Take a water bottle and do not hike alone!

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# FAMILY FUN

## *Rain or Shine*

The Gaspé offers a multitude of different experiences for families to enjoy – rain or shine! The most dreaded phrase for a parent to hear is, “I’m bored.” You won’t be hearing that while visiting the Coast because the whole family will be having so much fun! Berry picking, camping, beach days, collecting shells, picnics, canteens and ice cream shops, photo opportunities, shopping for crafts and activities and music at festivals! You can set your own pace and have a day chock full of activities or spend a relaxing day at the beach with a picnic. Dig your toes into the warm sand and breathe in the fresh salt air.



### *Parks*

We have so many gorgeous parks that the family can enjoy. From smaller municipal parks, often with activities for children such as swings and climbing apparatus, to the vast National and Provincial Parks including:

Forillon National Park (Parks Canada), Parc national de la Gaspésie (SEPAQ), Parc national de l'Île-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé (SEPAQ), Miguasha National Park (SEPAQ) and the Battle of Restigouche National Historic Site (Parks Canada). Another gem for families to enjoy is the Port Daniel Wildlife Reserve (SEPAQ). This vast and unspoiled park covers almost 60-sq. km., including over 25 lakes full of trout and a river with salmon! Here is an opportunity to spot Gaspesian wildlife up close. You can camp or rent rustic cabins. Activities include fishing, hiking, berry picking and, when in season, small game and other hunting. A treasure!



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# Wildlife

Children of all ages love animals and there are many lovely animals that make the Gaspé their home.

A beautiful place to begin to familiarize you and the family about animal life here is the Bioparc in Bonaventure. Over 40 native animal species can be viewed in an environment like their natural habitat. Children will be enjoying themselves while learning about the Gaspé Peninsula's five ecosystems: the bay, the barachois, the river, the forest and the tundra. The park's naturalists are available at various points on the site, and they will answer questions about the animals and the ecosystems. Other unique experiences offered there include "Sleeping with the wolves" and special nighttime activities on the full moon.

You and your family can also keep an eye out for wild animals as you travel along the peninsula. Point out to the children the many signs alerting drivers about deer crossing the highway! Animals that are native to the Gaspé include moose, white-tail deer, bobcat, lynx, beaver, coyote, red fox, skunk, raccoon, river otter and harbour seals.

Birdwatching opportunities abound here, and it is estimated that over 350 species of birds can be sighted. If you take this interest seriously, bring binoculars to enrich the experience. The Gaspé is surrounded by water, so the shorebird and seabird species are plentiful.

You may spot northern gannets, black-legged kittiwakes, gulls, cormorants, great blue herons, harlequin ducks, cormorants, sandpipers and more. Other birds that abound include robins, wrens, swallows, sparrows, grosbeaks, jays, ravens, crows, eagles, woodpeckers, owls, hummingbirds, wild turkeys, pheasants and Canada Geese.



Bring a copy of *Birds of Eastern Canada* book and keep a log of the birds you and your children have spotted.

(Caution: Avian flu is now evident on the Gaspé. You may spot dead birds on the shoreline, but do not touch them. Be vigilant.)



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# Dining... Gaspé style

When you want to feed the family there are so many options to choose from! Local grocery stores offer any foods you might want – including premade or a full array of groceries. Grab the food, make a picnic, and enjoy it, rain or shine! If it is raining, find a gazebo and sit down to enjoy your meal! Farmers' markets are also a great place to pick up fresh, locally grown/produced foods.

We also offer canteens, and local restaurants that the family is sure to enjoy. There is a wide variety of foods available, including the perennial favourite – poutine! The canteen foods can be enjoyed onsite, at your campground, or at one of the many picnic areas that are available.

Many restaurants are available that are suitable for the whole family and are often an excellent choice for a hot breakfast. Local bakeries are lovely, many with authentic French-style pastries and if someone in your group is having a birthday while on vacation here, a delicious Gaspesian-made cake will make the day even more special.



## Geocaching adventure

If you are not familiar with geocaching, that's because it is relatively new, just over 20 years. An opportunity to play "hide and seek" while enjoying the great outdoors of the Gaspé. The goal is to find the geocache and put your name in it.

Geocaching is a type of treasure hunting where you use your phone (or GPS) to look for "caches" or hidden containers using geographical coordinates. You will need a cell phone, a pen and a piece of paper so that you can leave your name and date – a record that you found the geo-cache and bring along a few wet wipes. A walk "on the wild side" which is a hike and a treasure hunt in one activity!



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# Perfect picnic

All picnics are wonderful! Picnicking really gives the whole family an appetite! Picnics involve a wee bit of planning and can make a lovely summer memory. What can beat the family fun of a lovely summer day, fine food and the great outdoors?

Having your own cooler will help to transport the picnic and keep the food and drinks cold. Food safety is important, particularly for foods such as egg salad, meats and any dairy foods.

There are other items to tuck into the basket or cooler that will make the day more successful. These may include hand wipes or sanitizing gel, a bag for any garbage, small packets of salt and pepper, an opener if needed, and a tablecloth or blanket to lay on the ground or picnic table.

Beverages are critical for a successful picnic. Way back in time we would pack Kool-Aid or Freshie with ice in glass bottles, then wrap the bottles in newspaper. What a deliciously quenching memory that is. Water is a smart choice and even a thermos of tea or coffee for the adults who like to sit afterwards and relax.

Nothing stirs up an appetite like fresh air, so pack lots of delicious food. You may want to have sandwiches, chicken or even little quiches. Salads are great and there are so many kinds to choose from. These include egg



salad, coleslaw, garden salad, Greek salad, macaroni salad and chicken salad. You may want to cut up a container of munchable veggies such as carrot sticks, peppers, cucumbers and radishes and take along hummus for dipping. A perfect ending for the meal could be fruit kebabs. You could also add cookies or squares. Other popular picnic foods include devilled eggs, frozen grapes, roast beef, cheese and lettuce rollups, tea biscuits, muffins and watermelon.

Dinner and a movie? Video games? Forget those. A picnic while looking over the waters of the Bay or Gulf, that's true bliss. The perfect picnic requires food and the great outdoors. You provide the food. We offer you the great outdoors!

## Port-Daniel-Gascons

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# Perfect campfire smores

1. Buy your supplies: marshmallows, graham crackers, plain chocolate bars.
2. Light your campfire. Use sticks or long skewers.
3. Break graham crackers into individual pieces. Break chocolate bars into smaller pieces. Place chocolate piece onto the graham cracker.
4. Roast marshmallows, rotate.
5. Place gooey marshmallow onto graham cracker with chocolate and top with another square of graham cracker. This is messy business and part of the fun!



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# Wildflowers

In summer, the Gaspé is rich in colour from the blooms of a plethora of wildflowers. Children can learn to identify the flowers, some of which may be familiar to them from home. Download an app on your smart phone which can help you to identify the flowers. The children can keep a "flower diary" by taking their own photos, or a book to draw pictures of them. They can pick some to press and keep as a souvenir of their vacation.

We have daisies, buttercups, asters, bellflower, Bird's foot Trefoil, Wild Caraway, chicory, clover, dandelions, fireweed, golden marguerite, yellow ladies' slipper, phlox, wild mustard, Queen Anne's Lace, Blue Vetch and violets.

The most iconic flower that grows wild on the Gaspé are lupines. Splendid in colours of pink, blue, white and purple, they grow into a tall spike of beauty. They can be spotted in ditches and fields along the Gaspé Coast. They are a flower that makes the world a bit more beautiful.



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# Adventures of all kinds

The Gaspé Peninsula offers something for visitors of all ages and interests. You can opt for a more active holiday or an opportunity to learn about the history of the area and sample the culture of our region. Families will be able to choose their own pace and try out a range of activities.

The Gaspé is a unique region - a vacation playground for both children and adults! If you are craving a grand adventure, we offer you that. We have wild and unspoiled beauty that we want to share with vacationers. Magnificent views and fresh salty air will revive your spirits.

Enjoy the delicious flavours of local produce and seafood. Delightful canteens and cafés abound and there are foods to suit all tastes. Sample some of the award winning, locally made beers or gin. Pack a picnic and savour the great outdoors, Gaspesian style!

Wild beauty is everywhere here - the wildflowers, the clear skies, the red cliffs, the unique and uncrowded beaches, the vast forests and the majestic mountains.

If you crave a more active vacation, the Gaspé is the environment for you. You can hike, climb a mountain, kayak, cycle, swim, snorkel, canoe, paddleboard! Pick salty water or fresh!

## Photography credits

Page 2: View from lookout - SD Captures  
Page 2: Roger Martin and his guitar - Kayla Caplin Photography  
Page 8: Cascapedia River Museum - Ksenija Vinogradova  
Page 11: Peaceful waters - Jessie Aubut-McWhirter  
Page 13: A day on the river - Robert Benwell

If you like to hear music there are many festivals and other musical events in many towns, particularly during the peak summer months.

Visit a local museum, each one of them unique with many stories to tell. Stroll through at your own pace and learn about our Gaspesian past. To understand who we are today, it is helpful to know who and where we came from.

Tour some of the 14 lighthouses found here. A reminder of the fact that we are historically, a coastal community, a people who have lived by the sea for centuries.

The Gaspé is a largely unspoiled paradise. Take loads of photos because when you return home the memories, they will stir will remind you of a gorgeous and memorable vacation on the Gaspé Peninsula.

**Thanks for vacationing here. Come and visit us again!**



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