

An archipelago among the natural wonders of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence

With an authentic culture marked by the sea and stunning landscapes to explore, the Îles de la Madeleine will provide an unforgettable experience for your guests. The archipelago brings together a protected natural heritage, endless shores and magnificent seascapes. Choosing to visit Les Îles is to enter a natural environment both vibrant and fragile, to come wonder at its different facets, origin and evolution.



ECOSYSTEM TO PROTECT

The Îles de la Madeleine are composed of an exceptional variety of natural settings: dunes, lagoons, forests, marshes, bogs... The region is also home to rich fauna and flora to explore.

But the islands are fragile. The delicate balance between these environmental elements is subject to harsh conditions (constant winds, coastal erosion, freezing rain, salt air, etc.) and, as in many other places, to pressures from human activity (urbanization, tourism, recreational activities, etc.).

With climate change and its impact being an ever-growing concern, the Islanders are aware of the fragility of their environment and are committed to protecting it. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, increased awareness of drinking water usage, and protection of the land and local species are only some of the necessary measures taken to live harmoniously on the archipelago.

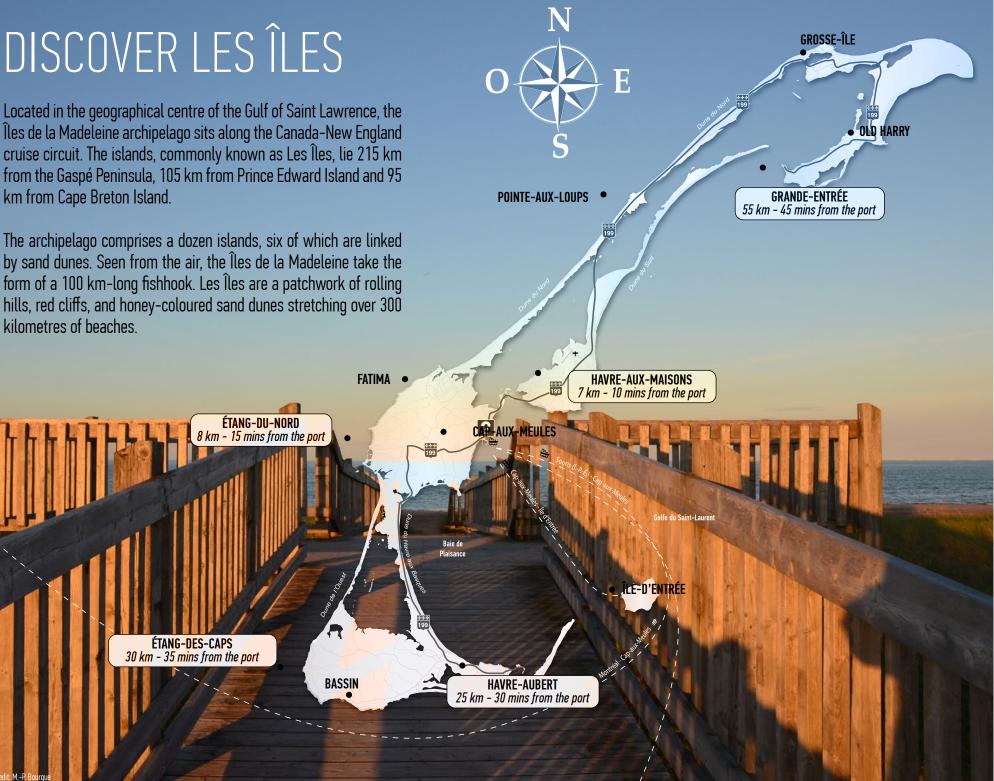
To discover Les Îles is to embrace the natural environment that surrounds us.



DISCOVER LES ÎLES

Located in the geographical centre of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, the Îles de la Madeleine archipelago sits along the Canada-New England cruise circuit. The islands, commonly known as Les Îles, lie 215 km from the Gaspé Peninsula, 105 km from Prince Edward Island and 95 km from Cape Breton Island.

by sand dunes. Seen from the air, the Îles de la Madeleine take the form of a 100 km-long fishhook. Les Îles are a patchwork of rolling hills, red cliffs, and honey-coloured sand dunes stretching over 300 kilometres of beaches.



CAP-AUX-MEULES ISLAND

Cap-aux-Meules Island is a highland dotted with conical hills. The Site de La Côte is a public park, a meeting place, and the ideal starting point for a stroll along the L'Étang-du-Nord fishing port. The cove's many boutiques and services are arranged around an impressive sculpture, the area's focal point.

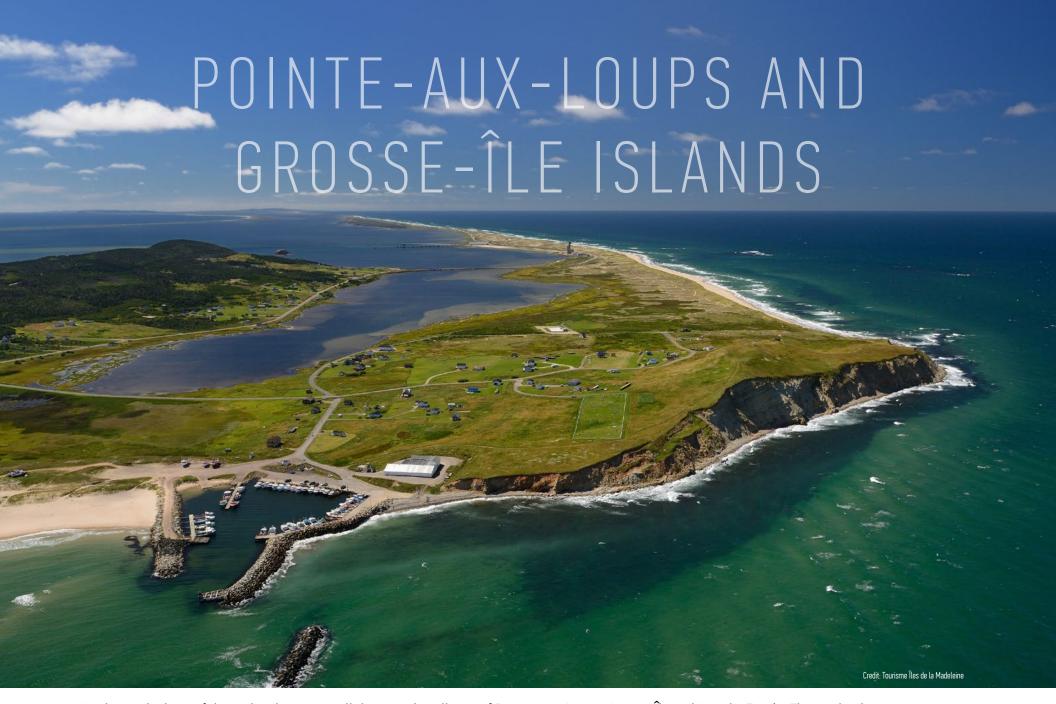


HAVRE-AUBERT ISLAND

Located at the south end of the archipelago, Havre-Aubert Island includes two villages: Havre-Aubert and Bassin. This is where the first Acadians settled. The island has a lot to offer—beautiful nature, great restaurants, cultural activities, boutiques, and cafés where you can sit back and relax. Havre-Aubert is a member of the *Association des plus beaux villages du Québec*.



Havre-aux-Maisons is a lovely rural area with winding roads and scattered houses. This is where to go to enjoy the best panoramas that Îles de la Madeleine has to offer. The Dune-du-Sud beach is flanked by red cliffs sculpted by the sea. The small fishing port of Pointe-Basse used to be an important location for smoking herring.



On the north shore of the archipelago, you will discover the villages of Pointe-aux-Loups, Grosse-Île and Grande-Entrée. These islands host the most beautiful protected natural environments on the Îles de la Madeleine.



Route 199 ends at Grande-Entrée. This is where the most important fishing port of the Îles de la Madeleine provides mooring for many brightly coloured fishing boats.











Credit: Tourisme Îles de la Madeleine, Mathieu Dupuis et Tourisme Îles de la Madeleine



An unforgettable experience...







The region's unique climate and geography give local dishes and produce their inimitable flavours.



Credit: Mathieu Dupuis et Élisabeth Anctil-Martin



ARTS & CULTURE

A visit to the Îles de la Madeleine wouldn't be complete without taking the time to meet the artists and artisans in their workshops and boutiques.





The port of Cap-aux-Meules can be reached via a channel dredged to a varying depth of 5.4 m to 6.8 m. Ships with greater draft can anchor in the Baie de Plaisance opposite the port. Anchorage sites are 1 to 1.5 nautical miles from the port, where water shuttles can easily dock.

PORT FACILITIES

- Two docks for cruise ships;
- Cruise terminal;
- Floating pontoons to accommodate shuttles from ships at anchor;
- Pilot services available upon request;

- Local food products available on demand;
- Drinking water supply;
- Shipping office;
- Canada Border Services Agency.







Credit: Escale Îles de la Madeleine

Within walking distance of the cruise terminal, the *Sentier du littoral* path allows pedestrians and cyclists to follow the coastline for two kilometres. At the path's entrance, a giant stairway (187 steps) leads to a panoramic view of the capes. Take the advantage of appreciating the view of the islands and the sea.



Local tour operator

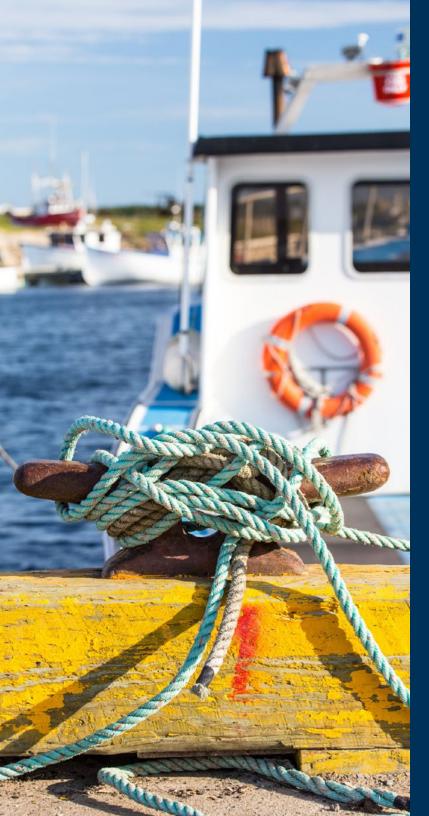


TAKE IN THE SIGHTS

Autobus Les Sillons has been a leader in providing guided tours of the islands since 2002, with comprehensive packages specially designed for cruise ship passengers. With a team of dynamic and professional guides, you will discover all the unique and exclusive sights the archipelago holds.

They are your partners for guided tour services on the Îles de la Madeleine.





USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

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TOURIST INFORMATION

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LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTS

Le Bon goût frais des Îles de la Madeleine Guy Campeau, chargé de projet commercialisation@lebongoutfraisdesiles.com Tel: 418 986-6650

