



### Useful information

For more information about the Îles de la Madeleine :



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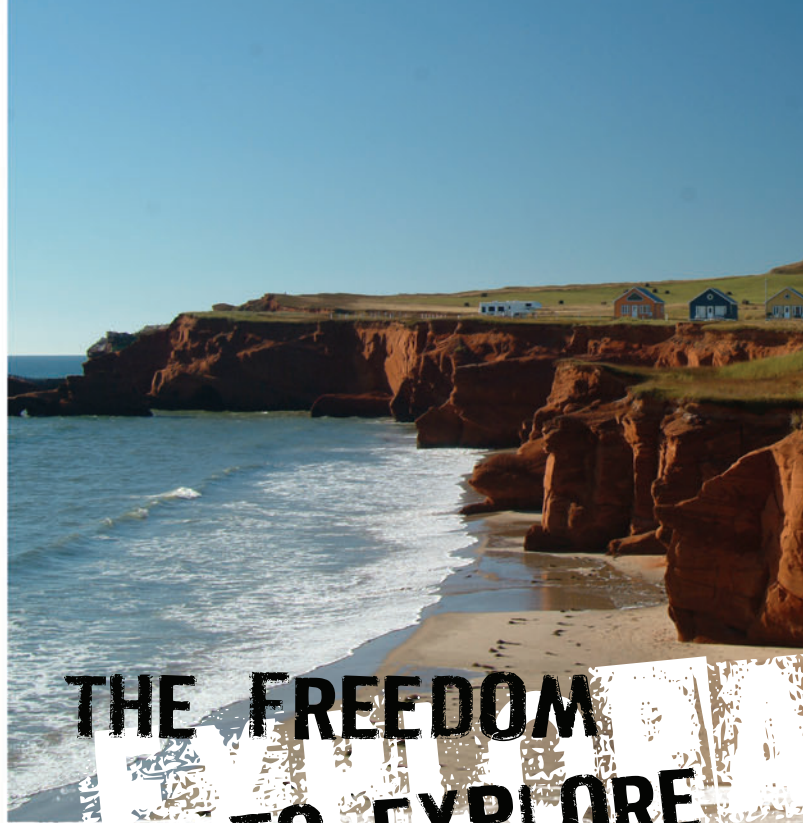
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### Tourisme Québec :

From Montreal : (514) 873 2015

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## THE FREEDOM TO EXPLORE

The island fauna is full of surprises for the visitor, as are the green expanses of gracefully rolling hills. 300 kilometres of beaches offer an open invitation to explore the many walking trails winding over the land. This is a fine way to renew your vital energies and breathe deeply of the sweet air in a healthy environment. Sink your toes into the warm sand, into the lush depths of a field of daisies or of wild strawberries: walking is a simple and perfect way to explore this fragile environment in total freedom.

The main road on the îles de la Madeleine is about 100 kilometres long, but the islands of the archipelago are linked by long, narrow dunes where a network of scenic secondary roads offer ideal grounds for bicycle touring. Local businesses supply discovery packages and circuits for visitors as well as bicycle rental, maintenance and repairs.



## TOUR

The Îles de la Madeleine offer a wide range of attractions and activities throughout the year. In summer, of course, it is the beaches and outdoor activities which draw our visitors here. Winter is the perfect time to experience the natural rhythms of island life after the bustle of the summer season.



## CAUTIONS



## AN INCOMPARABLE LANDSCAPE OF ICE AND SNOW

Every year, during the first weeks of March, hundreds of thousands of harp seals and hooded seals migrate to the ice fields around the Îles de la Madeleine to bear their young. Helicopter tours to the ice pack are available for the observation of adult seals and whitecoats in their natural habitat: a spectacular landscape of snow and ice peopled by this enormous herd of marine mammals. Winter visitors can explore a totally different aspect of the Islands: frozen lagoons are the ideal playground for amateurs of sliding and wind sports such as kite ski and kite buggy. Let the wind carry you away! Give in to the seductive allure of kayaking the calm waters between the ice floes or in the many grottoes along the coast of the island chain. For a truly unique experience, take a dog sled tour into the forest trails or onto the pack ice.



## ADVENTURE IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

ÎLES DE LA MADELEINE  
An island paradise set between sea and sky

Photos: G. Thériault; M. Bonato; G. Fisher; F. Debeaker; P. Villécourt. Graphic design: Nuev design. Coordination: Michel Bonato. Tourisme Îles de la Madeleine





# A PASSION FOR THE OUTDOORS

Because of their unique location and resources, the Iles de la Madeleine are the perfect destination for outdoor sports enthusiasts, naturalists and vacationers in search of adventure! Both the summer and winter seasons offer a panoply of stimulating activities to draw visitors towards new horizons of beauty and discovery. The number and variety of sites on the Islands where water and land sports can be enjoyed is truly amazing.



# NATURE

Adventuring in the Magdalens means walking, biking, horseback riding, canoeing, kayaking and boating along endless beaches, over remarkable landforms, over and under lagoons and sea beds through an endless world of wonders. As a winter playground, the Islands have no equal: you can go ice kayaking or take a zodiac tour through open waters in the ice pack, you can visit the whitecoats or take a dog sled ride, you can go kite skiing. You will be utterly enchanted by the Iles de la Madeleine!



# AN INVITATION

The specialist media rank the Iles de la Madeleine in the top ten destinations on the planet for sliding sports and wind sports.

The geography and coastal configuration of this charming archipelago make it ideal for sports like windsurfing and kitesurfing, no matter which direction the wind is coming from. The warm, shallow waters of the lagoons are perfect for learning to manage high speeds and in other locations, more extreme conditions and sea waves present an exciting challenge for the more adventurous!

# TO ACTION



The constant presence of the prevailing winds provides exceptional conditions for traction kites who can take full advantage of boundless stretches of mostly empty beaches and different bodies of water. Whatever level of sport you practice, beginner to expert, you will find the right conditions for you and, if you so desire, the opportunity to push your limits under the expert tutelage of local specialists.



# FREEDOM

The sea kayak gives you access to hidden treasures along the shoreline, the flamboyant red cliffs and grottoes of the Magdalen coast. Kayakers take in the wonders of the breathtaking natural décor, the diversity of marine wildlife, the invigorating salt air. On kayak excursions, qualified guides share their love of the many facets of Island life, from the sculptured red sandstone to starfish and schooling mackerel to the history of the Islands and their inhabitants - relax to the rhythm of the waves and enjoy their stories as you go.

