

# WIND SPORTS MAP

Public access sites



# ENVIRONMENT

The waters in and around the archipelago are teeming with life and used by large numbers of people during the year. Here are the main things you must be aware of before setting out for your activity:

The sport fishing season for smelt begins in October and ends in January when the ice has formed. Smelt is fished at the following sites: L-1, L-2, L-3, S-4, S-5. At these times, it is important to keep an eye out for fishing gear and small craft.

You must also beware of floating buoys used to support culture gear : these are usually present in the following sea farming areas: L-2, L-3.

The hunting season for waterfowl starts in the last weekend of September and continues until December 26<sup>th</sup>. Avoid navigating in the lagoons the first weekend of the hunting season.

From May to mid-August, the piping plover is also present on the beaches and in the dunes. This bird is an endangered species, and fences are set up around nests to protect the eggs. Once hatched, nestlings leave the protected areas and roam freely on the beaches. This means it is very important that humans avoid these areas and that dogs be kept on leash at all times. Stay on the alert for piping plovers, especially in the following areas: L-5 (beach at Bassin Est), S-4 (beach at Portage du Cap), S-5 (Martinique beach), S-9 (Dune du Nord beach).



Islets in the lagoons are ideal sites for tern colonies. While terns are nesting and feeding their young, between the end of May and the end of August, please stay at least 50 metres away from the sites listed below and do not land or bring your kite down in these areas to avoid disturbing the tern colonies. [ L'île de travers and the islet parallel to the Parc Fred Jomphe access road (L-1) and l'île Paquet (L-2)].

*Ammophila breviligulata*, also known as beach grass, marram grass or dune grass, is the backbone of the dune and an essential component of the ecological balance in the archipelago. Because it is easily damaged by trampling, and to avoid creating new breaches in the dunes, it is very important to stay on the walkways and footpaths. In this way, you will help protect the dunes and inland areas against wind and wave erosion, dune migration and flooding.

**It is also important that you help keep the access sites clean and well maintained. Please collect and remove all your garbage before leaving.**





**Remember that it is the responsibility of all riders to know and respect the rules of the road.**



The Îles de la Madeleine are a true paradise for wind sports enthusiasts. The best evidence of this is that the specialist media rank them in the world's top 10 destinations for wind sports. The geography and location of this enchanting archipelago make it the ideal spot, no matter which direction the wind is coming from, for sports such as windsurfing, kitesurf and kite buggy. The extensive choice of sites and variation in wind speeds provide conditions adapted to all levels of expertise. Warm, shallow water in the lagoons provides safe conditions for beginners, and the thrill seekers can always find sea and wind conditions to suit their wildest dreams.

# SAFETY

In the waters at the extremities of the archipelago (e.g.: S-1, S-2, S-12), you must be aware of the dangers resulting from winds and currents and the fact that you might be pulled out to sea if you have equipment problems. Be very vigilant.

## Safe riding guidelines

- Consider wearing a Personal Floatation Device (PFD vest) and a helmet
- Always take a buddy along
- Be particularly careful when kites are lifting off and landing
- Always be courteous and respectful of other people on the beach
- Do not take over the access area, leave enough room for others to pass easily
- Roll your lines and secure your power kite to the ground

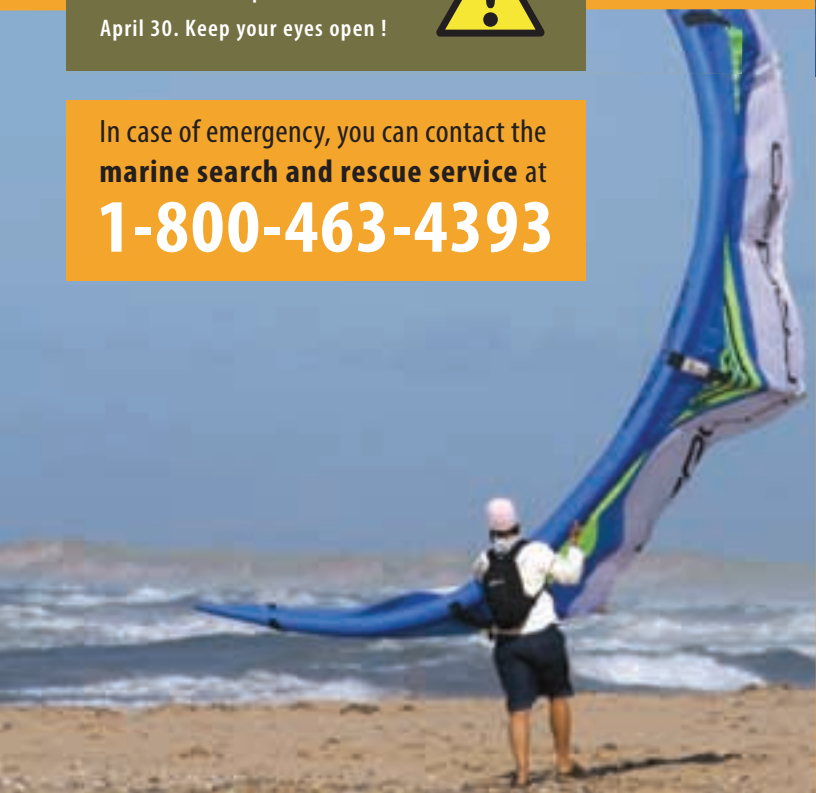
## Advice for spectators

- Always watch from behind the people using power kites
- Never cross the launching area where kites are being set up or taken down
- Never grab lines or control bar to try to help a rider who has lost control of his kite
- If you want to learn these sports, do not try to do it alone, go to a recommended school (see listings on the back cover or consult the official Tourist Guide)

Motor vehicles are allowed on the beaches from September 15 to April 30. Keep your eyes open !



In case of emergency, you can contact the **marine search and rescue service** at **1-800-463-4393**



# LOCAL CONDITIONS

The enormous mass of water surrounding the archipelago moderates the temperature and creates a gentler climate. The warm, sunny days of summer last until the end of September. The temperature of the water around the Islands gets up to around 18 degrees Celsius (64° F) in mid-August and in the bays and lagoons, the water reaches 20 degrees Celsius (68°F). Strong, steady winds also influence the climate in the Magdalens. Wind speed varies from 17 to 40 km/hour (9 to 22 knots), the prevailing winds being from the south-west during the summer and the north-west in the colder seasons.

Weather conditions and tide times:  
**Taped local weather reports at**  
**418-986-3700**



## WINTER

The vast expanses of the archipelago's frozen lagoons are ideal ground for wind sports. On skis, on a board or in a buggy, the steady winds and flat surfaces ensure that lovers of traction kites will enjoy extended, intensely exhilarating rides.

In winter, marked snowmobile trails cross the bay at Havre aux Basques (L-1). Be vigilant! Never go out on the ice without first consulting a competent individual who knows the site you want to use.

There is ice fishing in the lagoons (eel, smelt, tomcod). For your own safety, stay well away from fishing areas.

Thank you for using only the areas indicated on this map. Your cooperation is essential to prevent accidents, maintain good relations among the many different users of the waterways and keep environmental impact to a minimum. Enjoy the wind !



GOLFE DU ST-LAURENT

# GOLFE DU ST-LAURENT



## LEGEND – SITE SYMBOLS

**S** Site on open sea

**L** Site on lagoon

 Good for Buggy

 Good for Kitesurfing

 Good for Windsurfing

 Level : Beginners

 Level : Beginners on ocean

 Level : Intermediate

 Level : Expert

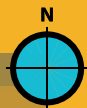


A compass rose showing the north (N) at the top, the south (S) at the bottom, the east on the right, the west at left. The portion of the compass rose indicated in blue shows wind directions which are especially good for this particular site. In the example shown, all winds coming from between south and west

Île d'Entrée



# L-1



## Baie du Havre aux Basques

**Location :** Parc Fred Jomphe

Parking restricted to gravel surface. The area covered by sand and vegetation is used for launching, and no vehicles are permitted. In order to keep the launching site clear and protect the point, RVs (recreational vehicles) are forbidden. Please use the parking area along Route 199.

**Environment :** Avoid navigating in the migratory bird sanctuary in the center of the bay. To protect the tern colony that nests near the shore, please keep your dogs on leash while on the site. Camping on the point is forbidden.

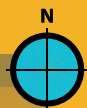
**Notes :** Shallow water zone, thermal generating conditions with SW winds, high-speed spot best by W-SW winds. Windsurfers and kitesurfers share the same area. Kitesurfers and windsurfers are advised to stay within the identified zone.

# Parc Fred Jomphe

Identified zones for kitesurfing and windsurfing



# L-2



## Lagoon, Havre aux Maisons

**Location :** Route 199, parking area at Baie Sud (windsurfing only)

Parking area at the end of chemin Poirier in Fatima.

# L-3



## Lagoon, Bassin aux Huîtres

**Location :** Parking at the end of the road at chemin du Bassin Est

Parking area near the lagoon on the road to the Club Vacances Les Îles (windsurfing only).





## S-1



### Beach at Sandy Hook

Location : Parking area at the end of the chemin du Sable (very busy area in the high season).

## S-2



### La Grave

Location : Parking along Route 199 between les Artisans du sable and the Émerance boutique.

## S-3



### Beach at Portage-du-Cap (plage du Cap)

Location : Parking area on the Baie de Plaisance road.

Notes : Long smooth rollers after strong NE winds.

## S-4



### Flats at La Martinique

Location : Parking area near the jetty (at km 11) .

Notes : This site may be under water following storms.

## S-5



### La Martinique beach

Location : Parking areas provided along Route 199.

## S-6



### Beach at the Dune de l'Ouest (Corfu )

Location : Parking area at the end of the chemin Coulombe or at the end of the chemin Delaney.

Notes : Good spot for waves when moderate to strong winds blow from N-NW. Beware of strong currents and the Corfu Island wreck.

## S-7



### Beach at la Digue (Baie Sud, Pédalo)

Location : Parking between Route 199 and the beach

Notes : Stay clear of power lines

## S-8



### Beach at la Pointe

Location : Park your car on the road that runs parallel to Route 199 opposite the Motel des Îles.

## S-9



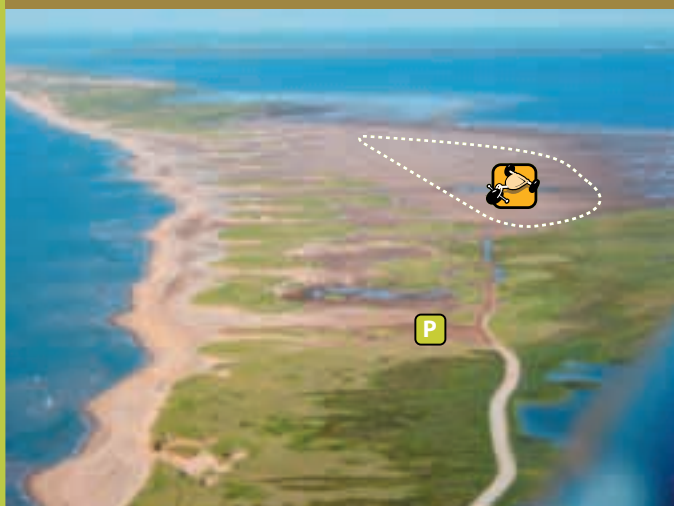
### Beach at la Dune du Nord (flats at Fatima)

Location : From the chemin de l'Hôpital (across from the baseball field), follow the road leading to one of 3 identified parking areas

Environment : The largest nesting ground for the piping plover in Québec. This is an endangered species, protected by law. The designated protected area for the piping plover is marked from mid-June until the chicks are fully fledged, around the end of July or the beginning of August. During this period, it is critical that you practice your sports activities well away from the protected zone. For more information, you may speak to the awareness officers present on the flats during this period.

## Flats at Fatima

### Identified zone for Buggy



Be careful! This is an extremely busy sector, popular with many groups (swimmers, clam diggers, bird watchers), and motor vehicles are permitted on the marked trail.  
Be courteous and stay alert !





## S-10



### Beach at la Dune du Sud

**Location :** From Route 199 North, turn right onto the chemin de la Cormorandière (after the wind generator) and continue to the designated parking area.

## S-11



### Beach at Pointe aux Loups

**Location :** Parking area north of the bridge at the narrows (pont du Déroit)  
Parking area located north of the village of Pointe-aux-Loups.

## S-12



### Beach at la Grande Échouerie

**Location :** Pay parking near Old Harry





# RENDEZ-VOUS AVENTURE



Every year at the end of the summer, Rendez-Vous Aventure brings wind sports enthusiasts together for an international-competition level event, demonstrations, thrilling evening activities, and lots more !

Telephone : (418) 986-8368 Internet : [www.rendezvousaventure.com](http://www.rendezvousaventure.com)

## Tourisme ÎLES DE LA MADELEINE



CENTRE INTÉGRÉ  
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT TOURISTIQUE

For information about the Îles de la Madeleine  
Telephone : (418) 986-2245 or 1-877-624-4437  
Internet : [www.tourismeilesdelamadeleine.com](http://www.tourismeilesdelamadeleine.com)



First kitesurf school in Canada, over 10 years' experience. Safe teaching methods for power kite, buggy, mountain boards, kitesurf (private property). Grands Prix du Tourisme 2001-2002-2003-2005. IKO, AEQ, BNQ certified.

Telephone : (418) 986-6677  
Internet : [www.aerosport.ca](http://www.aerosport.ca)

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