

Canada's Southern Sanctuary



You've arrived!

Point Pelee National Park protects a great diversity of unique Carolinian habitats and the plant and wildlife species that call them home. Many you can't see anywhere else in Canada!

Located at the crossroads of major migration routes, this tiny green sand spit offers sanctuary each spring and fall to thousands of migrating birds, butterflies, bats and dragonflies.

Over the last 10,000 years, many people have also called this place home. Caldwell First Nation considers Point Pelee as "our home" and Walpole Island First Nation as part of "our house." Over the last 175 years, homesteaders, naturalists, fisherman, farmers, hunters, cottagers, campers, picnickers, sunbathers and sightseers have all made footprints which have shaped the park as we know it today.

Enjoy your day and make your own footprints at

Point Pelee National Park!

Discover Point Pelee's Treasures

- **Explore**
the most southern point of mainland Canada. Ride the shuttle to the Tip from April 1 to Thanksgiving, or drive your own vehicle from mid-October to March 31.
- **Climb**
the tower or take a stroll along the Marsh Boardwalk to view one of the largest remaining southern Great Lakes marshes. See nesting black terns, flowering swamp rose mallow and basking turtles. In the Winter, skate on our natural ice rink.



Connect

- **Visitor Centre**
A great place to start your visit. Watch our video introduction to Point Pelee National Park or peruse the exhibits documenting the evolution of the park. Check out our 'hands-on' Discovery Room full of activities for all to enjoy!
- **DeLaurier Homestead and Trail**
Glimpse into the people history of Point Pelee. See, hear and feel how our footprints have changed the ecology of this land.
- **Interpretive activities**
Available throughout the year. Our experienced interpreters can provide answers to your most puzzling questions. Check our seasonal insert for a complete list of programmes.

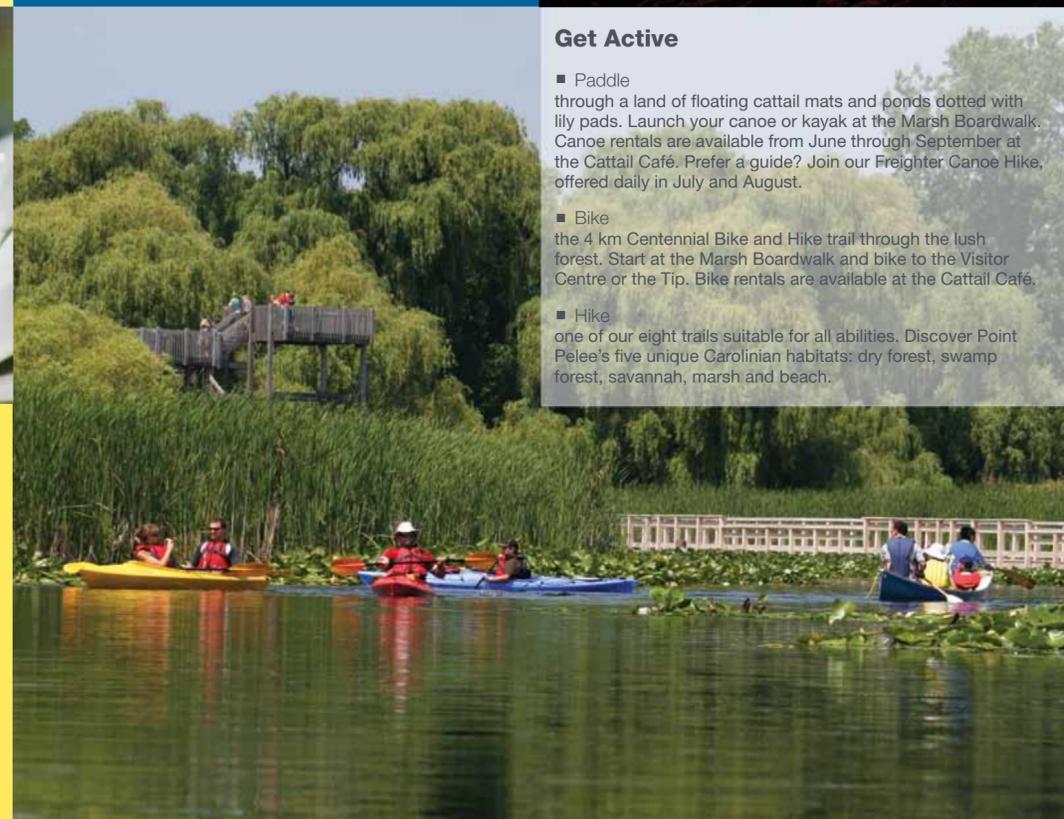
Relax

- **Picnic**
with family and friends. Day-use areas are equipped with charcoal barbeques, picnic tables, shelters, washrooms and parking. Purchase charcoal at the Cattail Café or the Nature Nook Gift Shop.
- **Swim or soak up the sun**
at one of our three beach areas. You can check Lake Erie water quality information at the park entrance kiosk.
- **Reserve the White Pine picnic shelter**
and have an exclusive event for your family and friends. The facility includes washrooms, parking lot and a wood burning stove. Buy your wood at the park entrance kiosk.



Get Active

- **Paddle**
through a land of floating cattail mats and ponds dotted with lily pads. Launch your canoe or kayak at the Marsh Boardwalk. Canoe rentals are available from June through September at the Cattail Café. Prefer a guide? Join our Freighter Canoe Hike, offered daily in July and August.
- **Bike**
the 4 km Centennial Bike and Hike trail through the lush forest. Start at the Marsh Boardwalk and bike to the Visitor Centre or the Tip. Bike rentals are available at the Cattail Café.
- **Hike**
one of our eight trails suitable for all abilities. Discover Point Pelee's five unique Carolinian habitats: dry forest, swamp forest, savannah, marsh and beach.



The **Friends of Point Pelee** are dedicated to providing resources and services to Point Pelee National Park. This not-for-profit group strives to enhance your experience in the park and is committed to protecting the natural and cultural features that make Point Pelee unique.



Did you know?

Point Pelee National Park is recognized as:

- a Wetland of International Significance by the UNESCO Ramsar Convention,
- an Important Birding Area by Birdlife International,
- an International Butterfly Reserve by the International Model Forest Network, and
- a Dark Sky Preserve by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

Park Hours

April 1 - Canadian Thanksgiving, 6 am - 10 pm
Mid October - March 31, 7 am - 7 pm

Park Entrance Fees* (HST included)

Family/Group \$19.60, Adult \$7.80, Seniors(65 +yrs) \$6.80 and Youth(6-16 yrs) \$3.90

Off Season Rates (Mid October - March 31)
Family/Group \$14.70, Adult \$6.05, Seniors(65 +yrs) \$5.40 and Youth(6-16 yrs) \$2.90

*Fees are subject to change

Suggested Itineraries for Your Visit

Hit the Highlights.

- **The Park at a Glance:**
Browse the Visitor Centre exhibits and take in the 15 minute film introduction to the park in the theatre. From there, catch the shuttle to the Tip.
- **The Tip:**
Stand at the most southern tip of mainland Canada and see the power of the waves crashing up onto shore.
- **Marsh Boardwalk trail:**
Climb the tower or stroll along the 1km boardwalk loop and explore the abundance of wildlife.

2 Hours

Add on these great activities!

- **Hiking adventure:**
Pick up a Woodland Nature Trail guide from the Nature Nook Gift Store and set off on a 2.75 km hike through Canada's Carolinian forest. Discover Point Pelee's swamp, rare hackberry tree and the many animals that call the park home.
- **Picnic lunch:**
Grab a bite to eat at the Cattail Café (see Seasonal Insert for hours) or bring your own meal and join family and friends at one of our many picnic areas.

4 Hours

Take your time and and see it all!

- **Peddle or paddle:**
Rent a bike or canoe at the Marsh Boardwalk. Cycle the Centennial Bike and Hike trail and then connect with the road to the Tip. Or paddle out into Lake Pond and discover the natural wonders living between the cattails.
- **Take a walk through time:**
Peruse the DeLaurier Homestead and Trail to discover 10,000 years of people connections with Point Pelee from the First Peoples to settlers, fisherman, farmers, cottagers, sunbathers, naturalists and more.

Full Day

Photo by: Ryan Pimiskern

Support the services provided by our Friends

- Ride the shuttle to the Tip
- Rent a bicycle or canoe
- Have a tasty treat at the Cattail Café
- Shop at the Nature Nook Gift Store
- Adopt a Bench Programme
- Adopt a Tree Fund



Support our Friends....

Donate, shop, and join "the Friends" today!

1-888-707-3533

friendsofpointpelee.com

For more information

Point Pelee National Park
Mailing Address:
407 Monarch Lane, RR1
Leamington ON N8H 3V4
Street Address:
1118 Point Pelee Drive
Tel: 519.322.2365
Fax: 519.322.1277

parks.canada.gc.ca/pelee
pelee.info@pc.gc.ca
twitter.com/PointPeleeNP

Canada's National Parks and National Historic Sites Vacation Planners
1.888.773.8888

Windsor, Essex County & Pelee Island Tourism
www.visitwindsor.com
1.800.265.3633

GPS coordinates: N 41° 59.2033 W 082° 32.9417



Protect Yourself

Tip Currents are dangerous! Swimming and wading at the Tip is prohibited. Stay safely on shore.

Avoid ticks by staying on trail. Some tick bites can lead to Lyme disease. Take these precautions to protect yourself:

- Avoid shrubs and long grassy areas
- Use bug repellent containing DEET
- Cover up! Wear long sleeve tops and pants
- Tuck your pants into your socks for extra protection
- Check yourself and children for ticks

Rules and Regulations

The park is here for all to enjoy. Leave nothing but footprints and take nothing but memories.

- Stay on trails to avoid contact with ticks and poison ivy.
- To protect yourself from diseases avoid handling dead wildlife.
- Bicycles are restricted to the Centennial Bike and Hike Trail and the park road/parking lots.
- Obey speed limits as roads are used by people and by wildlife.
- If you plan to swim, check Lake Erie water quality information at the park entrance kiosk, contact the Windsor Essex County Health Unit at 519.258.2146 ext. 426 or visit their website at www.wechealthunit.org
- To protect against stable flies and other biting insects, wear long pants and closed toe shoes.
- Check wind and weather conditions before paddling in the marsh.
- Entry into the water south of the Tip Exhibit Area is strictly prohibited.

It takes us all to protect the park for the future.

The following are prohibited.

- Feeding and distributing wildlife.
- Disturbing or destroying wildlife habitat.
- Collecting natural objects, including rocks, driftwood, plants, or animals/animal parts (feathers, bones, shells, etc.)
- Possession or consumption of alcohol anywhere in the park.
- Bringing firewood into the park or collecting firewood from the beach or forest. (Use charcoal in the barbecues. Charcoal is available for purchase at the Cattail Café and the Nature Nook Gift Store.)
- Wood fires and littering.
- Possession of any devices for hunting or injuring wildlife.
- Possession or use of fireworks.
- Fishing in the marsh is only permitted with a valid fishing permit available at the entrance kiosk.

If you need assistance or see anyone violating park regulations,

 speak to any Parks Canada staff or call 1-877-852-3100



Protect your pet

We are pet friendly!

Bring your pet on the shuttle and into the Visitor Centre. Keep your furry friend on a leash at all times to avoid ticks and to ensure the comfort of others. Leash must be no longer than 3 m or 10 feet.

Legend

	Main Road		Wheelchair Accessible
	Canoe Route		Washrooms
	Bicycle Trail		Washrooms (Seasonal)
	Trail*		Public Telephone
	Footpath**		Emergency Telephone
	Forest		Picnic Shelter
	Marsh		Picnic Area
	Pond		Lookout
	Beach		Swimming
			Parking
			Canoe/Kayak Launch
			Visitor Information

In collaboration with the Friends of Point Pelee

	Shuttle (April - October)
	Nature Nook Gift Store
	Food / Beverage (May - October)
	Canoe Rentals (May - October)
	Bicycle Rentals (May - October)

Youth and Not-for-profit Organizations

	Group Campground
	Henry Community Youth Camp

* Trails are maintained with crushed gravel or boardwalk.
** Footpaths are unmaintained and narrow.



Middle Island

In 2000, Middle Island became part of Point Pelee National Park. The island supports a fragile ecosystem with numerous rare and endangered species. It is an area of special preservation and does not support visitor facilities.

WARNING

The Tip is the most southern point of the park. Located 2 km past the Visitor Centre, the Tip is surrounded by dangerous currents and undertows. Capture the moment safely by staying on the sand or at the forest's edge.

Swimming, even wading, in the water has led to many **DROWNINGS**. For your safety, **DO NOT ENTER** the water past the Tip Exhibit Area.

Point Pelee National Park



Tune in within 10 km of the park.

Trails

Ecological Treasures

- 1 Marsh Boardwalk**
1km (loop), 45 minutes
Boardwalk with observation tower and telescopes. View the most diverse habitat in the park recognized as a Ramsar Wetland of International Significance. Get lost in a world of cattail mats, painted turtles and Lilly pads by foot or in a canoe.
- 8 Tip Trail**
1km (loop), 20-40 minutes
Shuttle from the Visitor Centre takes you to the Tip Exhibit Area from April to October. Walk to the most southern point of Mainland Canada. Catch a glimpse of the dynamic tip and spot migrating birds in the spring and monarchs and dragonflies in the fall.



Wooded Walks

- 4 Chinquapin Oak Trail**
4km (loop) 2 hours
Access from Tilden Woods Trail or near White Pine Picnic Area. View mixed dry forest that includes the Chinquapin oak, a southern species that grows as far south as the cloud forests of Mexico.
- 5 Shuster Trail**
0.5 km, 15 minutes
Begins along the Tilden Woods Trail and continues straight to East Barrier Beach. The serenity of East Barrier Beach will leave you feeling refreshed. Keep in mind there are no visitor amenities.
- 6 Tilden Woods Trail**
1km (loop), 45minutes
Northeast corner of the Visitor Centre parking lot. View mature swamp forest and cedar savannah. Boardwalks keep your feet dry in spring as you enjoy wildflowers like spring beauty and may apples.

Cultural Discoveries

- 3 DeLaurier Homestead & Trail**
1.2 km (loop), 50 minutes
Discover 10,000 years of Point Pelee's dynamic human history from the First Peoples through to homesteaders, farmers, fishermen and cottagers. See how their story unfolds as you explore the house, barn and trail.

Bike & Hike Trail

- 2 Centennial Bike and Hike Trail**
4km, 2 hours walking or 30 minutes biking one-way
Starts across from Marsh Boardwalk. Hop on your bike and journey through forest, beach and savannah. Peddle your way to the Visitor Centre or continue on the main road to the Tip.