



Jordan Pond and The Bubbles
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Crown Jewel of the North Atlantic Coast

Acadia National Park protects the natural beauty of the highest rocky headlands along the US Atlantic coastline. The park features an abundance of habitats with high biodiversity, clean air and water, and a rich cultural heritage. Interlaced with picturesque communities, Acadia preserves about 38,000 acres with another 12,500 acres of conservation easements. The park includes 65 miles of rugged coastline on Mount Desert Island, Isle au Haut, Schoodic Peninsula, and 17 other coastal islands.

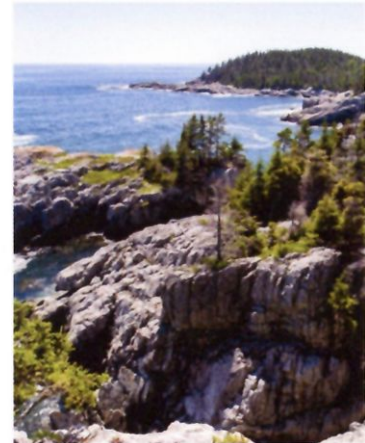
Spanning lakes, ponds, meadows, and mixed coniferous and deciduous forest, the landscape

rises abruptly from sea level to 1,530 feet, with eight mountains above 1,000 feet. About 50 mammal and 300 bird species live here. Harbor seals, porpoise, lobster, sea stars, and other diverse fish and marine animals populate the surrounding waters.

First set aside in 1916 as Sieur de Monts National Monument, it became Lafayette National Park in 1919 and Acadia National Park in 1929. Early park amenities grew to include 33 miles of scenic motor roads, 158 miles of hiking trails, and 45 miles of historic carriage roads with 16 stone bridges.

Shaping the Land

Various geologic processes have shaped Acadia National Park, leaving tangible evidence of the region's ancient past.



Shaping the Land, left to right: Ellsworth Schist was a product of the earliest forces that created Isle au Haut. Glacial action scooped out the Long Pond basin. Waves pounding its rocky shore still shape Mount Desert Island.

People of Acadia, left to right: Wabanaki birch-bark etching. Beech Cliff near Echo Lake Beach, as popular a hike in 1922 as today. Sweetgrass bundle held by Tania Morey, citizen of the Mi'kmaq Nation.

WABANAKI ETCHINGS—COURTESY ABBE MUSEUM

Ellsworth Schist
Five hundred million years ago sedimentary deposits of mud settled on the floor of an ancient sea. These deposits metamorphosed into distinct layers from increasing pressure and high temperatures deep in the Earth. The formation called Ellsworth Schist is the oldest rock exposed on Mount Desert Island.

Cadillac Mountain Granite
This rock began as magma that intruded into older, overlying

rock. As it cooled, it hardened and crystallized. It is peppered with flecks of black hornblende and glistens with quartz crystal (right). Pink feldspar gives this granite its pink hue.

Glaciers
From the domed summit of Cadillac Mountain to the U-shaped valley of Bubble Pond, Acadia's undulating landscape is the product of thousands of years of sculpting by glacial ice. The ice scoured away older rock, revealing the granite

beneath. As the ice melted and retreated, it left behind its burden of boulders and debris strewn across the landscape.

Shoreline Processes
The geologic processes that began millions of years ago continue today, shaping and reshaping the landscape. Shoreline erosion is an ever-present example of the continuing changes wrought by the forces of the Earth. Protect this landscape. Please do not collect or stack cobbles.



Cadillac Mountain granite
© RFP PHOTO

Protect Acadia

Acadia consistently ranks among the most-visited parks in the United States. During peak season, typically May through October, it can be a challenge to experience some of the park's more popular attractions without feeling crowded.

Low-Impact Transportation Options
Always visit Acadia with a backup plan. If a parking lot or area is full when you arrive, pick a new destination. • Leave your car behind. Walk on a village connector trail, ride your bike, or take the fare-free Island Explorer bus into Acadia.

• Enjoy a car-free biking experience by using Acadia's carriage roads. Yield to horses and pedestrians, wear a helmet, and watch your speed for a safer ride. • Enjoy a summit view by hiking one of Acadia's historic trails. Stay on established trails and wear sturdy hiking shoes for a safer hike.

Experience Special Places in New Ways
Don't miss Acadia at night. Seek out moonrise over a beach, shooting stars over a mountain, or owl calls echoing into the stillness of a forest trail. • Avoid crowds at

sunrise and sunset by picking a new place or new way to experience these magical moments. Watch sunrise along the shore or take a sunset boat ride. • Do your favorite things at new times of the day. Visit Acadia in early morning or late afternoon to find less-crowded experiences. • Visit in winter, spring, or late fall to experience Acadia at its most peaceful.

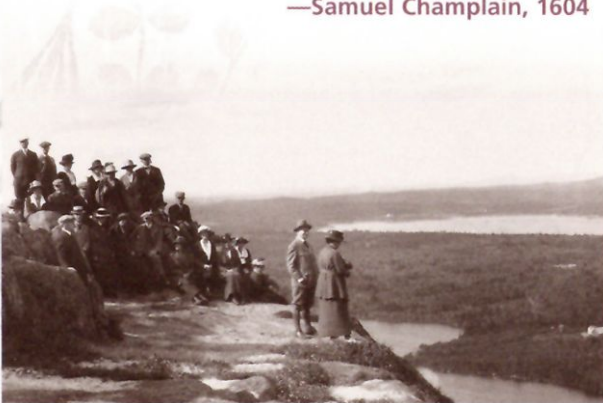
Make It a Maine Experience
Make Maine your destination, not only Acadia. • Spend the middle of the day, the park's busiest time, exploring activities around Acadia in museums,

libraries, historical societies, gardens, galleries, gift shops, and other local venues. • Extend your Maine adventure by visiting three other National Park Service sites: Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, Patten; Roosevelt Campobello International Park, New Brunswick, Canada; and Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, Calais.

People of Acadia

"[The island] is very high, notched in places, so that there is the appearance to one at sea, as of seven or eight mountains extending along near each other. The summit of most of them is destitute of trees, as there are only rocks on them. The woods consist of pines, firs, and birches only. I name it Isle des Monts Deserts."

—Samuel Champlain, 1604



WILL NEWTON, FRIENDS OF ACADIA

Long before Europeans arrived, the Wabanaki, or "People of the Dawnland," lived here in all seasons. Setting up camps near places like Somes Sound, they hunted, fished, gathered berries, harvested clams, and traded with each other. Later they resisted colonization while maintaining their culture and an enduring connection to this landscape.

In 1604, while mapping the North Atlantic coastline, French explorer Samuel Champlain recorded his

observations of Mount Desert Island. For the next 150 years the French and British competed to control this territory. Beginning in 1781, early colonizers received free land in exchange for establishing settlements on the island. They built a local economy around abundant natural resources. They fished, farmed, quarried granite, and engaged in shipping.

In the mid-1800s tourism offered a new income source. Landscape painters of the Hudson River

School inspired city dwellers to seek out Mount Desert Island. Enormous hotels and extravagant "cottages" built by wealthy summer residents soon transformed quiet farming and fishing villages.

Beginning in 1901, conservation-minded philanthropists worked with the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations to acquire and present 5,000 acres of donated land to the federal government.

In 1916 President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the area Sieur de Monts National Monument. As more land donations expanded the monument, in 1919 Congress designated it the first eastern national park. George B. Dorr, a tireless early park advocate and donor, was the first superintendent.



Diversity of Life

Sea meets land at Acadia—and life thrives from shore to summit. The arctic black crowberry grows beside the more temperate bunchberry. Songs of wood warblers fill the forest. A green snake basks in the sun. Mammals from the little brown bat to white-tailed deer also add to Acadia's diversity of life.



Tide Pools
Pockets in the rocky shore trap pools of water as the tide recedes. Amazing plants and creatures, including sea stars (left), survive in the inhospitable world between the tides. Step carefully. Do not disturb the creatures. Watch for rising tides.



Woodlands
Spruce-fir forest dominated the park until 1947, when 10,000 acres burned. Sun-loving birch, aspen, and oak grew in its wake. New and varied growth after the fire attracted new wildlife, like the red fox (left).



Lakes and Ponds
Glacially carved valleys cradle freshwater lakes and ponds in Acadia's interior. Waterfowl, amphibians, reptiles, and many invertebrates thrive.



Mountains
The mountains are not nearly as barren as Samuel Champlain described. They are home to woodlands and many plant species. Peregrine falcons nest on some cliff faces.

Explore Acadia's Natural Beauty

Getting Here by Car Take ME 3 to Mount Desert Island. Reach Schoodic Peninsula by ME 186.

By Air Hancock County-Bar Harbor Airport is 10 miles from the park. Bangor International Airport is 50 miles away.

By Ferry Bar Harbor connects with Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Island Explorer Bus Shuttles Late June through mid-October, fare-free buses link the park with surrounding communities. Visit www.exploreacadia.com.

Park Entrance Passes Buy your pass online and print a copy to display on your dashboard before you arrive. Passes are also sold year-round at the fee station along the Park Loop Road, Halls

Cove Visitor Center, and other locations listed on the park website.

Visitor Center Open seasonally, Halls Cove Visitor Center offers information, activity schedules, and a park store.

Ferries Seasonal passenger ferries operate between Bar Harbor (Mount Desert Island) and Winter Harbor (Schoodic Peninsula), Northeast Harbor (Mount Desert Island) and Islesford (Little Cranberry Island), and Stonington (Deer Isle) and Isle au Haut.

Scenic Drives Park Loop Road (27 miles) connects Acadia's lakes, mountains, and seashore.

Hiking From lowland paths to mountain routes, Acadia's many historic trails provide a variety of

experiences. Trips and falls are the number one safety hazard in the park. Granite surfaces are extremely slick when wet. Plan ahead and bring a map. Know the trail difficulty level and your physical abilities. Dress for variable weather. Wear sturdy hiking shoes. Carry water. Trails are for day hiking only. There is no back-country camping.

Carriage Roads Forty-five miles of historic gravel roads offer opportunities for recreation like walking, biking, and equestrian use in designated locations. The speed limit for all is 20 mph. Bicyclists must stop for horses and yield to all other users. Motorized vehicles and Class 2 and 3 e-bikes are prohibited.

Bicycling In addition to park roads and carriage roads on Mount Desert Island, eight miles of gravel paths are available to bicyclists on the Schoodic Peninsula. Bicycles are prohibited off-road and on hiking trails. Stay to the right and watch your speed.

Swimming Echo Lake Beach (fresh water) and Sand Beach (salt water) are popular swimming areas. Most lakes and ponds on Mount Desert Island supply public drinking water and are closed to swimming and wading.

Winter Visits Most park facilities and services are closed in winter, including all but about two miles of Park Loop Road. Visitors enjoy hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing as conditions

allow. Snowmobiles are allowed on designated routes only.

Campgrounds Advance online reservations are required at www.recreation.gov. Blackwoods, Duck Harbor, Seawall, and Schoodic Woods campgrounds are open seasonally. Store and dispose of food appropriately at all campgrounds. Do not bring firewood into the park from outside the area. Private campgrounds and lodging are available in nearby towns. Backcountry camping in the park is prohibited.

Accessibility We strive to make facilities, services, and programs accessible to all. See the park website for a list of accessible services and facilities.

Weather Be prepared for changeable weather and chilly summer nights. Typical seasonal temperatures are 80°F in summer, 60°F in spring and fall, and 0–40°F in winter. Annual snowfall averages 60 inches.

Safety Use caution near cliff edges; dangerous footing can cause serious trips and falls. Wet trails and the shoreline are slippery. Waves can knock you down and sweep you out to sea.

Tick-borne diseases are a public health concern. Prevention and timely detection of a tick bite is essential for humans and pets. To limit exposure, walk in the middle of trails away from vegetation, wear light-colored clothing so ticks are easier to spot, tuck pants into socks,

spray shoes and clothing with repellent, and check yourself after walks.

Protect the Park Federal law requires that all pets must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet (2 m) at all times. Collect and dispose of animal waste in trash receptacles. • Parking, camping, and fires are permitted only in designated areas. • Federal law prohibits removing or disturbing plants, animals, rocks, and other natural or historic features. • Do not build or remove rock cairns. • Observe wildlife at a distance. Do not feed wildlife, including birds and squirrels. • Stay on designated hiking trails. Walk and rest on durable surfaces, like rock, when possible. • Using remotely piloted aircraft like drones is prohibited.

For a complete list of regulations, including firearms information, visit the park website.

More Information Acadia National Park PO Box 177 Bar Harbor, ME 04609-0177 207-288-3338 www.nps.gov/acad

Follow us on social media. Use the official NPS App to guide your visit.

Acadia is one of over 400 parks in the National Park System. To learn more, visit www.nps.gov.

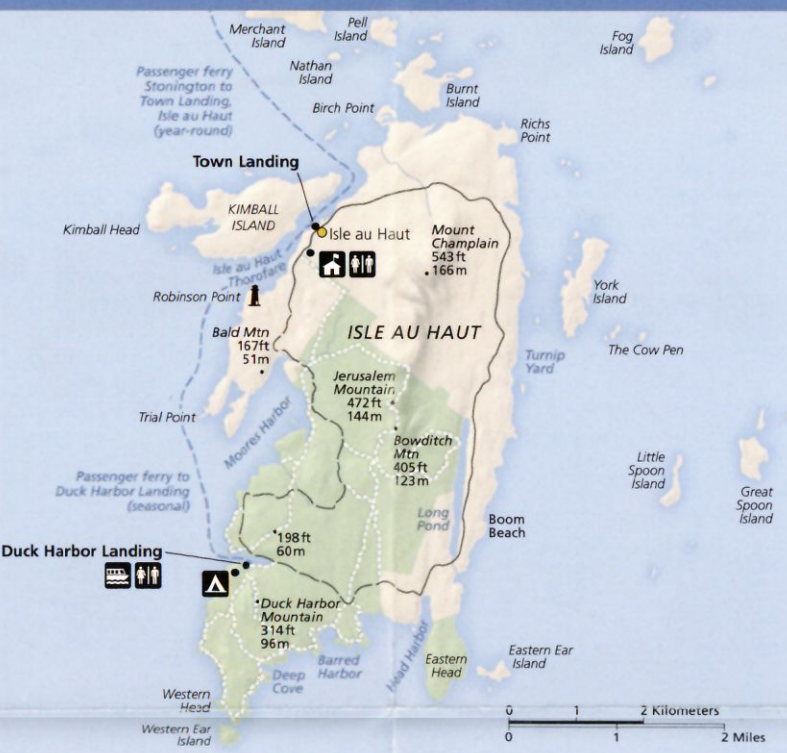
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Acadia National Park



Isle au Haut



Schoodic Peninsula

