Acadia National Park

The official newspaper of
Acadia National Park

June 2006

A Banner Year

What’s so special about 2006? For Acadia National Park, it’s quite significant. It marks not only the centennial of the Antiquities Act, under which Acadia and many other units of the National Park System were created, but also the park’s 90th birthday. Honoring these milestones isn’t the only thing on the park’s schedule in 2006—there’s much more going on!

One hundred years ago this June, Congress passed the Antiquities Act of 1906, authorizing presidents to proclaim national monuments of historic features and other objects of historic or scientific interest. Probably originally intended to preserve historic and prehistoric structures in the Southwest, the act has been interpreted broadly by presidents who have created more than 120 national monuments of significant natural and historic features across the United States. More than half remain national monuments today, while a number of them—including Grand Canyon, Zion, Arches, and Denali—have become some of our nation’s most popular and spectacular national parks. Although not without controversy (many have claimed the act has been used to circumvent Congress), the Antiquities Act has been a useful tool for protecting diverse public lands facing immediate threats.

Acadia is one of the many parks that has benefited from the Antiquities Act. In 1916, just ten years after its passage, President Woodrow Wilson used his authority to create Surr de Monts National Monument, the first incarnation of today’s Acadia National Park. At that time, the park consisted of more than 5,000 acres that had been donated by concerned citizens. Redesignated Lafayette National Park in 1919, Acadia received its current name in 1929—making it the first national park east of the Mississippi River.

Many changes have occurred since the park’s early days, and this year is no different. Returning visitors will notice a number of improvements to park facilities. The Sieur de Monts Spring area, the heart of the park since its creation, has had a face-lift. New walkways, signs, and exhibits increase safety, orientation, and accessibility around the Nature Center. Accessibility has had a boost in other areas of the park as well: an accessible trail atop Cadillac Mountain and new audio equipment will help visitors of all abilities enjoy park programs and facilities (see article on page 3).

Fare-free Island Explorer bus service continues again this year, running from June 23 to early October. Riding these propane-powered buses helps reduce traffic, parking, and air pollution problems on the island. New this year is a Bicycle Express to Eagle Lake, which runs directly from Bar Harbor to Eagle Lake so you can avoid parking hassles. Buying your park pass helps keep this unique service running.

Sea-going visitors will notice changes as well. The Baker Island Cruise has returned after several years to join the Dive-In Theater Boat Cruise, Frenchman Bay Cruise, and Islesford Historical Cruise as ranger-narrated boat cruise offerings. More information about these ocean adventures is available in the program schedule inside this paper.

As you explore the park on new adventures or try-and-true favorites during this historic year, remember your visit can have an impact on Acadia. Why not make it a positive one?

Pages 2-3 Happenings

Find out what’s going on this month. See pages 2-3 for details about park closures, fee information, and facilities and services that will help you plan your trip. Learn more about accessibility improvements in the park and important tips to help you have a safe visit.

Pages 4-5 Programs

Whether you are feeling adventurous and want to explore the park on foot or would rather sit back and relax while you learn, you can find a ranger-led program to suit your interests. Park rangers offer walks, talks, hikes, boat tours, amphitheater programs, and more. Join us on a program today?

Page 8 Tips

Wondering what’s the best time to explore the intertidal zone or watch sunset from Cadillac Mountain? Looking for ideas to help protect the park’s plants and animals as you explore? Check out the tide chart, sunrise/sunset times, and tidepooling tips on page 8.

Day Tripping

If you’re looking for a short excursion to explore other areas of Maine, consider a scenic three-hour drive to Saint Croix Island International Historic Site (HS). Located eight miles south of Calais, Maine, Saint Croix Island HS commemorates one of the earliest European settlements in North America and the first attempt by the French at year-round colonization in the territory they called l’Acadie (Acadia).

Both the U.S. National Park Service and Parks Canada maintain park units called Saint Croix Island HS. Visit the U.S. mainland site to walk in the footsteps of the early French explorers, who spent one tragic winter on the island. Interpretive panels and bronze figures convey messages about the French colonists and Native Americans who once frequented this site. Restrooms and a picnic area are also available. Visits to the island itself are not encouraged due to its fragile nature. For more information, ask a park ranger or visit www.nps.gov/sacr.

Bronze statues tell part of the story of Saint Croix Island International Historic Site.
June Explorations in Acadia

Facilities

Hulls Cove Visitor Center
Watch the 15-minute orientation film and plan your visit with a three-dimensional map of the island. Books, maps, and information are available. Open daily 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. starting June 20.)

Campgrounds
Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds are located on Mount Desert Island. Reservations are required at Blackwoods from May 1 to October 31. Seawall is first-come, first-served. Neither campground has hook-ups. There is no backcountry camping in the park.

Museums

Isleford Historical Museum: Explore the Cranberry Isles and their people. Accessible by boat from Northeast Harbor or Southwest Harbor. Free. Open daily 9 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. (Open at 10:45 a.m. on Sundays.) Opens June 20.

Nature Center: Discover Acadia’s natural resources and learn how they are protected. Free. Located at Sieur de Monts Spring. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Activities

Hiking
More than 120 miles of hiking trails offer something for everyone. Pick up a guide to the most popular trails, rated by difficulty, at the visitor center or campgrounds. More comprehensive hiking maps and trail guides are available for purchase.

Junior and Senior Ranger Programs
Learn about the park while you complete the Junior Ranger Program activities and earn a certificate and patch. A Senior Ranger Program is available for ages 18 and over. Booklets can be purchased at the visitor center, nature center, or campgrounds.

Ranger-Led Programs
Join us for boat cruises, evening slide programs, mountain hikes, short talks, and nature walks. For a schedule and descriptions, see pages 4–5.

Scenic Drives
Drive 27 miles on the Park Loop Road and Cadillac Mountain Road to view the spectacular scenery of Acadia. Enjoy occasional stops to stroll down a path or read a roadside exhibit. A self-guided audio tour of Acadia and the surrounding area, covering 36 miles, is available for purchase at the visitor center.

Information

Call 911 for all emergencies.

Accessibility
The Access Guide, available at the visitor center, lists accessible facilities in the park. For more information about accessibility, see the article on page 3.

Island Explorer Shuttles
Fare-free Island Explorer buses operate throughout Mount Desert Island, linking the park to neighboring village centers. By parking your car and riding these propane-powered buses, you help reduce traffic congestion, parking, and air pollution problems on the island. Pick up a copy of the bus schedule at the visitor center. You can also flag down the bus anywhere it is safe to stop along its route. Service begins June 23.

Parks
During the summer, the park can be quite congested. Please drive carefully and observe posted signage. Better yet, ride the bus and relax! Parking is only permitted in designated (posted) areas, parking lots, and established roadside pullouts.

Swimming
You can swim at Sand Beach, but ocean temperatures rarely rise above 55°F (13°C). For warmer water, try Echo Lake on Route 102. Many other ponds and lakes on the island are public water supplies where swimming, wading, and pets are prohibited. Please respect posted regulations.

Parlez-Vous Français?
Une traduction française d’information de parc est disponible au centre d’accueil à Hulls Cove sur la route 3 ou au parc headquartes sur la route 233. Merci de visiter le parc national d’Acadia.

Religious Services in the Park
On Sundays Christian Ministry in the National Parks holds services in the park. All are welcome. The schedule is:
8:00 a.m. - Blackwoods Campground
10:00 a.m. - Seawall Campground
7:30 p.m. - Blue Hill Overlook atop Cadillac Mountain (weather permitting)

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?
Parkinformation auf Deutsch finden Sie im Besuchercenter in Hulls Cove an der Strasse #3. Vielen Dank für Ihren Besuch.

Pets
Pets must be attended and on a six-foot or shorter leash. Except service animals, pets are not permitted on Sand Beach or Echo Lake Beach from May 15 to October 15, in public buildings, or on ladder trails. Kennels are available in nearby towns.

Size Restrictions
Vehicles taller than 11’8” cannot drive the entire Park Loop Road. See the park map for bridge heights. Vehicles longer than 20’ and trailers are not permitted on Bass Harbor Head Road or the southern end of Schooner Head Road. There is a 35’ maximum for trailers and vehicles in campgrounds.
Your support is crucial to the maintenance and improvement of Acadia National Park. All visitors who enter the park, regardless of how they enter, must pay an entrance fee. We thank you for your support!

The park’s Islesford Historical Museum on Little Cranberry Island now features an audio tour available on CD. Visitors with low vision may borrow a portable CD player to listen to the tour, which provides detailed information about the museum’s exhibits. The audio tour and CD player are available for loan free of charge at the museum.

Visitors with limited hearing can now use personal assistive listening devices (ALDs) to improve hearing and understanding during park programs. A transmitter broadcasts the ranger’s voice directly into the ears of individuals equipped with any of the six receivers. The ALDs are available by reservation for any of our interpretive programs. For more information, call 207-288-3338 and press “0.”

The newly renovated accessible trail atop Cadillac Mountain permits access to a portion of the park’s highest summit—at 1,330 feet, Cadillac Mountain is also the tallest mountain on the Atlantic Coast north of Brazil. Follow this short trail for scenic views of Frenchman Bay, the Porcupine Islands, and the town of Bar Harbor.

These new features complement the park’s existing facilities and services. Hulls Cove Visitor Center, the Nature Center, Jordan Pond House, and numerous picnic areas are accessible, and both campgrounds have accessible sites. The audiovisual program at the visitor center offers both audio description and captioning. Accessible interpretive programs are listed on pages 4–5. For more information about accessibility in Acadia, pick up a copy of the Access Guide at the visitor center or park headquarters.

Where Do Your Fees Go?

The majority of fees paid in Acadia stay right here. The Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, first authorized by Congress in 1996, mandates that 80 percent of fees paid in Acadia stay in the park to be used for projects that directly benefit park visitors and resources.

Your fees are used for a variety of projects that improve the condition of natural and cultural resources and make the park a safer place for you to visit. Some of the projects financed by fees include:

• Rehabilitation of the historic trails system
• Enhancement of the park’s safety and environmental programs
• Rehabilitation of the grounds at Sauer de Monts Spring
• Improvement of Cadillac Mountain accessibility (partially funded by fees)
• Repointing of masonry walls on the Park Loop Road

In addition to these projects, your fees help finance the Island Explorer, a seasonal public transit system that serves Acadia National Park and local communities. Increases in entrance fees begun in 2004 include a transportation fee that directly supports Island Explorer: $10 from every weekly pass and Acadia National Park Pass sold during the season goes into a special transportation account. These transportation fees will help defray the cost of long-term expansion of the system, helping eliminate traffic problems in the park.

Established in the late 1990s to reduce traffic congestion, parking, and air pollution problems, Island Explorer provides a fare-free, eco-friendly transportation alternative. The Island Explorer bus system was created through a partnership between the National Park Service, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maine Department of Transportation, Friends of Acadia, six municipalities, and private businesses. Downeast Transportation Inc., a nonprofit organization, operates the fleet of propane-powered buses.

Please support the Island Explorer and other projects by buying a park pass at the following locations:

• Sand Beach Entrance Station
• Park Headquarters
• Blackwoods Campground
• Hulls Cove Visitor Center
• Bar Harbor Village Green
• Seawall Campground
• Thompson Island Visitor Center

All visitors who enter the park, regardless of how they enter, must pay an entrance fee. We thank you for your support!

Be Careful Out There!

Acadia National Park offers many opportunities for discovery. To help ensure a safe, enjoyable visit, pay attention and follow a few important guidelines as you explore the park.

• Always carry water, a map, adequate clothing, a first aid kit, and a flashlight while hiking.
• Be sure to tell someone your plans—when you are leaving, where you are going, and when you will return.
• Remain in one place if you become separated from your group.
• Check for ticks, as Lyme disease can occur in this area. If you are walking through tall grass, consider wearing long pants and using insect repellent.
• Drive safely and wear your seatbelt at all times. The speed limit is 35 mph in the park unless otherwise noted. It is easy to get distracted by scenery—pay attention.
• Do not drink and drive.
• When in doubt, ask a ranger first!

Remember that your actions can make the difference between a happy memory and an unpleasant experience.
Walks, Talks, and Hikes

**Acadia’s Birds** (3 hours, easy)
Find, identify, and discuss some of Acadia’s most fascinating residents. Bring binoculars. Expect motor travel to various points in the park. Make reservations at Hulls Cove Visitor Center or by calling 207-288-8832. Ask about accessibility.

**Animals of Acadia** (1½ hours, talk)

**At the Summit** (1 hour, easy ½-mile walk)
Enjoy the views from atop Cadillac Mountain and gain a new perspective on Acadia’s beauty. Cadillac Summit parking area.

**Birds of Prey** (1½ hours, talk)
Explore Acadia’s eagles, owls, and other raptors and learn where to look for them. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

**Forests of Lilliput** (2 hours, easy 1- to 2-mile walk)
Discover the fascinating world of mosses, ferns, lichens, and fungi. Make reservations at Hulls Cove Visitor Center or by calling 207-288-8832.

**Gorham Mountain Hike** (2½ hours, moderate 2-mile hike)
Reward yourself with views of Acadia’s coastline from the top of a granite mountain. Be prepared for rocky trail conditions. Gorham Mountain parking area.

**Green Kingdom** (2 hours, easy 1- to 2-mile walk)
Explore Acadia’s diverse plant life along a historic carriage road. Eagle Lake parking area.

**Headland Hike** (2½ hours, moderate 1½-mile hike)
Hike to a spectacular headland while learning about Acadia’s cultural and natural history. Great Head parking area.

**Life between the Tides** (3 hours, moderate 1½-mile walk)
Roll up your sleeves for hands-on investigation of the intertidal zone where ocean meets land. Ship Harbor parking area.

**Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges** (2½ hours, moderate ½-mile hike)
Follow tree-lined carriage roads to beautiful stone bridges. Parkman Mountain parking area.

**Otter Point Walk** (2 hours, easy to moderate 2-mile hike)
Discover stories of history and nature as you view some of the most striking scenery in the park. Gorham Mountain parking area.

**Peregrine Watch** (variable, talk)
Most days, weather permitting, a ranger or a volunteer will be available with viewing scopes for watching a family of peregrine falcons breeding for the 16th year on Champlain Mountain. Stop by anytime between 9 a.m. and noon. Precipice Trail parking area.

**Stars over Sand Beach** (1 to 1½ hours, talk)
Discover the wonders of Acadia’s night sky. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight and binoculars. On cloudy nights, rangers present a short program on stargazing. Meet on Sand Beach.

**Trees along the Trail** (2 hours, easy 2-mile hike)
Learn the names, ecology, and uses of the trees of Acadia’s forests. Eagle Lake parking area.

**Written in the Rocks** (3 hours, moderate 2-mile hike)
Hike to a dramatic headland for a look at the geologic processes that created Acadia’s scenery. Sand Beach parking area.

**Découvrez Acadia!** (1½ heures, facile, 1 kilomètre)
Faisons une randonnée guidée au sommet du Mont Cadillac. Apprenez pourquoi les voyageurs du monde entier sont attirés depuis des siècles par cette région. Rendez-vous au stationnement du sommet du Mont Cadillac.

**Sur la côte rocheuse** (1 heure, facile, 3 kilomètres)
Faisons une promenade sur la partie de la côte la plus pittoresque du parc. On suit le chemin jusqu’à la Pointe Otter, traversant la vieille forêt coniférienne. Rendez-vous au stationnement du Mont Gorham.

Children’s Programs

Children must be accompanied by at least one adult. Reservations are required for all children’s programs except Fire and Ice. Please call 207-288-8832 or stop by Hulls Cove Visitor Center.

**Discovering the Carriage Roads** (2 hours, easy 1½-mile walk)
Who designed and built Acadia’s historic carriage roads? Visit a stone bridge and practice stone-cutting skills. For children 8 and older.

**Fire and Ice** (1½ hours, moderate hike)
Read the landscape and discover Acadia’s geologic past as we look for clues of the rock cycle, glaciers, and volcanoes. No reservations necessary. Meet at Sand Beach parking area. For children 7 and older.

**Island’s Edge** (2 hours, easy ½-mile walk)
Find out what lives in Acadia’s coastal forest and tidepools. For children 5-12.

**Mountain Mysteries** (2 hours, moderate 1-mile hike)
Hike one of Acadia’s mountains and discover its geologic secrets. For children 7-14.

**Nature’s Way** (1½ hours, easy 1-mile walk)
Join a ranger for hands-on trail exploration. For children 4-8.

**Tread Lightly** (1½ hours, easy hike)
Leave No Trace on this interactive program about minimizing your impact while having fun at Acadia. All ages welcome.

**Life in a Pond** (1½ hours, easy ¼-mile walk)
Get a frog’s-eye view of the pond habitat. Search the shore for interesting plants and animals especially adapted to an aquatic life. For children 4-10.

Boat Cruises

Park rangers interpret the park from four of the many commercial boats in the area. Make reservations with boat owners. Wear warm clothing. Arrive 15 minutes before departure. Some boat operators run several trips daily. Please ask boat operators about accessibility and trips not listed below.

**Islesford Historical Cruise** (2½ hours)
Discover the enduring connections between people and the sea. Search for wildlife as you cruise to Little Cranberry Island for a stop at the Islesford Historical Museum. Fee: $24 adults, $23 seniors 65 and older, $15 children under 12, $5 children under 5. Reservations: 207-276-3352.

**Frenchman Bay Cruise** (2 hours)
Climb aboard a majestic 151-foot, four-masted schooner in search of wildlife and history. Fee: $28.50 adults, $27.50 seniors 65 and older, $19.50 children under 12. Group rates (15 or more) are $23.50 per person. Bar Harbor Inn Pier. Reservations: 207-288-4585.

**Baker Island Cruise** (4½ hours)

**Islesford Historical Cruise** (2½ hours)
Discover the enduring connections between people and the sea. Search for wildlife as you cruise to Little Cranberry Island for a stop at the Islesford Historical Museum. Fee: $24 adults, $23 seniors 65 and older, $15 children under 12, $5 children under 5. Reservations: 207-276-3352.

**Dive-In Theater Boat Cruise** (3 hours)

**Islesford Historical Cruise** (2½ hours)
Discover the enduring connections between people and the sea. Search for wildlife as you cruise to Little Cranberry Island for a stop at the Islesford Historical Museum. Fee: $24 adults, $23 seniors 65 and older, $15 children under 12, $5 children under 5. Reservations: 207-276-3352.

**Islesford Historical Cruise** (2½ hours)
Discover the enduring connections between people and the sea. Search for wildlife as you cruise to Little Cranberry Island for a stop at the Islesford Historical Museum. Fee: $24 adults, $23 seniors 65 and older, $15 children under 12, $5 children under 5. Reservations: 207-276-3352.
**June Ranger-Led Program Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, June 5</th>
<th>7:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Acadia's Birds</th>
<th>10:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Frenchman Bay Cruise</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 6</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dive-In Theater Boat Cruise</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>At the Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 9</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Baker Island Cruise</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Frenchman Bay Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 10</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Baker Island Cruise</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Islesford Historical Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 11</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Frenchman Bay Cruise</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Islesford Historical Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 12</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>At the Summit</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Animals of Acadia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 13</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Acadia's Birds</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. Rockefeller's Bridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 17</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Acadia's Birds</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Baker Island Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 18</td>
<td>3:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Life between the Tides</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Frenchman Bay Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 21</td>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Evening Program-Blackwoods Campground</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 22</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Baker Island Cruise</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Forests of Lilliput</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 23</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Acadia's Birds</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Fire and Ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 26</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Otter Point Walk</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Fire in a Pond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 24</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Frenchman Bay Cruise</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Islesford Historical Cruise</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, June 25</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Otter Point Walk</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Frenchman Bay Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 26</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Baker Island Cruise</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Headland Hike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 28</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. Rockefeller's Bridges</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Written in the Rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 29</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Mr. Rockefeller's Bridges</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Baker Island Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 30</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Fire and Ice</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Forests of Lilliput</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precipice Trail parking area – Park Loop Road south of Sieur de Monts Spring</td>
<td>Sand Beach parking area – Park Loop Road south of Entrance Station</td>
<td>Seawall Campground – Route 102A south of Southwest Harbor</td>
<td>Great Head parking area – Park Loop Road south of Sand Beach</td>
<td>Sieur de Monts Nature Center – Route 3 at Sieur de Monts entrance to Park Loop Road</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Program Locations**

- Blackwoods Campground – Route 3 south of Otter Creek
- Cadillac Summit parking area – Top of Cadillac Mountain
- Eagle Lake parking area – Route 233 west of Bar Harbor (north lot—not boat ramp)
- Gorham Mountain parking area – Park Loop Road south of Sand Beach
- Great Head parking area – Southern end of Schooner Head Road
- Parkman Mountain parking area – Route 3/198 north of Northeast Harbor
- Precipice Trail parking area – Park Loop Road south of Sieur de Monts Spring
- Sand Beach parking area – Park Loop Road south of Entrance Station
- Seawall Campground – Route 102A south of Southwest Harbor
- Great Head parking area – Park Loop Road south of Sand Beach
- Sieur de Monts Nature Center – Route 3 at Sieur de Monts entrance to Park Loop Road

**Ship Harbor parking area**

- Park Loop Road south of Entrance Station
- Top of Cadillac Mountain
- Park Loop Road south of Sieur de Monts Spring
- Park Loop Road south of Entrance Station
Ocean Discovery with a Ranger

Are you captivated by the sea, its mysteries, life, and legends? Do you wonder about the life of hardy Maine islanders? Are you curious about the lobster you had for dinner last night? If you answered yes to any of these questions, a park ranger-narrated boat tour is for you! Four boat cruises offered in conjunction with the park feature a park ranger onboard to tell the stories of the Maine coast.

The Islesford Historical Cruise travels through the Cranberry Isles to Little Cranberry Island. After stopping at the Islesford Historical Museum, where you can explore an exhibit featuring the age of sail and catch a glimpse of island life, the cruise takes you into Somes Sound, a fjord that cleaves Mount Desert Island nearly in two. Throughout the cruise, park rangers discuss the relationship between people and the sea and search for wildlife.

On the Frenchman Bay Cruise, imagine you are back in the 19th century as you cruise on a 191-foot, four-masted schooner replica. Learn about wildlife and history and, if you’re feeling strong, maybe even lend a hand when the sails are unfurled.

On the Dive-In Theater Boat Cruise, you can watch real-time video of a diver searching the ocean floor for sea life to bring aboard your boat for hands-on exploration. While cruising through Frenchman Bay, you may spot seals, porpoises, and coastal bird life.

The Baker Island Cruise has returned after many years. Join a park ranger for an intimate look at Baker Island and its unique natural and human history. After hopping aboard a small boat for landing, explore this currently uninhabited island and view the lighthouse up close on a moderate hike. Each of these ranger-led boat cruises are offered several times per week. Reservations are recommended. Please see pages 4-5 for schedule, fee, and reservation information. Get your sea legs ready and head out on a boat cruise with a park ranger!

Peregrine Watch

Since 1991, Acadia has been the home of several pairs of nesting peregrine falcons. These majestic birds are a symbol of survival and triumph, and an Endangered Species Act success story.

The cliffs of Champlain Mountain are home to one of Acadia’s nesting pairs. Join a ranger or volunteer for Peregrine Watch, offered most days in June, weather permitting, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Precipice Trail parking area. Use viewing scopes to check out activity on the cliff. Learn about field-identifying marks and behavior, and hear how you can promote the conservation of peregrine falcons.

Please be aware that the Precipice Trail, Jordan Cliffs, Valley Cove Wall, and Beech Cliffs areas are closed until the peregrine chicks mature and leave the nest (usually in late summer). See Park Closures (page 2) for specific trail closures.

Resource Acadia Program Series: Citizen Science in Action!

If you’re looking for a way to get up close and personal with park resources, Resource Acadia workshops may be the answer. Resource Acadia programs are designed to provide park neighbors and visitors with current information about park resources generated by researchers and managers. Most Resource Acadia programs are field-based and offer hands-on participation in current research efforts.

Two Resource Acadia workshops are scheduled this summer. Both programs are free, but require advanced registration. Visit www.nps.gov/acad/serc/education.htm for more information. To register, contact Jim McKenna at jim_mckenna@nps.gov or 207-288-8733.

Saturday, June 24, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
A Novel Use for an Ordinary Fruit: Using Oranges to Help Understand Population Genetic Structure of Fucus vesiculosus L. along the Schoodic Coast
Explore the reproductive ecology and population genetics of rockweed, an algae found in the waters surrounding the park. Help release 100 oranges at four locations (simultaneously!) and observe their paths to learn more about local currents. Register by June 21.

Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Biodiversity and BioBlitzes for Beginners: Inventorying Acadia’s Insect Population
Learn about general biological classification, the significance of biodiversity, and the important ecological role of flies (Diptera) as part of the fourth annual BioBlitz. Receive training in insect collecting techniques and take part in specimen collecting in the field. Register by July 12.
Park Concessions

Park concessions offer services to visitors within Acadia National Park. Acadia Corporation operates shops at Cadillac Mountain, Thunder Hole, and Jordan Pond. Visit the Jordan Pond House for traditional tea and popovers, or a full lunch or dinner. For reservations, contact the Jordan Pond House at 207-276-3316.

Wildwood Stables, located one mile southeast of Jordan Pond, features horse-drawn carriage tours along Acadia’s historic carriage roads. Enjoy scenic vistas and cool forests on your narrated tour. Private tours and stabling for your personal horse are also available. For information, contact Wildwood Stables at 207-276-3622. Opens June 15.

If you’d like to sit back and relax as you learn about Acadia National Park and Mount Desert Island, a narrated bus tour might be just the activity for you. Beginning and ending in Bar Harbor, these tours explore the natural and cultural history of the park and surrounding area. Stops include many popular park sights, including Cadillac Mountain. National Park Tours (207-288-0300) offers 2½-hour tours. Oli’s Trolley (207-288-9899) offers both 1-hour and 2½-hour tours. Advance reservations recommended.

Eastern National

Looking for a guide to plants in the northeastern United States? Trying to find something to keep your kids occupied on a rainy day? Why not check out the Eastern National bookstores in the park? They carry a wide variety of educational items, including books about the park’s natural and cultural history, children’s stories, and travel; maps; videos; note cards; and more. Eastern National bookstores are located at Hulls Cove Visitor Center, which offers the largest selection of items, Sieur de Monts Nature Center, Park Headquarters, Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds, and Islesford Historical Museum.

Eastern National is a nonprofit agency that provides quality educational products and services to America’s national parks and other public trusts. Eastern National’s contributions have benefited parks and visitors by supporting research, educational, and interpretive projects and by funding publications, including this newspaper. Joining Eastern National supports your parks and gives you 15% off merchandise in any Eastern National store. Pick up an application at the visitor center or for more information, visit www.easternnational.org.

Friends of Acadia

Friends of Acadia is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the long-term protection of the natural and cultural resources of Acadia National Park and its region. To meet this mission, Friends of Acadia channels private donations to conservation and historic preservation projects in the park, monitors planning and legislative activities affecting Acadia, and publishes the Friends of Acadia Journal.

For more information about Friends of Acadia, please contact:
Friends of Acadia
P.O. Box 45
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
800-625-0321 - Phone
www.friendsofacadia.org
Ride the fare-free Island Explorer for relaxing, low-emission transportation.

Hope Us Revegetate!

In response to extensive rehabilitation at Blackwoods Campground, the park has undertaken a revegetation project to replace much of the vegetation that was lost during construction. Here’s how you can help make this project a success and help restore these areas to their natural condition.

• Areas where native plants are planted will be roped off and signed to indicate what’s happening there. Small trees and shrubs will be mulched with wood chips. Please don’t walk through these areas or damage new or existing plants or trees.
• Stay on designated paths at Blackwoods Campground. Taking shortcuts kills plants.

Remember: It only takes one footstep to kill a plant!

Protect Your Park and its Wildlife

You play an important role in protecting Acadia’s vulnerable natural and cultural resources and keeping wild animals wild. While you’re out in the park, do your part by taking a few simple actions:

• Stay on trails to protect fragile plant life.
• Leave what you find. Removing natural and historic objects such as beach cobbles, flowers, marine life, and antlers degrades the park and is illegal.
• At all times, keep your pet on a leash no longer than six feet for the protection of your pet, visitors, and wildlife. Ladder trails, public buildings, and beaches are closed to pets.
• Pack it in. Pack it out. Carry out anything you brought into the park. Better yet, carry out any other litter you find, too.
• Do not remove or add to trail markers (cairns), which are carefully maintained by the park.
• Protect water sources. Do not swim in bodies of water marked as water supplies.
• Ride the propane-powered Island Explorer shuttle bus to help reduce traffic and pollution in the park.
• Camp in designated areas only.

Acadia’s small size and proximity to towns and residential areas mean that wild animals often come in close contact with people. To help ensure the safety and health of these animals, follow these steps when you encounter wildlife:

• Never feed wild animals, including gulls. Human food can make them ill and create beggar animals that no longer retain a healthy respect of humans.
• Keep your distance. Do not approach wild animals. If you suddenly find yourself too close, back away and give them room to escape. Use binoculars to get a close-up view.
• When camping, all food, garbage, and cooking equipment must be stored in an enclosed vehicle or hard-sided locker to help prevent animals from being attracted to your site.
• Respect closures established to protect plants and animals, especially nesting peregrines, seabirds, and eagles. Intrusion by humans can cause nesting attempts to fail.
• Be aware of wildlife along roads, especially at dusk and dawn. Pay close attention and lower your speed, allowing you and you a better chance to avoid an accident.
• Remember that protecting wildlife in our national parks not only makes good sense, but also it is the law. All national parks have strict regulations to protect wildlife.

Tidepool Tips

The zone where ocean meets land—the intertidal zone—is one of the most fascinating areas in Acadia. Here you can see creatures with amazing survival skills that allow them to stay alive when, twice each day, the tide leaves them exposed. These marine organisms are not indestructible, however. Our careless handling and footsteps can do damage that the changing tides cannot. As you explore the intertidal zone, keep in mind these tips for your safety and for the protection of marine life.

• Do not wade or sit in tidepools.
• Rocks and algae are slippery. Watch your step. Use your arms to brace yourself.
• Be patient. Take time to be still and watch; you’ll be surprised at the activity you see.
• Sea creatures live everywhere. Be careful where you place your feet.
• If you move animals or rocks, return them to the same spot.
• Do not pry animals from rocks; you may injure them in the process.
• Leave what you find. Removing natural and historic objects and footsteps can do damage that the changing tides cannot. As you explore the intertidal zone, keep in mind these tips for your safety and for the protection of marine life.

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our Heritage.

June 2006 Tide Chart

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Sources: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (tides) and U.S. Naval Observatory (sunrise/sunset). Both tide and sunrise/sunset times are for Bar Harbor. Adjustments for other locations or elevations may be necessary.

Ride the fare-free Island Explorer for relaxing, low-emission transportation.

Be careful of deer when driving at dusk or dawn.

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The Beaver Log

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