

## To Reach the Park

Cape Chignecto Provincial Park is located in West Advocate Harbour, 45 km (28 miles) west of Parrsboro and 80 km (50 miles) from Amherst. From Halifax on Hwy 104, take Exit 12. At Parrsboro take Hwy 209 to the park. From New Brunswick on Hwy 104, take Exit 4 to Hwy 302 to Hwy 242. Then follow Hwy 209 to the park.



## RESERVATIONS

1-888-544-3434

9:00 am to 11:00 pm AT (7 days a week)

[www.novascotiaparks.ca](http://www.novascotiaparks.ca) (24 hours)

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Parks and Recreation Division**  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
RR # 1, Belmont,  
Colchester County,  
Nova Scotia, B0M 1C0  
(902) 662-3030  
[www.novascotiaparks.ca](http://www.novascotiaparks.ca)

**Department of**  
**Natural Resources**  
PO Box 428, Parrsboro  
Nova Scotia B0M 1S0  
(902) 254-3241

**CREDA**  
PO Box 546, Amherst  
Nova Scotia B4H 4A1  
(902) 667-3638

**Cape Chignecto**  
**Provincial Park**  
(902) 392-2085  
[www.capechignecto.net](http://www.capechignecto.net)  
(mid-May to late October)



Photos courtesy Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources  
and Nova Scotia Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

# Cape Chignecto

## Provincial Park



***Cape Chignecto Provincial Park** is a beautiful meeting of land and sea where 185 m (600 ft.) cliffs rise from the Bay of Fundy while the churning waters of the world's highest tides lap at their base below. Amid the spectacular scenery, this 4200 hectare (10,000 acre) natural park includes some of the province's finest examples of deep valleys, sheltered coves, rare plants, and remnant old growth forest. An excellent opportunity for wilderness hiking, back-country camping, and sea kayaking.*

**Natural History** Cape Chignecto tells a story of the collision of continents, uplifting of mountains, massive erosion, glaciation and rebounding of the land. At Spicer's Cove, the red rhyolite cliff face was deposited during violent volcanic eruptions some 400 million years ago. During the next 100 million years, meandering rivers deposited sediments now found as thin seams of coal and fossilized plants.

The Eatonville area contains evidence of immense glaciers which once covered Nova Scotia. The raised beach and wave-cut terraces at Squally Point were formed at sea level during the retreat of the glaciers about 14,000 years ago. These features now stand some 35 meters (115 feet) above sea level as the land, freed of the tremendous weight of the ice, rebounded to its present elevation.

The Cobequid Fault, the geologic boundary between southern and northern Nova Scotia, is revealed along the spectacular cliff escarpment of the West Advocate shore. Other evidence of diverse geological, geomorphological, glacial, marine and fluvial processes include beaches and spits, sea caves, sea stacks, keyhole formations and exposures of several rock types.

**Cultural History** Cape Chignecto was an important seasonal encampment to the Mi'kmaq until the early 18th century. By 1750, approximately 10,000 Acadians were living around the Bay of Fundy, 6000 of whom were in the Chignecto area. Acadian dykes, built to protect the main street of the village from the sea, are still visible in Advocate Harbour.

Eatonville, now considered a ghost town, was at its peak in the 1890s with over 350 residents taking part in lumbering and ship building. More than 20 masted schooners were launched from Eatonville Harbour.

**Ecology** Cape Chignecto is an imposing peninsula marked by spectacular cliffs that divide the Bay of Fundy into two arms. Several ravines and long canyons have been created by the fast running streams making their way to the coast. The variable landforms, combined with a coastal marine climate, produces an extraordinary ecosystem with towering stands of red spruce, uncommon plants and abundant wildlife.

The view from a Kayak gives you a different perspective on the geologic formations.

Views of unique  
geologic features



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Hike the trails



**Trails** Cape Chignecto offers an extensive system of coastal hiking and walking trails that will challenge and inspire avid wilderness hikers and casual day-trippers alike.

At the Red Rocks Trail Head, visitors have a choice of eight trail options ranging from a 15 minute stroll from the Visitor Centre to the beach, to the challenging 51 km long **Cape Chignecto Coastal Trail**. Other less challenging options include the **Christie Viewpoint Trail** and the moderately challenging five kilometre (3.1 mi.) **Fundy Ridge Trail**.

Avid hikers will want to try our challenging trails: **McGahey Brook Canyon Trail** – 9 kms (5.5 mi.); **Mill Brook Canyon Trail** – 12 kms (7.5 mi.); **Eatonville Trail** – 28 kms (17 mi.); and **Refugee Cove** – 24 kms (15 mi.). All feature spectacular views and many offer access to the shore. Wilderness campsites are located two to four hours apart along the coastal trail. A wilderness cabin and a bunkhouse are also available.

Breath-taking perspectives of the Three Sisters sea stacks, Eatonville Harbour, the raised beach at Squally Point, and the upper Bay of Fundy are featured at the day-use area at Eatonville. From the visitor centre, the accessible trail to the Three Sisters is 2.2 kilometres (return), while the trail to the raised beach is 2.8 kilometres (return).

**Other Important Information** Cape Chignecto has two entry points. Visitors wishing to enjoy wilderness hiking and camping must use the Red Rocks entrance at West Advocate. Day-use park visitors must travel the West Apple River Road to the entrance at Eatonville.

Beach camping has been designated for kayakers at Refugee Cove and Seal Cove. Maximum tent capacity is four persons and the maximum number of tents is three four-person tents, or six two-person tents. Each tent requires a campsite permit.

Open fires are not permitted. Campers must bring along a lightweight stove and fuel for cooking. Pack-in /pack-out policies are strictly enforced.

The coastal wilderness trail includes physically challenging conditions. Hikers should be physically fit and carry appropriate wilderness travel equipment including first aid and survival kits. A back-country travel plan must be left with park staff upon entering the park.

Remember the backpackers’ motto: Take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints.

The park season is early May through November, weather permitting. Usage beyond these dates may be permitted. Requests should be forwarded in writing to the park well in advance of proposed travel.

Area Attractions

Plan to attend these local festivals along the Glooscap Trail.

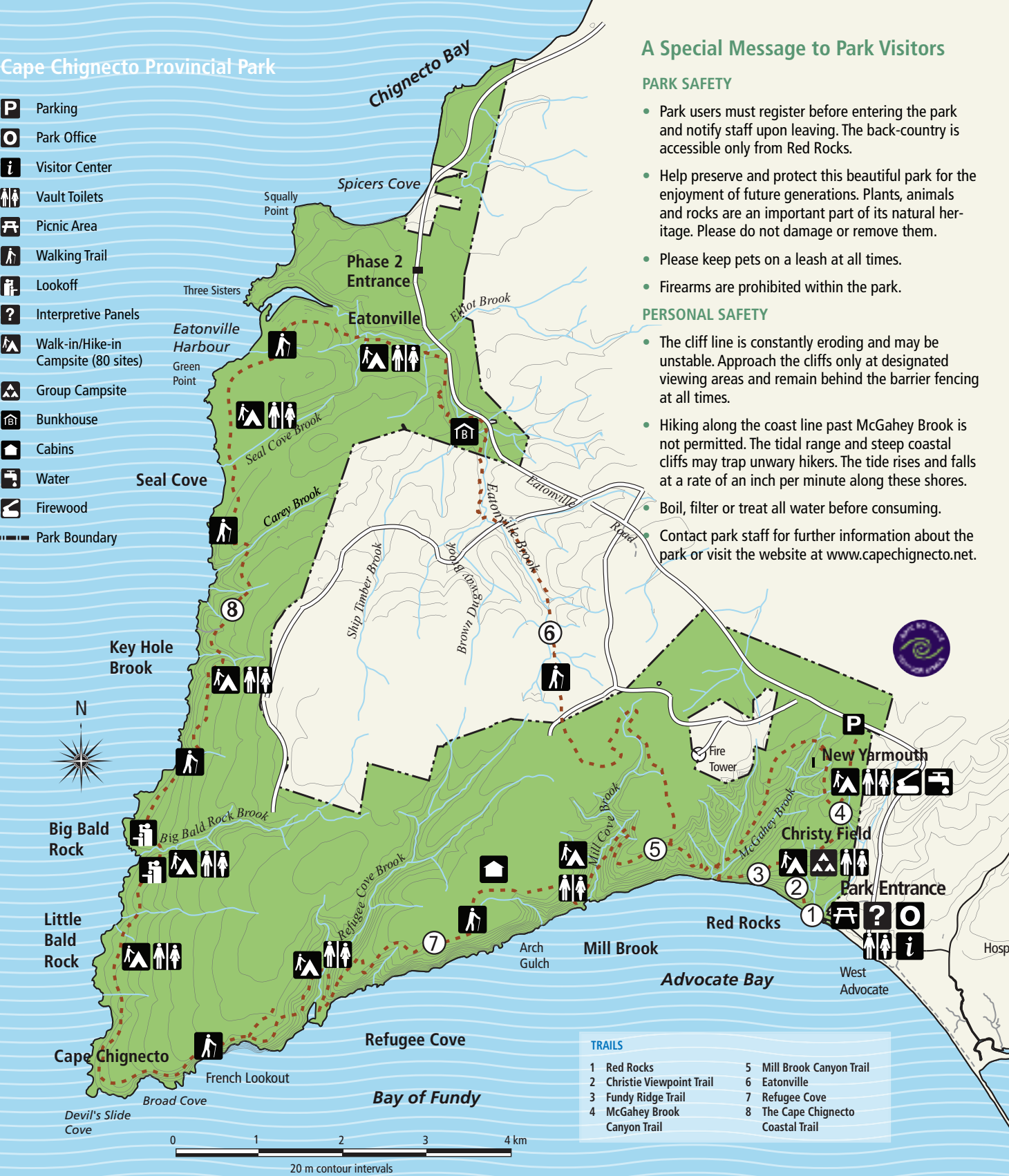
**July** Old Home Week, Parrsboro

**Aug** Nova Scotia Gem & Mineral Show, Parrsboro

- The Cape d’Or lighthouse stands watch over the Bay of Fundy while the former lightkeepers’ homes now serve as a restaurant and guest house.
- Explore the world’s richest and most significant Coal Age Fossil site at the Joggins Fossil Cliffs, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The Fundy Geological Museum in Parrsboro showcases the area’s unique geology and ancient life, and houses a rock and mineral shop.
- At Port Greville, the Age of Sail Museum pays tribute to the shipbuilding and lumbering heritage of the Minas Shore.
- For information on these and other attractions please consult the Nova Scotia Doers and Dreamers Guide, visit a Visitor Information Centre or the website at [www.novascotia.com](http://www.novascotia.com)

Cape Chignecto Provincial Park

- P** Parking
- O** Park Office
- i** Visitor Center
- Vault Toilets
- Picnic Area
- Walking Trail
- Lookoff
- ?** Interpretive Panels
- Walk-in/Hike-in Campsite (80 sites)
- Group Campsite
- Bunkhouse
- Cabins
- Water
- Firewood
- Park Boundary



A Special Message to Park Visitors

PARK SAFETY

- Park users must register before entering the park and notify staff upon leaving. The back-country is accessible only from Red Rocks.
- Help preserve and protect this beautiful park for the enjoyment of future generations. Plants, animals and rocks are an important part of its natural heritage. Please do not damage or remove them.
- Please keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Firearms are prohibited within the park.

PERSONAL SAFETY

- The cliff line is constantly eroding and may be unstable. Approach the cliffs only at designated viewing areas and remain behind the barrier fencing at all times.
- Hiking along the coast line past McGahey Brook is not permitted. The tidal range and steep coastal cliffs may trap unwary hikers. The tide rises and falls at a rate of an inch per minute along these shores.
- Boil, filter or treat all water before consuming.
- Contact park staff for further information about the park or visit the website at [www.capechignecto.net](http://www.capechignecto.net).