

TADOUSSAC



Tadoussac is quite rightly listed as one of the **50 most beautiful bays in the world**.

Tadoussac is also the oldest village in Canada. In fact, the village celebrated its 400th anniversary in 2000. But above all, Tadoussac is an internationally-renowned **whale-watching site**

AERIAL VIEW OF TADOUSSAC

WHAT TO DO

WHALE WATCHING ★★★

All aboard for Tadoussac's signature activity! Accompanied by a naturalist guide, come and discover the giant of the seas. Whale watching can be done from **mid-May to mid-October**. The whales are most numerous and most active in September.

CENTRE D'INTERPRÉTATION DES MAMMIFÈRES MARINS (CIMM)

Before setting out on your whale watching adventure, you may be interested in visiting the marine mammal interpretation centre. You will find the largest collection of whale skeletons in Canada, whale song lessons, research information and more. GREMM.ORG/CIMM-HORAIRE-ET-TARIFICATION/

WHALE-WATCHING FROM LAND

Visitors who prefer to remain on terra firma can follow the **Pointe de l'Islet trail** (0.8 km / 20 minutes) from Tadoussac pier. It's the **best place ★** in Tadoussac to observe marine mammals from the shore. The **Cap-de-Bon-Désir Interpretation and Observation Centre ★**, which is part of the **Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park**, is another good **spot to see whales**, seals and seabirds from the shore. In summer, the centre offers marine wildlife activities as well as an exhibit on the history of the lighthouse and its keepers.

PC.GC.CA/FR/AMNC-NMCA/QC/SAGUENAY/CAP-DE-BON-DESIR

ZODIAC CRUISE

Whale watching by zodiac is without a doubt the best way to get close to the whales, while keeping a safe distance. It is also the least comfortable, so you may want to think twice if you are prone to seasickness. Children under 6 are not generally allowed.



WHALE WATCHING CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

© Nela Degany



WHALE WATCHING IN A ZODIAC CRUISE

© Tourisme Québec, Christian Savard

Not recommended for pregnant women. Daily from the beginning of June to early October.

CATAMARAN CRUISE

Given the size of the boat, you won't get as close to the whales as you would in a zodiac, but the ride is smoother and more comfortable. Some catamarans even have underwater cameras, offering an interesting view. Most tickets include a short trip up the **Saguenay Fjord ★★★**. Accessible to all. Daily from the beginning of May to the end of October

SEA KAYAK

The most exciting and environmentally friendly option for whale watching. Sea kayaking requires a certain level of physical fitness and is more dependent on the weather. Not for children under the age of 7. Daily from mid-May to mid-October.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING ON A WHALE WATCHING CRUISE?

Dress warmly! Even on a hot day, the temperature drops quickly once you are out on open water.

- Warm sweater
- Pants
- Windbreaker or raincoat
- Hat, gloves, scarf
- Warm socks
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses (polarized for better vision)
- Binoculars
- Camera (protected from water/humidity)

CHAUVIN TRADING POST

This replica of one of Canada's **first fur trading posts** tells the story of an industry that is a fundamental part of the country's history. The museum houses exhibits explaining the fur trade between the Montagnais Indians and the French.

157, RUE DU BORD DE L'EAU
 418-235-4657

SAND DUNES

The dunes sector of the park offers exceptional views of the St. Lawrence River. The dunes are in fact 2 immense marine terraces measuring 30 metres in height that stretch along the edge of the river. The impressive number of migratory birds in the sector led to the creation of the Tadoussac Ornithological Observatory (OOT). From August to October, large numbers of birds of prey and sparrows can be seen.

© Authentik Canada, Simon Lemay



CHAUVIN TRADING POST



VIEW ON THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVE FROM THE DUNES

© Authentik Canada, Simon Lemay

YOU MAY NEED TO TAKE A FERRY ACROSS THE RIVER!

If you are heading to Tadoussac from the Charlevoix region or the south shore of the Saguenay Fjord (or vice versa), you will need to take a ferry across the Saguenay River, between Baie Ste-Catherine (to the south) and Tadoussac (to the north).

Note that reservations are not necessary. The ferry is free, and the crossing takes about 10 minutes. A boat leaves every 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the season and the demand.

So in high season, you may reach Tadoussac a little (or much!) later than planned. Forewarned is forearmed!

<https://www.traversiers.com/en/our-ferries/tadoussac-baie-sainte-catherine-ferry/home/>



SMALL CHAPEL IN TADOUSSAC VILLAGE

© Tourisme Québec, André Quémener



FESTIVAL DE LA CHANSON

FESTIVAL

Festival de la chanson de Tadoussac

Dates : mid-June

The smallest of Quebec's large cultural events, this music festival welcomes close to forty acts on eight different stages. The entire village becomes one large festival site dedicated to music.

CHANSONTADOUSSAC.COM

© Michel Pinault



WATCHING A WHALE FEEDING

WHERE TO EAT

1 LE GIBARD (\$)

This friendly little café offers regular musical evenings with local artists. It's a warm, authentic spot, perfect for a coffee, a beer or a snack with a beautiful view of the bay.

2 À L'EMPORTÉE COOP (\$)

The village bakery serves excellent sandwiches, healthy salads and pastries made with local wild berries. Just the thing for a picnic at Pointe de l'Islet or in the sand dunes.

ALEMPORTEE.COM

3 MICROBRASSERIE DE TADOUSSAC (\$\$)



This microbrewery relies on the quality and the originality of its products to create daring beers inspired by local brewing traditions. Come taste this Quebec difference in the tasting room, stock up on supplies at the beer store and learn more about the industry by visiting the interpretation area.

MICROTADOUSSAC.COM

4 CAFÉ BOHÈME (\$\$\$\$)

The place to go for a good cup of coffee and a decadent dessert. This client-friendly bistro is located in the old general store dating back to 1892. Also serves fine pizza, gourmet burgers, reinvented Mac & Cheese, smoked Quebec seafood plate and regional artisan meats. They even offer an extensive children's menu with different and interesting choices.

LECAFEBOHEME.COM

5 CHEZ MATHILDE (\$\$\$)

Warm atmosphere and delicious meals. Live music in the evening on piano and double bass. Gourmet dinners concocted from regional ingredients. Reservations recommended!

CHEZMATHILDEBISTRO.COM



Microbrewery

\$ Inexpensive \$\$ Moderate \$\$\$ Upscale \$\$\$\$ Fine dining

