

What makes Cape Jourimain National Wildlife Area so special?

Cape Jourimain has a history as a crossing place to Prince Edward Island. It was used by the local Mi'kmaq, and later become the launching point for Canada's historic iceboat service. With the creation of the Confederation Bridge in 1997, a permanent fixed-link was created between PEI and Mainland Canada.



Cape Jourimain was protected as a NWA in 1980, and it is managed in partnership by the Government of Canada and the Cape Jourimain Nature Centre, a non-profit organization that operates a visitor facility.

The area is conserved to protect an impressive variety of habitats that include salt marshes, brackish marshes, fresh water wetlands, barrier beach, old field and upland forest.

Osprey use the area's nesting platforms



Because of its different habitats, Cape Jourimain is a unique and special place for wildlife. Many types of ducks and other aquatic birds use this area to nest and rear their young, others stop in to eat and rest during their spring and fall migrations. It is also the summer home of many different species of shorebirds, which makes it one of the most important bird areas in Atlantic Canada!

Cape Jourimain serves as a refuge for over 170 species of year-round and migratory birds.

Activity 1: Can You Guess the Habitat?

A habitat is a place where an organism makes its home. Cape Jourimain is home to many types of habitats, including the following. Can you match each type of habitat to the picture?



Barrier beach: long and narrow beach that runs parallel to the shore and provides shelter from strong onshore winds, waves, and flooding.

Upland forest: forest at a higher elevation than sea level, where flooding does not happen.

Fresh water wetland: not connected to the ocean and is regularly flooded or soaked by fresh water, such as streams, ponds, and lakes.

Salt marsh: a coastal wetland, regularly flooded by the ocean tides with high salinity levels. Many non-woody aquatic plants are found here.

Old field: disturbed areas in the process of rewilding that used to be agricultural or homestead land. Rose and raspberry plants are commonly found here.

Brackish marsh: a coastal wetland found farther from the ocean than a salt marsh, with a mix of salt and fresh water, and not flooded as regularly by ocean tides.

Activity 2: Beach Scavenger Hunt!

Circle each item as you spot it! Remember that Cape Jourimain is a National Wildlife Area, so please leave things where you find them.



Periwinkle



Rock crab shell



Razor clam shell



Seagull feather



Blue mussel



Moon snail



Sea glass



Driftwood



Atlantic surf clam



Barnacles



Hermit crab



Seaweed

Other Activities and Amenities

There are lots of other things to do at Cape Jourimain to make your visit fun and exciting. Here's a highlight of the seasonal and year-round activities this NWA has to offer:

- 12 km of nature trails through a diversity of habitats!
- The Exhibit Hall within the Cape Jourimain Interpretation Centre is filled with information on the site's natural and cultural heritage.

Open from June to October.

- Climb the observation tower for spectacular views of Jourimain Island and the Confederation Bridge.
- There are several more observations decks offering views of the marshes and of the Northumberland Strait.
- Group tours and school programs are offered by Cape Jourimain Nature Centre. *Available June to September.*
- Sign up for Cape Jourimain Nature Centre's annual summer camp.
- Keep an eye out for the "Connecting Canadians to Nature" interpretive panels, with information on Cape Jourimain's species and habitats.
- Try Aerial Odyssey, a self-led program about local birds! *Set along Lighthouse Trail, available from June to September.*



Exhibit Hall

Before you explore...

Please respect this natural area by avoiding the following activities:

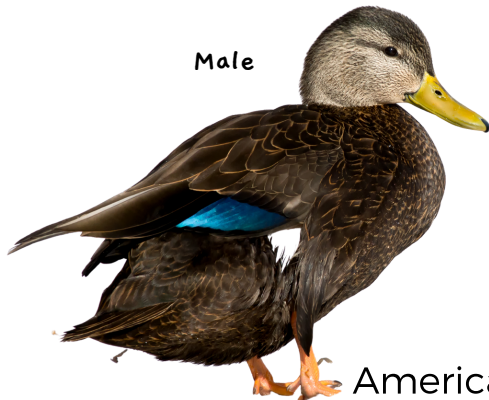
- Biking
- Camping
- Fires
- Off leash dogs
- Barbecuing
- Removal of shells, driftwood, plants, or other natural material.



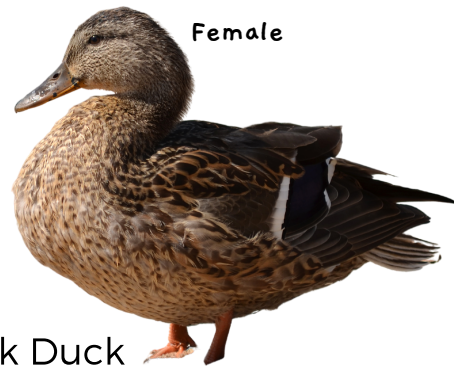
Observation Tower

Keep an eye out for these special species!

Can you spot these 5 species of birds during your visit?

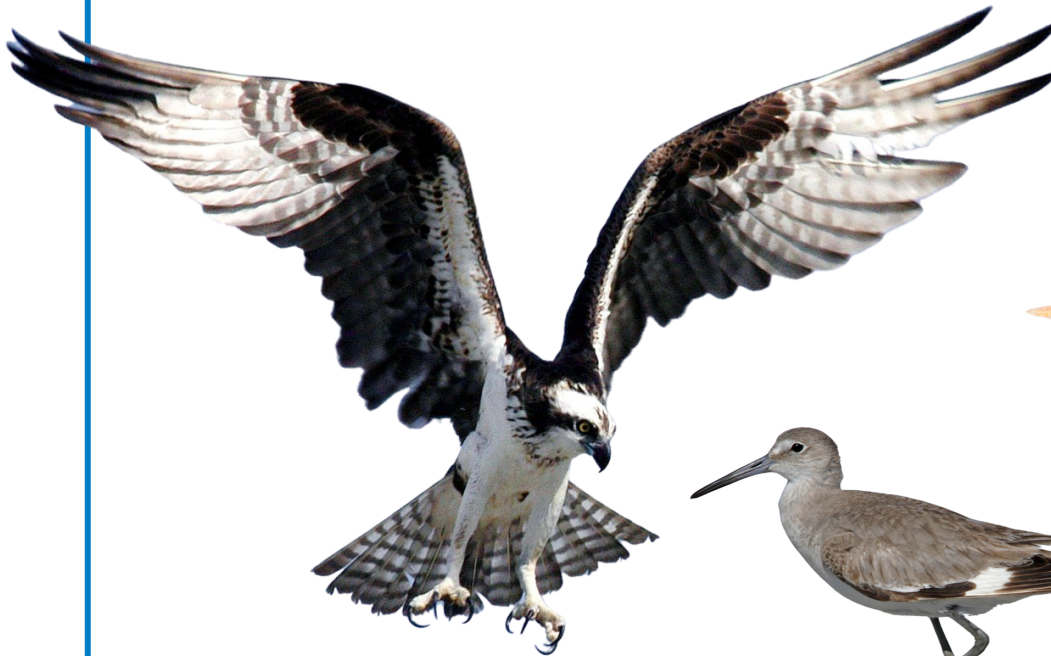


Male



Female

American Black Duck



Osprey



Willet



Great Blue Heron



Female



Male

Black Scoter

Remember to
respect wildlife by
keeping your
distance!