



Quebec
Historic Canals

LOCKING THROUGH *Safely*

Procedures and useful tips



Chambly Canal



Parks
Canada

Parcs
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Canada

Quebec Historic Canals

Lachine Canal

Located in Montreal, the Lachine Canal runs 14 kilometres between the Old Port and Lake Saint-Louis. This inland waterway has five locks in a pleasant urban setting, allowing boaters to bypass major rapids in the Saint Lawrence River.

The Canal opened in 1825 and has also become a linear park that hosts major events and more than a million visitors each year. Considered one of the most beautiful urban paths in the world according to Time magazine, the Canal and its shoreline pathway offer boaters, pedestrians, and cyclists a glimpse into the history of Canada's cradle of industrialization. Montreal is alive with activity day and night, and various marinas and wharves welcome boaters with safe docking facilities.

Navigation information:

514-595-6594

 @LachineCanal

Technical data

Draught: 2 m (6 feet, 6 inches)

Overhead clearance:

2.45 m (8 feet)

Smallest lock dimensions:

50.29 m (165 feet) x 11 m (36 feet)

Transit time: 3 to 5 hours

Length of canal:

14 km (7.56 NM)



Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Canal

At the west end of Montreal island, the Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Canal links Lake Saint-Louis to Lake des Deux Montagnes, at the mouth of the Ottawa River. Used for commercial purposes since it opened in 1843, this Canal quickly became an integral part of the navigable Montreal-Ottawa-Kingston inland waterway.

Today, the Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue lock is used mainly for pleasure craft, and docking services are available onsite at both the upstream and downstream ends of the Canal. A magnificent boardwalk and many restaurants and bistros line the Canal, making its lock the most popular in Canada!

Navigation information:

514-457-5546

Technical data

Draught: 2.74 m (9 feet)

Overhead clearance:

between 10.67 m (35 feet) and 12.80 m (42 feet)

Lock dimensions:

54.86 m (180 feet) x 11.89 m (39 feet)

Transit time: 30 minutes



Carillon Canal

The Carillon Canal is located along the Ottawa River, on the inland Montreal-Ottawa-Kingston navigation route, to skirt the Long Sault rapids. Its impressive lock is unique in North America, with a nearly 200-tonne guillotine gate that enables passage up or down a 20-metre drop in just one operation!

The site includes a park where you can watch the movements of the lock, enjoy the surrounding landscapes, picnic, walk, or kayak. An interpretive trail and archeological remains unveil the rich history of the Canal, which opened in 1834 originally for military purposes.

Navigation information:

450-537-3534

Technical data

Draught: 2.74 m (9 feet)

Overhead clearance: 12.8 m (42 feet)

Lock dimensions:

54.86 m (180 feet) x 11.89 m (39 feet)

Transit time: 1 hour



Saint-Ours Canal

The Saint-Ours Canal enables boats to bypass the Richelieu River's shallows, making it easier to navigate between the Saint Lawrence River and Lake Champlain. Inaugurated in 1849, the Canal proved invaluable to international trade between Montreal and New York for over a century.

The Saint-Ours Canal, rich in history, is a place to observe the Vianney-Legendre fishway, which is a unique structure that helps protect endangered fish species. Darvard Island also offers a wonderful place to stop, stretch your legs, and enjoy a picnic. Also, as of summer 2016, you can also stay overnight at the oTENTik accommodation site. A cross between a tent and a rustic cabin, there are a total of six oTENTik units available on the site, each of which can accommodate up to six people (or four adults). A great way to get back to nature in an enchanting location.

Navigation information:

450-785-2212

oTENTik accommodation information:

450-785-2053

Technical data

Draught: 3.66 m (12 feet)

Overhead clearance: 8.84 m (29 feet)

Lock dimensions:

97.54 m (320 feet) x 11.89 m (39 feet)

Transit time: 30 minutes



Chambly Canal

Along the Richelieu River, the Chambly Canal enables boats to bypass rapids and climb or descend a large drop between the Chambly Basin and the Upper Richelieu. About 19 kilometres long, the navigable waterway has nine locks, three that are stepped, which is unique in Quebec. Most of the locks are operated manually, like in the old days, including their many bridges that turn, roll, and tilt.

The Chambly Canal opened in 1843 and played a major role in Quebec's forestry industry, facilitating exports to the United States. Today, recreational boaters and tourists are charmed by the rich heritage and natural décor of the site, where you can enjoy cycling, family picnics, walks, and boat-watching.

Navigation information:

Chambly sector: 450-658-4381

Saint-Jean sector: 450-348-3392

Technical data

Draught: 2 m (6.6 feet)

Overhead clearance: 8.84 m (29 feet)

Smallest lock dimensions:

33.52 m (110 feet) x 6.7 m (22 feet)

Transit time: 3 to 5 hours

Length of canal:

19 km (10.29 NM)



BRIDGE 1

Contact us

VHF 68

You can contact canal staff by VHF radiotelephone on channel 68 during operating hours. It is recommended that you tune into this frequency while you travel through a canal.

Telephone: 1-888-773-8888
(Toll free in Canada and the US.)
pc.infocanalqc.pc@canada.ca



Carillon Canal

Safety procedures to follow when locking through

APPROACHING THE CANAL

- › **Reduce your speed** until you eliminate your wake.
- › Keep the canal entrance clear so you don't hinder the passage of boats exiting.
- › Contact the lock/bridge operators by VHF radio or telephone to inform them of your position and your intention to be locked through, find out the wait time, and obtain locking-through instructions.
- › Moor your vessel at the holding wharf. **The blue line painted on mooring wharves marks the boundary for boats waiting for the next lockage.** This zone is reserved strictly for them.
- › Install your mooring lines and fenders on the wharf side inside the lock. You must have a minimum of two mooring lines of sufficient length and in good condition, one in front and one in back. Your floating fenders must be securely fastened, the correct size, and of sufficient quantity that neither your vessel nor the canal is damaged.
- › If there is no wharf inside the lock (such as in the Chambly Canal), lock operators will inform you of the side on which to moor and will provide you mooring lines.
- › Ensure that you have at least one person capable of doing the work required for each mooring line. **Entrance to the canal will be refused if you are alone aboard the vessel.**

› Watch the traffic lights (similar to road traffic lights):

Green

You may enter the lock

Flashing red

lockage preparations underway. – do not enter the lock

Solid red

Lock not in operation or locking through in progress – do not enter the lock

› Follow the lock operators' instructions. Vessels are locked through on a "first come, first served" basis. However, priority may be given to a specific vessel for logistical or safety reasons, in particular to place it alongside another one when there is lots of traffic. Be attentive to the lock operators' instructions.

In a Parks Canada canal, you are under the care of lock operators. Be polite to them. Verbal abuse will not be tolerated.



Saint-Ours Canal

INTO THE LOCK

- › Once the navigation light is green, enter the lock following the instructions of the lock operators.
- › Dock your watercraft in the area indicated by the lock operators, either along the wharf or beside another boat.
- › Immobilize your craft by putting it in reverse.
- › Switch off the engine only after the craft is securely moored.

It is the responsibility of pleasure craft operators to ensure that their vessels are properly docked and moored. Staff may provide assistance when you arrive, if they are available.

- › At the Saint-Ours, Lachine, Saint-Anne-de-Bellevue and Carillon canals, ensure that your craft is securely tied to the wharf. Tie up the back first by taking up all the slack, then tie up the front.
- › At the Chambly canal, do not attach mooring lines to your cleats. Loop the line around the cleat, making sure to lighten or loosen it during the lockage process.
- › Once your craft is well-moored, follow these instructions:

-  Turn off the engine. Don't restart the engine during lockage.
-  Ensure there are no open flames on board.
-  No smoking or vaping is allowed.
-  Ensure the bilge blower is working.
- › Turn off your radar.

- › During the lockage, each mooring line must be tended by a crew member.
- › At the Chambly Canal, use a boat hook to distance your craft from the lock wall. Do not use your feet or your hands.
- › To simplify the work of lock operators, and out of respect for other boaters, please lower the volume on your music or other sounds during the lockage.
- › Be ready to pay or show your locking permit to the lock operator.
- › When you navigate through the Chambly or Lachine canals, always report your arrival at locks and bridges. Inform staff of your navigation plans. If you decide to make a stop or change course, inform the lock/bridge operators so they can adjust their operations.

EXITING THE LOCK

- › Wait until the lock gates are fully open and lock staff give you the signal to start the engine and unhook your moorings.
- › Exit the lock slowly, according to the lock operators' instructions. If boats are side by side in the lock, they must exit width-wise, one line at the time, from the wall to the wharf.
- › Respect the 10 km/h (6 mph, 5.5 NM) speed limit and watch your wake until reaching the lateral buoys at the canal channel exit.
- › **The speed limit on Parks Canada canals is 10 km/h at all times.**



Lachine Canal

MOORING AND LOCKING PERMITS

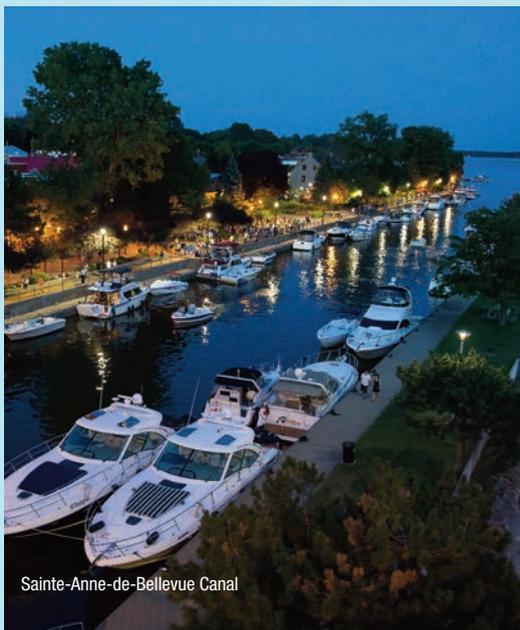
- › A locking permit is required to travel through a Parks Canada canal. Permits are sold online (parksCanada.gc.ca/canals) and at all lock stations.
- › The same applies to night mooring permits. When you dock at a wall or wharf adjacent to a lock or a bridge, you must pay for mooring upon entering or exiting a canal. Double-moored vessels must also pay.
- › **The maximum mooring period is 48 hours.** You must wait at least 24 hours before returning to moor in the same lock. This regulation is subject to change, based on management recommendations.
- › **All vessels, even those being towed, must have a locking and mooring permit**, regardless of their size. The minimum chargeable length is 12 feet.
- › To be valid, seasonal locking and mooring permits must be installed in full view on the lower edge of the vessel's front windshield.
- › If you have a six-day locking permit, you must have it with you while travelling, otherwise locking fees will apply.
- › Keep your receipts in a safe place, as proof that you have a permit.
- › Locking and mooring permits are not interchangeable or refundable. They are valid only for the year in which they are issued.

› Mooring payment notices can be paid at any lock station during canal operating hours. It is also possible to pay by cheque, payable to the *Receiver General of Canada*, sent to:

Parks Canada,
1899 De Périgny Boulevard,
Chambly, Quebec J3L 4C3.

Fees must be paid within 30 days. Otherwise, administrative fees will be charged.

For more information on permits and rates, visit: www.parksCanada.gc.ca/canals or consult the brochure entitled *Parks Canada Canals in Quebec – Schedules and fees*, available at all lock stations during the navigation season.



Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Canal



Chambly Canal

HISTORIC CANAL REGULATIONS

It is the responsibility of pleasure boat operators to be informed of and familiar with the regulations in effect in historic canals. Certain activities are prohibited in a canal. Users must demonstrate judgment and civic mindedness on Parks Canada sites at all times.

The following list of regulations is not exhaustive.

It is forbidden to:

- cause excessive noise in a historic canal between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. (section 7 (c)).
- fish within 10 m of a lock or approach wharf, or from a bridge over a navigation channel (section 7 (e)).
- dive, jump, scuba-dive, swim or bathe in a navigation channel or within 40 m of a lock gate or a dam (section 10 (b)).
- water-ski or engage in any activity that involves being towed behind a vessel in a navigation channel (section 10 (a)).
- moor at an approach wharf during operating hours if you do not intend to lock through (section 40.2).
- camp on historic canal lands, except at boater campgrounds clearly identified for that purpose (section 18).

Domestic animals must, at all times, be restrained by a leash or confined in an enclosure. You must pick up your animal's excrement and properly dispose of it in a receptacle (section 24).

Every boat equipped with a motor other than a stock (unmodified) outboard engine must have a muffler* and use it while operating within five nautical miles (9.26 km) of shore (subsection 1000 (3) (d), Small Vessels Regulations).

*Your muffler (silent choice) must be in operation at all times when you are navigating on a Parks Canada canal.

Use of drones

All Parks Canada places are 'no drone zones' if you do not possess a permit or special permission.

Piloting a motor craft while under the influence of alcohol is an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada.

Historic Canals Regulations, Small Vessels Regulations, and Collision Regulations are in force in all historic canals. These regulations are enforced by the park wardens, the Sûreté du Québec, RCMP and the municipal police.

In the case of a repeated offence or refusal to obey the regulations in place, Parks Canada reserves the right to revoke, at any time, a permit or to forbid travel on the historic canals (section 6).

SPEED LIMITS

The maximum speed limit is 10 km/h (6 mph, 5.5 NMPH) at all time. You must slow down when you reach the red and green buoys at the canal's entrance; you can speed up after you pass the same-coloured buoys at the canal's exit.



Wake limits must be respected and take precedence over the speed limit.

When you see a “no wake” sign, you must reduce your speed until your wake is completely eliminated—regardless of the applicable speed limit.

The wake from boats causes major problems on Canada's waterways:

- eroding banks;
- disturbing wetland habitats;
- flooding the nests of aquatic birds;
- damaging piers and moored boats;
- damaging lock mechanisms;
- making navigation dangerous;
- threatening lives.

You are responsible for your wake and any damage it may cause.

MORE REFERENCES

Other laws and regulations are in force on historic canals

- *Act Respecting the Ministère des Transports*
- *Canada Shipping Act*
- *Parks Canada Agency Act*
- *Criminal Code of Canada*
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act.*

These documents may be consulted at <http://lois.justice.gc.ca>

PARKS CANADA

Quebec historic canals
 1899 De Périgny Boulevard
 Chambly, Quebec J3L 4C3
 Telephone : 1 888 773-8888
 (Toll free in Canada and the US.)
pc.infocanalqc.pc@canada.ca



 @LachineCanal
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/canals

Lachine Canal

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