



Helps us protect this habitat

If you see an area covered in angular rocks, a good distance from the sea and dotted with low-growing plants and shrubs, you have found the **rocky barrens**. This habitat is exposed to harsh climate conditions and home to several sensitive plant species, including rare arctic alpine plants. Avoid hiking in the barrens, since this particular habitat is not very resilient.

- Use the **designated trails** and stay in the **vegetation-free zone** when walking on the seashore.
- Avoid disturbing wildlife and be sure to leave natural objects such as rocks, plants, and fossils where you found them.
- **Be attentive** and **keep your distance** from seabirds; they are particularly vulnerable to disturbance.



Need more information?

Havre-Saint-Pierre Visitor Centre
418-538-3285

Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan Visitor Centre
418-949-2126

Did you know that...

- The island got its name from its size - 45 m high and 6.4 km at the longest point.
- At the end of the 1800s, the Cayens (people from Havre-St-Pierre) called it **Île du Défunt Français** in memory of a Frenchman, J.C. de La Ruelle, who died on the island while hunting sea wolves (seals) in June 1867.
- The Paspayas (people from Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan), for their part, used to call it **Grande île de chasse** since it served as a hunting ground for grey seals, common eiders and hares.
- In around 1976, **Sieben's Oil & Gas Co.** took drills and excavators to the island to collect samples of limestone, with a view to **possibly developing oil deposit**. Fortunately, Parks Canada added the Mingan Archipelago, including La Grande Île, to its network of natural protected areas in 1984.

Want to know more?

Visit Parks Canada exhibits:

- Havre-Saint-Pierre: *Life stories from the Mingan Islands*
- Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan: *Islands in the sea*



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Mingan Archipelago
National Park Reserve

LA GRANDE ÎLE



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