

TRIP PLANNER

YOUR GUIDE TO THE ROAD
LESS TRAVELED



GASPÉ COASTAL

WWW.GASPECOASTAL.COM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME	01
GETTING HERE	02
THE FISHING	03
THE LODGE	07
PACKING LIST	08
FAQ	11
FINAL CHECKLIST	12



WELCOME TO THE GASPÉ

We're thrilled to have you join us at our property, the Nadeau House, where the spirit of adventure meets the tranquil charm of the Gaspé Peninsula. Nestled in the picturesque village of Cascapedia-Saint-Jules, our historic 19th-century lodge is the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable fly fishing experience.

Your Fishing Trip Starts Here

This trip planner is your guide to making the most of your stay with us. Whether you're gearing up for your first cast in pursuit of Atlantic salmon, eager to explore our striped bass hotspots, or looking to reel in the native sea-run brook trout, we're here to ensure your experience is as seamless as it is memorable.

What You'll Find

- **Personalized Itinerary:** Tailor your 6-night, 5-day, stay with flexible fishing schedules and guided expeditions designed just for you.
- **Expert Tips & Resources:** Get insights from our seasoned guides, learn about local fishing conditions, and discover the best techniques for a successful day on the water.

Preparing for Your Trip

We're committed to making your stay as comfortable as possible. The trip planner includes everything you need to know—from packing lists and gear recommendations to what to expect from your days on the water. If you have any questions, our team is just a message away, ready to help you plan your perfect fishing trip.

Thank you for choosing Gaspé Coastal. We can't wait to share the magic of Gaspé with you!

The Gaspé Coastal Team



GETTING HERE



Nestled along Chaleur Bay, this area is a true gem, renowned for its stunning landscapes, rich fishing heritage, and blend of adventure and serenity. While the journey to the Gaspé can feel long, it is one that is rewarded many times over once you arrive. Here's everything you need to know to make the journey as enjoyable as the destination.

BY AIR

After flying into Montreal (YUL) with your airline of choice, plan for an airport change to Montreal Saint Hubert (YHU) (about a 40 minute Uber ride). From YHU, you can fly to Bonaventure (YVB) with Pascan Aviation. **This is our recommend route.**

Chartering a flight is the quickest and most convenient way to get to the Gaspé. Connect with us if you would like some options!

BY CAR

Montreal, Quebec

- Distance: ~ 870 km (10.5 - 11 h)
- Autoroute 20E

Portland, Maine

- Distance: ~ 825 km (8 - 9 h)
- Route: I-95 N

Boston, Massachussetts

- Distance: ~ 975 km (9.5 - 10 h)
- Route: Route: I-95 N

BY TRAIN

To enjoy a bucolic blast to the past, hop aboard the Ocean Via Rail train from Montreal to Campbellton, NB for an overnight ride to the Gaspé Peninsula.

Transfers from Bonaventure and Campbellton are included in your fees. Additional charges may apply for other locations.

WHAT TO EXPECT: ATLANTIC SALMON



Prepare for a full day on the river, with a minimum of 8 hours spent on the water. Water levels permitting, you'll float from pool to pool in a 26' or 20' canoe, skillfully navigated by your guide using a traditional wooden pole. In certain circumstance, walk and wade may be preferred. For those seeking the thrill of targeting salmon directly, sight fishing is possible in clear waters, where you can use both swinging wet flies and dead-drifting dry flies to entice these magnificent fish.

During the warmer summer months, particularly in August, we often start early—sometimes as early as 4:30 a.m.—to take advantage of cooler temperatures and maximize your chances of success.

Most of your fishing will take place on the Grand Cascapedia, Petite Cascapedia, and Bonaventure rivers, —each offering an unparalleled experience in the pursuit of one of angling's most coveted species.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

- We're committed to the conservation of Atlantic Salmon, all catches are carefully released back into the water.
- Quebec's regulations allow for the release of up to 2 Atlantic Salmon per day, and if you reach this limit, you can take pride in being "fished out" and head back to enjoy the lodge.
- To safeguard the wellbeing of the fish, we pause fishing when water temps exceed 68°F (20°C).
- We fish with barbless, single hooks. Weighted flies are not permitted and cannot be on your person.
- Quebec's rivers operate on a unique beat system, with access to specific sectors assigned daily through a lottery. This means you may not always get to fish the most coveted waters, but it also ensures that each day brings the excitement of exploring new and untouched stretches of the river.
- Anglers are also expected to honor a traditional rotation system, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to enjoy equal time on the water.

WHAT TO EXPECT: STRIPED BASS



Your day on the water will span a minimum of 8 hours, with limited travel time on the water to maximize every moment spent fishing. Most of your time will be spent aboard one of our four poling skiffs, where anglers take turns casting from the platform at the bow as your guide poles the skiff and spots fish. Although walk and wade can make for a very memorable outing when the stars align, be prepared to get your feet wet, if you're up for it!

Early in the season, expect to see tailing and blitzing fish as striped bass actively feed in the shallows. As the season progresses, you'll encounter large schools of flashing fish, creating incredible opportunities for sight fishing. For those who want to explore deeper or more structured waters, our Mako boat allows access to prime areas beyond the reach of the skiffs.

This tool allows anglers to fish more traditional methods with sinking lines or bait and switch.

With the expertise of our guides, you'll focus on the best fishing grounds each day, ensuring a memorable and productive adventure on the water.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

- Our skiffs are trailered which allows us to select the best area for fishing every day. Travel time can be anywhere from 10 minutes to an hour.
- Our ability to go out on the ocean is weather dependent. Be ready to pivot to a day of fishing on a river or a pint at the local brewpub if the weather turns.

WHAT TO EXPECT: BROOK TROUT



Pursuing native sea-run brook trout in the Gaspé Peninsula is an adventure that combines challenging conditions with breathtaking rewards. The prime season for these elusive fish runs from mid-July to the end of August, when they return to the rivers from the sea.

Fishing for brook trout here often takes you deep into the backcountry, exploring remote stretches of water far off the beaten path. This experience is not for the faint of heart, but the effort is well worth it—many anglers liken it to the wild, pristine fishing found in New Zealand.

Expect a full day on the water. Your guides will navigate the journey, whether it's wading through rugged terrain or fishing from a canoe, as you chase after the thrill of sight fishing for these vibrant, hard-fighting trout.

This is an unforgettable experience for those who crave both the challenge and the solitude of backcountry fishing, where each cast brings the potential for a trophy brook trout in truly wild surroundings.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

- We're committed to the conservation of our native Brook Trout, so all catches are carefully released back into the water to ensure healthy fish populations for years to come.
- To safeguard the wellbeing of the fish, we pause fishing when water temperatures exceed 68°F (20°C).
- Certain rivers have unweighted fly requirements, while others are a true no-mans-land experience.
- Expect a physically demanding day if you're searching for Brookies.

GASPESIAN GRAND SLAM?

A TYPICAL SEASON

JUNE: June is prime time for skinny water striped bass fishing, tailing and blitzing are common. The action is in full swing. Early June is time to target the fish of a thousand casts. The right cast can bring you a unicorn Atlantic Salmon. Mid to late June marks the peak of the salmon run as the bulk of the fish make their way into the rivers. June is too early to target brookies.

JULY: As runoff subsides, water levels drop, creating ideal conditions for dry fly fishing for salmon. Fresh salmon continue to run, while striped bass fishing remains exceptional. Stripers spread out across the flats, open water, and rocky structures. By this time, the sea-run trout fishery also begins to pick up.

AUGUST: This month often delivers the best weather, making it a fantastic time for striper fishing. Salmon fishing can be challenging, but fewer anglers on the water mean guides have the flexibility to explore a variety of rivers, including limited-access beats. August also stands out as the prime month for a trout-focused trip.

SEPTEMBER: Autumn rains typically revitalize our salmon rivers, creating excellent opportunities to target large, colored-up fish using two-handed rods and swinging large, vibrant flies. With fewer anglers, September offers a quieter yet highly productive salmon fishing experience. Striped bass begin their annual migration, bringing larger migratory fish back from their northern feeding grounds. The sea-run trout fishery concludes after the first week of September.

YOUR DAY, YOUR PLAN

DAY 1: Beautiful bluebird day with light winds in the morning picking up to moderate winds in the afternoon. A perfect day for striped bass fishing on the flats. To avoid the winds in the afternoon, your guide decides to start the day earlier.

5am You grab a cup of Joe and one of chef's delicious and nutritious breakfast sandwiches.

5:30am Your guide meets you at the lodge and you head off for the day.

6am The skiff is in the water and you start fishing for the day.

2pm You're back at the lodge after a memorable day on the water.

4pm+ Cocktails, Dinner & Bed

DAY 2: Overcast with a slight drizzle. Weather is predicted to clear up later in the week so you decide to go salmon fishing for the day.

7am We fix your eggs how you like them.

8am Your guide meets you at the lodge and you hop in their vehicle to float the Bonaventure River.

9am You start your float.

4pm+ Back to the lodge for cocktails, dinner & bed.

No one can predict the weather so we recommend coming to the Gaspé with an open mind. Flexible anglers that are willing to take advantage of the best performing fishery are apt to get the most out of their trip. That's the beauty of the Gaspé - three distinctly different fisheries that all perform differently through the summer and the myriad of weather conditions that we get from June to September.



THE NADEAU HOUSE

The Nadeau House is a historically rich sanctuary set along the banks of the world-renowned Grand Cascapedia River. Nestled just behind the charming streets of Cascapedia-Saint-Jules, our beautifully restored 19th-century home offers a perfect blend of history, comfort, and unparalleled river access.

Originally built on the property of a bustling sawmill, door and sash factory and bank, the lodge has been thoughtfully renovated to preserve its rustic charm while offering all the comforts of modern hospitality. Step into our welcoming common areas, where the heart of the lodge comes alive.

Our lodge, which accommodates **8 rods**, features **6 cozy queen bedrooms and 2 king rooms, each sharing a bathroom between two rooms.** Additionally, a dedicated wader room is available to store and dry your gear. Internet access is available for your convenience.

In addition to our in-house fly shop, you'll find a fully equipped fly shop for all your fishing needs just a stone's throw away. The Cascapedia River Museum is within walking distance where you can dive deeper into the rich angling heritage of the area.

A stay at the Nadeau House is an experience in true Gaspesian hospitality. Our food program celebrates the best of local flavors. Guests can look forward to enjoying a carefully curated menu that highlights the region's ingredients from fresh Atlantic seafood to seasonal farm produce. Meals are served in our cozy dining room, where stories flow as freely as the Cascapedia itself, creating an inviting atmosphere that feels like home.



Caught by Henry Nadeau,

Grand Cascapedia, P. Q.

Wgt. 54 lbs. - Length 48 ins. -

Depth 13 ins. - Thickness 6 ins.

WHAT TO BRING

The Gear	✓
Fishing Rod (7-9wt)	
Reel rigged with appropriate line	
Flies (dry and wet)	
Leader / Tippet (10-12-15-20 lbs)	
Nippers / Pliers	
Dry fly dressing	
Waders + Belt	
Wading Boots	
Rain Jacket	
Polarised Sunglasses x2	
Hat	
The Essentials	✓
Cash	
Passport/ID	
Flight Itinerary	
Emergency Contacts	

The Personals	✓
Clothing (UPF, Layers, Comfort)	
Toiletries	
Footwear	
Underwear / Socks	
Fleece / Puffy jacket	
Book / Magazine	
Bathing Suit	
Buff / Sun gloves	
The Optionals	✓
Camera	
Walking shoes	

FOR THE GEAR HEADS

Atlantic Salmon

- Both single hand (#7-9) and Spey rods (#6-8, 11'-13'6") are used for Atlantic Salmon fishing.
- Although not a necessity, Spey rods are appreciated typically in the Spring and the Fall or in high water conditions. We prefer single hand rods as the water levels drop.
- Lines must all be floating.
- A good selection of Poly leaders can be useful in high water scenarios.
- Leaders depend on water levels and color, but are typically a rods length and tapered down to 10-12lbs.

Striped Bass

- Single hand rods are used for Stripers (#7-9)
- Flats specific floating lines are used for the flats (think Tropical Flats!)
- Our flats fishery is akin to Bone fishing. We use small baitfish and shrimp patterns measuring 3/4" - 1.5" on long leaders (10-12ft) tapering down to 10-12lbs.
- For fishing deeper structure, intermediate and sinking lines can be used. We fish a more traditional New England style, throwing big flies and sometimes integrating bait & switch.

Brook Trout

- Single hand rods (#4-6) are recommended.
- All floating lines required.
- Traditional trout flies (wooly bugger, zonker, etc.) are used on long leaders tapering down to 6-8lbs.
- It is important to have a selection of unweighted flies for the area with restrictions.



FOR THE FLY TYERS



Our resident fly tier and neighbouring fly shop have what you need, but for those who like to tie, here are our favourite flies:

Atlantic Salmon

Early Season (#1/0-8)

- Picasse
- Ghost Stone
- Out to Lunch
- John Olen
- Tiger Ghost
- Natural Colored Bombers

Late Season (#2-6)

- Black Leech
- Ally's Shrimp
- Red Frances
- Cascade
- Orange Picasse

Striped Bass

Flats

- Mantis Shrimp (#6-2)
- Sandstorm (#4-2)
- Clousers (#4-1/0)
- Crouzers (#4-1/0)
- Crazy Charlie (#4-8)
- Gurglers (#4-1/0)
- Gotchas (#6-2)

Open Water

- Clousers (#2-2/0)
- Deceivers (#1/0-4/0)
- Hollow/Beast Fleye (#1/0-#4/0)
- Flat Wings (#2-#2/0)

Brook Trout

Weighted Flies

- Conehead Zuddler
- Bunny Clouser
- Rabbit Leech
- Pheasant tail nymphs

Unweighted Flies

- Woolly Bugger
- Various dry flies

F.A.Q

Is demo fishing gear available?

Yes, we offer demo rods and reels. If you would like to borrow equipment during your stay, you can let us know through your guest portal.

What is the recommended gratuity?

- Both USD and CAD are accepted.
- Guides: Since guides rotate daily, you may fish with a different guide each day. We recommend \$100-\$120 USD / \$100-\$150 CAD per day, per boat.
- House Staff: Tipping for the chef and house staff can be settled at the end of your stay. A typical gratuity is \$25-\$35 per angler, per night. Please give this tip to the managers, who will distribute it.

What is included in my stay?

Fishing, lodging, all meals, non-alcoholic & alcoholic beverages, airport transfer, fishing license, standard river access, demo rod & reel. All information should be specified in your guest portal.

Can non-fishing guests join?

Absolutely! Non-anglers are welcome to enjoy the lodge's amenities, scenic walks, and explore the local area.

Is there Wi-Fi at the lodge?

Yes, Wi-Fi is available throughout the lodge, although we encourage guests to disconnect and enjoy the natural surroundings!

What is the best time of year for fishing?

While our season runs from June through September, peak fishing times vary depending on the species. Atlantic salmon fishing is typically best in early summer, while sea-run brook trout more plentiful later in the season. Striper fishing is great throughout!



GO TIME!



Let's make sure you're as prepared as possible to make the most out of your trip. Follow these guidelines for smooth sailing:

90+ Days Out:

- Read through pre-trip materials to get an idea of what to expect and how to best prepare for your trip.
- Ensure your passport & travel documents are up to date & valid.
- Invoice has been received & deposit paid within 10 days of receipt to reserve your spot.
- You and every guest in your group has logged into their guest portal and updated their information.
- Reserve airline tickets & communicate arrival and departure with Gaspé Coastal.
- Purchase travel insurance.

60 Days Out:

- Final invoice paid to secure your spot.
- Begin playing with gear and make sure that you have everything you need for the upcoming trip.
- Ensure all questions about your trip are addressed.

7 Days Out:

- Double check passport and all travel documents, including checking expiration dates.
- Confirm flights are on time and check-in for travel.
- All packed & ready to go!

SEE YOU SOON!

