



MOUNTAIN BIKING IN GATINEAU PARK

STAYING ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Being environmentally responsible

In order to preserve and protect the treasures of Gatineau Park — plants and wildlife, clear lakes, and unique sites each Park user must keep the environment in mind. Because individual actions add up to create an environmental impact, it's up to each of us to make it our personal challenge to preserve the Park. We can all help to protect the Park by making sure that we ride in an ecologically sound way. By being environmentally responsible, we provide an opportunity for future generations to enjoy the Park.

Pick the right trail

There are 90 kilometres of official, mixed-use trails within this conservation park, which are open for mountain biking from May 15 to November 30. This substantial network of trails, shared with hikers, is for beginner to intermediate mountain bikers who want to discover the Park. For thrill seekers and competitive mountain bikers, we recommend the trails developed for this purpose at Camp Fortune or those outside the Park, developed by the Ottawa Mountain Bike Association (OMBA).

Gatineau Park is committed to maintaining and encouraging mountain biking practices that respect the environment.

Be aware of your impact

Riding on unofficial trails contributes to environmental degradation, creating a negative impact on plants and animals. Riding through prohibited areas produces a cumulative effect: bike tires displace the soil; tree roots become exposed; riding around exposed roots further expands the area of soil loss. This leads to further soil erosion and damages the surrounding ecosystems.

Set an example: Go green

- Do not frighten the animals. The Park is their habitat.
- Plan ahead. Maintain control over your speed at all times.
- Slow down and make your presence known when approaching or overtaking someone.
- Pay attention to the signage and stay on marked trails.
- Gatineau Park conservation officers patrol the trails and act as peace officers. They are authorized to issue fines to those who contravene Park regulations.

Help preserve the Park

Gatineau Park is a protected natural area. The trail network has been developed according to the principles of sustainable development.

- Stay on the official mountain biking trails. The official trails meet the standards and criteria for mountain biking. Hiking trails cannot be used for mountain biking, because it damages and deteriorates these trails.
- Consider using your front brakes to avoid skidding and reduce deterioration of the trails.
- Share the trails with walkers, hikers and other mountain bikers.
- Take your garbage away with you and dispose of it properly in containers provided for this purpose.
- Above all, leave no trace of your presence.

Enjoy your outing!

Information:

GATINEAU PARK VISITOR CENTRE 33 SCOTT ROAD, CHELSEA, QUEBEC J9B 1R5 819-827-2020 • 1-800-465-1867 • 613-239-5090 (TTY) CANADASCAPITAL.GC.CA/GATINEAU CANADASCAPITAL.GC.CA/BIKING IMBA.COM/CANADA

