



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

The National Battlefields
Commission

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Pirates, privateers and freebooters celebrate at Brown Basin



Arrgh!

Quebec City, July 18, 2011 - Captain Jack Rackham and his confederates have taken up residence for the summer at Brown Basin, along the edge of the St. Lawrence River at the foot of the Cap-Blanc stairs. Rain or shine, these seafaring adventurers invite ship's boys and girls of all ages to a special celebration next Sunday July 24, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The program will include: activities led by twenty or so pirates clad in their best attire, snakes and other reptiles, insect sampling, gun and cannon firing, songs of the sea, a show featuring Jack Sparrow, Pirate of the Caribbean, and more! The outdoor activities will be free and the admission will be half-price for a visit to the interpretation centre and its exhibitions, including *Pirates, privateers and freebooters*.

Outdoor activities

In the open air, the friendly pirates will share some of their secrets with visitors: flag interpretation, calculation of a ship's speed, and cutlasses. And who knows, you just might run across a buccaneer on stilts! Visiting buccaneers will also be entitled to gun and cannon firing demonstrations. Fire!

Set off for an adventure along with fabulous Captain Latrouille. Our red-nosed pirate carries a foam rubber sword and holds a famous treasure map. And so he must recruit and train a crew for this quest, which will not be an easy thing because our buccaneer is afraid of water and doesn't know how to swim. Truth be told, he is a big coward. A storm of laughter on the horizon!

Hear ye, hear ye, mates! Pirate Jean De LaVallette de La Rochelle is preparing an expedition bound for Devil's Island. This is a meeting that will lead you across the seven seas. Talk to these bandits about life at sea; they may ask you to solve a riddle or trade an object with them. Show initiative and imagination.

Flûtin will summon you to a journey to faraway lands with the sound of old melodies and mariners' songs. The one-man band will make the percussion, string and wind instruments vibrate like a breeze of rhythms and stories from the sea.

The most fearless will want to immortalize their courage by having their picture taken (\$5) with a reptile! Come closer and learn about the lifestyle of these exotic beasts, including a 50-pound turtle, a boa constrictor and a 13-foot albino python. Is your stomach starting to rumble? There are crickets on the menu... famished like pirates you may be willing to eat anything! You can also admire an insect collection worthy of the most out-of-the-way places.

The spitting image of famous Jack Sparrow will present a show at 2:00 p.m. (in French only) before seamen apprentices. Listen to this Pirate of the Caribbean (accompanied by Diego, nicknamed "the crow") relate a fantastic adventure fraught with magic, acrobatics, dance and humour, with genuine expressions and gestures.

Indoor activities

Other indoor activities will be available for next to nothing (half-price):

- With the animated exhibition ***Pirates, privateers and freebooters*** you will get a chance to climb aboard a ship's reconstruction to explore the various aspects of life at sea. Discover the living conditions of crew members, the rules aboard the ship, the sailing techniques, the evolution of the ships, the risks of the trade, the looting, the laws and punishments, and more. Test your senses and cast off with real pirates, who will tattoo the young recruits to keep off bad luck!
- The exhibition ***Witnesses of the Past*** will reveal the history of four buildings that used to stand on the site of the present-day Battlefields Park: the Dumont Mill, the Quebec Astronomical Observatory, the Ross Rifle Factory and the military huts.
- The short feature ***My Park, My Plains***, produced by the National Film Board of Canada, will recount with liveliness, humour and emotion the outstanding moments of history and the various callings of the Plains of Abraham over past decades.
- New France will have the place of honour, with a hundred or so replicas of historical objects created by secondary and primary level students. ***Student Masterworks*** is an exhibition teeming with authenticity with its furniture, clothing, pottery, games and other everyday period objects. In collaboration with the Commission scolaire de la Beauce-Etchemin.



Everybody is invited to put on a costume for this celebration, which is worth its weight in gold.

The Brown Basin will carry on its regular activities until September 5, 2011.

BROWN BASIN

- Address: 615 East Champlain Blvd, Quebec City
(west of Notre-Dame-de-la-Garde Park,
at the foot of the Cap-Blanc stairs)
- Opening hours: From July 1st to September 5, 2011
Everyday, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
SPECIAL PIRATE DAY: Sunday July 24, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Admission fee:
(regular fee) \$10 / 18-64 years old; \$8 / 13-17 years old or 65 years old and over;
\$4 / 6-12 years old; free for children 5 years old and under;
\$25 / family including 2 adults and 2 children maximum (6-17 years old).
SPECIAL PIRATE DAY: free outdoor activities and half-price admission
to visit the interpretation centre and its exhibitions, including
Pirates, privateers and freebooters.

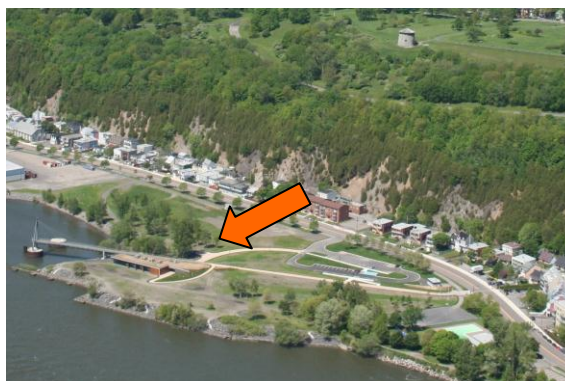
Collaboration:



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- 30 -

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