

Canada (Quebec Province and Niagara Falls)

21st August to 4th September 2019.

Derek and Vivien Gruar (All photos ©)



Introduction and booking information.

The main plan for our trip was to have a holiday that gave us a high possibility of seeing some cetaceans. Our primary hope was finding Belugas in the St Lawrence. We also wanted to visit some cultural and tourist sights too. Any birding would be incidental with a few targeted sites visited.

Trailfinders provided a great flight and accommodation deal, with all other accommodation reserved via Booking.com.

Daily Visits

21st August (Toronto): Our Air Canada flight from London Heathrow arrived in Toronto on time. Immigration and customs took a little time to get through and seemed to be more hassle than our previous Canadian travel experiences. After negotiating the scrum to exit the airport we took a cab to the **Chelsea Hotel** in downtown Toronto passing the CN Tower and Toronto FC ground on route. An early dinner nearby rounded a long day off nicely.

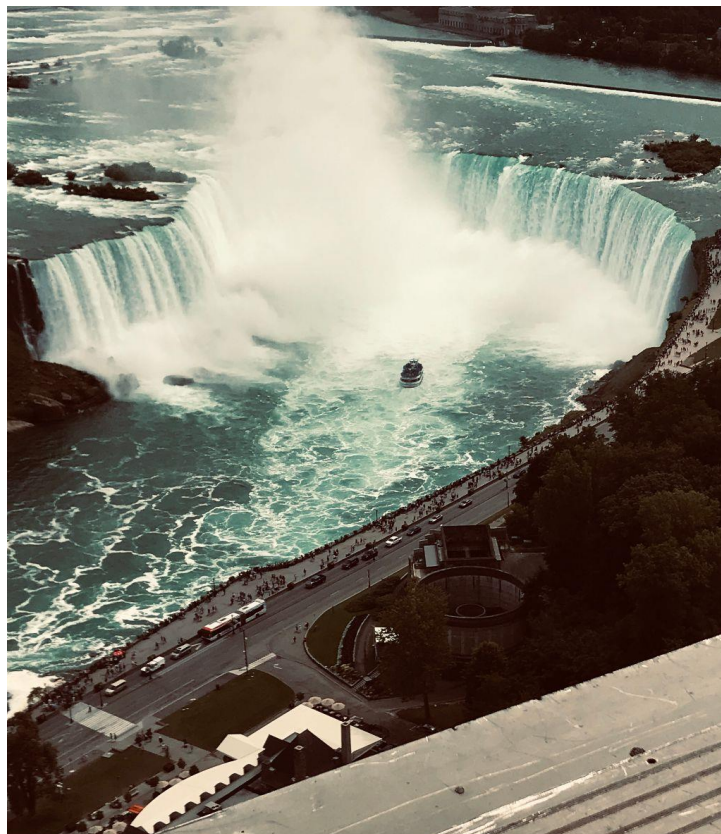
22nd August (Toronto/Niagara Falls): Today we had our major tourist day, visiting Niagara Falls, taking in the magnificence of this amazing wonder of the world. I had been here previously in November 2004, and it was one of the highlights Viv really wanted to experience on this trip.

To reach Niagara Falls, we took an outbound Greyhound Bus from the Bay Street Bus Station with tickets bought online before we left the UK. The bus station seems to have changed little since my visit here in 2004. There was a great deal of confusion about which bus was going to which destination and multiple queues to each bus. Eventually we found the right bus and were on our way.

A few birds were seen from the bus on the hour and a half journey, including the only **Northern Mockingbirds** and **Ospreys** (two) of the trip, as well as **Starlings** and **Mourning Doves**.

On arriving at the Niagara Falls bus station, we quickly purchased our transit tickets for the buses that operate to all the tourist destinations. These are run by the local Parks department and had been instigated since my previous visit. We alighted at the stop for the Hornblower Cruises which again we had booked before leaving the UK. As we were queuing to get the funicular down to the boat, three **Turkey Vultures** rose majestically out of the gorge and drifted by at street level. We were issued our recyclable ponchos and embarked on the 20 minute boat trip to the base of the falls. **Mallards**, **Canada Geese** and **Ring-billed Gulls** were on the water as we drifted past the American Falls and then to the base of the imperious Horseshoe Falls where the spray and full force of the waterfall made the poncho provision essential.

After our stunning close encounter with the waterfalls we headed to the Skylon Tower to get a more panoramic view of the falls. The base of the tower housed an amusement arcade that had a very 1980s feel to it and was a little incongruous given the majestic natural phenomenon that can be seen from the top of the tower. A short lift ride later and we were out on the viewing platform around the top of the tower. The views across the falls and back towards Niagara-on-the-Lake from the elevated viewpoint were breath-taking. The cloudy skies made for some atmospheric photos.



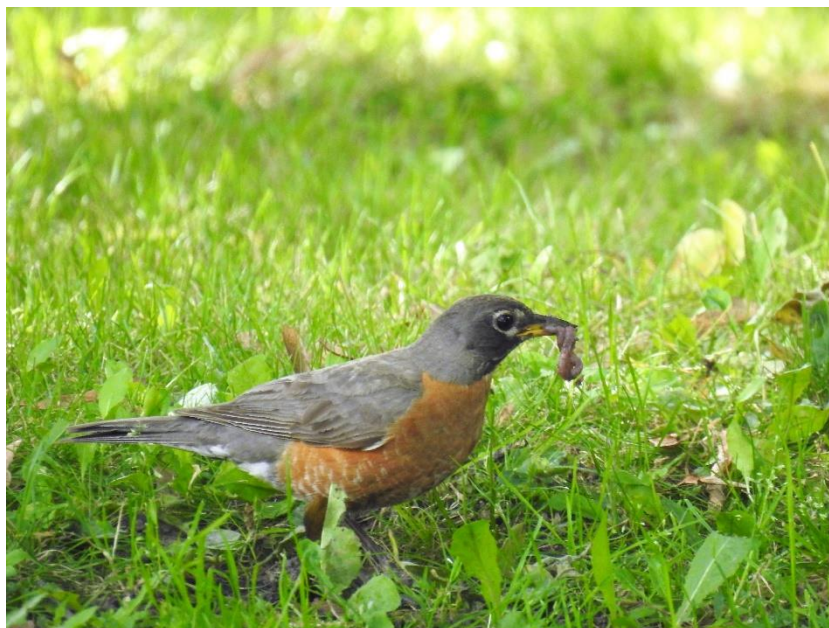
For lunch we headed to the Table Rock information centre by the Niagara Falls viewpoint. The birder in me always notices something, and a small brown-grey bird flew out of the undergrowth not far from the junction of the main road and that leading to the Skylon tower. Flashing its white outer tail feathers, it was a **Dark-eyed (slate-coloured) Junco**. A species that I am fond of after banding many of these birds during my spell at Long Point Bird Observatory back in fall 2004.

As we ate our sandwiches, we were joined by a family party of **Red-winged Blackbirds** and some **House Sparrows**. The viewpoint allows amazingly close access to the falls, demonstrating both their power and beauty.

The only downside on the day was that we were unable to experience the Behind the Falls Tour as no time slots were available before we had to return to catch our return bus back to Toronto. We used Megabus on our return as gave better return time. After a superb day we treated ourselves to an excellent dinner in Toronto.

23rd August (Toronto to Baie St Paul): After our great day out at Niagara we were soon on our travels again. After an omelette breakfast at a nearby Cora's it was a cab ride to the airport in time to catch our Air Canada Rouge Flight to Quebec. Once landed, we collected our luggage and then picked up our hire car and drove 90mins north to Baie St Paul. Nothing too exciting bird wise was seen on route apart from the occasional **Turkey Vulture**. Post arrival there was just time to settle into our accommodation, an excellent self-catering cabin at the Aux Petit Oiseaux, and head into town for dinner.

24th August: After a lot of travelling in the previous couple of days we had a late breakfast around our cabin at Petit Oiseaux, where a lone **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** visited flowers and an **American Robin** fed a recently fledged youngster.



Late morning, we visited the area around the Quai. Finding **Great White Egret** and **Great Blue Heron** in the marshes and a fine **Northern Harrier** glided right past us. The tidal nature of the St Lawrence meant we could have a paddle on the small area of beach.... always a holiday necessity. We continued our wander to the small wooded area the Parc Boisé du Quai. Bird wise it was very quiet though we were joined by both a **Chipmunk** and a **Red Squirrel**.

As we exited the woodland into a and area of grassland the noted 'lump' out in the meadow turned out to be a **Groundhog/Woodchuck**. A new mammal species for us, which got us discussing the 80's classic film Groundhog Day.



On our return through the Head back through the Boisé a warbler flock with **Wilson's, Black and White** and **Tennessee Warblers** provided a good identification test as the birds continuously moved through the dense vegetation.

In the afternoon we took a scenic drive up the Charlevoix "coast" and stopped for a walk along the picturesque beach at Saint-Irénée in the glorious afternoon sunshine. Two **Eider** were seen off-shore as well as small groups of **Canada Goose** and **Mallard/American Black Ducks**. The most notable sighting was a flyover **Bald Eagle**, the first of the trip and always a majestic sight.

We continued our drive up to La Malbaie, where out on the mudflats we notice three bulky white shapes that prove to be early arrival migrant **Snow Geese**, a very pleasant surprise and confirmation of a new species for me. Viewing from Parc de Quai Casgrain we also found **Green-winged Teal** and **Lesser** and **Great Black-backed Gulls** amongst the multitude of **Ring-billed** and **American Herring Gulls**.

25th August (Baie St Paul): Another warm sunny day we decided to head inland and explore some of the roads of the Grand Jardins NP, which turned out to be the spectacularly birdless. The scenery and weather were stunning, which enabled some great photographic opportunities. Only birds of note were a lone **American Kestrel** and a **White-throated Sparrow** collecting food.



In the evening we retraced our steps of the day before and visited Quai de Baie St Paul. This time the tidal area has exposed several hundred metres of mud, I got excited that there may be some waders, but as was the case with this trip there was a complete absence of shorebirds. In the woodland, we found a warbler flock with **Magnolia, Tennessee, Black and White Warblers**. A **Hairy Woodpecker** provided some good video and photos and we also found the same **Groundhog** that was also very photogenic. After a glorious sunny evening we retreated to the local Microbrasserie allowing me to sample some of the local craft beers.

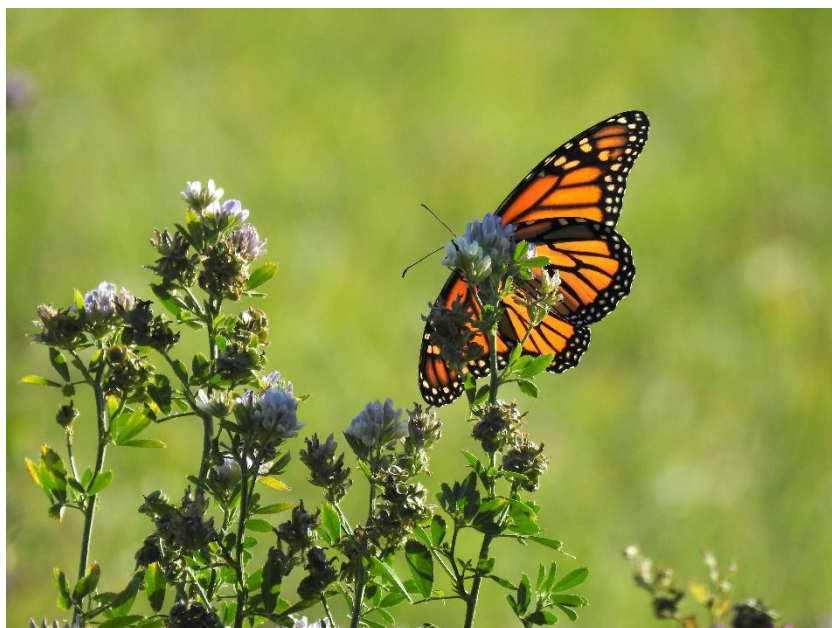
26th August (Baie St Paul): Today we travelled an hour south to one of Quebec's top birding hotspots Cap Tourmente National Wildlife Area. In winter, this area of marsh and grassland is home to thousands of Snow Geese. However, during our visit we hoped to find some migrating warblers or raptors. We arrived mid-morning, paid our entry fees where the very helpful parks staff gave us some useful information about the park and where to visit.

She also mentioned that the banding station would also be operating. This was the first time they had opened the station in August, so this was a bonus chance to talk to see some fellow ringers and some birds' close-up. It was another hot and sunny day and bird activity was slow. We walked along a few trails around the visitor centre finding **Sharp-shinned Hawk** and **Merlin**. **American Goldfinch**, **Purple Finch** and **Song Sparrow** visited feeders and a pair of **Blue Jays** skulked in the undergrowth.

Activity at the banding station had slowed but we did see two **Tennessee Warblers** (right) and an **American Redstart** (left) in the hand.



After a picnic in the shade we spent some time watching two **Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds** visit feeders and found two very confiding **Eastern Bluebirds** together with a stunning adult male **American Goldfinch** and **Chipping Sparrows**. The meadow area also provided some excellent butterfly watching with **Monarch**, **Black Swallowtail** and **Question Mark** all being recorded.



We also walked a loop of the trail described as the Tour du Petite Ferme. This passed through woodland and marshy scrub before it reached an observation tower overlooking some more open water and marshland. The scrub was quite active with **Northern Flicker**, **Alder Flycatcher** and **Red-eyed Vireo** amongst small numbers of **Black-capped Chickadees**. From the observation tower we picked up a few new species including **Pied-billed Grebe**, **Barn Swallow** and several **Lesser Yellowlegs** before we gave in to the incessant mosquito attacks and made a retreat. On our return journey to Baie St Paul the main observation of note as a large mixed flock of **Common Grackles** and **Starlings** in Saint Féréol.

27th August (Baie St Paul to Tadoussac): Our very pleasant stay at Baie St. Paul was now at an end and we were to head further north and the promise of some whale watching!

The drive was easy (there is only the main 138 highway) and as we had a late check-in at our hotel, we had decided to book a whale watching trip from Baie St Catherine on the south side of the Saguenay Fjord. We chose the AML Zephyr boat as the timing of its departure fitted our itinerary and as a relatively large boat, we felt that there would be little chance of cancellation if the weather was bad. Needless to say, we had no weather worries and the St Lawrence was like a millpond, a far cry from the atrocious conditions we faced a year before in South Africa. After embarkation we quickly found a spot on the rail at the front starboard side of the boat. Within a few minutes of leaving the quai, Viv spotted a **Minke Whale** break the surface. A **Harbour Seal** made an appearance and we were informed by the entertaining guide that this was not a common sighting.

The next 90 minutes saw plenty of Minke Whales with at one point at least ten whales breaking the surface around the boat, a couple of fluking **Humpbacks** and we follow a group of **Fin Whales**. The latter a species I had not seen since the great days of traversing the Bay of Biscay on the Pride of Bilbao ferry. The second biggest animal on the planet did not disappoint. Bird wise, there were large numbers of **Black-legged Kittiwakes** and **Northern Gannets**. A lone **Common Loon/Great Northern Diver** was also found in the calm conditions.

The boat was very good for viewing if you were on the rail, there was no access across the bow as this would have restricted the view for the skipper. We felt that the boat was a little overcrowded and at times and there was some pushing and shoving as some passengers struggled to get to see some of the sightings.

We were very happy after connecting with lots of cetaceans we drove the few minutes north to connect with the free ferry for the short crossing of the fjord. Once on the northern side we were shortly at our next base; the Hotel Beluga, Tadoussac where we were to stay for five nights.

28th August (Tadoussac): Another day and it's another boat trip. This time it was a much smaller Zodiac type boat with the local first nation company Essipit from Grandes Bergeronnes. The boat trip was aimed at the more committed whale watcher, as the boats only carry 12 passengers. Prior to boarding we were issued with a flotation suit, waterproof trousers, and gloves both as insurance if by any chance we ended up in the water and protection against the elements out on the water.

The St. Lawrence was again flat calm, and we quickly encountered a few fleeting **Harbour Porpoise**. **Minke** and **Humpback Whales** were also encountered as well as a large group of **Grey Seals**. We also found the same group of Fins Whales seen the day before, their size even more impressive from a small boat.

Then seemingly out of nowhere white shapes broke the surface and we have great views of the target of our trip the **Beluga**. These amazing white whales are protected, and boats are not allowed to deliberately approach them, so we were fortunate that they decided to find us! After a captivating few minutes, we let them drift past us and we head back to the quai. Birds seen out on the St Lawrence were the same as from the AML Zephyr with the addition of the only **Common Tern** of the trip.

29th August (Tadoussac): I had a local day birding near Tadoussac visiting the dunes near the bird observatory and Réserve Naturelle du Parc-Languedoc, an area of c100ha of woods owned and managed by a not-for-profit charity <https://www.parclanguedoc.org/>. The weather had closed in and the fog was so dense that from the cliff tops it was impossible to see the St Lawrence.

Birding in the woods was productive once roving warbler flocks were located, thankfully the ever vocal **Black-capped Chickadees** were of great assistance. **Nashville, Magnolia, Black and White Warblers** were recorded. Other species of note include a small group of **Red-eyed Vireos**, several **Downy Woodpeckers, Blue Jays** and fly over **Sharp-shinned** and **Broad-winged Hawks**.



30th August (Tadoussac): Our third boat trip and our second with Essipit was a little in doubt when we arrived at the quai in the morning. The wind had increased and there were white horses out on the St Lawrence, but after a slight delay it was deemed that the forecast was sufficiently positive to proceed. As we suited up with our survival gear, we were thankful that it provided protection from the heavy squall that hit as we embarked on our zodiac. The journey out was quite bumpy due to the swell and the rain which at times was horizontal. As predicted the rain eased and we quickly found several **Minke Whales**. The undoubted stars of this trip were the **Humpback Whales** with at least five individuals seen.

As ever with Humpback's they always seem keen to put on a show, here we had some incredible views of tail flukes when the whales dived, including one that went under our boat. Bird species seen were similar to previous boat trips with hundreds of **Black-legged Kittiwakes** as well as **Bonaparte's Gulls** and **Northern Gannets**.



In the afternoon, we decided that we would explore the area north of Grandes Bergeronnes. Our first stop was the Park Canada Interpretation and Observation Center. Cap-de-Bon-Desir (\$7.80 entry per person). Here a walkway led down to the shoreline and enabled us to watch a **Minke** surface a few times within metres of the shore.

A lone **Black Guillemot** sheltered in the cove from the wind, that had increased again. After a picnic lunch we headed north to Portneuf-sur-Mer to try and find some shorebirds. Alas, despite the now sunny conditions the wind had turned gale force, we did find a small group of **Least Sandpipers** and some flyover **Lesser Yellowlegs**.



With the constant pelting of sand in the face we decided that it was not worth exploring further, our last bird was a **Goldeneye** out on the water. This proved to be a wise decision as an hour later we drove back towards Tadoussac through a spectacular thunderstorm!

31st August (Tadoussac): Our last full day in the north was spent near Baie-St-Marguerite. We walked the 3km trail from the Centre de Découverte et de service Le Béluga to the Halte au Béluga (Beluga Watchpoint). The trail followed the St-Marguerite River to where it entered the Saguenay Fjord. For the first couple of kilometres we only found a couple of **Bay-breasted Warblers** and were wondering if it was worth the 6km round trip. After a brief stop for a drink, a very confiding **Downy Woodpecker** gave us the impetus to continue. Towards the viewpoint we found a warbler flock that contained **Cape May, Nashville, Canada, Black-throated Green** and **Yellow-rumped Warblers** as well as **Red-breasted Nuthatches** (that gave away their presence by their excellent toy trumpet calls) and **Golden-crowned Kinglet**.

On arrival at the watchpoint, we were met with a stunning view down the inlet that leads to the Saguenay fjord. The wind was quite fierce and whipped the water making any attempt to find the pod of **Beluga** that inhabit the inlet a little more difficult. After a short while we managed to locate the pod, and for over an hour we had excellent repeated sightings of the Belugas as they surfaced to breathe. A definite highlight of the trip.



1st September (Tadoussac to Quebec): Today we had the long drive back to Quebec as we wanted to spend a couple of days exploring this historical city. After crossing the Fjord, we had a quick stop at the AML office at Baie St Catherine to do something that I had never done before and take a helicopter flight. We had a six minute flight that took us out over the Fjord giving us a spectacular birds-eye view. The rest of the journey south was uneventful, and we arrived in the City after returning our hire car. We spent the evening wandering around the old town which was very busy as it was Labor Day weekend. A few Cedar Waxwings were seen near the Citadel were the avian highlight.

2nd September (Quebec): In the morning we were met with the forecasted dreadful weather day. Incessant spells of rain which was at times torrential limited us to a day in the city. We decided we need some culture and visited the Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec. There was a fantastic exhibition of the Spanish artist Joan Miro and some amazing Inuit art, with some fantastic sculptures using natural materials. No birds of note were seen.

3rd September (Quebec): Thankfully, the weather had improved, and this enabled us a day trip to the excellent Montmorency Falls on the outskirts of the city. The falls can be reached from downtown via the number 19 bus. We found that the fare cost the same as a standard ticket in the city. The bus stop for the falls was on a residential street located above the falls, upon arrival we headed down towards the Montmorency Manor which housed a restaurant and souvenir shop. Here there are viewpoints across to the impressive waterfalls. A pair of **Black-capped Chickadees** were in the trees and **Song Sparrows** fed on the lawns. We were treated to a **Peregrine** that flew over the falls.



We took the cable car down to the main visitor centre, this allowed us to reach the base of the falls as there is a viewpoint just metres from the cascade. Three **Double-crested Cormorants** were amongst the throng of **Ring-billed Gulls** on the water and a single **Great Blue Heron** hunted in the waterside vegetation. **Turkey Vultures** drift along the ridge with the waterfalls, these were overshadowed by an adult and juvenile **Bald Eagles** seen from the return cable car journey.

After grabbing a sandwich and drink in the visitor centre, we crossed the Charlevoix trainline and had a sit down with our lunch in the woodland below the falls here there were very obliging **Bay-breasted Warblers** as well as **Yellow** and **Wilson's Warblers** plus a stunning male **American Redstart**. We found more warblers in the woodland at top of falls as well as both **Philadelphia** and **Red-eyed Vireos**. A large black **Fox Squirrel** and a showy **Hairy Woodpecker** completed the wildlife sightings. A great day was rounded off with a superb dinner in old town Quebec.

4th September (Quebec to U.K.): Our last day in Canada, and we suffered another poor weather day with more rain. This made the fact we must return home easier to accept. The rain was forecast to increase during the day, and we were notified that our first flight was delayed. We decided to head to airport early and Air Canada offered excellent customer service and made sure we were on an earlier flight to Toronto. This was not before another delay as a thunderstorm shut the airport for 20 minutes. The earlier connection time allowed us to arrive in Toronto on time for our connection back to London and complete our excellent trip.

Bird List

Snow Goose: Three out on the shoreline at La Malbaie were a surprise find.

Canada Goose: Common in small groups at most coastal and wetland areas.

Mallard: Common in small groups at most coastal and wetland areas.

American Black Duck: Common and often associated with Mallards in coastal areas.

Ring-necked Duck: Eclipse plumage bird with other ducks at Cap Tourmente.

Green-winged Teal: Small groups seen at Cap Tourmente and La Malbaie.



Common Eider: On the St Lawrence in small numbers at Baie St Catherine and Cap de Bon Desir.

Common Goldeneye: Single birds at Cap de Bon Desir, and Portneuf-sur-Mer.

Pied-billed Grebe: Several birds on the Petite Ferme wetlands at Cap Tourmente

Lesser Yellowlegs: Several birds at Cap Tourmente and at Portneuf-sur-Mer.

Least Sandpiper: Small flock sheltering among driftwood at Portneuf-sur-Mer.

Semi-palmated Plover: Lone bird on beach on Tadoussac Beach.

Black Guillemot: Lone bird close to shore at Cap du Bon Desir.

Black-legged Kittiwake: Very common out in the St Lawrence, seen on all boat trips in large numbers.

Bonaparte's Gull: Common out in the St Lawrence, seen on all boat trips.

Ring-billed Gull: Commonest bird of the area, often in the 100s around the coast.



American Herring Gull: Widespread at coastal sites along the St Lawrence.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Occasional at Quai Baie St Paul and at La Malbaie.

Great Black-backed Gull: Occasional birds seen with other Gulls.

Common Tern: Lone bird seen from Essipit boat on 28th August.

Great Northern Diver: Single birds from the AML Zephyr and on Lac Gobeil north of Tadoussac.

Northern Gannet: Commonly seen offshore on all boat trips.

Double-crested Cormorant: Very abundant at all coastal locations.

Great Blue Heron: Widespread and seen at several locations including Cap Tormente, Quai Baie St Paul and Chute Montmorency.

Great White Egret: Singles seen at Quai Baie St Paul and Cap Tourmente.

Turkey Vulture: Seen at many sights in small numbers including Niagara Falls and over the ridge near Chute Montmorency.

Northern Harrier: Singles at Cap Tourmente and Quai Baie St Paul.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Most regularly found raptor with birds at Languedoc and Cap Tourmente.

Bald Eagle: Widespread in small numbers several sites including Cap Tourmente, Chute Montmorency and Tadoussac Dunes.

Broad-winged Hawk: Lone bird seen flying over Languedoc.

Red-tailed Hawk: Seen whilst driving from Quebec on telegraph poles and wires. One bird was seen in the same place a few Km north of Tadoussac on several occasions.

Osprey: Two seen from bus to Niagara as it crossed the causeway south of Burlington.

Mourning Dove: A few birds seen in the suburbs of Toronto.

Downy Woodpecker: Most common and widespread woodpecker, 4-5 birds in the woods at Parc Languedoc the highest count.



Hairy Woodpecker: One seen Baie St Paul and another above the falls at Chute Montmorency.

Northern Flicker: Single birds seen at Cap Tourmente and Tadoussac dunes.

American Kestrel: Lone bird seen perched at distance at Grand Jardins NP.

Merlin: At least two birds hunting at Cap Tourmente.

Peregrine Falcon: Single bird seen above the falls at Chute Montmorency.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Two birds visited feeders at Cap Tourmente, one also seen in garden of Aux Petit Osieaux



Alder Flycatcher: A lone bird on Petit Ferme trail at Cap Tourmente.

Blue-headed Vireo: Seen along Petit Ferme trail at Cap Tourmente.

Philadelphia Vireo: Found in parkland above Chute Montmorency.

Red-eyed Vireo: Seen in most wooded habitats, several birds amongst warbler flocks at Parc Languedoc being the highest counts.

Blue Jay: Two birds at Cap Tourmente and a high count of 5 birds seen outside Hotel Beluga, Tadoussac.

American Crow: Common and widespread in all habitats.

Common Raven Singles at Cap Tourmente and Tadoussac dunes.

Northern Mockingbird: Occasionally seen on taxi and bust trips in the Toronto suburbs

Black-capped Chickadee: Most widespread passerine, locating calling birds helped find small flocks of warblers.

Barn Swallow: One hawking low over wetlands at Cap Tourmente.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Seen in small numbers at Boisé Baie St Paul and Baie St. Marguerite, Beluga walk.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Often heard more than seen found at Boisé Baie St Paul, Baie St. Marguerite, Beluga walk and Parc Languedoc.



Common Starling: Common in the Toronto suburbs and around Niagara, Falls. A large flock with grackles seen at Saint Féréol on return from Cap Tourmente.

Common Grackle: Common in the Toronto suburbs and around Niagara, Falls. A large flock with grackles seen at Saint Féréol on return from Cap Tourmente.

Eastern Bluebird: Two birds gave superb views at Cap Tourmente.



American Robin: Occasional sightings. An adult was seen feeding a recent fledgling in the garden of Petite Oiseaux in Baie St Paul.

Cedar Waxwing: Widespread in small flocks at Baie St Paul and Cap Tourmente. A flock of c50 fed briefly on roadside Rowan trees in Tadoussac.

House Sparrow: In urban areas around Toronto and Niagara Falls. Absent further north.

Purple Finch Two were seen visiting feeders at Cap Tourmente.

American Goldfinch: Often heard in flight overhead. One stunning male was at Cap Tourmente.

Chipping Sparrow: Widespread in small numbers at several sites including Cap Tourmente and in the yard of Aux Petit Oiseaux.

Dark-eyed Junco: Common, single near Skylon Tower, Niagara. Small numbers around Tadoussac.

White-throated Sparrow: A bird collecting food was found at Grand Jardins NP. Also seen at Parc Languedoc.



Song Sparrow: Commonest sparrow encountered in most sites, confiding around the Montmorency Manor.

Savannah Sparrow: At least one bird in grassland bordering Boisé Baie St Paul.

Red-winged Blackbird: A family party seen around the outdoor dining area near Niagara Falls.

Black-and-white Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Parc Languedoc and Boisé Baie St Paul.

Tennessee Warbler Two birds were seen at the banding station at Cap Tourmente. Found in mixed flocks of warblers at at Boisé Baie St Paul and Parc Languedoc.

Nashville Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Beluga watch point trail, Baie St. Marguerite and at Boisé Baie St Paul.

American Redstart: A juvenile was seen at the banding station at Cap Tourmente. Others including adult males were at Chute Montmorency.

Cape May Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Beluga watch point trail, Baie St. Marguerite.

Magnolia Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Cap Tourmente, Beluga watch point trail, Baie St. Marguerite and Boisé Baie St Paul.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers in trees by visitor centre at Chute Montmorency as well as at Boisé Baie St Paul and Parc Languedoc.

Yellow Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers in trees by visitor centre Chute Montmorency.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Cap Tourmente Beluga watch point trail, Baie St. Marguerite.

Black-throated Green Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Beluga watch point trail, Baie St. Marguerite and Boisé Baie St. Paul.

Canada Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Beluga watch point trail, Baie St. Marguerite.

Wilson's Warbler: Found in mixed flocks of warblers at Boisé Baie St Paul and at Chute Montmorency

Mammals and other species.

Grey Seal A large group was seen on the first Essipit Boat trip.

Harbour Seal. Single seen from the AML Zephyr.

Harbour Porpoise: Seen on all boat trips, fleeting views as ever.

Fin Whale: The same group of 5 individuals seen from both the AML Zephyr and Essipit Zodiacs.

Minke Whale: Commonest cetacean seen on all boat trips, with at least 10 individuals surfacing at one time on the AML Zephyr. Also seen from shore at Cap Bon Desir.

Beluga: A pod came close to first Essipit boat trip, with further distant sightings on the second boat. A pod of 10-15 individuals were seen from the Beluga watch point.



Humpback Whale: Seen on all boat trips, most numerous with possibly up to 10 individuals on the second Essipit trip.

Groundhog: The same animal seen on two different dates at Baie St Paul.

Eastern Grey Squirrel: Occasionally seen in woodland habitats.

American Red Squirrel: Common in woodland habitats.

Fox Squirrel: A lone melanistic animal was seen in woodland above Chute Montmorency

Mountain Caribou: Three were seen crossing the road in Grand Jardins National Park.

Eastern Chipmunk: One in garden of Aux Petit Oiseaux, also seen in Boisé Baie St Paul and Parc Languedoc.



Garter snake: One was found on the path at Tadoussac Dunes and another along the trail to Beluga watch point, Baie St. Marguerite.

