

Goat Island

At one point in time, Eskasoni (Es-ka-so-nee) was home to several goats. They lived on what we now call “Goat Island.” The goats were moved there after centralization (when many Mi’kmaq people were relocated). However, it was not considered how they would fit within the ecosystem, and they had to be removed once they began eating everything.

On Goat Island, you may no longer see goats, but instead you will find a beautiful opportunity to learn about the ancient Mi’kmaq way of life.

The trail is about 2.4 km long and generally considered easy. It takes around 30 minutes to complete if you’re just walking through, but there is a lot to do along the way so we encourage you to take your time.

The Goat Island cultural team is proud to showcase Destination Goat Island in partnership with Eskasoni Cultural Journeys. In honour of their Mi’kmaq ancestors, the tour guides offer a rare and enriching glimpse into pre-contact Mi’kmaq life. Here you will find wigwams, a gift shop, picnic tables, interpretive tours, and various demonstrations rooted in the Mi’kmaq culture and language.

Goat Island may no longer have goats, but its spirit lives on-- through culture, connection, education, and community.

Thank you so much to Wasuek Googoo and the Union of Nova Scotia Mi’kmaq for gathering and sharing this information.



Did you know Eskasoni was once home to many goats? Although the goats are no longer there, Goat Island is still a must-see destination. Along this 2.4km trail, you’ll discover wigwams, a gift shop, picnic tables, interpretive tours, and cultural demonstrations rooted in Mi’kmaq language and tradition.

