

Canada's *Magical* Twin Cities

Enjoy the French flavour of Montreal and Quebec, just three hours apart by rail



Petit Champlain district

1 Discover Quebec's Story

The French settled beside the river, and the Petit Champlain district still oozes atmosphere from every boutique, gallery and restaurant. Ride the funicular up to the pretty tree-lined square outside Château Frontenac. The only fortified city in North America north of Mexico, the Old Town was listed by UNESCO in 1985. Don't miss the hilltop citadel on the Plains of Abraham, scene of the 1759 battle between Generals Wolfe and Montcalm.

3 Montreal's Old Town

One of the few buildings from the city's early days, Château de Ramezay was the Governor's residence, now a museum. For a unique tour of Old Montreal, download the free app Montreal en Histoires for interactive experiences at 60 points of interest (www.montrealenhistoires.com). From May, projections of historic characters on buildings and trees bring the city's history to life as part of the Cité Mémoire project (www.tourisme-montreal.org)



Governor's residence

4 Eagle's Eye View Of Montreal

Floors 43-46 of Montreal's Place Ville Marie complex have been transformed into one of the city's hottest new attractions. Au Sommet includes a restaurant, gallery and observation floor offering views over the Saint Lawrence River, the wooded slopes and residential district of Mount Royal, and the city's entertainment district, Le Quartier des Spectacles.

2 Sleep In A Quebec Convent

Don't miss Monastère des Augustines behind Quebec City's modern hospital. North America's first hospital, founded in 1639 and run by Augustinian Sisters until 1962, it's now a hotel, museum and wellness centre. Sleep in a former cell and enjoy dinner, or a treatment. www.monastere.ca/en



Monastère des Augustines

5 Planes And Trains

Gillian flew to Montreal from London with Air Canada and travelled by ViaRail beside the Saint Lawrence to Quebec City. Or take the 45 minute city-to-city flight. Visit www.quebecoriginal.com A light train runs up the route of the Saint Lawrence from Montmorency Falls on the edge of Quebec City.



Montmorency Falls

6 Iconic Buildings Of Quebec City

Dominating the Saint Lawrence, Chateau de Frontenac was built as a hotel to serve passengers on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Walk the cliff-top Dufferin Terrace beneath its lofty turrets, then take the short walk to the imposing Parliament building, for a guided tour of the interior. Enjoy a meal in The Parliamentarian restaurant with vegetables grown in the produce beds out front. www.quebecregion.com



The spectacular Chateau de Frontenac

7 Bilingual Country

Thanks to the influence of French explorer Jacques Cartier, Canada is bilingual. Most French speakers live in Quebec Province, particularly along the Saint Lawrence. Montreal was established by Maisonneuve in 1642 and Quebec City was founded by Samuel de Champlain in 1806 as a trading post. Today it's the largest French-speaking city outside Paris..



French flavour



Olympic Park

8 Olympic Montreal

Montreal hosted the 1976 summer Olympics and 40 years on, the Olympic Park is still a must-see. Enjoy a panoramic view from The Tower Observatory and an immersive environmental experience in the rainforest, polar region and other climatic zones of the Biodome, once the Olympic velodrome. Take in a show at the Planetarium, enjoy a guided tour of the Olympic Stadium, and then head to the nearby Botanic Gardens with their manicured vegetable plots, floral borders and tranquil lakes.

TRAVEL NEWS

◆ Scarily, only a quarter of Brits are aware of the limits of what can be brought home when returning from vacation. HMRC has no limits on the amount of alcohol and tobacco that can be brought in by holidaymakers returning from EU countries, though

the goods should be for personal consumption or gifts, so expect questions by customs officers if you try to bring more than 800 cigarettes or more than 10 litres of spirits into the UK. Travellers from non-EU countries can bring just 200 cigarettes and 1 litre of spirits.

