

## FLAVOURS OF QUEBEC

**8 days**

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### **Day 1 Arrive in Montreal, QC**

Welcome to Montréal!

Montréal shines through every season, and summer extends well into autumn in this energetic city. Every night of the season brings a new band, award-winning film or dance troupe to the city, and many outdoor venues invite visitors to see free performances and sample food-truck specialties until mid-October. Outdoor entertainment, and a flurry of music, film, theatre, dance and art events, adds a diversity of cultural experiences to an already transformative season.

Overnight in Montréal.

Included Meal(s): Dinner, if required.

### **Day 2 Montreal: City Tour - Mont-Tremblant**

This morning we will enjoy a sightseeing tour of the city and get an overview of the rich and diverse history of Montréal. This is a metropolis filled with architectural icons, from the cross planted at the top of Mount Royal some seven months after the city was founded in 1642 by French explorer, de Maisonneuve, to the 21st century skyscrapers in the city center.

One of the highlights of our visit will be to the majestic Notre-Dame Basilica of Montréal. With its two soaring towers, Notre Dame is a splendid and dramatic example of the Gothic Revival style, with a grand and colourful interior filled with hundreds of intricate wooden carvings and religious statues.

This afternoon, we will drive to the scenic Laurentian Mountains in southern Quebec, bordering the scenic St. Lawrence Seaway. As one of the oldest national parks in North America located in this region, the Parc National du Mont-Tremblant has countless hills surrounded by 400 lakes, six great rivers with unique sandy shores. The sheer size of this protected natural landscape makes it an ideal wilderness playground for nature lovers. On reaching the alpine resort of Mont-Tremblant we will take a short tour through this beautiful resort before checking into our hotel. You will have some free time this evening to explore the pedestrian designated village centre on your own.

Overnight in Mont-Tremblant.

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

### **Day 3 Mont-Tremblant Touring - Quebec City**

We will start our day with a gondola ride to the summit of Mont-Tremblant, the highest point in the Laurentians. Here we will discover a breathtaking view of the Laurentian Mountains, Lac Tremblant and the surrounding valleys. After our time here we then depart for a day of scenic driving through the Laurentian Mountains and a beautiful countryside of rural landscapes, forests and rich pastures, dotted with tiny villages, to the capital of the province, Quebec City. Quebec City is the oldest walled city in North America and the heart of the French-Canadian culture in Canada. With a cliff-top position above the St Lawrence River and captivatingly picturesque old streets, North America's oldest French-speaking city is a gorgeous, seductive place.

Time-permitting this afternoon we will visit the magnificent Montmorency Falls, the world famous shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, and view the pastoral farmlands on the romantic - Ile d'Orléans. The walled community of Québec City is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and here we will enjoy a short walking tour of the city before dinner.

Overnight in Québec City.

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

#### Day 4 Quebec City Touring

Many Quebec historic sites such as the Quebec fortifications, Chateau Frontenac, Quebec Citadel, Plains of Abraham and Ile de Orleans, make up important landmarks of Old Quebec City and the nearby region. Many different influences have shaped Quebec's history over the past 400 years - the First Nations, the French, the Acadians, the British, the Germans and the Irish, to name a few.

This morning we will continue our guided exploration of Québec City and become acquainted with some of its many historical sites including the Lower Village.

The afternoon is free for you to explore the cobblestoned streets of Old Québec City.

Overnight in Québec City (dinner on your own this evening).

Included Meal(s): Breakfast

#### Day 5 Quebec City - Charlevoix Region

Today as we depart Québec City and follow the mighty St. Lawrence River to the picturesque Charlevoix – a cultural and natural region was named after Pierre François-Xavier de Charlevoix, a French Jesuit explorer and historian who travelled through the area in the 18th century.

The region between Baie-Saint-Paul and La Malbaie is home to some of Charlevoix's most iconic villages. While some overlook the Seaway, others are perched along the Saint-Lawrence River itself. The picturesque charm of the period homes and the 'post-card' scenery' is stunning.

With more than two centuries of history, La Malbaie is where the first white sailed ships with rich Americans on board arrived looking for beauty and a change of scenery that the region has become famous for. La Malbaie is a natural amphitheatre where the St. Lawrence provides spectacular views

It is also here that the emblematic manor, the majestic Manoir Richelieu Hotel, perched high over the St. Lawrence River, is located. This will be our destination for the afternoon.

Overnight in Charlevoix.

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

#### Day 6 Charlevoix Region

Today is an exciting day of exploring the famous Charlevoix Flavour Trail, a gourmet food lovers delight. From Petite-Rivière-Saint-François to La Malbaie, foodies treat themselves to a gastronomic adventure of sampling ciders, traditionally made beers, cheeses, chocolates, organic meat, well raised ducks and products from the farms of the region.

We will visit a selection of Charlevoix's farms, wineries, boutique cheese shops and sample local produce, freshly made bakery items and rich chocolate. In the charming artisan villages of Charlevoix, we will also spend some time visiting the many galleries and cafes.

Overnight in Charlevoix region (dinner on your own this evening).

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Lunch

#### Day 7 Charlevoix - Montreal

Today we depart for a scenic drive along the mighty St. Lawrence River as we make our way back to Montréal. Along the way we will stop to tour and explore the historic town of Trois-Rivières. The rich history of Trois-Rivières, the second oldest French-speaking city in North America, is proudly on display throughout the city. The broad promenade of the Harbourfront Park offers a breathtaking view of the St. Lawrence River, port and Laviolette Bridge, a Trois-Rivières landmark.

We will arrive in Old Town Montréal in the late afternoon, and you will have some free time to explore this historic part of the city that dates back several centuries.

Overnight in Montréal.

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

### **Day 8 Depart Montreal**

Bid Farewell to Montréal as your trip along the Flavour Trail comes to an end.

BON VOYAGE!

Included Meal(s): Breakfast