



TRIP ITINERARY

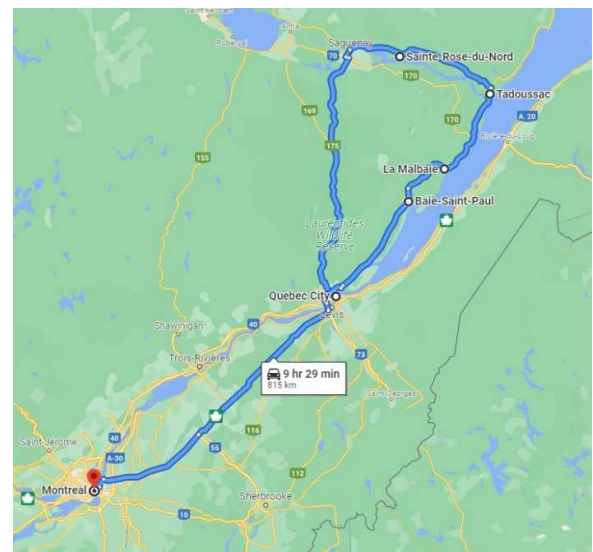
Quebec Explored

Canada



Highlights:

- Perfect croissants, eclairs, tarts and chocolatinés on display in the boulangeries and patisseries of Quebec
- Top class restaurants, brunch hang outs and bistros in Quebec City and Montreal
- Whale watching, kayaking, hiking in the Saguenay fjord
- Lovely towns in Charlevoix, such as Baie St Paul, with artists studios, galleries and boutiques
- Soaking up the beautiful craftwork and soaring architecture of Montreal's Basilique Notre Dame, and taking in a circus performance, river cruise or waterfront stroll at the Vieux-Port de Montreal.



A fabulous itinerary which combines cosmopolitan cities with the great outdoors and sublime scenery. Montreal and Québec City are great foodie destinations. Here you'll find an outstanding assortment of classic French cuisine, hearty Quebecois fare and countless ethnic restaurants from 80-odd nationalities: from the comforts of *poutine* and *tourtière* to the richness of *foie gras*, weekend brunch, and sweet maple treats. The Saguenay Fjord has the very rare feature of being inland. It is also where some of Quebec's most beautiful villages are found. Boating, kayaking, hiking, cruises, horseback riding, biking all present as ways to discover the area. The fjord is so deep, it attracts whales at the mouth to the river. The scenic highways of the Charlevoix region offer brilliant blue skies, the deep azure St Lawrence River and green carpeted hills. In Fall, the colours turn to bright oranges, and in winter, snow-capped mountains.

Trip Summary: 2 Quebec City – 2 Sainte Rose du Nord – 2 Tadoussac – 1 La Malbaie – 2 Baie St Paul – 2 Montreal



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DAY 1: QUEBEC

This fortified city is one of the oldest in North America and the picturesque old town is home to a maze of atmospheric cobbled streets lined with 17th- and 18th-century houses and charming bistros. Perhaps explore the Petit Champlain District in Old Quebec, which has a number of bistros, pastry shops, and sweet shops, all in a beautifully historic setting.

DAY 2: QUEBEC

Perhaps get your bearings with a guided tour, or tickle the taste buds with a food-based guided walk: The city's food scene is known for its wide range of styles, excellent service, and its French, British, North American, and Indigenous influences. Visiting Ile d'Oleons is a must: the food on the island is absolutely one of the highlights. The Old Port has a high concentration of fine dining restaurants, or you can stop in at the Marché du Vieux-Port, a nearly 400-year-old market.

DAY 3: QUEBEC TO LA BAIE (220km: 2 hours 15 mins)

En route, visit the 83 metre Montmorency Falls: just 15 minutes from Quebec City. This 83-metre waterfall can be viewed from the highway below, but for the most impressive vistas, walk across the [bridge suspended](#) above the roaring water. If you're thrill-seeker, try [zip-lining across the falls](#) to get back to your starting point. La Baie is in Saguenay Fjord National Park: an area of endless panoramic vistas. Take a cruise to L'Anse Saint Jean from the Park for amazing views.

DAY 4: LA BAIE

Perhaps take a drive to L'Anse Saint Jean: kayak on the fjord; hike in the National Park or rent an electric bike. Lunch at **Bistro la Chasse-Pinte**: a microbrewery and all the alcohol served here is local, from other breweries and distilleries in the region – followed by ice cream at **La Cabane à glaces**.

DAYS 5 & 6: LA BAIE TO TADOUSSAC (144KM 1 HOUR 45 MINS)

Take a boat tour for phenomenal whale watching from Aug – Oct; take a kayak excursion up the fjord, take one of the hiking trails: the trails around Pointe De l'Islet are best for spotting whales from the shore.

DAY 7: TADOUSSAC TO LA MALBAIE (74KM; 1 HOUR 20 MINS)

Take the free ferry to Baie Sainte-Catherine for magnificent views of the Saguenay Fjord. En route, stop at Fromagerie Saint-Fidele to sample great local cheeses. For a luxury stay in the area, spend the night at Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu which offers a variety of restaurants and activities. For one of the best smoked meat sandwiches around, eat at Joe Smoked Meat.

DAY 8: LA MALBAIE TO BAIE ST PAUL (47KM; 40 MINS)

Drive the Route du Fleuve: prepare to be wowed by views as this road is nested between the Laurentian Mountains and the St. Lawrence River. En route, stop off for a guided tour of the observatory. Charlevoix is an immense crater, which is explained in a multimedia presentation. When night falls, you get to view the stars through a telescope. And stop at the stop at the Papeterie



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Saint-Gilles, to see how paper was produced in the 17th century. There are exhibitions of traditional and avant-garde paper works. The Charlevoix Maritime Museum offers tours of four ships and six exhibitions, as well as hiking trails, an obstacle course, an arboretum and a plant maze.

DAY 9: BAIE ST PAUL

Baie St Paul's streets of century-old homes are bustling with museums, art galleries, restaurants, bars and patios. Musicians, painters and street artists all gather there. Hike one of the trails in the Parc National des Grands Jardins, or take a sea kayaking, canyoning or tandem paragliding tour. Be sure to take a stroll down Rue Saint-Jean-Baptiste, home to one of the highest concentrations of art galleries in Canada. This evening, head for French Bistro Le Mouton Noir for the best patio in town. For a beautiful nature walk, visit [Boisé du Quai](#) and explore the shores of the St Lawrence seaway. At the Boisé's western tip, you'll find a beautiful observation tower: a perfect place to watch sunset over the marshlands.

DAY 10: BAIE ST PAUL TO MONTREAL (365km; +/- 4 HOURS)

Before leaving Baie Saint-Paul, fill up on delightful sandwiches, pastries and coffee from bakery [À chacun son pain](#). Stop off at [Ferme Le Comte de Roussy](#) in L'Ange-Gardien (great views and delicious pies) and Praline & Chocolat in Château-Richer (delightful pastries and chocolates). In Montreal, make for the Basilique Notre-Dame, explore the cobblestoned streets of the old town, winding your way to the sailors' church, then stroll up Place Jacques-Cartier with its many buskers and artists into the Chateau Ramezay museum. For dinner, head for Garde-Manger for tasty cocktails and dishes.

DAY 11: MONTREAL

Look at the farmers' produce, croissants and cheeses at Marche Atwater, and take a cruise on the canal. Make for Little Italy to explore the mouthwatering Marche Jean-Talon, and brose the old-world shops along Blvd St-Laurent. Before dinner, grab a taxi to Parc du Mont-Royal for a panoramic view of the city from Belvedere Kondiaronk lookout. For incredible Quebecois fare, try Joe Beef (reservations essential).

Tip: Be sure to seek out [Boulangerie Guillaume](#): the local's very favourite bakery in all of Montreal. With [artisanal chef Guillaume Vaillant](#) at the helm crafting deliciously flaky baguettes and croissants, it's not surprising that Boulangerie Guillaume has earned that title, as well as major accolades in the city's [food scene](#).

ITINERARY DAY 12: OUTBOUND FLIGHT

Special Places to Stay

If you are looking for somewhere special to stay that provides the ultimate in style and comfort, with attention to detail, superlative service and excellent cuisine, we would suggest including one of the following properties on this itinerary:



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- Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, Quebec
- Hôtel Musée Premières Nations, Quebec
- Fairmont le Manoir Richelieu, La Malbaie
- Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth, Montreal
- Le St-Martin Hotel Particulier Centre-ville, Montreal
- Le Saint-Sulpice Hôtel Montréal

Trip Extensions

We offer a range of trip extensions in Canada: including Bear Watching Lodges, Wilderness Resorts, Ranch Stays, Niagara Falls, Aurora Lights, and Polar Bears. See our Trip Extensions Document for more information. For extensions within Quebec, see:

Hovey Manor: Surrounded by gardens and set in a 1900s mansion and adjacent cottages, this refined lakeside hotel with fine dining sits on 35 acres on the shores of Lac Massawippi and is 3 km from North Hatley. (138km from Montreal)

Auberge due Lac-à-l'Eau Claire is a haven of luxury nestled in the centre of thousands of acres of forest. Located near a spacious lake between Montréal and Québec City, the inn is the perfect refuge for nature lovers and enthusiasts of culinary delights alike. The property is the ideal place to relax and enjoy many optional activities including fishing, canoeing, snowmobiling and dog sledding. (200km from Quebec City)

Auberge du Lac Taureau: Enjoy the country charm of woodland lodging facilities at the Auberge du lac Taureau with its fine cuisine and a wide variety of experiences and activities. With 54 islands and beaches of all sizes, Lake Taureau covers over 95 square kilometres allowing for fantastic outdoor exploration, including beaver watching, horseback riding or a floatplane ride offering breathtaking views of the woodlands. (179km from Montreal)

Le Baluchon Eco Villegiature: a unique eco-tourism resort, living up its owners' mission to protect the environment and to make this outstanding domain a place of discoveries that create unforgettable memories. The resort's year-round activities, its gourmet cuisine and its staff dedicated to customer satisfaction make it a not-to-be-missed destination while visiting the province of Quebec. (136km from Montreal)

Chic-Chocs Mountain Lodge. This elegant mountain lodge is perched at an altitude of over 600 metres in the heart of Matane wildlife reserve, in the shadow of two craggy mountaintops. Enjoy an all inclusive stay with included guided activities such as hiking, mountain biking, kayaking and photography on offer, spotting the likes of moose, caribou and eagles. Stroll along the seaway of Saint Lawrence or visit Gaspesian villages, and, come winter, there's even alpine touring and snowshoeing among the snow-dusted firs, while summer offers the chance to go canyoning and abseiling down a waterfall-laden mountain.



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Come evening, enjoy the likes of fresh fish soup, veal loin with prosciutto, braised rabbit and roast deer in the intimate dining room, before taking the chance to relax in the sauna and outdoor hot tub under the star-spangled night skies.

Hotel Sacacomie: Located in the heart of one of the most remarkable forests in Eastern Canada, Hotel Sacacomie offers an exceptional nature experience. The breathtaking scenery, the majestic lake, the panoply of seasonal activities, the gastronomy with local accents and the Geos Spa are some elements of the magic available. Enjoy a variety of complimentary on-site recreational facilities and equipment, such as canoes, pedal boats and kayaks. You'll also join an experienced trapper on a guided excursion to observe beaver and bear habitats. (204km from Quebec)

GENERAL INFORMATION – PLEASE ENSURE YOU READ THE FOLLOWING

Passports: Please ensure these are valid for travel and that you are in possession of valid visas (if required see below). You are required to take out comprehensive travel insurance to safeguard against cancellation and curtailment, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and personal belongings.

Visas: Not required for Canada for UK or EU nationals for stays of up to 90 days. An onward or return ticket is required, as well as sufficient funds and documents needed for further travel. Please note that visitors to Canada must have a MINIMUM of two blank/empty VISA pages in their passport each time entry is sought. Visitors to Canada with foreign passports who do not comply with these requirements will either be stopped from boarding their aircraft at their point of departure or risk deportation on arrival in Canada.

Health: All travellers should seek advice from their local GP or travel clinic for up-to-date advice on vaccinations and different malarial options. Travel insurance is part of the Terms and Conditions of your trip with Native Escapes it is essential that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Your insurance should be inclusive of full medical cover including costs of emergency repatriation, cancellation and travel delay.

Native Escapes complies with the UK Package & Travel Regulations 1992. Holidays with flights included are covered by the company's ATOL Bond (Air Travel Organisers' Licence) held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). This means that in the unfortunate event that our company should fail, the CAA will arrange any necessary repatriation and any refund of monies paid to Native Escapes in advance. Our ATOL number is 9709. We have testimonials on our website: visit www.nativeescapes.com/aboutus for more information.

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