

MONTREAL TIPS, ADVICE, AND FUN FACTS

<http://www.tourisme-montreal.org/>

Saint-Laurent Boulevard

St-Laurent Boulevard or "The Main" once separated the city's francophone community (east) from the anglophone and immigrant community (west). Today the historical thoroughfare is a great reflection of Montréal's multicultural character, and it remains one of our favourite places to gather, eat and, shop.

Production of major films

Old Montréal's cobblestone streets, historic squares, and buildings have made it a popular location for the production of major films, such as *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* with Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, *X-men: Days of future past*, *300* and *Life of Pi*.

Montréal celebrities

Many international celebrities call Montréal home: Céline Dion, Arcade Fire, Leonard Cohen, Grimes, William Shatner, Jason Reitman, Georges St-Pierre, Oliver Jones, Rufus and Martha Wainwright, Geneviève Bujold, Jean-Marc Vallée, Caroline Dhavernas, Yann Martel, and Nikki Yanofsky, to name a few.

Entrée

An entrée here is actually an appetizer on a menu, and an entrance in a building. As a trick, think of an entrée as an entrance to a delicious Montréal meal!

Smoked meat

What some call "pastrami," we call "smoked meat". (By the way, our smoked meat sandwiches are to die for!).

Poutine

Taking the world by storm is none other than beloved Québécois comfort food, "poutine" (French fries with cheese curds topped with gravy), with variations popping up across town, as well as all over North America and Europe.

Bike paths

Bixi, a portmanteau word composed of the words bicycle and taxi, is a not-for-profit public bicycle sharing system developed in Montréal. Bixi systems are now found in New York City, Boston, Minneapolis, Ottawa, Toronto, London, and Melbourne.

Liquor law

The legal drinking in Montréal is 18. Bars and restaurants can serve beer and alcohol from 11 a.m. to 3 in the morning.

With all this in mind, you'll be a local in no time. And when you get back home, you might be tempted to greet your friends and family with a loving kiss on each cheek, just like we do here!

Things to do near Hotel!

Old Montréal (10-15 min. walk)

A first-timer's visit to Montréal is not complete without meandering through the charming cobblestone streets of the city's old district. With juxtaposed architecture dating back as far as 1685, visitors have the opportunity to see — quite literally — how the city first began developing. Stop at Notre-Dame Basilica for a glimpse at the incredible stained glass art (and for a moment of stillness). Then head to historic Place Jacques-Cartier and install yourself on a terrace, where you'll be perfectly positioned to watch street performers and portrait artists — and where the sangria floweth freely.

Atwater Market (35 min. walk)

The art deco-style Atwater Market offers an array of specialty products and delicatessen treats. (Plus it's located beside the picturesque Lachine Canal.) Wherever you go, be sure to sample seasonal treats such as maple syrup in the spring, strawberries in the summer and Macintosh apples in the autumn.

Place Ville Marie (8 min. walk)

"Au sommet Place Ville Marie" is an immersive, creative and contemporarily environment created for local and visitors. <http://ausommetpvm.com/en/>

- 360° Observation Deck, 46th floor
Discover an unparalleled view of Montreal at the Au Sommet Place Ville Marie Observation Deck. The top three floors have been completely refurbished in line with the international style of the complex
- #MTLGO, a unique portrait of Montrealers, 45th floor
The interactive and participatory exhibition #MTLGO, settled in the 45th floor, will allow the visitors to discover the city throughout 11 different themes. Equipped with a RFID bracelet, they will be able to select various attractions then go on with four missions inspired by their choice.
- The restaurant, 44th floor
Experience the highest restaurant in Montreal. Located on the 44th floor of Au Sommet Place Ville Marie, the new restaurant Les Enfants Terribles welcomes you to savor its audacious reinvented Québec cuisine while admiring the breathtaking view.

Bota Bota, spa-sur-l'eau (17 min. walk)

Anchored in the Old Port of Montreal, Bota Bota, spa-sur-l'eau offers its passengers the healing benefits of a spa while being lulled by the natural movements of the St Lawrence River. With its enchanting ambiance, and Old Montreal as a magical backdrop, this mysterious and innovative floating spa offers all who come aboard privileged access to the river while enjoying the relaxing and energizing properties of the water circuit.

<http://botabota.ca/en>

Underground Pedestrian Network (access from the hotel)

The name "the Underground City" refers to the vast network of pedestrian walkways below the city. There are 32 kilometres (20 miles) of connecting passageways beneath downtown, with the métro (subway), commuter trains and buses also converging here. Approximately 500,000 people circulate daily on this network, where some 2,000 shops and restaurants, 10 major hotels, museums, theaters and universities can be found. The concept began in 1962 with the lower level shopping mall in Place Ville Marie. With the coming of Expo 67, Montréal's dream of a métro finally became reality. The underground went through many stages of development.

Other things to do in Montréal near a subway station

Mount Royal Park (Mont Royal subway station)

Designed by Frederick Law Olmstead (the same landscape architect who crafted New York's Central Park), the "mountain" park at the heart of the city is the city's most iconic landmark — and the most popular place to snap a Montréal selfie. Reach the viewpoint at the top of Mount Royal Park by walking up the stairs or with a guided tour.

Piknic Électronik (Jean-Drapeau subway station)

Every Sunday, 2 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Cancelled in case of rain. 15\$.

Friendly outdoor event offering visitors a chance to enjoy good weather, an incomparable view of Montréal and quality electronic music every Sunday during the summer. Eclectic programming, at times classic, at times daring, that will be appreciated by both the initiated and neophytes to the genre.

Restaurants near hotel

Address +
Walking time

- \$\$ Le Cartet**
French bistro dishes & lattes served in a loft like space that also offers gourmet food products. Close at 7 pm
www.lecartet.com
106 McGill
13 min.
- \$\$ Holder**
Vibrant brasserie serving French cuisine & weekend brunch in a large hall with tall windows.
www.restaurantholder.com
407 McGill #100a
11 min.
- \$\$\$ Le serpent**
Contemporary bistro with industrial-chic decor & a sleek bar serving creative Italian fare & drinks.
www.leserpent.ca
257 Prince
12 min.
- \$\$\$ Restaurant Soubois**
Bistro du Terroir, Bar and Nightclub located in an underground forest at the core of Montréal's downtown area.
www.soubois.com
1106 Maisonneuve Blvd W
13 min.
- \$\$\$ Ferreira Café**
Destination for fine Portuguese seafood, wines & ports in a Mediterranean-accented space
www.ferreiracafe.com
1446 Peel
11 min.
- \$\$\$ Reuben's Deli Steaks Desserts**
Cheesecake, steaks & smoked meat sandwiches are the stars at this casual eatery with marquee lights.
www.reubensdeli.com
1116 Sainte-Catherine
10 min.
- \$\$\$\$ Restaurant Europea**
One of the Top 10 restaurants worldwide by Travellers' Choice Award 2012 by Travel Adviser. Mr Jerome Ferrer, Grand Chef Relais & Chateaux, and Europea restaurant have gained both notoriety and prestige proposing a unique gourmet cuisine of exceptional quality using the best local products.
www.europea.ca
1227 de la Montagne
13 min.

- \$\$\$ **Restaurant La Société** 1415 de la Montagne
 Located in the Loews Hôtel Vogue, the Restaurant La Société is an inspired and dynamic French bistro.
www.montreal.lasociete.ca **15 min.**
- \$ **Burger Bar** 1465 Crescent
 Collegial hangout doling out adventurous, stacked burgers & comfort fare, plus pitchers & cocktails.
www.montrealburger.com **16 min.**
- \$\$\$ **Thursday's** 1449 Crescent
 Stylish but comfy institution featuring bistro classics, an airy bar & a club with DJ nights.
www.thursdaysmontreal.com **16 min.**
- \$\$ **Wienstein & Gavino's** 1434 Crescent
 House made pasta, pizza & Italian standards in a 3-level place with a grand staircase & open kitchen
www.wgmtl.com **16 min.**
- \$\$ **Les 3 Brasseurs Crescent** 1356 Sainte-Catherine
 Les 3 Brasseurs is an international chain of micro-brewery restaurants, with a unique concept originating from generations of brewing traditions.
www.les3brasseurs.ca **15 min.**
- \$ **McLean's** 1210 Peel
 Storied English sports pub for draft beer tables, grub & billiards, with a patio on historic square
www.mcleanspub.com **9 min.**
- \$ **McKibbin's Irish Pub** 1426 Bishop
 Cozy, woodsy pub (part of a local chain) for Celtic comfort food, live music, pitchers & TV sports
www.mckibbinsirishpub.com **17 min.**
- \$ **Irish Embassy Pub & Grill** 1234 Bishop
 Irish-themed pub with draft beer, comfort food & sports on TV, as well as a garden terrace
www.irish-embassy.com **15 min.**

- \$ Le Taj** 2077 Stanley
 Indian classics in an elegant room with a visible tandoori oven, plus a set-price lunch buffet.
15 min.
www.restaurantletaj.com
- \$\$\$ Le Richmond** 377 Richmond
 Farm-fresh Northern Italian dining in a swanky, retrofitted industrial space with vintage elements.
20 min.
www.lerichmond.com
- \$ Pub Burgundy Lion** 2496 Notre-Dame W
 Modern british pub with traditional English cuisine mixed with a more laid back, quintessentially Montreal feel.
29 min.
www.burgundylion.com
- \$\$\$ Liverpool House** 2501 Notre-Dame W
 Joe Beef's happening sister restaurant offers an oyster bar & market-inspired comfort dishes
29 min.
www.joebeef.ca
- \$\$\$ Le Vin Papillon** 2519 Notre-Dame W
 Cozy, rustic-chic wine bar with an outdoor patio, serving eclectic, farm-fresh fare.
30 min.
www.vinpapillon.com
- \$\$\$ Restaurant Grinder** 1708 Notre-Dame W
 Raw & cooked meats & seafood for sharing, plus boutique wines, in urban digs with a canopied patio.
19 min.
www.restaurantgrinder.ca

Go out and dance!

- Électric Avenue** 1476 Rue Crescent
 Nightspot boasting a colourful dance floor with high-tech lighting, plus classic '80s & '90s tunes.
17 min.

LGBT-Friendly Montreal

Creative and welcoming, Montréal's LGBT community is known the world over for its spectacular events, vibrant involvement and its colourful home, the Village. Symbolic of the city's openness and joie de vivre, the Village is the preferred locale of LGBT visitors for its laid-back vibe and numerous entertainment possibilities. The cool, permissive surroundings are enhanced by the lively nightlife and trendy boutiques, not to mention the many bars and restaurants.

While much of Montréal's gay scene takes place in the Village, there are many queer-friendly bars and clubs popping up throughout the Mile End, the city's most creative neighbourhood. Whether you're singing karaoke at a popular queer spot, attending a Beyoncé-themed party or knocking down pins at a bar with a bowling alley, Montréal's nightlife scene is always booming.

Here are some suggestions of places to go:

- **Bar Aigle Noir** : 1315 Sainte-Catherine est
- **Complexe Sky** (bar, restaurant, disco, terrasse) : 1474 Sainte-Catherine : 1474 Sainte-Catherine est
- **Le Saloon Bistro Bar** : 1333 Sainte-Catherine est
- **Cabaret Mado** (spectacle personnification) : 1115 Sainte-Catherine est
- **Bar Le Stud** : 1812 Sainte-Catherine est