



## Travel Classics

### Pre and Post Tours descriptions

The Ministry of Tourism of Québec, Cruise Saint-Lawrence and its partners are happy to offer the following pre and post tours to Travel Classics participants

#### Important notices:

- The pre and post tours are offered on a first come first served basis
- No registration will be accepted after March 24
  - For information, contact Roselyne Hébert, Director of Media Relations at: [roselyne.hebert@tourisme.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:roselyne.hebert@tourisme.gouv.qc.ca)
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Pre-Tour                  June 21 - 24 2010

Le Chemin du Roy / The King's Road  
Maximum number of participants: 5



© Jean-François Bergeron

#### Monday, June 21

All day arrivals in Montréal. Transfer to your hotel.

*(For those arriving early we will meet for lunch and there will be some suggested activities for the afternoon.)*

Dinner in a trendy local restaurant.

#### Tuesday, June 22

Meet in the lobby and transfer for breakfast at the **Atwater Public Market**.

*Enjoy a European style breakfast at one of Québec's famous "boulangerie". After breakfast take a short tour of the market to explore one of Montreal's great "fromagerie". You will learn more about our Québec artisan cheese makers and the hundreds of treasures in this shop...*

Resume your discovery of the shores of the **St-Lawrence River** and learn more about the roots of Montréal.

To start this journey, a stop at the **Parc des Rapides**, one of Montreal's important bird sanctuary.

*This is the ideal spot for observing the Lachine rapids. A federal migratory bird sanctuary, this park is hugely important from an ecological standpoint (225 bird species, 66 fish species,*



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*amphibians, reptiles, mammals and rare plants). Home to the second-largest heron colony in Québec as well as diverse waterfowl, you can't beat this park for exploration and discovery.*

Follow the fur route of les Voyageurs along the **Lachine Canal**.

### **The Fur Trade at Lachine National Historic Site of Canada**

[www.pc.gc.ca/fourrure](http://www.pc.gc.ca/fourrure)

*The old stone-built depot, dating from 1803, used to contain goods imported from England or made in Montréal, destined for trade.*

Along the way, stop for a visit to this important historical site:

### **Maison Saint-Gabriel, Museum and Historic Site**

[www.maisonsaint-gabriel.qc.ca](http://www.maisonsaint-gabriel.qc.ca)

*Purchased by Marguerite Bourgeoys in 1662, this magnificent 300-year-old house is one of the most beautiful examples of traditional Québec architecture. Converted into a museum in 1966, it showcases various aspects of rural life in the 17th century and the extraordinary experience of the King's Wards. Visit both the 19th-century stone barn and the garden, which has been recreated in the spirit of New France.*

Lunch on the way back.

#### Suggestions for the rest of the afternoon:

Use your museum pass which gives you access to more than 34 museum and attractions.

Enjoy a bicycle ride along the waterfront.

And to complete your day, surrender to the pleasures of a three course meal in one of three different restaurants.

### **Wednesday, June 23**

Departure by bus along **Le Chemin du Roy** towards Québec City

*The **Chemin du Roy** is the land-based counterpart of the St. Lawrence River. Its paves the way of history in Québec along its entire length, nestled amid beautiful scenery and fascinating heritage sites. The chemin du Roy remains a living memorial to New France in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. For a century and a half, the chemin du Roy would convey mail and travellers by chaise, stagecoach, mail coach and sleigh in winter. There would be up to 29 relay stations along the way. The trip could be made in two days at full gallop! Today Route 138 follows the old road, for the most part, from Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures to Repentigny, passing through Trois-Rivières.*

Stop in Trois-Rivières



*Founded in 1634, Trois-Rivières just celebrated its 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Its historic district with its strong sense of the past and stately eighteenth-century architecture reveals its subtle charms and invites visitors to stroll along the Harbourfront Park or through the streets of an area steeped in history. Probably one of Québec's best kept secret*

Dinner along the way and evening check in at **Fairmont Le Château Frontenac** in Québec City

**Fairmont Le Château Frontenac**

1, rue des Carrières  
Québec  
(418) 692-3861  
[www.fairmont.com/frontenac](http://www.fairmont.com/frontenac)

*UNESCO proclaimed Québec City a World Heritage Treasure because of its unique architectural and historical value. Considered the cradle of French civilization in North America, Old Québec's narrow streets are filled with history. Standing high on a bluff overlooking the mighty St. Lawrence River, Fairmont Le Château Frontenac is at the heart of Old Québec.*

**Thursday, June 24**

Morning at leisure

Travel Classics registrations

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**Post-Tour # 1  
2010**

**June 27 – July 1**

**La Route des Baleines / The Whale Route**  
**Minimum number of participants : 2**  
**Maximum number of participants: 6**  
**Level of fitness: active**



© Sylvain Majeau

This tour will take you

- o along the Saguenay River, the southernmost fjord in the world, home to beluga whales,
- o to Tadoussac, a charming village set at the confluence of the Saguenay and the St-Lawrence at the heart of the Saguenay-St-Lawrence Marine Park, main departure point for boat excursions aimed at observing the dozen species of whale
- o at Les Bergeronnes, where whales can be observed from shore
- o to Baie-Comeau, for a day of outdoor activities at Le Jardin des Glaciers and its Maritime Adventure Park and its Glacier Exploration Station

**Sunday, June 27**



Afternoon departure for Sept-Îles by chartered flight.

### Cruise in the Islands

*The traditional **Virée des îles** is enhanced by an interpretation of the region's history, economy, culture and social life. Observe whales and other marine mammals, as well as the Île du Corossol along the bird sanctuary*

Overnight in Sept-Îles

### Monday, June 28

Morning departure by land for Baie-Comeau

Along the way, stop in **Pointe-des-Monts**

*Built in 1830, this lighthouse was the home of eight successive lighthouse keepers and is one of the oldest lighthouses in North America. Recognized as a historic monument by the Québec government in 1964, this heritage museum has seven different floors highlighting various themes, including the lives of the lighthouse keepers, navigation and the shipwrecks near Pointe-des-Monts. This 30-metre (100-foot) lighthouse has a small balcony at the top with a magnificent panoramic view of the St. Lawrence and the surrounding area. Next to the lighthouse, the lighthouse keeper's house offers accommodations and a restaurant specializing in seafood.*

Overnight in Baie-Comeau

### Tuesday, June 29

Spend the day at **Jardin des Glaciers**

*The Garden of the Glaciers allows you to experience **spectacular maritime landscapes** formed by glaciers through multiple activities such as Tyrolean traverses, hiking, sea kayaking, and interpretive cruises.*

[www.jardindesglaciers.ca](http://www.jardindesglaciers.ca)

Departure for **Tadoussac**

*Tadoussac takes its name from the Innu word totouskak, meaning "breasts," which refers to the rocky, wooded hills located to the west of the village. In 1535, Jacques Cartier, dazzled by the beauty of this area, dropped anchor for a visit, followed by Pierre de Chauvin de Tonnetuit in 1599 and Samuel de Champlain in 1603. In addition, Canada's first official fur trading post was established here in 1600, at the confluence of the Saguenay Fjord and the St. Lawrence River. Visitors from all over the world come here to live in harmony with the tides and listen to the blow of the whales during whale-watching cruises or while strolling along the St. Lawrence River.*



Overnight in Tadoussac

### Wednesday, June 30

Whale watching excursion on board a zodiac

Departure for the Saguenay

Lunch in **Sainte-Rose-du-Nord**

*Dubbed the 'Pearl of the Fjord', Sainte-Rose-du-Nord is the perfect setting for a stopover, overlooking the Saguenay Fjord*

Possibility of sea-kayaking on the fjord

Overnight in Saguenay

### Thursday, July 1

Departure from Bagotville airport on a regular flight

Possibility of an overnight in Montréal, depending on the flight schedules

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#### **Post-Tour # 2**

**June 27 – July 1 2010**

**La Route des Phares / The Lighthouse Trail**

**Minimum number of participants : 2**

**Maximum number of participants: 6**



© Pierre-Philippe Brunet

This tour will take you

- Havre-Saint-Pierre and the fascinating islands and bird colonies of the Mingan Archipelago
- To the Magdalen Islands, an isolated archipelago made up of seven inhabited islands in the middle of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Six of these islands are linked by Route 199, while the seventh, Entry Island, is accessible by boat. The total population is under 15,000, of which about 5% are Anglophones, mainly of Scottish origin.



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- Gaspésie, the third must-see destination in the world according to National Geographic Traveler, and one of Québec's only three Michelin stars

### Sunday, June 27

Afternoon departure for Havre-St-Pierre by chartered flight

#### Overnight in **Havre-St-Pierre**

*Situated along the Lower North Shore of the St-Lawrence River, Havre Saint-Pierre was founded by people from the Magdalen Islands who used to go in that area for fishing. They call themselves "Cayens" and speak with a unique accent characteristic of the region, and which eloquently speaks of its Acadian roots. The Havre-Saint-Pierre port of call welcomes visitors to its chain or islands and islets whose beauty will take your breath away. The Mingan Archipelago, with its mysteriously-shaped and unique monoliths and puffin colony are truly unique.*

### Monday, June 28

Cruise in the **Mingan Archipelago**

[www.pc.gc.ca/pn-np/qc/mingan](http://www.pc.gc.ca/pn-np/qc/mingan)

We will have time to visit some churches of the picturesque communities of Mingan, Magpie and Rivière-au-Tonnerre. One is over a century old, another bears adornments of Innu inspiration, while yet another-built of wood-features sculpted works by local residents. Each is certain to impress!

End of afternoon departure for the **Magdalen Islands** (Îles-de-la-Madeleine) on board a chartered flight

*Îles de la Madeleine provide a unique and unforgettable experience thanks to the area's authentic culture and vast natural spaces. The archipelago has a well preserved natural heritage, extraordinarily beautiful marine landscapes and an exceptional coastline. You will be greeted with the proverbial welcome of the îles' warm and genuine inhabitants.*

### Tuesday, June 29

Visit the Magdalen Islands

Overnight on the Islands



© Claude Bouchard



### Wednesday, June 30

Morning departure by chartered flight for Percé

Visit of **Bonaventure Island National Park** and its gannet colony  
[www.sepaq.com/pq/bon](http://www.sepaq.com/pq/bon)

*Parc national de l'Île-Bonaventure-et-du-Rocher-Percé stands out with its rich natural, historic, and geological heritage. Sculpted by time and the sea, at the Gaspé Peninsula's tip, it has the fortress of Bonaventure Island and the magnificent stone vessel of Percé Rock-Québec's tourism emblem. Its outstanding flora and fauna, including its famous colony of Northern Gannets make it a must-see for visitors, as do the island's old homes-the last witnesses to the way the islanders lived a century ago.*

Departure for Gaspé

Overnight in Gaspé

### Thursday, July 1

Departure from Gaspé airport

Possibility of an overnight in Montréal, depending on the flight schedules

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### **Post-Tour # 3                  June 27 – 29 2010**

#### **Québec City**

**Québec City Tourism offers the following selection of optional tours**

#### **Half-day tours (HD)**

Sunday June 27: 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm

#### **Full-day tours (FD)**

Monday June 28: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Lunch will be served during the full-day tours only.



© Marc Loiselle

**NOTE:** Dinners will be offered on June 27 and June 28 evening in one of the city's many charming and exquisite restaurants. The meals will be an opportunity to experience the major trends in Québec's fine cuisine.



**Sunday, June 27**

**Half Day 1**

**Walking tour of Old Québec - *Involves quite a lot of walking.***

Perched atop Cap-Diamant, Old Québec tells of its 400 years of history through its architecture and narrow winding streets. Visitors marvel at its spectacular beauty, enhanced by the presence of the flowing St. Lawrence River. With French notes in the air, one feels literally transported into a European feel. [www.quebecregion.com](http://www.quebecregion.com)

Old Québec, its architecture and street names are reminiscent of venerable European cities. Let yourself be carried back in time and be the hero in an epic tale of discovery that unfolds before you. You will discover Upper Town as well as Lower Town, each portraying the story of the evolution of Québec City from the early days of the French colony till today.

Good taste and diversity are to be found in the shopping districts of the old city. It is a pleasure to walk along Petit-Champlain filled with artisans or rue Saint-Paul, famous for its antique shops and its art galleries. There is nothing like enjoying refreshments at an outdoor café after having found a delightful etching on rue du Trésor, a colourful artist alley.

Québec is the only city in North America to have conserved the major part of its defense system. The impressive rampart that circles Old Québec measures some 4.6 kilometers (2.9 mi). These fortifications bear witness to the evolution of Québec's defensive system from the 17th to the 19th centuries.

**Half day 2**

**Bus tour of Old Québec and surroundings - *Involves some walking***

UNESCO proclaimed Québec City a World Heritage Treasure because of its unique architectural and historical value. Considered the cradle of French civilization in North America, Old Québec's narrow streets are filled with history. [www.quebecregion.com](http://www.quebecregion.com)

The tour includes a visit to the Plains of Abraham, an oasis for outdoor activities located on a historic site where a battle between the French and the British changed the course of history in North America in 1759. [www.ccbn-nbc.gc.ca/\\_en/index.php](http://www.ccbn-nbc.gc.ca/_en/index.php)



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The tour also offers an opportunity to discover the charming countryside located a few minutes from downtown Québec City. Parc de la Chute Montmorency stands as a spectacular historical and natural site. This 83-meter waterfall is the parc's highlights and may be admired from a cable car, panoramic stairway and a suspension bridge right above this natural wonder. [www.sepaq.com/ct/pcm](http://www.sepaq.com/ct/pcm)

#### **Half day 3**

#### **Meet Great Chefs- *Involves quite a lot of walking.***

Quebec City could have relied on its reputation as a gourmet destination; over many decades, connoisseurs as well as laymen knew that the city, already famous for its architecture and its heritage, was a food mecca. But the world is getting smaller and one has to adjust to new realities, and this Quebec City has done very well. The key word being local flavours, you will meet with innovative chefs and share their experience through a fascinating journey.  
[www.parcoursgourmand.com](http://www.parcoursgourmand.com)

#### **Half day 4**

#### **Personal research**

Should you prefer to pursue personal research on other topics, we will gladly assist you in any manner you require.

### **Monday, June 28**

Breakfast included at the hotel.

#### **Full Day 1**

#### **Île d'Orléans, Québec's luscious garden - *By bus. Involves a little bit of walking.***

Graced with a legendary beauty, Île d'Orléans unfolds its bucolic landscapes in the heart of the St. Lawrence River. Nestled between the Laurentians and the Appalachians, Île d'Orléans offers incredible views of the island's spectacular and undisturbed beauty. New France's first settlers established themselves on this fertile island, and the numerous old buildings still standing around the island attest to a history closely linked to the foundation of Québec City. Furthermore, the variety and the quality of the agricultural products found on this island contribute to Québec City's reputation as premier gastronomic destination. Meet the region's passionate farmers, taste their products, learn their secrets, and discover a wide variety of the region's products: ice cider, black currant liqueur, maple products,



duck, lamb, exotic vegetables and many more tasty treats.  
[www.iledorleans.com](http://www.iledorleans.com)

**Full Day 2**

**Parc national de la Jacques-Cartier and Native Cultures**  
*By bus. Involves quite a lot of walking, easy hiking and easy canoeing.*

Parc national de la Jacques-Cartier comprises a remarkable landscape of mountainous uplands fractured by steep valleys. The Jacques-Cartier Valley is a gorge over 550 meters (1,800 ft.) deep that forms a serene natural vista. A guide will take you canoeing on the river in a rabaskaw. You will then go hiking along the trails and explore caves in a forest of yellow birch. [www.sepaq.com/pq/jac](http://www.sepaq.com/pq/jac)

Following lunch, the afternoon will be dedicated to the discovery of the Huron-Wendat Nation. The visit to the Onhoüa-Chetek8e site, a reconstituted Native American village, is an opportunity to discover this nation's history, culture and way of life. The site will give you a glimpse of the Nation's lodging, legends, dances and artworks.

[www.huron-wendat.qc.ca](http://www.huron-wendat.qc.ca)

The Huron-Wendat Nation is well-anchored in today's reality: the Hôtel-Musée Premières Nations (Hotel-museum First Nations) drew its architectural concept from the Huron-Wendat culture and its values: nature, spirituality, and mythology. This establishment combines a four-star hotel with a museum showcasing the know-how of the First Nations. [www.hotelpremieresnations.ca](http://www.hotelpremieresnations.ca)

**Full Day 3**

**The Beaupré Coast - By bus. Involves quite a lot of walking.**

This excursion is especially designed for lovers of the great outdoors who wish to visit some of the most remarkable natural sites in Canada. Follow the footpaths and cross the suspension bridges over the Sainte-Anne Canyon, a deep ravine carved into the Canadian Shield. Take a gondola to the top of Mont Sainte-Anne, which affords an exceptional view of the surrounding area from a vantage point over 600 meters (2,000 ft.) above sea level. Go for a walk through the lowlands of the St. Lawrence River at Cap Tourmente, where you can watch birds or wildlife in their natural habitat.

[www.cotedebeaupre.com](http://www.cotedebeaupre.com)

An excursion to the Beaupré Coast would not be complete without a stop at the The Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Shrine, a pilgrimage site that attracts over 1.5 million visitors each year. This cross-shaped Basilica of vast proportions was rebuilt in 1923. The architecture, the mosaics, the stained-glass windows are major points of interest.



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[www.ssadb.qc.ca](http://www.ssadb.qc.ca)

#### **Full Day 4**

**Portneuf - *By bus. Involves quite a lot of walking, easy hiking and easy canoeing.***

Nature and history are prime attractions in the Portneuf region, which extends from the St. Lawrence River Valley to the Laurentian plateau. One of the best ways to discover Portneuf is to drive along "Chemin du Roy" (King's Road). Linking Montréal to Québec City since 1743, it was the first road suitable for vehicles ever built in New France. Gently following the St. Lawrence River, you will discover a series of typical villages where churches, presbyteries and centuries-old homes recall that this country benefits from the land and the forest.

Exploring the majestic sceneries through the numerous hiking trails of La Vallée Bras-du-Nord or canoeing down the peaceful river at the bottom of the valley will leave a lasting impression on those who choose this tour. It is quite amazing to discover such pristine nature, almost like wildlife, so close to a major cultural centre.

[www.valleebreasdunord.com](http://www.valleebreasdunord.com)

All participants meet at the hotel for a last dinner in Québec City

#### **Tuesday, June 29**

Breakfast at hotel and transfer to the airport according to flight schedule

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**Post-Tour # 4**

**June 27 – 29 2010**

**Montréal, pourquoi pas?**



© Robin Edgar

#### **Sunday, June 27**

Departure by train for Montreal.

You will be greeted by a representative of Tourisme Montréal.

Transfer to a charming boutique hotel.



Welcome dinner at **Nuances** with host chef **Jean-Pierre Curtat**.

*Awarded the prestigious 5-diamond award by the Canadian and American AAA/CAA associations for the sixth consecutive year, Nuances offers a superb cuisine, a truly exceptional wine list and a tempting choice of liquors. Situated on the fifth floor of the Casino, its elegant decor and impressive views of Montréal are unmatched. Come and experience a unforgettable gourmet dining!*

**Monday, June 28**

Breakfast at the hotel.

**Full Day Optional activities escorted by a professional tour guide:**

- Full Day 1** **Montréal: Take 2, Cité du cinéma** – An expert from the Montréal Film and TV Commission will bring you around film locations and studios, as well as editing and dubbing rooms. You'll see why Montréal is such a great city for film shoots.
- Full Day 2** **Montréal, a Green City** – Start with a special visit to Mount Royal Park. Designed by Frederic Law Olmsted. With the help of an interactive map, discover the mountain's historic and natural heritage. Then, head for the Biosphère to visit a solar house, discover green technologies and learn about the wonders of the St. Lawrence River. To keep it "green," bike to Atwater Market for lunch.
- Full Day 3** **Montréal, City of Glass** – Throughout 2010, Montréal will host more than 100 activities and exhibitions about glass and how it makes the city shine. Admire out-of-the-ordinary architectural gems like Montréal's colourfully-paned Palais des congrès in the heart of the Quartier international. You'll have the chance to meet talented glass artisans, from glass blowers, to jewellers, to fashion designers.
- Full Day 4** **Go with the Flow... à la Montréal** – Surf on the St. Lawrence River or enjoy a jet boat ride or even some kayaking down the Lachine Rapids. Expect a refreshing adventure!
- Full Day 5** **When in Montréal, do like a Montrealer does!** - Spend the day browsing around with your new friend. A day full of surprises!

For dinner tonight surrender to the pleasures of a three course meal taken in three different restaurants.

After dinner, be part of the show at **The Montréal Jazz Festival!**

**Tuesday, June 29**

Breakfast at the hotel.



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Time at leisure to pursue your research.

Museum passes will be available to give you access to more than 34 museums and attractions.  
All day departures.