



Québec

Includes ➔

Montréal.....	229
The Laurentians.....	258
Québec City.....	272
Charlevoix.....	291
Saguenay.....	296
South Shore.....	302
Gaspé Peninsula.....	308
North Shore.....	319
Îles de la Madeleine...	324
Far North.....	327
The Outaouais.....	329

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ L'Express (p249)
- ➔ Liverpool House (p248)
- ➔ Manoir Hovey (p268)
- ➔ Chez Boulay (p283)
- ➔ Vent du Large (p325)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Auberge Saint-Antoine (p281)
- ➔ Hôtel Gault (p244)
- ➔ Maison Historique James Thompson (p279)
- ➔ Hôtel Le Germain (p246)
- ➔ Auberge Festive Sea Shack (p311)

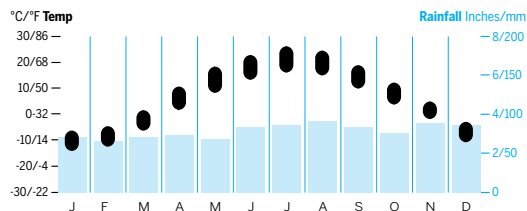
Why Go?

Québec truly feels like a country within a country, an island of linguistic and cultural identity floating on the greater Canadian sea. Of course, this *is* Canada, with all the interplay of vast wilderness and cosmopolitanism implied, but Québec's embrace of *terroir*, its language, its passion for everything, from winter snow to wine to gastronomy, is something else, an 'else' that encompasses identities both distinctly North American and European.

Montréal and Québec City are bustling metropolises with a perfect mixture of sophistication and playfulness, and history-soaked preserved quarters tucked away around town. The rustic allurements of old Québec are scattered among the Eastern Townships, and produce from bucolic Charlevoix graces the tables of the region's stellar restaurants. Past these creature comforts is the raw outdoors: the jagged coasts of the unblemished Gaspé Peninsula, the vast taiga and tundra of the North Shore, and the windswept isolation of the Îles de la Madeleine.

When to Go

Montréal



Dec & Jan Head to Mont-Tremblant – one of North America's best ski hills.

Feb Bundle up and join in the frigid festivities in Québec City's fete of the year, Carnaval.

Jul Montréal's summer-long party gets under way with the Festival International de Jazz.



Québec Highlights

- 1 Montréal** (p229) Drinking up the nightlife in this happening city.
- 2 Québec City** (p272) Savoring the unparalleled culture, history and charm of this walled city.
- 3 Tadoussac** (p296) Getting sprayed by whales in the Saguenay River fjord.

- 4 Baie St Paul** (p291) Soaking up the artsy vibe and sampling local delicacies in this attractive, little town.
- 5 Parc National de la Gaspésie** (p312) Hiking the stunning peaks above the tree line in this pretty national park.
- 6 Îles de la Madeleine** (p324) Enjoying Acadian

music and steaming fish pie in this stringy archipelago.

- 7 Parc National du Bic** (p306) Getting back to nature in this spectacular place.
- 8 Mingan Archipelago National Park** (p322) Sea kayaking amid these remote, sculpted islands.