



# EAP Reunion in French Canada

**(Quebec City, plus optional extension to Montreal)**

September 9 – 13, 2023

*Celebrating the 55th anniversary of University of California  
Education Abroad in Bordeaux, France*



## **Explore the cradle of French civilization in North America – Montréal and Québec City!**

Experience the charms of French Canada, just as the first shades of autumn arrive. Our first stop? The stately capital of the province: Québec! The narrow streets of Vieux-Québec are a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site dating back to 1608, and are lined with chic boutiques, delightful eateries, and European charm. It's the only fortified city in North America north of Mexico, and it's best explored on foot! Throughout this adventure, enjoy guided exploration with local experts, bucolic countryside and local flavors, and soak in the rich culture of this unique Francophone region.

Finally, those who wish can add three nights in Montréal, a city that has been welcoming newcomers for centuries – from a strategic trading hub for First Nations people, to French explorers, to the vibrant multicultural community found here today. Touted as Canada's culture capital, Montréal offers over 50 museums, diverse neighborhoods brimming with public art, and over 80 languages spoken within the city.

## **Trip Itinerary**

### **Day 1 | Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – Bonjour, Québec!**

Individual flights arrive into Québec City; catch a taxi to our hotel. Enjoy a warm welcome as you arrive, settle in, and let the reunion fun begin! Enjoy a festive cocktail hour at 5:00 PM, and a delightful **group dinner** hosted at our hotel this evening.

Overnight, Québec.

### **Day 2 | Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> – Introduction to Québec**

This morning, enjoy a guided walking tour of Vieux-Québec to introduce us to this mesmerizing walled city and its layers of history, eclectic architecture, and enchanting Old World ambiance. We'll follow our exploration with a delightful **group lunch** at a local restaurant. *Bon appetit!*

This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore or relax on your own; we'll offer plenty of suggestions for how to spend your afternoon and evening.

Dinner on your own this evening; overnight, Québec.

### **Day 3 | Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – Beyond the Walls: the Île d'Orléans & Montmorency Falls**

Discover the Île d'Orléans today! Situated in the middle of the St. Lawrence River, this island has been a cradle of farming and traditional village life for hundreds of years. Now, it makes for a bucolic escape from the city. We'll learn about life in provincial Québec, enjoy scenic drives with intriguing stops around the island, and sample local specialties, from artisan cheeses to the local "ice wine." We'll also enjoy a **group lunch** on the island.

Later this afternoon, back on the mainland, visit the spectacular Montmorency Falls. Nearly 100 feet taller than Niagara, and with delightful trails (and a convenient cable car) that guide you to incredible views of the plunging falls, this experience is not to be missed!

Dinner on your own this evening; overnight, Québec.

### **Day 4 | Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> – Exploration in Vieux-Québec**

Today is at your leisure to explore independently, in any direction that interests you! You may wish to visit La Citadelle de Québec; you'll find over 300 years of history in this star-shaped fortress, which remains an active garrison of the Royal 22e Régiment. Delve into the impressive architecture and history, and enjoy spectacular views of the St. Lawrence River. Nicknamed the "Gibraltar of America," the citadel is located atop Cap Diamant, the highest natural point in the area, which played a critical role in the city's early defense system. There's also plenty of time to wander the cobbled streets or the historic Plains of Abraham park, browse boutiques and galleries, or people-watch from a comfortable perch at a charming café.

On this special last evening of the entire group, we will have a closing program and **group dinner** at the famed Chateau Frontenac. We'll discover that this iconic hotel property takes great pride in their gastronomy, as we toast to our Canadian adventures. Overnight, Québec.

### **Day 5 | Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

If you are departing this morning, taxis to the airport may be arranged through our hotel. Or, continue your adventure in Montreal!

## **Trip Extension to Montréal**

### **Day 5 | Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – Bonjour, Montréal**

This morning, depart Quebec City and travel to Montréal. **You have the option of driving yourself to Montreal independently, or joining others to travel by train.** *Bienvenue!*

After dropping off our luggage at the hotel, enjoy a guided walking tour this afternoon of Vieux-Montréal and its cobbled streets. We'll learn about the early roots and modern culture of this vibrant city, admire elegant historic architecture, and learn about the RESO, Montréal's vast subterranean tunnel network referred to as the Underground City. We'll end our field trip at the Basilique Notre-Dame de Montréal — Notre-Dame Basilica — for a memorable visit and a private audience with the Basilica's talented organist.

Dinner at your leisure this evening; overnight, Montréal.

### **Day 6 | Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> – Montréal's Flavors and Foundations**

This morning, savor the flavors of this eclectic city! We'll sample pâtés, smoked meat, maple treats, and more, all while discovering Montréal's food traditions and lively public markets. Montréal has developed a well-deserved reputation as a city that loves to eat, and offers a rich melting pot of food cultures from the First Nations and the French, to more modern immigrants – Vietnamese, Maghrebi, Italian, Jewish, and more.

Free time for the afternoon. You may wish to visit the national archaeological and historic site, Pointe-à-Callière. This museum presents centuries of history, from the early settlements of Québec's First Peoples, to New France, to present day. Located on the very site where Montréal was founded, the museum is home to remarkable architectural ruins that are showcased on site. Or, consider one of the city's many other attractions: from the acclaimed Montréal Museum of Fine Arts or Château Ramezay and its New France gardens, to a lively Cirque du Soleil performance (as Montréal is the official home of this famous circus) or a bird's eye view of the city from La Grande Roue de Montréal.

Dinner at your leisure this evening; overnight, Montreal.

### **Day 7 | Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> – Urban Exploration**

Today, let's venture into new territory, as we explore charming Plateau-Mont-Royal like locals, with a guided walking tour that showcases this hip neighborhood through its exuberant street art and murals.

Free time this afternoon. Outdoor enthusiasts may enjoy exploring Mont Royal Park – the highest point (and namesake) of the city. Mont Royal Park was designed by storied landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted in 1876, and remains a jewel of urban green space that offers wonderful trails, cafes, and observation points. Others may enjoy browsing the boutiques and galleries, or relaxing with a drink on lively Place Jacques-Cartier, a perfect spot to soak in the sights and sounds of Vieux-Montréal.

Enjoy a farewell **group dinner** this evening.

Overnight, Montréal.

### **Day 8 | Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – Departure day**

*Bon voyage*, and safe travels!

## Québec City Trip Pricing:

\$1,350 / person (double occupancy; single supplement, \$490)

**What's included?** Accommodation for four nights in Québec City; 4 breakfasts at the hotel; 2 group lunches and 2 group dinners; one evening lecture / cultural experience with a guest expert; all group activities, guided tours, tastings, and entrances per the itinerary; Explore Up Close guide and travel coordinator throughout the trip.

Price does not include airfare, alcohol (excluding any planned group tastings), other meals, independent activities, or optional trip insurance.

## Québec City & Montréal Trip Pricing:

\$2,350 / person (double occupancy; single supplement, \$890)

**What's included?** Accommodation for seven nights in Québec City and Montréal; 7 breakfasts at the hotels each morning; 2 group lunches and 3 group dinners; one evening lecture / cultural experience with a guest expert; all group activities, guided tours, tastings, and entrances per the itinerary; metro and museum pass in Montréal; Explore Up Close guide and travel coordinator throughout the trip.

Price does not include airfare, alcohol (excluding any planned group tastings), other meals, independent activities, or optional trip insurance.

For an additional fee of \$50, we will book you a train ticket from Québec to Montréal. You can select this option when registering for the trip online.

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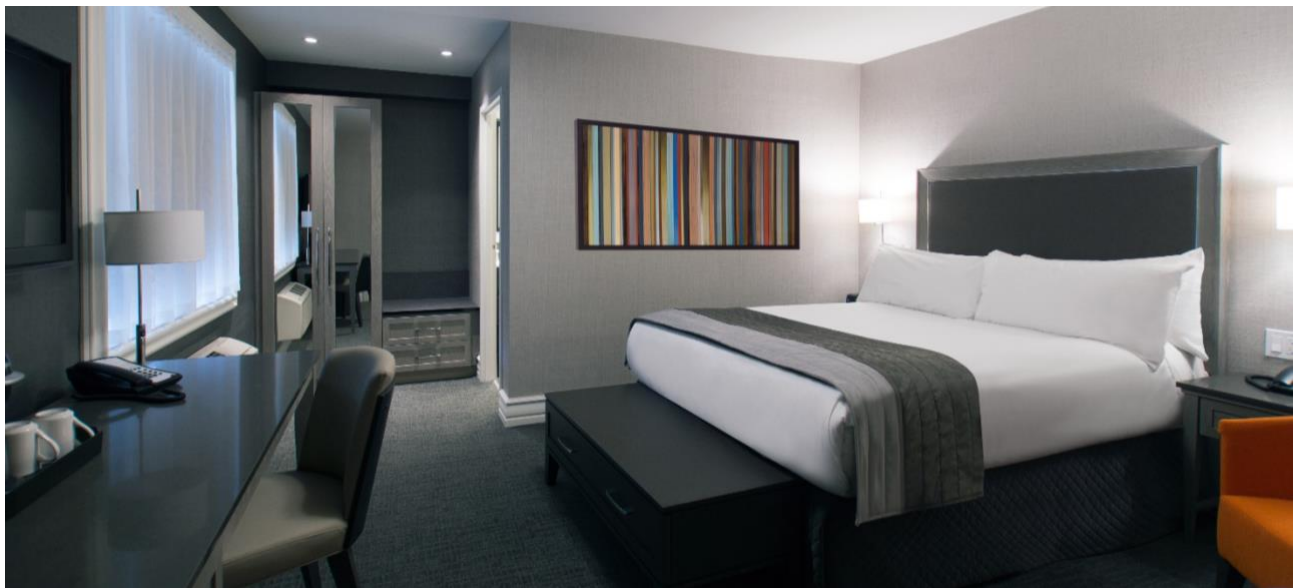
## Our Hotels

### Québec City: Hotel Manoir Victoria

*September 9 – 13, 2023*

Conveniently located in Old Québec, the Hotel Manoir Victoria is a four-star hotel that offers classic comfort, ample event and banquet space for groups, and a bistro serving regional fare. See photos on following page.

<https://www.manoir-victoria.com/index.php/en/>



## **Montréal - Le Westin Montréal**

*September 13 – 16, 2023*

Perfectly situated in Vieux-Montréal, The Westin is a four-star hotel offers easy access for exploration on foot or by metro. It's within a short walking distance of Notre Dame Basilica, museums, fantastic restaurants, and the Old Port of Montréal on the Saint Lawrence River. Amenities include an on-site restaurant, fitness center, indoor pool, on-site parking, and valet service.

<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/yulle-le-westin-montreal/overview/>

