

# Québec

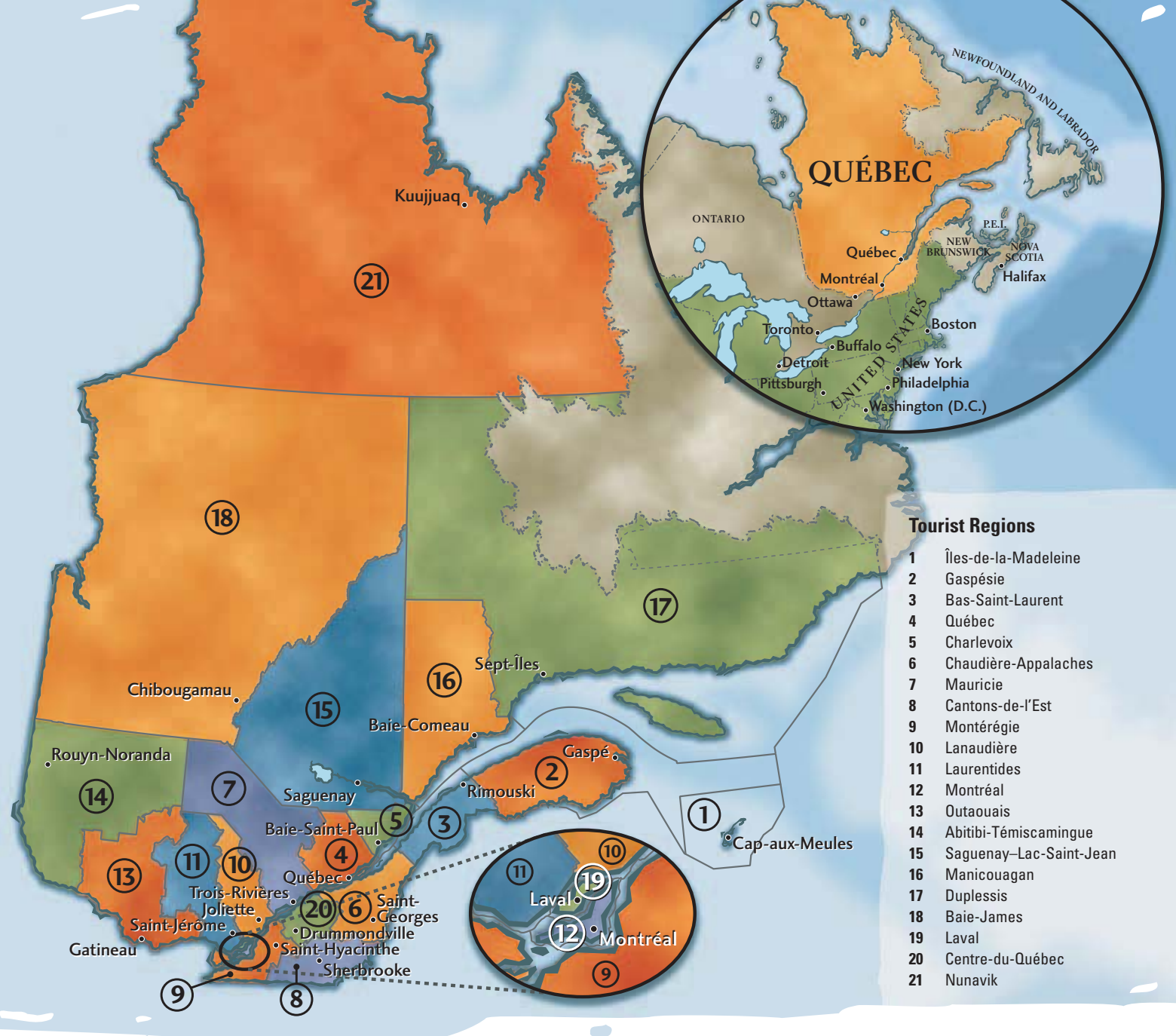
A photograph of two children playing in a shallow, rocky stream. The child on the left is wearing a red shirt and patterned shorts, leaning over to touch the water. The child on the right is wearing a green shirt and dark shorts, standing upright. The background is filled with large, light-colored rocks and dense green foliage. The entire image has a white border with a slightly distressed, torn-paper effect.

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A FAMILY PLAYGROUND

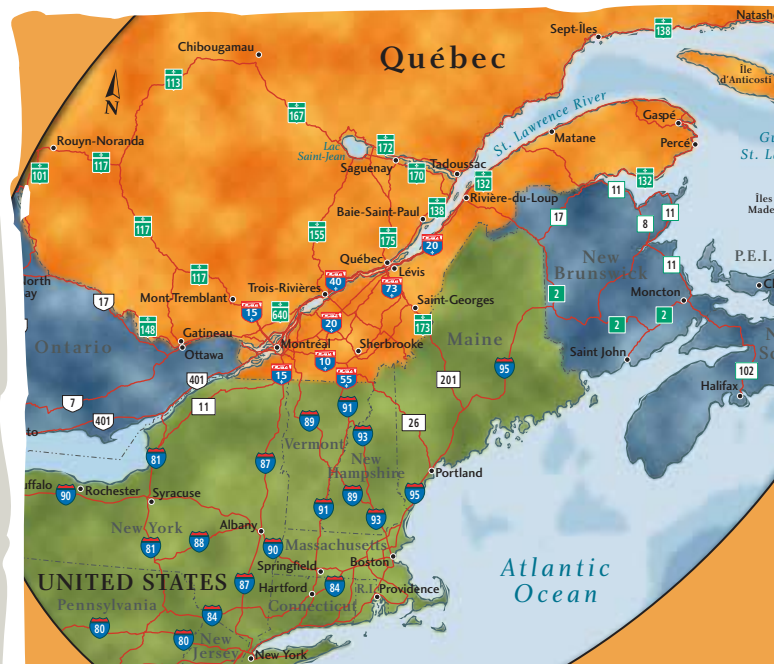
Québec 





## Distances

	Montréal		Québec City		Gatineau/Ottawa	
	km	mi	km	mi	km	mi
<b>Boston</b>	510	315	645	400	756	470
<b>Buffalo</b>	635	395	895	555	579	360
<b>Chicago</b>	1365	847	1620	1005	1195	743
<b>Detroit</b>	925	573	1180	732	767	477
<b>Halifax</b>	1350	845	1033	630	1456	905
<b>New York</b>	605	378	870	540	830	516
<b>Philadelphia</b>	760	465	1010	620	1000	622
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	980	610	1225	760	838	521
<b>Toronto</b>	525	325	775	480	393	244
<b>Washington</b>	965	600	1210	752	872	542



# Québec

for Year-round

Family Fun

Kids love Québec. Why? Because Québec loves kids, of course! Families and hospitality are very important to Quebecers. And Québec has lots to offer **kids**: new and exciting adventures of every description and wide-open spaces galore! It's an immense, safe, four-season playground.

A visit to Québec is a wonderful learning experience, too. You and your kids can explore exciting cities on a human scale and a culture you'll find nowhere else in North America, a delightful blend of **Old European charm** and **New World** modernity and convenience. There's history underfoot and around every corner, and nature is never far away. Read on and see all that Québec has to offer for kids of all ages!

Treat your **whole family** to a taste of Québec's *joie de vivre*!

## Tell me about

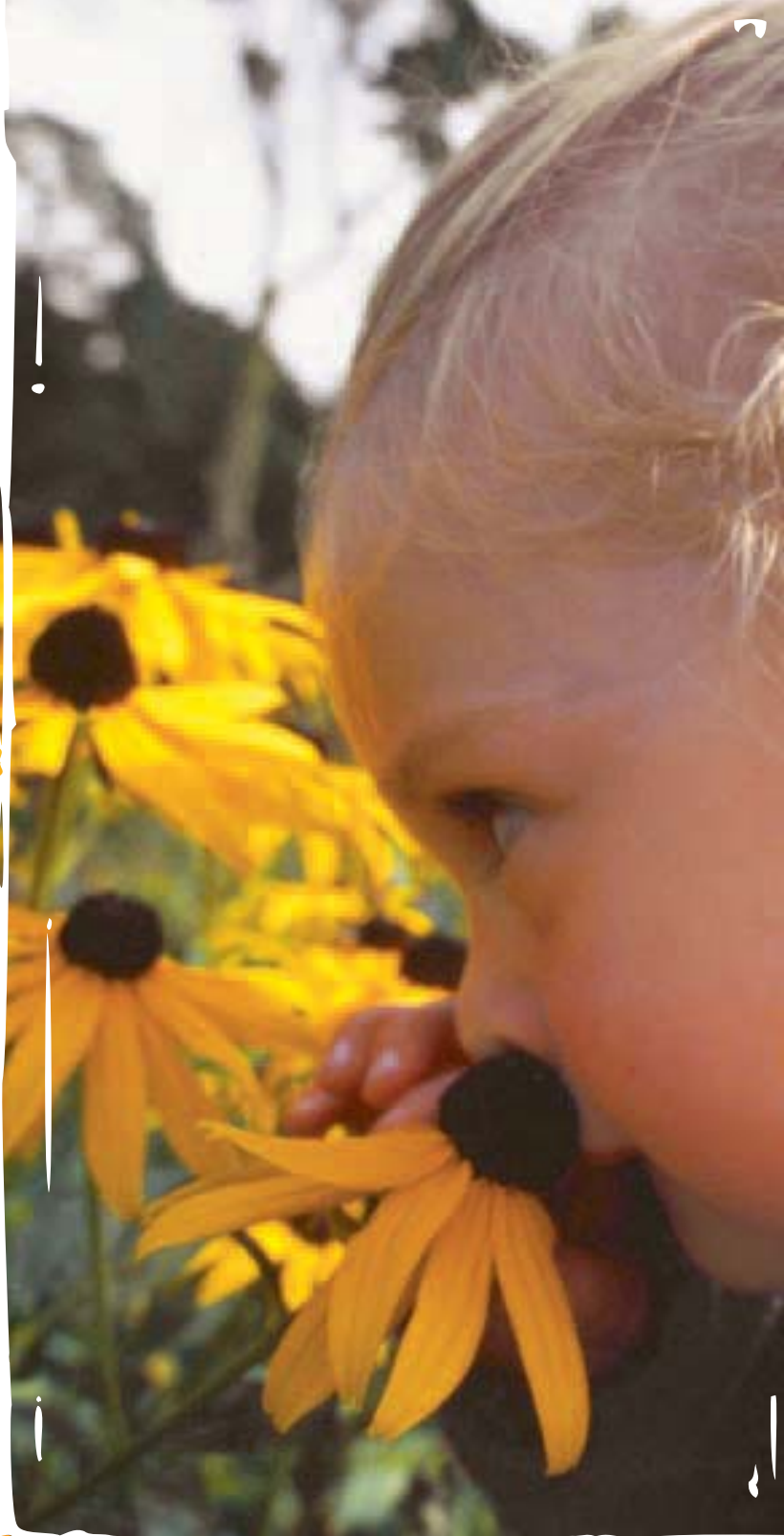
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For more information on Québec  
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# Québec

## Where is Québec?

Québec is located in northeastern North America. It is the biggest of Canada's provinces. In fact, at 1,667,926 km<sup>2</sup> (643,189 square miles), it's more than twice the size of Texas! It borders on Ontario, New York State, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. Montréal is about five and a half hours by road from Toronto and six and a half hours from New York City.

## What does it look like?

Southern Québec has fertile plains and two long mountain ranges, the Laurentians and the Appalachians, on either side of the St. Lawrence River. The rest of its territory is covered by boreal forest and, farther north, by taiga and tundra. Québec is divided into twenty-one tourist regions.



### Quick Facts

The Laurentians are some of the oldest mountains on Earth. The Appalachians stretch northward from Alabama all the way to the Gaspé peninsula.



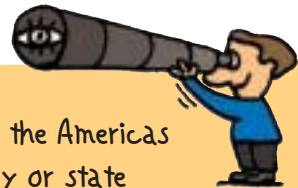


## Who lives in Québec?

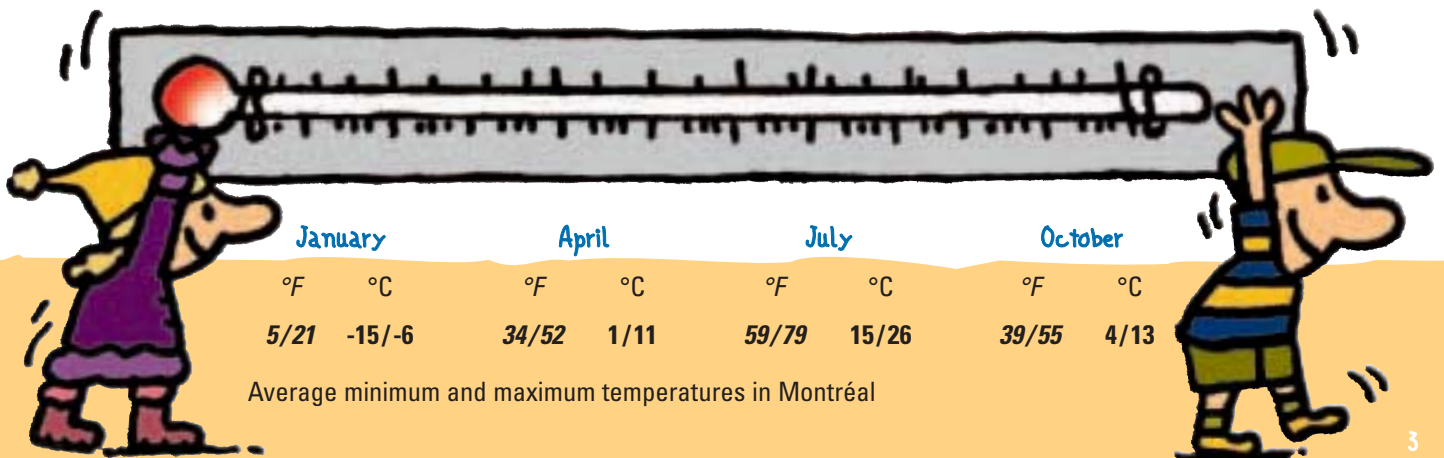
There are 7.5 million people in Québec. Nearly four out of five Quebecers have French roots, but English is widely spoken and understood, especially in the main cities, Montréal and Québec City. Lots of people here have British or other European roots, too, but these days Québec looks like the world in miniature, with folks of every ethnic origin and culture. There are also members of eleven Indian and Inuit nations living in about fifty different communities.

### Quick Facts

Just like Québec City, other cities in the Americas have the same name as the country or state where they are located. Can you think of any? (Hint: New York, Panama and Guatemala.)



## What's it like outside?





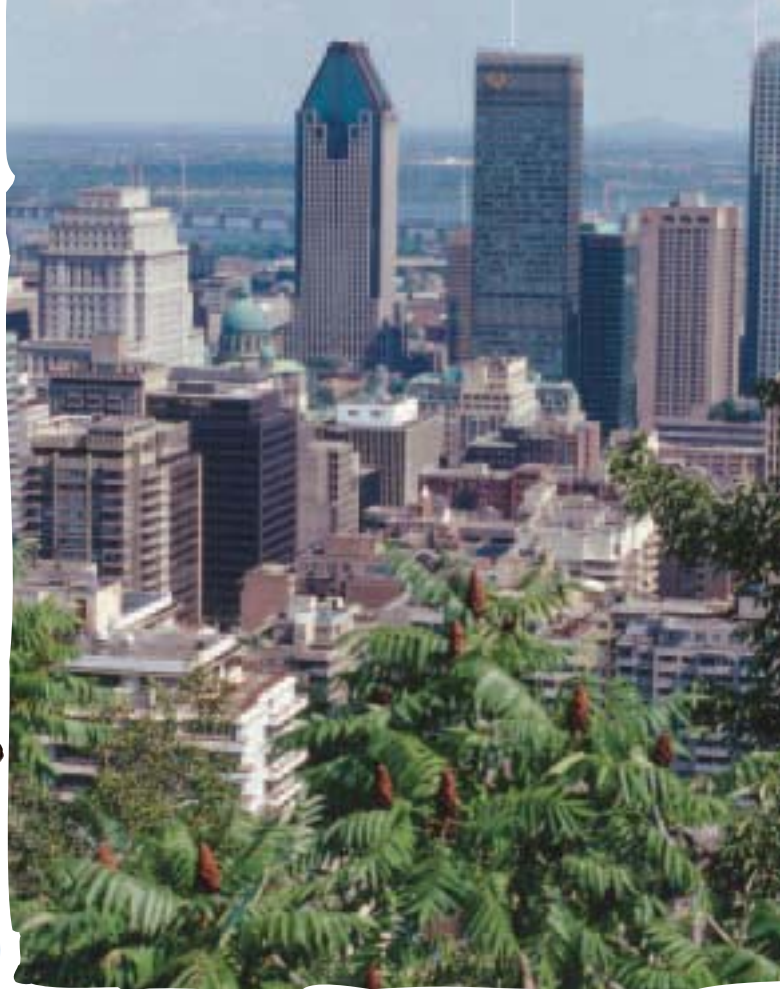
# Montréal

## Tell me about Montréal!

Montréal is a city of 3.5 million people, on an island in the middle of the St. Lawrence River. The city has a large port, used by freighters heading to and from the Great Lakes. From atop Mont-Royal (230 m/700 ft) you get a great view of the city and the surrounding landscape. Montréal gets its name from Mont-Royal, in fact, and much of the mountain is a magnificent park.

### Quick Facts

The port of Montréal is the nearest port for ships coming from Western Europe. It is closer to Rotterdam, in the Netherlands, than is New York.



## Is Montréal an old city?

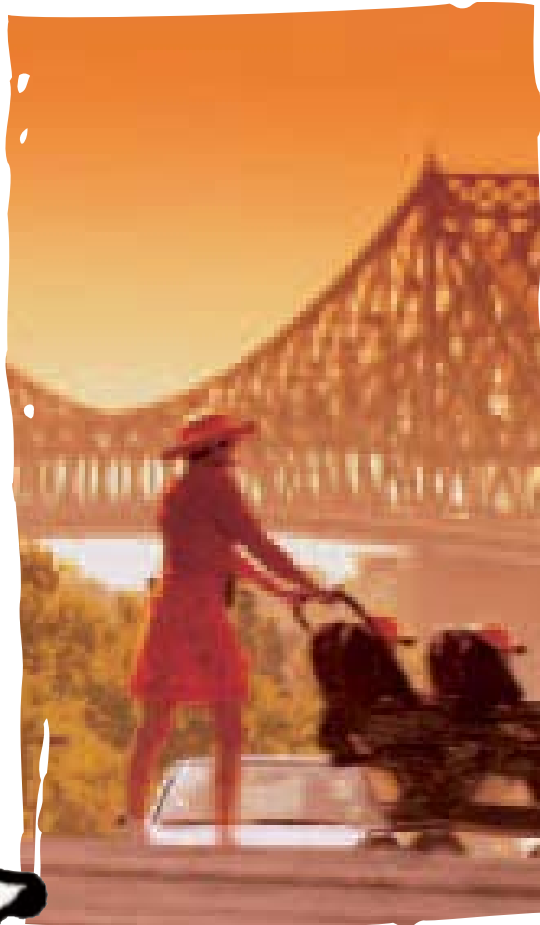
It sure is! Montréal, at first called Ville-Marie, was founded nearly 400 years ago. Over the years it became an important centre in the fur and lumber trade, Canada's financial capital, and even the capital of the whole country for a while. You can still see some buildings from the 17th century, and lots from the 18th and 19th centuries. Of course there's plenty of attractive modern architecture, too!





## What makes Montréal so special?

It's a city full of contrasts, where the old rubs shoulders with the new. There are many little neighbourhoods and districts, each with its own face: downtown, for business and shopping; the Old Port, for fun and relaxation; Old Montréal, to whisk you back in time; exotic Chinatown; the Latin Quarter, with its cafés and nightlife; and underground Montréal, where you can stroll for miles without ever stepping outside.





# Montréal

## Urban explorers



## Old Montréal

The old city is full of treasures like the Château Ramezay, the residence of one of Montréal's first governors, and the magnificent Notre-Dame Basilica. The cobblestones and winding streets give it a really special atmosphere. But it's more than just old buildings! In the Old Port you can take a boat ride on the St. Lawrence or even down the Lachine Canal, or rent a bike or in-line skates. There's a great view of the cityscape from the mini-train along the busy waterfront in summer.

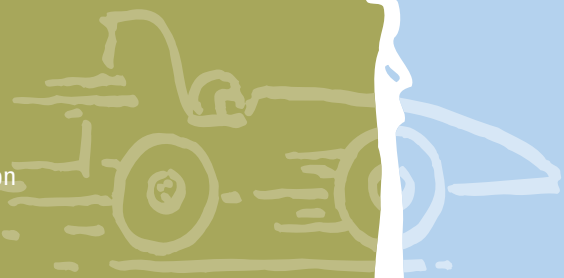
## Did someone say green?

Montréal's Botanical Garden is the world's second largest. Along with huge greenhouses, it has superb Chinese, Japanese and First Nations gardens. There's even an Insectarium! Right next door is the Olympic Stadium. You can take a ride up its inclined tower (world's highest!), too. At its base sits the Biodôme, home to plants and animals from four totally different ecosystems: the tropical forest, the Laurentian forest, the marine St. Lawrence and the polar world. Tour the Americas in one afternoon!



## Cotton candy and hot wheels

La Ronde (Six Flags) is a super amusement park on one of the two artificial islands created for Expo '67, with rides and fun for kids of all ages. Flower-filled Parc Jean-Drapeau, on both islands, is a perfect spot for quiet strolls and picnics, not to mention its beach—always popular in summer. You can even imagine yourself at the wheel of a racecar as you zip around the Formula 1 track on your bike or in-line skates!





## PARTY TIME

Fireworks Competition  
(June-July)

International Jazz  
Festival (July)

Just for Laughs  
Festival (July)

International  
hot-air balloon fest,  
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu  
(August)



## Careful, you might learn something!

The Science Centre is bursting with interactive fun and discoveries for budding scientists. Curious minds will also enjoy the Biosphère in the stunning US pavilion from Expo '67, the Planetarium and the Redpath Museum, devoted to natural science and cultural diversity.

## Culture can be fun, too

If you think museums are boring, Montréal will change your mind! The Museum of Fine Arts and the Musée d'art contemporain are overflowing with great classical and modern art. At the McCord Museum you'll get a whole new take on Canadian history, while Pointe-à-Callière and the Centre d'histoire de Montréal pull out all the stops to bring Montréal's history and archaeology to life with innovative, imaginative exhibitions. And don't forget the Stewart Museum, housed in a real colonial fort, and its fascinating collections of early weapons and maps.



## Thrills and chills

Ready for something a little more... active? Hop a raft for a thrilling trip through the Lachine Rapids, just minutes away from downtown. It's a heart-pumping, wild (and perfectly safe) ride for the whole family. For real daredevils, there's jet boating, too. Faster and even more exciting!



# Montréal

## Nearby

### Put me in the zoo!

Just one hour from Montréal, at the Granby zoo and Parc Safari, in Hemmingford, you can get a close-up look at fascinating wildlife from around the world. And they're great places to go when it's hot, too — both of them have water parks where you can cool off afterwards.



### Slip sliding away

Speaking of water, there's no shortage of water parks within easy highway driving distance. Check out Pointe-Calumet, Piedmont, Saint-Sauveur-des-Monts and Sainte-Adèle, in the Laurentians (that's north), and Bromont, in the Eastern Townships (southeast).



### Heading south

There's something for every taste. Train buffs can ride the rails at Exporail, the Canadian Railway Museum. Électricium explains the mystery and history of electricity, with demonstrations galore. Fans of history will love Forts Chambly and Lennox, straight out of French and British colonial days. And the Village québécois d'antan, in Drummondville, is a realistic, old-time village with guides in period costumes.

