

Quebec City

Day 1

Quebec City - The City

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Quebec City - The City

Quebec City boasts a charm one could only find in one of the oldest towns in America. Imbued with history and surrounded by the only fortifications north of Mexico, it is truly a place like no other. Walking along its cobbled streets and narrow pathways one is surrounded by an Old France feel, a remnant of the past that has made Quebec city what it is today.

The UNESCO-protected old district and lower city are where the heart of the province's capital beats the strongest, with tiny eateries and animated cafes just a few steps away from street artists. Take a stroll in the Quartier Petit Champlain for some of the best sights in the center or walk by the St. Lawrence, the river that gave Quebec City the name of "where the river narrows".







Quebec City - Do & See

Quebec City is so picturesque, you might at some point forget it is a real city. The tiny streets and tiny houses will take you back in time and away from what you would expect of a North American city. However, if the shops, cafes and restaurants are adorable, the streets and monuments will remind you of the historical importance of Quebec.





Old Quebec Old Quebec, Quebec City

The beautiful old district of Quebec offers a great view on the Chateau Frontenac. Strolling around, you can find various churches, monuments, pretty squares, and as you move towards the Quartier Petit Champlain you can feel the true spirit of Quebec. Be sure to visit all the little shops and restaurants along the way.



Quartier Petit Champlain

61 Rue du Petit Champlain, Quebec City +1 418 692 2613

The Quartier Petit Champlain successfully mixes modernity and history, in an area full of boutiques, art galleries, and restaurants where you can spend a very enjoyable day. As you walk the cobblestone roads, you will without a doubt understand that this is the oldest neighborhood in North America



St. Lawrence River 10, rue des Traversiers +1 877 7877483

Enjoy a walk by the St Lawrence River or look for the best views over it. The water streams bring Quebec City a vivid energy, and are a huge part of its charm. You can either sit on a bench by the river on a sunny afternoon, or hop on the Quebec City-Levis Ferry.



Basse-Ville Basse-Ville, Quebec City

Basse-Ville is the most Parisian-looking neighborhood of Quebec. Enter one of the many bistros or take a stroll through the quaint little alleys as you listen to the various street musicians. Apart from relaxing, you can stop at some of the many different shops that sell all kinds of goods, from clothing to souvenirs.



Montmorency Falls
Montmorency Falls, Quebec City
+1 418 663 3330

One can find the Montmorency Falls on the edge of the inner city. Witness a powerful force of nature and relax to the sound of rushing water as it cuts through stone and forest. Take a walk over the bridge for an amazing view.



The Citadel of Quebec

1 Côte de la Citadelle, Quebec City +1 418 694 2815

When visiting Quebec City, learning about the history of this timeless city in the citadel is a must. The location is still used as an active military installation. Don't miss the summer change of the guard at 10:00 (June 24 through the 1st Monday of September). To visit, guided tours are mandatory, but these are very entertaining and interactive.



Ghost Walks

Promenades Fantômes, Rue du Sault-au-Matelot +1 418 692 0624

Experience the city at night with a ghostly walking tour that will take you through the old part of Quebec. The tour revolves around Marie as she tells the story of her life and death, and the crimes and punishment during her time in Quebec City. Along the way, several other characters will pop up and greet you. It is an experience you will never forget.



Notre-Dame de Quebec Basilica-Cathedral

16 Rue De Buade, Quebec City +1 418 692 2533

In the heart of the shopping district lies the iconic Basilique Cathedrale, its architecture inspired by the large French cathedrals. As you walk inside, you are confronted with an impressive altar and its golden trimmings shining brightly in the light. Photos simply cannot capture the true beauty of this church.



National Museum of Fine Arts of Quebec

Quebec City +1 418 643 2150

Located in Battlefields Park, the Museum of Fine Arts has a lot to offer. It is a combination of beauty and style: on the outside you can see the vast green pastures of the park and inside you can marvel at the astonishing art pieces. The building itself is a grand work of art.



Morrin Centre

44 Chaussée des Écossais, Quebec City +1 418 694 9147

The Morrin Centre offers an incredible glimpse of the history of Quebec City. It used to function as a prison but eventually became a language college. Explore the area with a guided tour and visit the old jail cells and the Victorian library. Some of the artifacts there date back as far as the 16th century.



Canyon Sainte-Anne

Highway 138, Beaupré +1 418 827 4057

Climb up the canyon or go for a hike to cross suspension bridges and marvel at waterfalls and nature. Or -- for something as rewarding but a lot less physically demanding -- have a seat in the unique Air Canyon system, which catapults you straight over the canyon and allows you to observe the surroundings from a bird's perspective. The canyon is located on Highway 138, just 5 minutes from the Sainte-Anne Basilica, so both can be done within the same day.



Quebec City - Dining

Although the culinary scene in Quebec is deeply influenced by its French past, Italian food and Canadian specialties, such as the famous poutine, are ubiquitous. You can also enjoy the best of Canadian multiculturalism at the city's varied restaurants — each area has its own personality and style.





Chez Muffy

10 Rue Saint Antoine, Quebec City +1 418 692 1022

Sit within the stone walls of a 19th century warehouse, lying next to a beautiful water stream, for an unforgettable meal. The talented chef is there to dazzle you with his upmarket European farm-inspired food, local products and impressive wine menu, making it a spectacular must in Quebec City.



Matto

71 Rue Saint Pierre, Quebec City +1 418 266 9444

Matto offers various kinds of Italian-inspired food in combination with healthy salads. Go for a traditional pizza, give the Penne a try, or give the escalopes a shot. Either way, everything here is outstanding, from the food to the service and even the location.



Chez Boulay Bistro Boréal

1110 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 418 380 8166

Experience Nordic cuisine and get introduced to various kinds of fish caught and prepared according to traditional ways, game meats rich in nutrients and interesting accompaniments, such as forest berries packed with vitamins. The goal of this bistro is to promote responsible harvest and consumption, all the while offering incredible meals.



Conti Caffè
32 Rue Saint Louis, Quebec City
+1 418 692 4191

Modern and sleek, with an obvious urban inspiration in the style and decor, Conti Caffè is a modern restaurant offering gorgeous meals of a revisited Italian cuisine. Although relatively pricey, the place is definitely not a tourist trap and is worth it for its great service as much as its fine food.



Les Frères de la Côte 1129 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 514 692 5445

Les Frères de la Côte is a friendly and warm bistro-style pizzeria. It offers specialties from Provence - including the surprisingly appetizing horse flank steak - and France more generally - don't miss the mussels and fries buffet from Sunday to Wednesday. For sunnier days, it also offers a very pleasant terrace.



Le Café du Monde 84 Rue Dalhousie, Quebec City +1 418 692 4455

Have you always wanted to try snails, bouillabaisse or tartare (yes, we mean raw meat) but never dared? This is your chance! At Le Café du Monde, discover specialties from the Hexagone (France's nickname) like you thought only the French could make. The atmosphere is resolutely Parisian and the staff always pleasant.



Apsara 71 Rue d'Auteuil, Quebec City +1 418 694 0232

Forget about French and Italian-influenced food in Apsara, probably one of the best Cambodian restaurants in the western world. Although the decor will very much make you feel like you are in Cambodia, you can also eat Thai and Vietnamese food in this family-run restaurant.



Le Clocher Penché 203 Rue Saint-Joseph E, Québec +1 418 640 0597

Take a well-deserved break after walking all day through the beautiful districts of Quebec City and enjoy lunch at Cafe du Clocher. Sit down with a cup of coffee and some salmon tartare, or even a pasta du bedeau, the options are endless and the dishes refined.



Restaurant Hobbit Bistro 700 Rue Saint-Jean, Québec +1 418 647 2677

Restaurant Hobbit Bistro is a quaint bistro in the middle of Quebec City, with a Tolkien inspired atmosphere, as indicated by the name. A friendly and attentive staff is standing by to make your visit as enjoyable as possible. Book in advance, as this place is popular.



Ciccio Café 875 Rue de Claire-Fontaine, Québec +1 418 525 6161

Ciccio offers an intimate and relaxed atmosphere, personalized and attentive service and inspired cuisine, because it firmly believes that this is what separates a merely delicious meal and an unforgettable experience. Try this Italian restaurant and you will surely not regret it.



Chic Shack 15 rue du Fort, Quebec City +1 418 692 1485

If you want to know where to eat the best poutine in town, the Chic Shack is the answer. The menu also includes appetizing burgers and delicious milkshakes: the full Canadian street food experience. The Chic Shack is located in a historic house with a stylish yet cozy interior.



Le Monastère des Augustines 77 Rue des Remparts, Quebec City

+1 418 694 1639

Le Monastère des Augustines is both a hotel and a restaurant, and is totally and deeply committed to wellness and health. Not surprisingly, it therefore offers mindful dishes in a wide variety, from raw and vegetarian dishes, to fish, poultry and meat. The restaurant is accessible even if you do not stay at the hotel, and the whole place is gorgeous.



Quebec City - Cafés

Small streets and tiny cafes: Quebec City might as well have invented the concept of coziness. Choices range widely: traditional or Americanized coffee shops, small cafes and bakeries with a Parisian feel, trendier and inventive new places — Quebec has it all. Enjoy sunny terraces in the summer, and during the very cold winter coffee shops can be a lifesaver.





Les Cafés Du Soleil 143 Rue Saint-Paul, Quebec City +1 418 692 1147

Despite a limited online presence, Les Cafés du Soleil is one of the coolest and coziest coffee shop in Québec. With its large variety of freshly roasted beans coming in the form of cappuccino, espresso, latte or drip coffee, it will please all manner of coffee addicts. Tea lovers are not left out though, with over 30 different types of loose leaf teas to choose from.



Nektar Caféologue

235 Rue Saint-Joseph Est, Quebec City +1 418 977 9236

Nektar Caféologue is the trendiest coffee shop in Quebec City, for it serves the most innovative and high quality coffee creations. The owners and baristas are passionate about coffee and want to share this love with their customers. The beans used here come from all over the world to create an explosion of tastes.



Maelstrøm Saint-Roch

181 Rue Saint-Vallier E, Quebec City +1 418 523 0700

Maelstrøm Saint-Roch was opened by the coffee artist behind Cantook. It was open as a celebration to cold brewed coffee, the specialty here. You can savour it cold, hot, in recipes and even in cocktails. The coffee shop works as a bar as well.



Cantook Micro Torréfaction

575 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 418 529 4769

With its seemingly unlimited selection of coffees, its brick fireplace, stone walls and wood furniture, Cantook has it all: a cozy yet modern style, a warm atmosphere, and coffee drinks to satisfy even the most discerning expert.



Le Renard et la Chouette

125 Rue Saint-Vallier O, Quebec City +1 418 914 5845

Le Renard et la Chouette offers a different concept from its counterparts. It is of course a coffee shop, but also the place to have a bite to eat — sweet or savoury, both are great — or a nice glass of wine. The baked goods are homemade and the little dishes irresistible.



Chez Temporel

25 Rue Couillard, Quebec City +1 418 694 1813

Chez Temporel takes the French café-croissant to a new level and gives it a Canadian twist. The croissants are as crispy and buttery as one could hope, and the artists and students who frequent the place sure know it. Added bonus: the food options go way beyond French pastries and include quiches and salads, among others.



Café Krieghoff

1089 Avenue Cartier, Quebec City +1 418 522 3711

This Quebec-born coffee gem will please all its visitors: it is tiny, but snug and homely, and offers some of the best freshly ground coffee around. You can either sit inside or outside on the sunny terrace, have breakfast and even take some ground beans home with you.



La Maison Smith

23 Rue Notre Dame, Quebec City +1 581 742 6777

Coffees, original cold drinks, pastries (try the Macaroons), sandwiches and even ice-creams are on display in La Maison Smith. It is therefore one of the best spots in town to hang out with friends and family, from the freezing winter days of Quebec City to the sunny summer afternoons.



Tim Hortons

48 Côte du Palais, Quebec City

+1 418 694 1000

If this is your first time in Canada, or if you simply want to have the full local experience, Tim Hortons is here for you. This very Canadian coffee chain is the local version of Starbucks, except with lower prices and more maple.



Quebec City - Bars & Nightlife

Whether you are in for a crazy night of partying, or would much prefer listening to live music (or singing yourself) with a good ale in hand, there are enough options in Quebec, despite the city being smaller than its counterparts. Stroll over to rue Saint-Jean for a relaxed pace and atmosphere where everyone comes together to sit at the local bars and have a quiet drink. Expect to find a highly cultural environment with influences and people from all over the world. There are options for every musical preference, from opera to dance and rock. One of your best options might be to go to one of the many festivals that take place each year, but be sure to check the dates beforehand.





La Piazz 641 Grande Allée E, Quebec City +1 418 523 4774

La Piazz Boîte à Chansons - literally translated as "Singing box" - is a perfect spot for an evening of live singing and fun, with a great atmosphere every night. If you feel brave enough (or already had a few drinks) you can go on stage and take the mic yourself.



La Ninkasi du Faubourg 811 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 418 529 8538

La Ninkasi's huge rooftop patio is one of the best places to have a drink in town, and it is also entirely heated in case of chilly weather. You can therefore enjoy beers with a great view, a friendly staff and a cool atmosphere, or decide to play pool.



La Korrigane 380, rue Dorchester +1 418 614 0932

A small but cozy bar in the city of Quebec, La Korrigane serves organic food and even brew their own beer. When the weather allows, make sure to use the patio to experience the outside atmosphere with a tasty beer in hand.



Pub Des Borgias 12 Rue du Petit Champlain, Quebec City +1 581 300 9176

A true gem, this Micro brewery in the heart of Quebec City offers a great selection of beer, but also some amazing scotch and wine, and can turn into a pleasant eatery. Don't miss out on the onion soup: the specialty of the house that will have you coming back for more.



Pub Galway 1112 Avenue Cartier, Quebec City +1 418 522 5282

If you prefer to put your feet up, have a beer and just relax while looking at the busy street life of Quebec City, this is the place to be. There is a great selection of food and beverages and if it's too cold outside, enjoy the typical pub atmosphere inside with the classic wooden chairs and tables, a dark mahogany bar and a kilt-clad staff.



Pub St. Patrick 1200 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 418 694 0618

St. Patrick is a traditional Irish pub in the heart of the capital, easily recognizable by its colorful Irish flags flying outside. Make sure to be there before rush hour, because it is a very popular location, especially when hosting live music. Expect to find local brews and a menu ranging from burgers to poutine.



Fou-Bar 525 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 418 522 1987

Sit among locals and tourists from all over the world, and let the live music lighten up your evening. At Fou-Bar you can choose between local craft beers and other drinks, as well as some tapas or small snacks. On a busy night you might be sitting shoulder to shoulder, but it is all about being together as one.



Bar Les Voûtes de Napoléon 680 Grande Allée E, Quebec City +1 418 640 9388

Les Voûtes Napoléon is another musical bar in the city of Quebec, where you can have a drink and some food while enjoying live music every evening. Don't hesitate to give the cocktails a try; they are beautiful and delicious and will put you right in the mood.



Jack Saloon 1155 Rue de la Chevrotière, Quebec City +1 418 522 5350

Jack Saloon is a traditional bar with American influences serving many varieties of dishes. Apart from serving exotic cocktails such as Limonade Sanglante or a Mango Mojito, you can also enjoy a tasty dinner of South American specialties.



Quebec City - Shopping

Among the many picturesque streets and historical buildings, your shopping experience will be one to remember. Quebec City boasts entire streets dedicated to shopping, and has nothing to envy bigger cities in that respect. Visit the Marche du Vieux-Port de Quebec, which is a large market with all kinds of natural products, from fruit to vegetable, or step into Les Galeries de la Capital, one of the biggest malls that Quebec has to offer - big enough to include a roller coaster! Art galleries, traditional glass work, vintage toy stores, crafts and design are also ubiquitous.





Marché du Vieux-Port de Québec 160 Quai Saint-André, Quebec City +1 418 692 2517

Fruits, vegetables, seeds, meat, gifts; you name it, they have it. This food market located at Quai Saint-Andre welcomes large numbers of shoppers daily. You can come in for fresh, local and quality products or taste specialties from the region and beyond.



Galerie de la Capitale & Mega Park 5401, boulevard des Galeries Quebec +1 418 627 5800

Galeries de la Capitale is the largest shopping complex in Quebec and the busiest in the region. The center has many shops and restaurants, the largest Cineplex IMAX cinemas in the country and a full indoor amusement park: the Mega Park. With 19 rides, such as an Olympic skating rink, a roller coaster, a Ferris wheel, a carousel, a climbing wall, miniature golf and more, it is not to be missed.



Épicerie JA Moisan 699 Rue Saint-Jean, Quebec City +1 418 522 0685

JA Moisan is a fascinating store, with tiny rooms packed with all kinds of food. As you enter and wander around, let the place take you back in time: it is indeed the oldest grocery store in North America.



Atelier Les Trois Corbeaux 42 Côte de la Fabrique, Quebec City

Watch how glass is made in the traditional way and give their store a look; they sell everything from wine glasses to jewelry. There is an exhibition area where people can watch artists at work, as well as a boutique where glass items can be bought as souvenirs.



Benjo 550 Boulevard Charest E, Quebec City +1 418 640 0001

Benjo is a unique toy store in the inner city of Quebec offering all kinds of toys, games and stuffed animals, but also fun activities. You cannot miss the entrance, carefully guarded by a giant green frog standing outside. Whatever your kids (or your inner child) may want, they most probably have it in stock.



Laurier Québec 2700 Boulevard Laurier, Quebec City +1 418 651 5000

Laurier Québec is the largest mall in Quebec City, located near two other malls: a true shopping trap. You can also find tons of possibilities to eat and relax in one of the many eateries and quick food places. It is a nice hang if you want to do all your shopping at once, or for a rainy day.



La Maison Simons 20 Côte de la Fabrique, Quebec City +1 418 692 3630

Right in the heart of town, across from the city hall, shoppers can find the Canadian clothing brand Maison Simons. Although this store is not the biggest one in Quebec (for this, go to Montreal), it still offers enough variety and good styles to please fashion lovers.



Quebec City - Tourist Information





Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport

505 Rue Principale, Quebec City +1 418 640 3300

The Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport (YQB) is located about 7 miles west of the city. The Réseau du Transport de la Capitale (RTC) offers public transportation (bus No. 78) from the airport to the Les Saules bus terminal from Monday to Friday.

Taxi and can rental companies can also be found at the airport for convenient transport to the city.



Public Transport

The Réseau de Transport de la Capitale (RTC) is responsible for public transport in the region. They have buses to all parts of Quebec City. You can buy tickets in drugstores, convenience stores and pharmacies.

An inter-city bus station, with connections to the provincial long-distance bus network, is adjacent to the train station. The services of Greyhound Canada and Orleans Express, among others.

Rail transport is operated by VIA Rail at the Gare du Palais.



Taxi

Taxi Coop Québec +1 418 525 5191 www.taxiscoop-quebec.com

Taxi Laurier +1 418 651 2727 www.taxilaurier.ca



Post

5 Rue Du Fort, Quebec City

Stamps can be bought at post offices (Canada Post), drug stores or convenience store.

There are post offices in several places around the city, including the one mentioned below:



Pharmacy

995, Boulevard Wilfrid-Hamel +1 418 682 8635

You can find pharmacies and drugstores all around Quebec City, most of them closing at about 21:00 or 22:00. One 24-hour pharmacy is Pharmaprix Vanier:



Time Zone

Quebec City is in the Eastern Time Zone (EST) which is (UTC-5).



Telephone

Country code: +1 Area code: 418



The electrical supply is 110 Volts and 60 Hertz.