

Christmas Markets of Montreal and Quebec City

Highlights...

Quebec City's German Christmas Markets • Montreal's Christmas Markets • Montmorency Falls • Maple Sugar Shack • Bûche de Noël Workshop



7 Days • 9 Meals: 6 Breakfasts • 3 Dinners

Cultural Connections

- Learn the art of making a traditional Bûche de Noël and explore the dessert's history.
- Explore Quebec City's German Christmas Market.

Must-See Highlights

- Enjoy a festive city tour of Montreal including the city's haven during winter months – the Underground City.
- Join a local guide on a tour of Quebec City's historic sites and holiday traditions.
- See Montmorency Falls, a natural wonder plunging 272 feet off the Canadian Shield.

Culinary Experiences

- Savor breakfast at a local sugar shack nestled in the Quebec countryside.

Day 1: Montreal

Inviting winter cityscapes await on a sojourn through the dazzling French-Canadian cities of Montreal and Quebec City. Arriving in Montreal, discover a blend of all things old and new. As travelers' arrival times will vary, we have not included any sightseeing today. Spend the day as you wish, exploring the city independently. Throughout this festive adventure, you'll get to experience the wonderful Christmas markets in Montreal and Quebec City, which run Thursday to Sunday throughout the holiday season.

Day 2: Montreal

Today, set out on a sightseeing tour of Montreal in all its holiday splendor, featuring Jacques Cartier Square, McGill University, and the Underground City – a haven for Montrealers during the long and cold winters. Make a stop high atop Mount Royal and take in the spectacular surrounding view! Christened by Jacques Cartier in 1535, Mount Royal is the small, emblematic mountain in the city and Montreal's namesake. Enjoy some free time for lunch in Old Montreal (maybe warming up with a cup of hot chocolate) and soak in more of the joyful holiday atmosphere. Get ready to experience the Christmas market of Montreal,* meandering through the rows of local vendors and holiday stalls. Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 3: Montreal - Quebec City

Leaving Montreal this morning, travel northeast to say *bonjour* to Quebec City, the heart of Canada's French heritage. Every winter, the city lights up with the magic of the holiday season. Upon arriving, enjoy free time for a bite to eat and to explore the Old Town (UNESCO), strolling along picturesque cobblestone streets and beside 17th-century buildings. After checking into your hotel later this afternoon, stroll through the Old Town some more and gather at a restaurant for dinner amid this holiday fairy-tale setting. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 4: Quebec City

Join your local guide for a city tour, learning about Quebecois holiday traditions while viewing the city's historic sites and getting an up-close glimpse of the gorgeous Chateau Frontenac. Spend the afternoon exploring as you wish, where you can stroll among the wooden stalls in Quebec City's German Christmas markets.* Enjoy the evening at leisure. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 5: Quebec City

This morning, roll up your sleeves for a workshop in how to create a beloved holiday dessert, the *Bûche de Noël*. A culinary take on the ancient practice of burning a Yule log at Christmastime, the *Bûche de Noël*, indeed resembling a log, has a special place on the holiday table. Practice your hand at the elaborate process of rolling the delicate chocolate sponge with a rich mousse filling and decorating with a buttercream made to look like tree bark and meringue mushrooms. Today is yours to surround yourself in the holiday spirit of Quebec City. Wander through the enchanting streets of Old Quebec, adorned with lights and festive decorations. Stroll through Christmas markets, sipping hot chocolate or mulled wine and tasting other seasonal treats. Throughout the city, experience the essence of a traditional Quebecois Christmas. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 6: Quebec City - Montreal

Begin your day with breakfast at a local sugar shack, situated in the heart of the Quebec countryside. Learn about the traditions of maple syrup-making and enjoy samples of delicious traditional foods. Before leaving, try a favorite regional treat – maple taffy on the snow! Next, enjoy a visit to the impressive Montmorency Falls and marvel at this natural wonder plunging 272 feet off the Canadian Shield (approximately 100 feet higher than Niagara Falls). Arrive back in Montreal this afternoon and enjoy some free time, perhaps to visit the holiday markets* for some more shopping. Tonight, gather to toast to your festive adventure during a farewell dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.*

Day 7: Montreal - Tour Ends

Your tour ends today. May your memories be full of cheer! *Today breakfast will be included.*

Experience It! Quebecois Christmas Traditions

Discover Quebecois holiday traditions, rich with cultural heritage and festive charm, blending French, indigenous, and North American influences. One such tradition is

Réveillon, a grand feast held on Christmas Eve. Families gather after midnight mass to enjoy an elaborate meal with dishes like tourtière (spiced meat pie) and rich desserts. Another symbol of tradition is the log-shaped cake known as Bûche de Noël, symbolizing the ancient practice of burning the Yule log – a much tastier tribute! While visiting Quebec in the midst of the holiday season, get ready to encounter the region's unique blend of festive customs and local flavors.

Your itinerary at a glance

Days 1, 2	Le Centre Sheraton Montreal Hotel, Montreal, QC
Days 3 – 5	Hotel Chateau Laurier, Quebec City, QC
Day 6	Le Centre Sheraton Montreal Hotel, Montreal, QC

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Collette's Flagship: Collette's tours open the door to a world of amazing destinations. Marvel at must-see sights, sample regional cuisine, stay in centrally located hotels and connect with new and captivating cultures. These itineraries offer an inspiring and easy way to experience the world, where an expert guide takes care of all the details.

Important Tour Information:

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 1. This means you're a leisurely traveler. You typically take it easy and discover the energy of a new place by people-watching or soaking in the atmosphere at a local café. You can climb at least one flight of stairs, board a coach, and walk unassisted at a relaxed pace for up to 60 minutes without difficulty. You can easily handle altitudes up to 5,000 feet.

Travel with an average of 37 people (maximum of 44).

Walking throughout Quebec City and Old Montreal as part of included features, or on your own, will require navigating cobblestone streets to moderate hills with relative ease and without assistance. Walking these streets during the wintertime can add an extra challenge if there is ice or snow. A leisurely walk through the Christmas Markets may last up to 90 minutes with stops.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

*The Christmas markets in both Montreal and Quebec City are open Thursdays through Sundays from late November to late December. Each market may be visited only once during the trip. If your originally planned visit falls on a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday - when the markets are closed - the itinerary will be adjusted to ensure you can still experience both markets during their open days.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include round-trip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised, baggage fees may apply on most trans-border flights. These fees are levied by each specific airline and may be subject to change.

Please be advised, many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Travel Requirements:

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Important reservation information:

***Airfare:** For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Preassigned seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date.

Checked Baggage Charges: Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

Cancellation Charges for this tour: After your seat reduction date has passed, a non-refundable deposit will be retained. For Cancellation between 90-16 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 15-1 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 75% of total price. For cancellation on the day of departure and after: 100% of total price. For Ocean Cruises: For cancellation between 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 40% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price. 30 or fewer days prior to departure: 100% of total price. For River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China, 90-61 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 50% of total price. For cancellation between 60-31 days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 85% of total price. For cancellation 30 or fewer days prior to departure: cancellation fee of 100% of total price. For Galapagos and Antarctica: A cancellation fee of 60% will apply for cancellation between 120-90 days prior to departure; A cancellation charge of 100% will apply for cancellation less than 90 days prior to departure. Cancellation protection is highly recommended and must be purchased at time of deposit. Air rates are subject to change until tour is paid in full. If Travel Protection Plan has not been purchased and a reservation is cancelled for any reason prior to departure - Air is 100% non-refundable once paid in full. Cancellation charges also apply to reservations made for "pre" and "post" night accommodations. Payment of a Per Person Travel Protection Plan Fee guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposit), except the Travel Protection Plan Fee itself, made to Collette for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan Fee with Air only covers airline tickets you have purchased from Collette. Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details). The Travel Protection Plan Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. However, the Part B travel insurance includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons as detailed in Part B. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the canceling client, the traveling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement. Cancellation waiver protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. Cancellation waiver does not indemnify you from penalties if you chose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you chose to partially cancel your vacation, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation. Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the customer, are not at fault and have not canceled in violation of the terms and conditions above, you will be refunded 100%. Please see your sales agent for more information, or review our brochure for details.

Responsibilities: Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own travel decisions. Travelers may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip.

Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party. Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned

by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your traveling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are traveling with children, you are solely responsible for their behavior and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times. Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party. Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes.

Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

Consumer Protection Plans: Collette Travel Service holds membership in the following highly reputable industry organizations: the United States Tour Operators Association and the American Society of Travel Agents. Each association operates a consumer protection plan to cover deposits made by travelers. Full details are available from the organizations or Collette Travel Service. Collette is pleased to give this additional protection to our clients. **Our California Sellers of Travel registration number is 2006766-20. Our State of Washington Unified Business Number is 601-220-855. Florida Seller of Travel registration number. ST35613**

