



Quebec native Celine Dion has a suite named after her at the venerable Fairmont Le Château Frontenac.

Quebec City STAR ESCAPES

History, beauty and European flair collide along the banks of the St. Lawrence River

By Suzanne Wintrob

EXPLORE

Dating back more than 400 years, the walled city of Old Quebec beckons with hilly, cobblestoned streets and exquisite architecture. Stroll the picturesque Quartier Petit Champlain (1) for local artisans, bistros and nearby galleries. Outside the city walls, the striking Parliament Building offers free tours, while trendy Rue Saint-Jean delights with boutiques and buskers.

INDULGE

After a busy day of people-watching (Place des Canotiers and the Plains of Abraham are go-to spots), relax at the Strøm Nordic Spa (2), with its riverside infinity pool, Finnish saunas and soulful treatments like the seaweed body wrap to stimulate circulation and eliminate toxins. Then head to the lively Saint-Roch district for a tour of Apikol, a distillery that specializes in honey-infused spirits (tastings included!).



TASTE

Poutine, eh? The city offers every possible topping – at Frite Alors!, you can order a Korean version topped with minced beef, bulgogi sauce and kimchi. At chic Don Vegan (3) – Quebec City's first entirely vegan eatery – the Don Stir Fry is a scrumptious combo of ginger-marinated tofu, thinly sliced veggies and coconut milk served on rice noodles. And at Restaurant Alentours, ingredients on the evolving five-course menu are sourced within a 150-km radius.

STAY

Perched atop Cap Diamant overlooking the river, the iconic Fairmont Le Château Frontenac is where pampered travellers lay their heads – and famous guests like Celine Dion and the Queen have suites named after them. For a touch of whimsy, hotel Monsieur Jean (4) delivers striped décor, mini kitchens and heated ceramic floors, while the soothing Hôtel Château Laurier Quebec has comfy rooms and an inviting lobby fireplace. **H**



What To Pack



Easy Access Crossbody Bag in Solar Orange, \$44, lululemon.com

The Skyline Reversible Maxi Bomber in Deep Teal, \$199, ca. frankandoak.com



Lise Watier Lift & Firm Y-Zone High Firming Day Creme SPF 20, \$88, shoppersdrugmart.ca

TRIP TIPS Quebec makes most of the world's maple syrup – yours to sample at sugar shacks each spring • Nearby Wendake features Onhwa' lumina, a night walk to celebrate the Huron-Wendat Nation's traditions • You can even sail into the city on major cruise lines