



# A Girls' Weekend In Quebec City

## Friday, October 18

**Leave:** 8:00

**Egan Chutes Provincial Park** - The road into the park can be a little rough. Drive slowly to the parking lot. Find the trail. It will lead to a large waterfall. The trail is relatively level and straight. You will have to return the same way you came.

T: 1:30 D: 105 A: 9:30 S: 40 : 10:10

**Tim Hortons in Renfrew** - You have already had an exhausting day of travel and hiking. It is time for some caffeine.

T: 1:20 D: 117 A: 11:30 S: 20 L: 11:50

**McDougall Mill Museum** - The museum is closed for the season but there is a suspension bridge that you can walk across. This will be good practise for later. Parking is free. This can be skipped if running late. Depending on the water level, there is a waterfall here.

T: 3 D: 1 A: 11:55 S: 15 L: 12:10



**Be mindful of time**

The next place has  
timed entry

**Diefenbunker: Canada's Cold War Museum** - Had there been a nuclear war, this would have been the place that all the important people would have taken shelter. It is now open as a museum and is rather an interesting, and depressing thing to visit. Super cool! **BE MINDFUL OF TIME. GUIDED TOUR IS AT 1:30.**  
T: 45 D: 65 A: 1:00 (be early so you can buy tickets) S: 1:45  
L: 2:45

**Patrimoine et Chutes de Plaisance** - It was free to enter recently. If, by some unknown reason they now charge admission, it is not worth it. But totally worth it if it is free. It a small hike to a waterfall. Also a great way to get out and stretch.  
T: 1:13 D: 107 A: 3:00 S: 20 L: 3:20

**Notre-Dame Basilica of Montreal** - It is best to buy tickets for AURA ahead of time as these tend to sell out. It may be possible to get tickets at the door. Doors open at 6:00 so be there well before this happens.  
T: 1:45 D: 150 A: 5:10 S: 2:00 L: 7:00

**PARKING AT NOTRE DAME WILL BE A HEADACHE!!!!**

All the signage will be in French, and many parking lots have reserved parking spots, so be very aware of where you are parking the car. On the map I have included are various parking lots. Be sure to remember where you parked. On the map are the parking lots near the church.

**Indigo Neo Parking App** - it is possible to book parking and have it reserved for you before you arrive. Or the website <https://indigoneo.ca/en>

Are you starving? Probably. **Restaurant La Belle Province** - This is so close to your next destination and is outside of the madness of Old Montreal. Have a bite to eat.

T: 20 D: 8 A: 7:20 S: 40 L: 8:00

**Gardens of Light** - At the Montreal Botanical Garden, is this night event that is incredible. There is a lot of walking, but it is at a slow and comfortable pace. \$25 admission. Parking is also paid. If the main lot is full, there are other places to consider.  
D: a couple of blocks A: 8:00 S: 2:00 L: 10:00

Hotel recommendation: **Hotel Ruby Foo's** - This is the only consideration when I am in the Montreal area—quality rooms.

T: 30 D: 18 A: 10:30

Got to bed.

# Saturday, October 19

**Wake:** 7:30 Breakfast can be McDonald's on the other side of the highway. Or search for something before leaving the hotel. The hotel does have its own restaurant.

**Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal** - Free to enter but there may be a fee for parking. Quebec is very proud of its churches. This one is large. Be sure to check out the chapel that is across from the parking lot.

T: 20 D: 5 A: 9:00 S: 45 L: 9:45

**Mount Royal** - See Montreal from the mountain that gives the city its name. Possible paid parking. From the lot, walk to **Kondiaronk Belvedere** to have a view of the city. Look for the large Leonard Cohen mural.

T: 11 D: 4 A: 10:00 S: 30 L: 10:30

**Le Magasin général Le Brun- Salle de spectacles** - It is time to shop in a general store of a bygone era. Part museum, part retail, entirely a must visit.

T: 1:25 D: 103 A: 12:00 S: 40 L: 12:40

**Belvédère des Chutes de Shawinigan** - It should be free to enter. If asked, say you are only here to see the waterfall. From the parking lot, it should be obvious where to walk. You are under a minute away from the falls. This is one of those falls that is heavily regulated by the dam. It will be amazing or incredibly disappointing. There is only one way to find out.

T: 50 D: 76 A: 1:30 S: 20 L: 1:50

**Chaudière Falls Park** - Long suspension bridge. It is possible to get to the foot of the falls if water levels are not too high. Free parking and free access.

T: 1:30 D: 145 A: 3:20 S: 50 L: 4:10

**Your evening:** This is the off-season, and there is not much open past 5:00 PM. Go to the **hotel** and figure out what to eat. My favourite place in Quebec is **Fromagerie Victoria**. I feel it is a major injustice not to visit this place at least once when in Quebec. Order a medium sized poutine - it is large enough - only the brave go for a large. Maybe stick around the hotel or go out to a movie (be sure the movie is in English). Or maybe visit **Joan of Arc Garden** for their Hallowe'en event. A free display of 17 various folk art. Limited street parking in the area.

Go to bed, eventually. BUSY day tomorrow.

# Sunday, October 20

**Wake:** Be sure you are up, had breakfast and all ready to go. Figure out how long it gets to the first stop of the day and wake up accordingly.

**Decision Time** - There is a lot to do in Quebec City and not enough time to do it all. You need to decide what is important.

- **Montmorency Falls** - Iconic falls of Quebec City. To best experience this place, it is best to walk up those huge staircases to the top. It is a lot of effort and can be exhausting. There is a cable car to the top but that costs extra. Going here will take up about 2 or more hours if you walk it all. Opens at 9:00 to 5:00.
- **Sanctuaire Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré** - People have been visiting this location for over 350 years now. This church is not that old, but it will be the best one you have entered. Masses are over by noon. Visiting when service is happening is possible, as long as you are not touring in the area. Best to wait until noon or after to visit. Try to start in the basement. There are so many small chapels, tons of art and then head upstairs to the main sanctuary. There is a gift shop outside of the church. Be sure to cross the road for another chapel and The Way of the Cross - a series of statues on the final moments of Christ. Absolutely the best church around! Free parking. Free entry. Located 40 minutes from Quebec City.
- **Musée huron-wendat** - The first guided tour is at 9:00. Be sure to arrive no later than 8:45 to buy the tickets for the tour (\$18). This is the Huron Indian reservation. The Huron were nearly wiped out by European diseases and war. They have a museum based on their way of life before Europeans arrived. It is rather interesting and worth the effort to see this place.

- **Chute Kabir Kouba** - You most likely passed this on your way to the Indian museum. Parking is limited. There is also an interesting water fountain nearby. There is shopping on this street, but it is most likely closed on Sundays and during the off-season. Visit this ONLY if you are planning on going to the Huron Museum - it is not worth the detour to see this place on its own.
- Guided tour of **Fairmount Chateau Frontenac**. The Frontenac is the large, iconic building in the centre of Old Quebec. English tours are at 10:00, 1:00 and 3:00. \$25/person. One hour long.
- Underground parking at **10 Rue Pierre-Olivier-Chauveau** or across the street at **City Hall**. From here, take a 1.5 KM **walking tour of Old Quebec**. There is a lot of shops to see, it feels like you have stepped back in time with the architecture. If there is a store that interests you, go inside. If you see a church, open the door. There are statues, cannons (this place was made for war centuries ago), and Mary's Popcorn (the best popcorn there is). Follow the purple line called Walking Tour on the map. At the end, it is a long hill back. Take the **Funiculaire du Vieux-Québec** back to the top. This tour will take much of your day.
- **Observatoire de la Capitale** - Admission. It is one of the tallest buildings, and it has a floor where you can see the entire city. \$15. Open 10:00 to 4:00
- Take the **Red Bus Tour**. \$50/person. A two-hour guided tour of the city with the option to hop on and off as you please. It starts near Chateau Frontenac at 12 Rue Saint Anne (the tourist information center).  
<https://www.toursvieuxquebec.com/en/forfait/Double-Decker>

- **Chaudière Falls Park** - A free park with lots of parking. Walk the swing bridge to the other side to see a different view of the falls, or take the stairs down to see the falls up close and personal. Expect to spend 90 minutes here.

When all is said and done, head to **Hotel Ruby Foo's** in Montreal.

T: 3:20 D: 270 A: late

## Monday, October 21

**Wake:** 7:30 Figure out where to have breakfast.

**Barbie Expo** - Located on the third floor of the mall. Parking is at the mall (underground and paid parking). Mall opens at 9:00. It is a large collection of Barbie dolls, but these are very good Barbie dolls and well worth the visit. Plus, you are in a mall for some final shopping.

T: 20 D: 8 A: 9:00 (opens) S: 1:00 L: 10:00

Optional (remember today you are heading back - the more time you spend exploring, the later you get home): **Dorchester Square** and **Mary, Queen of the World Cathedral**. It is only a 10 minute walk to these locations. The square has many monuments. The church is huge inside. Walk back to car.

T: 10 S: 50 L: 10:50

**Hog's Back Falls** - a short walk from the parking lot to the falls. Depending on the time of the year, it can be rather impressive. You are on the edge of Ottawa, decide what you will have for lunch.

T: 2:20 D: 203 A: 1:10 S: 20 L: 1:30

### **Lunch**

L: 2:00



From Ottawa, it is 4 hours to the cottage.

Consider **Lakeside Gems** - use this place as a pit stop. It closes at 5:00 and is over halfway back from Ottawa.

T: 2:40 D: 228 A: 4:40 S: 20 L: 5:00

### **The Cottage**

T: 1:10 D: 89 A: 6:10