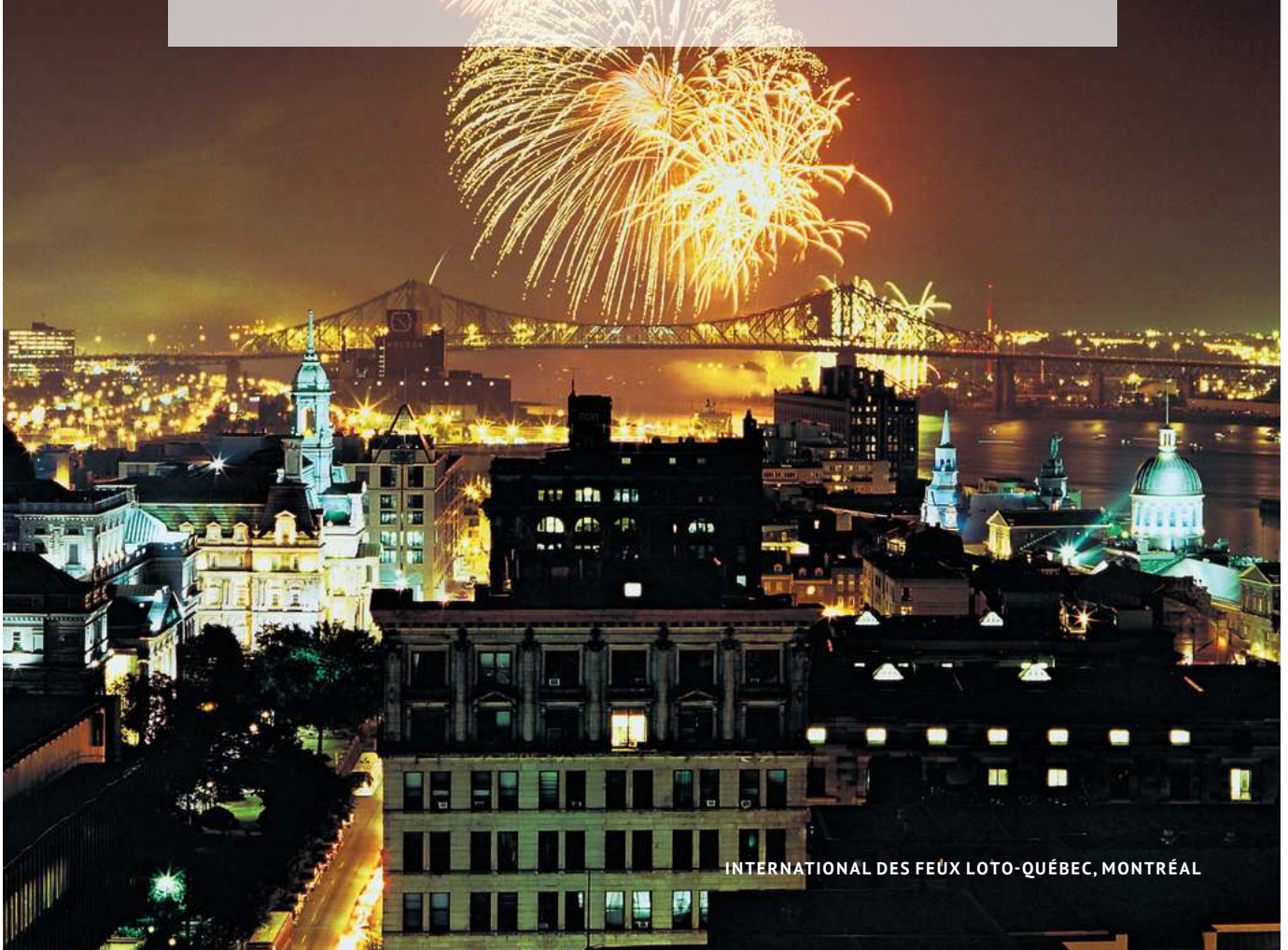


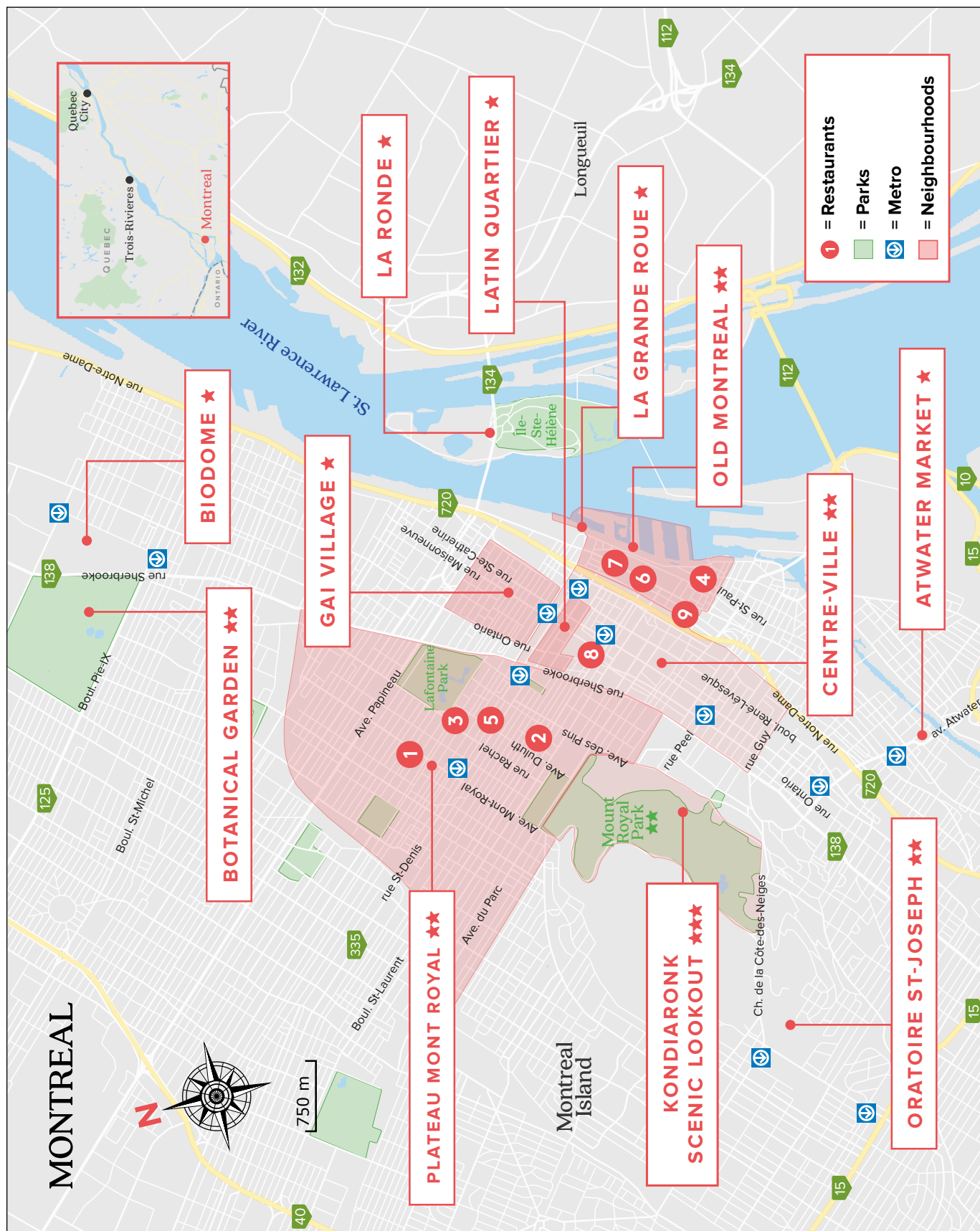
MONTRÉAL



Montreal is the **second-largest French-speaking city** in the world after Paris. A multicultural centre whose French accent mingles with those of some **80 other ethnic communities**, Montreal charms the visitor with its combination of Old-World charm and North American energy. The downtown centre teems with life at the foot of the mountain, while the city's history is deeply rooted in the old neighborhoods near the river. And you don't need a rental car to discover its charms: Montreal can be easily visited on foot.



INTERNATIONAL DES FEUX LOTO-QUÉBEC, MONTRÉAL



WHAT TO DO

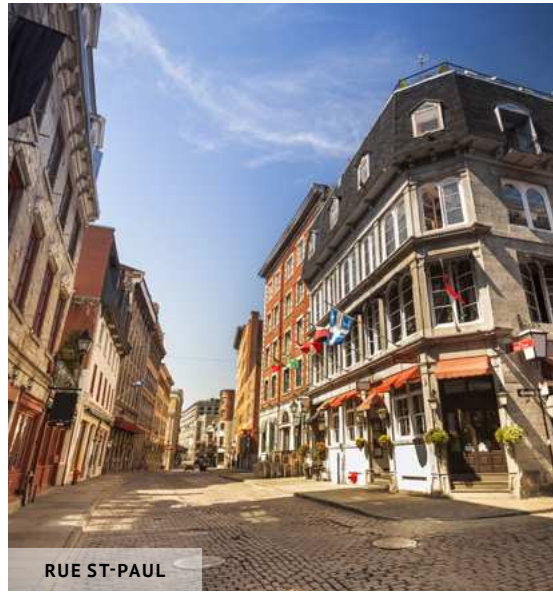
Discover Montreal through its 5 most beautiful neighbourhoods.

OLD MONTREAL ★★

The historic neighbourhood of **Old Montreal**, on the edge of the St. Lawrence River just south of the downtown core, used to be surrounded by fortifying walls. This is the site where the **city was founded in 1642**. Old Montreal still conserves its **European** feel, with cobblestone streets, historic buildings, public squares and monuments. The historic **Old Port** ★, one of Old Montreal's most popular attractions, is made up of a series of piers linked by a park-lined boardwalk. The area is vibrant all year round, offering a wide variety of activities, boutiques, art galleries, cafes, restaurants and museums.

NOTRE-DAME BASILICA ★

A neo-gothic masterpiece, Montreal's Notre-Dame Basilica is one of the crown jewels of Quebec's rich **religious heritage**. Built between 1824 and 1829, the church is reputed for its grand polychrome interior and the **fine craftsmanship of its fittings**. Don't miss the 1891 Casavant organ, one of the most outstanding in the Americas. As of March 2017, visitors can experience the beauty of the Basilica's grandiose architecture in an extraordinary new way with "Aura", a unique multimedia show combining light and orchestral music created by renowned Montreal studio Moment Factory. The experience takes place in two parts: path of lights revealing the Basilica's wealth of exquisite works, followed by an immersive multimedia spectacle (23 minutes). Total runtime is approximately 45 minutes. We strongly recommend buying your tickets online to be sure of getting in. Visit www.aurabasiliquemontreal.com for more information.



RUE ST-PAUL



NOTRE-DAME BASILICA



PLACE JACQUES-CARTIER, OLD MONTREAL

aurabasiliquemontreal.com for more information.

BASILIQUE NOTRE-DAME.CA
***Place-d'Armes Metro Station**

RUE SAINT-PAUL ★★

Rue Saint Paul is the most popular and the most iconic of Old Montreal streets, and the **oldest street** in Montreal. It was the city's main thoroughfare

in the 18th and 19th centuries. Lined with architecturally stunning 19th century buildings, much of Saint Paul is still paved with cobblestones. Its former warehouses have been transformed into art galleries, restaurants and boutiques.

PLACE JACQUES-CARTIER ★★

This famous square is named after Jacques-Cartier, who dropped anchor in the nearby river in 1535. The **heart of Old Montreal**, Place Jacques Cartier is alive with street artists, flower stalls and a multitude of restaurants and cafes that now occupy the early 19th century buildings.

OLD PORT ★

The piers of the Old Port offer a wide variety of popular activities, including:

- "Bateau-Mouche" cruise ★★

This sightseeing cruise of the St. Lawrence River offers spectacular views of Montreal and its surroundings. Several departures throughout the day; dinner cruises also available. Guaranteed departures from Jacques-Cartier Pier from the end of May until early September.

BATEAUMOCHE.CA

- The Montreal Science Centre ★

This is the perfect place to discover, understand and explore the world of science and technology through fun and educational exhibitions of exceptional quality. You are sure to enjoy the many interactive displays. The museum features several permanent exhibition halls, a temporary exhibition hall and even an Imax cinema.

CENTREDESSCIENCESDEMONTREAL.COM

- Old Port Zipline

The **very first urban zipline circuit in Canada** allows you to explore Montreal from a bird's eye view! Fly over the famous **île Bonsecours in Montreal's Old Port**, one the city's busiest tourist areas, for a thrill like no other!

MTLZIPLINE.COM

- Saute-Moutons ★★

If you are looking for an exhilarating adventure, step aboard a Saute-Moutons jet boat for a spectacular ride through the wildest stretches of the Lachine Rapids that will leave you wet and wanting more! Not for the faint of heart! Daily from May to September, several departures a day.

JETBOATINGMONTREAL.COM

- La Grande Roue ★

Take a seat in the **tallest Ferris wheel in Canada** for **spectacular panoramic views of Old Montreal, from 60 metres in the air**. This

unforgettable experience can be enjoyed year-round in the comfort of a **climate-controlled gondola** that is heated in winter and air-conditioned in summer.

A unique activity in a picturesque setting on the shore of the St. Lawrence River. In the evening, colourful lights creating a romantic and festive atmosphere. The site also houses two restaurants: **Bistro de la Grande Roue** and **Café de la Grande Roue**.

LAGRANDEROUEDEMONTREAL.COM



SUNNY DAY IN THE OLD PORT

© iStock-1095423558, Lue 000



"BATEAU-MOCHE" CRUISE

© iStock-173022694, burbuzz



LA GRANDE ROUE, OLD PORT

© iStock-539089932, DoucetPh

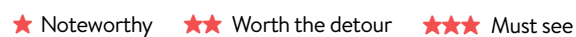


Family

★ Noteworthy

★★ Worth the detour

★★★ Must see



CENTRE-VILLE ★★

Downtown Montreal is situated on the southern slope of Mount Royal. The downtown area is home to most of the city's **skyscrapers**, giving it a more "North American" look than the other neighbourhoods. The famous **Saint Catherine Street** ★★, a busy 15-kilometre commercial avenue, is widely considered to be the heart of downtown Montreal.

MARY, QUEEN OF THE WORLD CATHEDRAL ★

Built in the late 19th century, this unique cathedral is a **scale model of Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome**. It even contains a magnificent reproduction of Bernini's Baldacchino. Throughout the cathedral, artwork depicts the history of the Catholic Church in Montreal. Corner of René-Lévesque Ouest and Mansfield.

THE UNDERGROUND CITY

Montreal's "underground city" is a vast underground pedestrian complex comprised of **33 kilometres of tunnels** linking shopping malls, office buildings, universities and hotels, situated underneath the downtown area. It is the largest underground complex in the world and contains almost 12% of all of the businesses in the area. The underground city

can be enjoyed in all kinds of weather, and is easily accessible by public transit, with a number of Metro stations, two commuter train stations and a regional bus terminal.

MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS ★

One of Canada's most prestigious arts institutions, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is also the oldest art museum in the country. The museum houses collections containing more than 35,000 works from around the world, from Antiquity to today, including a magnificent **collection of Inuit and Canadian art**. Exhibitions may vary throughout the year. MBAM.QC.CA

THE LATIN QUARTIER ★

The Latin Quarter ★ is found near the intersection of St-Denis and St-Catherine streets (Berri-UQAM Metro Station). This neighbourhood steeped in **culture and learning** is home to Théâtre St-Denis, the National Film Board of Canada, the Grande Bibliothèque public library, the Cinémathèque Québécoise, Université du Québec à Montréal and Cégep du Vieux-Montréal. It is a **vibrant student district**, filled with sidewalk cafes and restaurants and specialty boutiques.



DOWNTOWN OF MONTREAL BY NIGHT

© iStock-183763652, bubuzzer



UNDERGROUND ACCESS ON STE-CATHERINE STREET

© iStock-594030110, Nicolas McComber



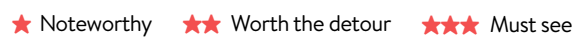
MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

© iStock-688955272, Bombaert



MARY, QUEEN OF THE WORLD CATHEDRAL

© Tourisme Montreal, Mathieu Dupuis



PLATEAU-MONT-ROYAL ★★

One of Montreal's most popular districts, the **Plateau Mont-Royal**, takes its name from its location on flat terrain north of the terraces of Rue Sherbrooke and east of Mount Royal. The area's main thoroughfare is

Avenue du Mont-Royal ★★

For years, the Plateau has been known as a "trendy" neighbourhood, and it is also the area of choice for new arrivals from France. The Plateau Mont-Royal offers a variety of cafés, bookstores and trendy boutiques. It is the **perfect place to "hang out"**, go out for dinner, take a walk or stop for a drink at one of its many bars.

BOULEVARD SAINT-LAURENT ★

Boulevard Saint-Laurent, between Rue Sherbrooke and Avenue Mont-Royal, is Montreal's geographic meridian, separating East from West. It is **commonly known as "The Main"**.

Saint-Laurent is a trendy street with numerous bars, restaurants and shops. It is also a **multicultural hub**: a large number of immigrants settled in the area from the beginning of the 19th century, opening their businesses and restaurants on "The Main".

LE CARRÉ SAINT-LOUIS ★

Carré Saint-Louis ★ is a magnificent little park on Rue Saint-Denis, between Sherbrooke and Avenue des Pins. Victorian style residences line the streets facing the park, where well-off French-Canadian families lived in the 1800s. The square was also a popular location for a number of Quebec poets and artists.

***Sherbrooke Metro station**



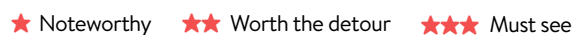
TERRACES ON AVENUE DU MONT-ROYAL



BOULEVARD ST-LAURENT



LE CARRÉ ST-LOUIS



MOUNT ROYAL PARK ★★

Mount Royal Park is a vast green space in the heart of the city where Montrealers come to enjoy the outdoors. The park is home to a lake (Beaver Lake), many forest trails, two lookouts and a chalet. The Mountain is one of Montreal's distinguishing features, setting it apart from other major North American cities, an ever-present backdrop to city life. The **Kondiaronk scenic lookout** ★★★ in front of the chalet offers **spectacular views** ★★★ of downtown Montreal, with the St. Lawrence

River and the hills of Monteregine in the distance. Every Sunday from May to September, a large, impromptu drum circle known as the "Tam-Tams" takes place around the Sir Georges-Étienne Cartier Monument (Avenue du Parc, between Mont-Royal and Ave. des Pins). This lively event has been a real tradition for Montrealers since the 1970s. People come to play music, dance, have a picnic or just hang out, from around noon until the sun goes down. Arrive early if you want to have a place to sit down.

THE GAY VILLAGE ★

The Gay Village ★ (known simply as "The Village") is Montreal's gay district, and **one of the largest in the world**. It is situated close to downtown, just east of the Latin Quarter. Its clubs and bars are some of the most popular in the city, and partygoers can often dance to the music of some of the finest DJs in the world. The village is also an important cultural hub with a number of theatres and several television and radio stations. A **memorable and colourful** place to visit!

ORATOIRE ST-JOSEPH ★★

The Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal is an **architectural jewel**, an **emblem** of Montreal and a National Historic Site of Canada. Located near Mount Royal Park, the grandiose and peaceful site attracts close to 2 million visitors and pilgrims each year. As an added bonus, you will have a **superb view of the city**. Museum, cafeteria, gift shop, guided tours and parking on site. SAINT-JOSEPH.ORG



DOWNTOWN OF MONTREAL, VIEW FROM THE KONDIARONKM SCENIC LOOKOUT

© Tourisme Montreal, Mathieu Dupuis



GAY VILLAGE OF MONTREAL

© iStock-1134531370, Rock Laroque



ST-JOSEPH ORATORY OF MONTREAL

© iStock-172205795, Onifokus

BOTANICAL GARDEN ★★

A popular oasis in the heart of the city, the Jardin botanique de Montréal is recognized as one of the world's largest and finest botanical gardens. It offers a colourful program of **events, exhibitions and activities** all year long in addition to its extensive **collection of 22,000 plant species and 10 exhibition greenhouses**. The **Insectarium**, on the same site as the Botanical Garden, offers a look into the fascinating universe of insects.

ESPACEPOURLAVIE.CA/JARDIN-BOTANIQUE

BIODOME ★

The Biodome is home to more than **4,500 animals of more than 200 species and more than 800 plant species**. Like the Botanical Garden, it is part of Montreal's Space for Life (Espace Vie). Embark on an immersive sensory journey through the **five ecosystems of the Americas** and discover the plants and animals that live there. Explore the **Tropical Rainforest**, the **Gulf of St. Lawrence**, the **Laurentian Maple Forest**, the **Labrador Coast** and the **Sub-Antarctic Islands**. A one-of-a-kind experience!

ESPACEPOURLAVIE.CA/BIODOME



BIODOME'S TROPICAL RAINFOREST



BOTANICAL GARDEN OF MONTREAL

LA RONDE

Quebec's largest **amusement park** with many high-adrenaline **rides** as well as gentler attractions for younger visitors. **Numerous shows, entertainment and restaurants** on site. Festive atmosphere.
LARONDE.COM

© iStock-108797162, Josie_Demerais



AERIAL VIEW OF LA RONDE



DOWNTOWN OF MONTREAL FROM MOUNT ROYAL

© Tourisme Montreal

ATWATER MARKET ★

Situated in Montreal's Southwest borough, close to the Lachine Canal, this **public market** has been in operation since 1933. It is known for its many **butcher shops, cheesemongers, horticultural producers and market gardeners**.

Grab a tasty meal and eat it on the banks of the canal (**Satay Brothers and Rustique** offer interesting take-out options) or rent a bicycle and explore the historic Lachine Canal bike path.

You can also enjoy a cocktail aboard a canal boat-turned-bar afloat in the Lachine Canal! The one-of-a-kind **Canal Lounge** is moored just steps from the market (22 Atwater Ave.).

The market is open all year round. It opens at 9 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m. on Monday-Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday-Sunday.

© iStock-116588887, caglanayin



EXTERIOR VIEW OF ATWATER MARKET



Family

★ Noteworthy

★★ Worth the detour

★★★ Must see



LES FRANCO DE MONTRÉAL

© iStock-539089932, DoucetPh

FESTIVALS

Les Franco de Montréal

Dates : mid-June

This large annual music festival features over 1,000 artists, musicians, renowned singers, rising stars and promising talent from 20 countries in a celebration of the diversity and rhythms of French music from around the world, attracting over half a million visitors each year.

FRANCOSMONTREAL.COM

Grand Prix du Canada

Dates : mid-June

The best drivers in the world meet at the demanding Gilles-Villeneuve Circuit to battle

out an important stage of the Formula 1 World Championship.
GPCANADA.CA

L'International des Feux Loto-Québec

Dates : late June / early August

This renowned fireworks festival was first held in 1985 at La Ronde, Quebec's largest amusement park, built for the 1967 Universal Exposition. The pyromusical arts at their best! Saturdays and Wednesdays at 10 p.m.

LARONDE.COM

Montreal International Jazz Festival

Dates : late June / early July

Ranked as the world's largest jazz festival by Guinness World

Records since 2004, it is no surprise that the Montreal Jazz fest is able to attract the greats of the jazz world. The lineup is incredible!

MONTREALJAZZFEST.COM

Montréal en Arts

Dates : early July

This Montreal festival of contemporary art features over 75 local artists exhibiting and selling their work. There are also participatory activities, activities for children and live performances. St. Catherine Street between St. Hubert and Papineau.

MTLENARTS.COM

Osheaga

Dates : early August

Osheaga is a popular independent music and arts festival that takes place each year in Jean-Drapeau Park on île Ste-Hélène. 6 stages present shows featuring emerging artists and international headliners.

OSHEAGA.COM/FR

Just for laughs festival

Dates : mid-July

Montreal is apparently the funniest city in the world! Come see for yourself at the largest international comedy festival in the world. It features galas, club shows, solo shows, outdoor street performances, parades, as well as film and TV show screenings.

HAHAHA.COM

WHERE TO EAT

1 ST-VIAEUR BAGEL & CAFÉ MONT-ROYAL (\$)

Montreal is widely considered to have the best bagels in the world. Each bagel is hand-rolled, boiled in honey water, and cooked in a wood fired oven. At St-Viateur Bagel & Café, you will get to enjoy the world-famous St-Viateur bagel, hand-made in the finest traditional by one of Montreal's oldest bagel bakeries, in operation since 1957.
STVIAEURBAGEL.COM/EN/

2 SCHWARTZ (\$)

Another Montreal institution, Schwartz's Deli is world-famous for its succulent smoked meat sandwiches. Founded in 1928 by a Jewish immigrant from Romania, the Hebrew deli regularly draws long lineups of customers eager to grab a quick and tasty meal. It's a must-try!
SCHWARTZSELI.COM

3 LA BANQUISE (\$)

You can't visit Quebec without trying our famous "poutine", a staple across the province since the 1950s. Poutine is a French-Canadian dish generally made of French fries and fresh cheese curds covered in gravy. There are also many variations made with other types of sauce and different garnishes such as meat, vegetables, etc. La Banquise is one of the best poutine restaurants in the province, with over 30 types of poutine to choose from. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!
LABANQUISE.COM

4 OLIVE + GOURMANDO (\$\$-\$\$\$)

Olive + Gourmando is said to have the best panini in town. This bakery and sandwich shop uses only the best quality ingredients for its breakfast and lunch menus. In addition to sandwiches, you will find



OLYMPIC STADIUM

© Stock-103337224, Vontara

a mouth-watering selection of soups, salads, fresh-baked pastries and specialty coffees.
OLIVEETGOURMANDO.COM

5 AU PIED DE COCHON (\$\$\$)

For a dining experience unlike any you have had, visit Au Pied de Cochon, the wildly popular restaurant of celebrated Quebec chef Martin Picard. People come here to eat good, festive, rich and unusual food in a casual and friendly atmosphere. You will not find a fine dining experience or a stylish décor: this is simply the city's most original restaurant, serving lavish portions of unique dishes such as foie gras poutine and lobster French fries.
AUPIEDDECOCHON.CA

6 L'AUBERGE SAINT-GABRIEL (\$\$\$)

Built by a French soldier in 1688, Auberge Saint-Gabriel was the first inn in North America to receive a liquor license, in 1754... One could say that the building is a testimony to the history of a nation! Another interesting fact: two of its three current owners are none other than Garou and Guy Laliberté. The Auberge's restaurant is

one of the trendiest spots in Montreal to enjoy fine Quebec dining and tasty market cuisine in an elegant and welcoming atmosphere.
AUBERGESAINT-GABRIEL.COM

7 CLUB CHASSE ET PÊCHE (\$\$\$)

With a solid reputation in Montreal, Club Chasse et Pêche always lives up to its high standards. You will enjoy unique dishes prepared using the finest ingredients, served in a charming retro-modern decor straight out of a late 19th-century English gentlemen's club.
LECLUBCHASSEETPECHE.COM

8 BOUILLON BILK (\$\$\$\$)

At Bouillon Bilk, whose specialty is neither soup nor bouillon,

you will be served spectacular dishes that are both delicious and beautiful to look at. The menu is short (6 starters, 5 main courses, 6 desserts), but it will transport your taste buds to creative and delightful lands.
BOUILLONBILK.COM

9 TOQUÉ! (\$\$\$\$)

If you are looking for an unforgettable culinary experience, you need to go to Toqué! Chef Normand Laprise and his team will welcome you to their legendary establishment for a gastronomical experience that you won't soon forget. The menu features products from local artisans, carefully prepared with flare and creativity.
RESTAURANT-TOQUE.COM

MICROBREWERIES

Montreal abounds in good places to taste excellent craft beers. Here are some of our favorite microbreweries in the city:

- **Harricana** (brasserieharricana.com)
- **Broue Pub Brouhaha** (brouepubbrouhaha.com)
- **Saint-Bock** (saintbock.com)
- **4 Origines** (4origines.com)
- **Pit Caribou Montréal** (pitcaribou.com/nos-pubs/pub-de-montreal)
- **Terrasse St-Ambroise** (mcauslan.com)