

ABITIBI

Abitibi is a vast region in western Québec whose history is intimately linked to the exploitation of its abundant natural resources. You will find lush forests and fish-filled lakes and rivers, as well as mining landscapes, picturesque villages and vibrant cities such as Rouyn-Noranda and Val-d'Or. Its proud, friendly people are sure to charm you. While you're in the area, try some of the region's excellent craft beers!



SUNSET ON ROUYN-NORANDA



VIEW ON ROTARY TOWER

© WikiCommons, Charette Eliobio

WHAT TO DO

VAL-D'OR ★

The City of Val-d'Or, in the heart of Abitibi, is the **gateway to the region**. Founded in the early 1920s following the **discovery of significant gold deposits** in the area, its name («Valley of Gold») reflects its origins as a bustling gold-rush town. The settlement quickly attracted prospectors dreaming of wealth and eager to try their luck. Come summer, the city comes alive to the light of the neon signs of its many saloons, bars and restaurants.

BELVEDERE PARK AND ROTARY TOWER

The **Rotary Tower** is in Val-d'Or's **Belvedere Park**. Rising 18 metres over the forest, the tower offers an **all-encompassing view of the Vallée-de-l'Or**. In addition, you will notice ten **pit head frames**, the structures used for the extraction of ore. You will also see several large **lakes** that feed the **Harricana River**, the 2nd-longest navigable river in Canada. On a clear day, you can even make out the chimneys of Horne Smelter in Rouyn-Noranda! Admission is free.

CORNER OF BOULEVARD DES PINS AND SABOURIN, VAL-D'OR
WWW.TOURISME-ABITIBI-TEMISCAMINGUE.ORG/ACTIVITE-ATTRAIT/PARC-BELVEDERE/129/

MINING VILLAGE OF BOURLAMAQUE - CITÉ DE L'OR

La Cité de l'Or ('City of Gold') is a **historic site** that will plunge you into the heart of the exploitation of a gold mine. The **Mining Village of Bourlamaque** was formerly administered by Lamaque Mine, one of the main employers in the region. The mine shaft, hospital, residence of the mine

executives and the log cabins that housed the miners are still intact. In addition to a **tour of the mining village** (with or without a guide), the site offers several other activities: descent into an authentic mining tunnel **300 feet underground**, a tour of four **Old Lamaque Mine** buildings, permanent **exhibits** and a geocaching **rally**. Open Wednesday-Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. from mid-June to late August (reduced hours in low season).
90, AVENUE PERRAULT, VAL-D'OR
819-825-1274
WWW.CITEDELOR.COM/FR/INDEX.CFM



Family

★ Noteworthy ★★ Worth the detour ★★★ Must see

ROUYN NORANDA

Located on the most **mineral-rich portion of the Cadillac Fault**, Rouyn-Noranda is the regional capital of Abitibi. Also known as the National Copper Capital, it has attracted prospectors from its very beginnings. Today the city is also home to a thriving artistic community. Despite the visual impact of the mining industry, you will find beautiful parks and flowery gardens.

MUSÉE D'ART DE ROUYN-NORANDA (MA)

The **MA** art museum acts as a veritable **cultural centre**, presenting **major exhibitions** and playing an active role in developing the **visual arts** in Abitibi. Sensitive to the reality of the **First Nations** who live on the territory, it maintains special links with their artists whose stand out for their striking originality. The museum features a **cafe and a gift shop** with local handicrafts. Admission is free. Open from early June to late August, Friday-Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Reduced hours in low season.

201, AVENUE DALLAIRE,
ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-6600
WWW.MUSEEMA.ORG

HORNE SMELTER

The Horne smelter opened in 1927 at the site of the Horne mine, a few years after the **discovery of a copper deposit in 1923**. By the time the mine closed in 1976, miners had extracted close to **54 million metric tons of copper, gold and silver ore**. A visit to this custom copper smelter will teach you all the **secrets of copper transformation**. Guided tours from late June to mid-August, every day at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Children under 12 are not admitted. Pants



© WikiCommons, Mathieu Pelletier

OSISKO LAKE, ROUYN-NORANDA

MURAL IN HONOUR OF RICHARD DESJARDINS

In 2018, the city of Rouyn-Noranda commissioned a collective mural paying tribute to the city's beloved native son, **singer-songwriter Richard Desjardins**. The images were inspired by the landscapes of the region and the lyrics of the poet's songs. At **165 metres** long, it is the **second-largest mural in Canada**. It is on the south wall of the Boulevard Rideau viaduct.

and closed shoes are required. Admission is free.

101, AVENUE PORTELANCE,
ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-7764
WWW.FONDERIEHORNE.CA

CYCLING AT LAKE OSISKO

In Rouyn-Noranda, you can borrow a bicycle **free** for 2 hours (\$5 per additional hour) and cycle the **8.4-km** bike path around **Lake Osisko**. This easy, enjoyable ride will let you discover the residential areas,

nature and industrial side of the city. The booth is open every day during the summer starting in late May, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
191, AVENUE DU LAC,
ROUYN-NORANDA / 819-880-0446
WWW.VELOCITERN.ORG

NEARBY

VAL D'OR

MALARTIC MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM ★

Located in the town of Malartic, this museum showcases the **geological and mining heritage** of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region. It houses **exhibitions, collections** (don't miss the impressive **display of rocks, minerals and fossils**), interactive games and several other interesting features such as an **earthquake simulator, fairy stones, an actual lunar rock, splendid gold nuggets** and more. Open Tuesday-Friday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

650, RUE DE LA PAIX,
MALARTIC
819-757-4677
WWW.MUSEEMALARTIC.QC.CA/FR/
INDEX.CFM

BELVÈDÈRE DE MALARTIC

This scenic viewpoint right next to the museum offers an **impressive view of the Canadian Malartic Mine**. On one side you will see the town of Malartic and on the other, **the largest open-pit gold mine in North America**. The contrast is striking. If you are travelling with children, you can also pay a visit to the adjacent **park** to enjoy the water games, playground and picnic areas. Open everyday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is free.
RUE FRONTENAC, MALARTIC

ROUYN-NORANDA

PARC AVENTURE JOANNÈS

Located on the shores of Lac Joannès, this **adventure park** promises a day of fun for the whole family. Will you dare to try the **Arbre en Arbre aerial park** (ages 7 and over)? In addition to the **treetop adventure course**, other activities available at the site include a **huge maze, a giant baby-foot game, mini-golf in**

the forest, hiking and mountain bike trails. A real life-sized nature playground! Open from late June to the end of August, Wednesday-Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and weekends in low season from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Reservation recommended.

10 068, CHEMIN DE L'AVEVENTURE,
ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-8867
WWW.PARCAVENTUREJOANNES.COM

PARC NATIONAL D'AIGUEBELLE ★

About 50 km north-east of Rouyn-Noranda you will find the magnificent **Aiguebelle Park**, loyal custodian of a rich natural and cultural heritage. This exceptional protected area offers tranquility and beautiful scenery. Several hiking trails lead to a **suspended bridge across**

a gigantic fault, a huge spiral staircase erected alongside an **impressive escarpment**, to the **top of the Abijévis hills** or to a **fire watchtower**. You can see traces of **glaciers** and ancient **lava flows**, watch **birds** and **wildlife**, or do some **canoeing**,

kayaking or **fishing**. Equipment rental is available on-site. The park is open year-round.

12 373, ROUTE D'AIGUEBELLE,
ROUYN-NORANDA
819-637-7322
WWW.SEPAQ.COM/PQ/AIG/INDEX.
DOT?LANGUAGE_ID=2

PARC NATIONAL D'AIGUEBELLE ★

Season : The park is open year-round, but the period during which services are available varies according to sector.

Visitor centres :

- The **Mont-Brun Discovery and Visitors Centre** (located on Route Aiguebelle 2, 5 km from the park entrance) is open daily from late June to early September, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., with reduced hours in low season.
- The **Taschereau Visitors Centre** (located on Montée d'Aiguebelle) is open from early June to mid-September, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. with reduced hours in low season and is closed from mid-September until early June.

Entry fee : \$9.00/adult/day and free for youth aged 17 and under.

www.sepaq.com/pq/aig



PARC NATIONAL D'AIGUEBELLE

© WikiMedia, Félix Gaudreault

NOTICE TO HIKERS



Several kilometres of trails crisscross the region. Access to the trails is free throughout the summer season.

La Forêt récréative, Val-d'Or
The trails of this recreational forest are popular with mountain bikers, runners, hikers and berry pickers. The **Agnico Eagle** trail offers an easy 2-km loop through the forest.
179, chemin de la Forêt-Récréative, Val-d'Or
819-824-1333 poste 4290
www.ville.valdor.qc.ca/culture-sports-loisirs/activites/foret-recreative

Mountt Kekeko, Rouyn-Noranda
The 15 marked hiking trails through the Kekeko hills offer something for everyone. The **Nid de l'épervier** observation tower provides spectacular **360-degree views**. To reach the tower, take the **Réflacteur** trail (difficult) or **Prospecteurs** trail (intermediate).
www.cegepat.qc.ca/sitekekeko/index.html

Alembert Hills, Rouyn-Noranda
In the heart of the Alembert district, 20 minutes from downtown Rouyn-Noranda, you can **enjoy nature** along the rustic trails of the Alembert Hills. The trails offer **wildlife interpretation panels** and **bird-watching** opportunities.
Rue Harrison, Rouyn-Noranda
819-797-0007
www.collinesdalembert.org

Opasatica trails in Montbeillard, near Rouyn-Noranda
Three trails offer beautiful scenery with views of **Lake Opasatica** and cross an exceptional forest ecosystem of **large pine, spruce, cedar and yellow birch**.
Route 101 Sud, chemin de la Baie verte (28 km de Rouyn-Noranda)
www.arbofajapi.com/Opasatica/index.htm



FOUNTAIN ON THE SHORE OF OSISKO LAKE

FESTIVALS

Festival de musique émergente (FME)

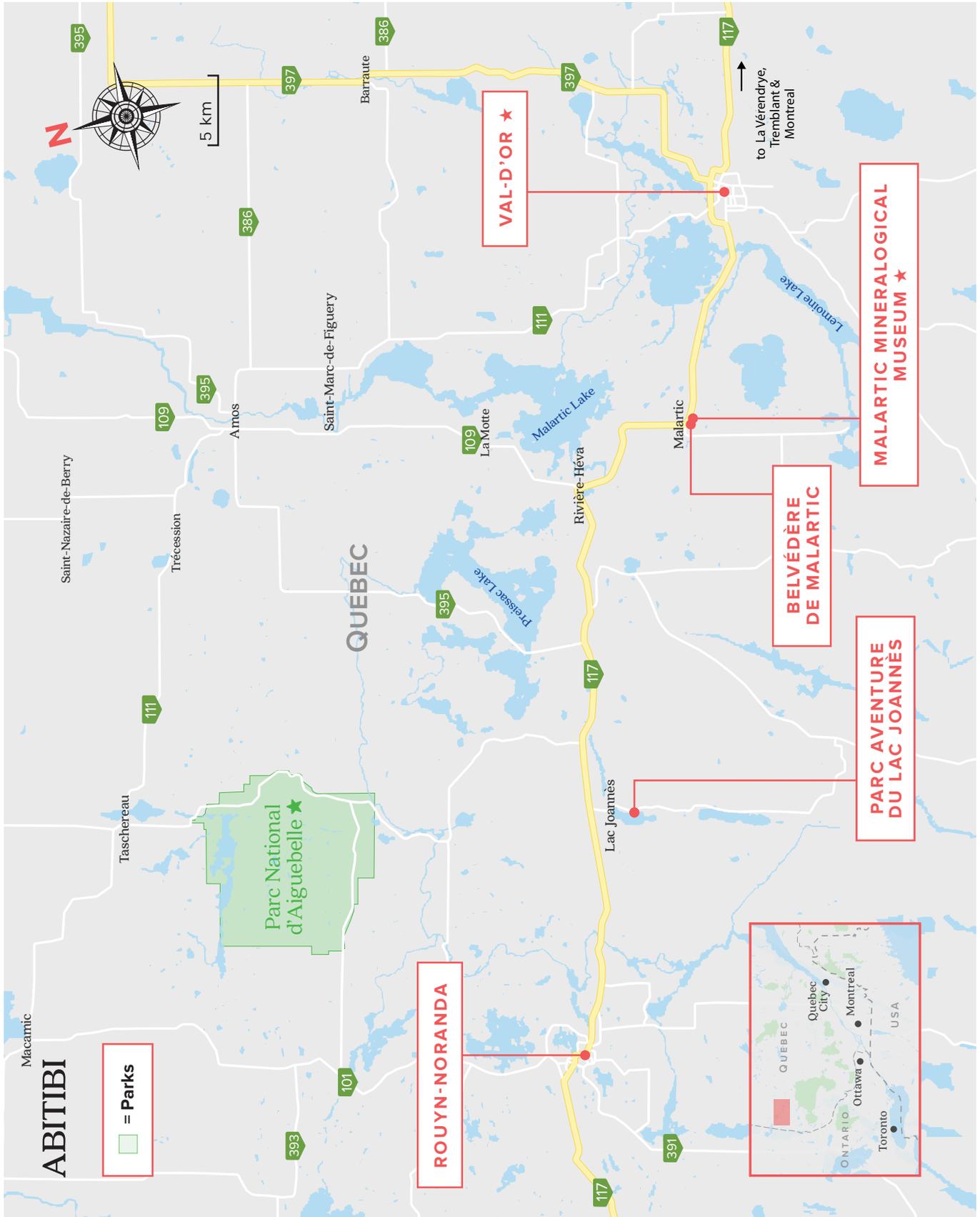
Dates : Early September 2022
In Rouyn-Noranda, the mission of the FSE is to promote original, emerging musicians nationally and

internationally by encouraging the distribution of their music. It offers a variety of musical experiences including outdoor concerts, intimate shows, theme evenings, and more. Performances take place in different venues across the city, and on an outdoor stage on 7^e Rue.
www.fmeat.org

Osisko en Lumière

Dates : Early August 2022
Every month of August, Osisko en lumière lights up the sky of Rouyn-Noranda. For three days of festivities, three fireworks shows are presented by professional fireworks teams, as well as nine outdoor concerts from

international-caliber artists. A unique event in an enchanting setting, that you won't want to miss if you're in the area at the right time.
www.osiskoenlumiere.com



ABITIBI
Macamic
= Parks

ROUYN-NORANDA

VAL-D'OR ★

BELVÈDÈRE DE MALARTIC

PARC AVENTURE DU LAC JOANNES

MALARTIC MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM ★



WHERE TO EAT

VAL-D'OR

1 CHOCO-MANGO (\$\$)

This chocolatier was founded in 2001 by Olga Coronado Mijangos, an entrepreneur from Guatemala. Passionate about prestige chocolate, she crafts all her products by hand, with a focus on excellence. Open from early May to mid-September, Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 10 p.m. Reduced hours in off-season.

664, 3^e AVENUE, VAL-D'OR
819-824-4080
WWW.CHOCO-MANGO.CA

2 LE PROSPECTEUR (\$-\$\$\$)

This microbrewery is the perfect place to enjoy a good craft beer, brewed on site, and a meal among friends. In addition to a wide selection of beers, you can try apple ciders and kombuchas. Also serves tasty bistro fare. A lively atmosphere and regular events such as comedy shows and live music. Open Monday-Saturday from 4 p.m.

585, 3^e AVENUE, VAL-D'OR
819-874-3377
WWW.MICROLEPROSPECTEUR.CA

3 BAR-BISTRO L'ENTRACTE (\$\$\$\$)

L'Entracte serves refined bistro cuisine with an emphasis on product freshness and presentation. The menu changes twice a year with the seasons. House specialties include sushi and chalkboard specials. You will enjoy the unique lounge atmosphere and music shows featuring an interesting lineup of artists. Don't hesitate to join in the party and live it up into the wee hours: you'll be able to say that you truly experienced Abitibi! The kitchen is open every

evening except Sundays from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., and Fridays until 11 p.m. in the summer.
139, AVENUE PERREAULT, VAL-D'OR
819-825-9078
WWW.BARBISTROLENTRACTE.COM

ROUYN-NORANDA

4 LE TRÈFLE NOIR (\$)

Le Trèfle Noir opened its doors in 2009. At the time, it was the first craft brewery in Abitibi to have a tasting room on the premises. Following the company's success and a growing demand, a microbrewery was created in 2012. Today the brew pub offers a dozen beers, selected from among more than fifty constantly changing recipes. Also serves a bistro menu. Open Monday-Thursday from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m. and Friday-Saturday from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m., with shows some evenings.

145, AVENUE PRINCIPALE, ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-6611
WWW.LETREFLENOIR.COM

5 CHEZ MORASSE (\$)

This legendary spot is a local institution. Their mission is to serve the «best poutine in the world». You be the judge! One thing is certain, you will find lots of choices and flavours of this iconic Quebec dish, which you simply must try. Open Tuesday-Sunday from 10 a.m. to midnight.

110, 9^e RUE, ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-6666
WWW.CHEZMORASSE.CA

6 LE CACHOTTIER (\$-\$\$\$)

This trendy little bistro is simply charming, with impeccable service and a varied, delicious menu. The house specialties include good tartares and tapas to share. They also offer a nice

wine list and Trèfle Noir draft beers. Patio dining available in summer. Open Tuesday-Saturday from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. (may vary depending on demand).

143, AVENUE PRINCIPALE, ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-3551
WWW.LECACHOTTIER.COM

7 BOULANGERIE-PÂTISSERIE LE ST-HONORÉ (\$-\$\$\$)

This French bakery / patisserie offers a wide array of artisanal fresh-baked goods. In addition to delicious bread, pastries and desserts, they have a breakfast and lunch menu featuring an interesting selection of sandwiches, takeout options and, some say, the best coffee in town. Open Tuesday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

92, RUE PERREAULT EST, ROUYN-NORANDA / 819-764-9909
LE-ST-HONORE.MYSHOPIFY.COM

8 HORIZON THAI (\$-\$\$\$)

Horizon Thai is a popular avant-garde restaurant whose mission is to serve fusion Asian cuisine combining styles, origins and flavours. Drawing inspiration from Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and even North American cuisine, the daring menu is offered in a casual atmosphere. Memorable experience guaranteed. Open Tuesday and Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

108, AVENUE PRINCIPALE, ROUYN-NORANDA
819-762-4060
WWW.HORIZONTHAI.CA

*** Hours may vary***

REGIONAL FLAVOURS

With its abundant nature and fertile soils, Abitibi abounds in culinary delicacies that are sure to seduce your taste buds. **Fine cheeses, goat cheeses, charcuteries, fish, pastries, jams, chocolate, craft beer...**

Throughout your stay, be sure to sample the local specialties: after all, new gastronomical experiences are a part of any great vacation!.



GOLD VEIN IN THE QUARTZ, MALARTIC

© WikCommons-17017391500, James St-John

