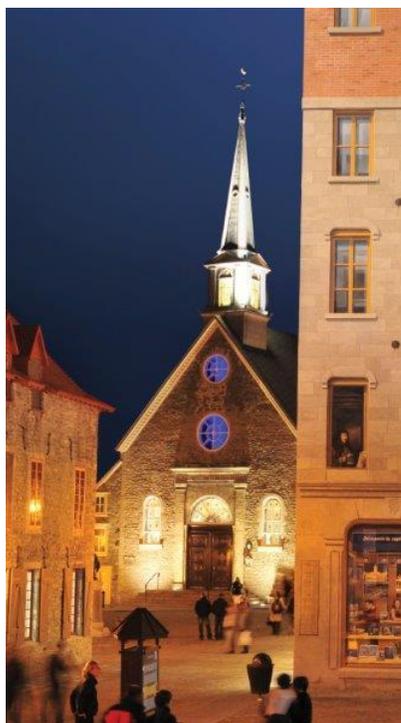




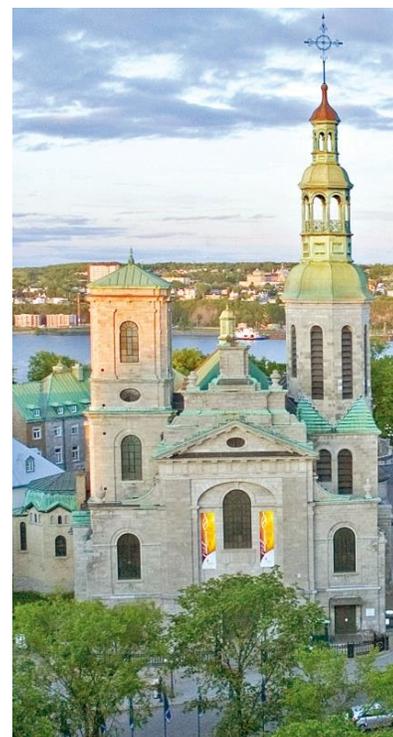
Québec, Beautiful and Spiritual

Québec City is the heart of the continent's oldest Catholic parish in North America and home to the first Anglican cathedral outside of the British Isles. The Québec City area not only has more of the province's classified religious heritage than anywhere else, it harbours the continent's oldest Catholic pilgrimage site outside of Mexico. An incredible wealth of religious diversity can be felt in more than 130 churches, 20 conventual chapels, 2 cathedrals and 2 basilicas, all of which bear witness to the many origins that colonized the region.



Day 1

This morning, familiarize yourself with Québec City and discover our religious history through a guided tour by the **Religious Heritage and Tourism Corporation of Québec**, an organism specialized with the animation, interpretation and enhancement of the religious heritage of the Québec City region. Discover the most emblematic churches of Old Québec: the historical **Notre-Dame-des-Victoires Church**, the majestic **Notre-Dame de Québec Basilica-Cathedral**, the bicentennial **Holy Trinity Cathedral** and the elegant **Neo-Gothic Chalmers-Wesley Church**. The corporation's guided tours include exclusive access to the Holy Trinity's jube, to the Queen's Seat and the steeple or to the interior of the Chalmers-Wesley United-Church's famous Casavant organ, to name a few. www.patrimoine-religieux.com



This afternoon, take part in the celebrations of the **350th anniversary of Notre-Dame de Québec**, the mother Roman Catholic parish of Canada and the United States. The 350th anniversary celebrations take place from December 2013 to December 2014, and will have three main sections:

- ▶ The **Jubilee**: a year of grace to appreciate what life gives us, to celebrate it and to project us into the future.
- ▶ The **Pilgrimage**: a journey of faith following in the path of our ancestors whose lives traced and marked history. The pilgrimage will offer three possibilities: two hours, four hours and six hours.
- ▶ The **Holy Door** (the only Holy Door of the Americas): a passage that leads to inner peace.
www.notredamedeQuebec.org



Day 2

This morning, head towards Côte-de-Beaupré and enter the fascinating world of the **Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Shrine**, the most popular religious site in the province. The Shrine has been welcoming people from all walks of life for over 350 years. This renowned pilgrimage site, dedicated to Saint Anne, the grandmother of Jesus, is visited by nearly a million people every year!

- ▶ Visit the gorgeous **Basilica**: a fire destroyed the first one in 1922, the construction of the present Basilica began the following year, inspired by great Roman cathedrals. Its central vault is completely covered with a series of mosaics dedicated to Saint Anne. An ensemble of 240 stained-glass windows adorns the Basilica. They represent Christ, his apostles and disciples, as well as prophets and patriarchs who announced His coming. They also tell us of the history of devotion to Saint Anne here in the province of Québec and as it spreads throughout North America. In 1960, a major relic of Saint Anne was brought to the Shrine, as a gift from Blessed Pope John XXIII.
- ▶ Admire the magnificent mosaics of the **Chapel of the Immaculate Conception**, beautiful chapel dedicated to Mary, as well as several paintings of the Blessed and Saints of the Québec Church.

While being on the Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Site, you may also participate in the adoration, the blessings, the rosary, the confessions, the hour of meditation and candlelight procession, as well as visit:

- ▶ **Musée de Sainte-Anne**: Discover over 350 years of extraordinary devotion to Saint Anne on the Côte-de-Beaupré through a multitude of documents, ex-votos, and works of art.
- ▶ **Way of the Cross**: Recalling the Lord's Passion, these bronze statues, positioned along the hillside, gradually lead us to the very heart of our faith (closed during the winter).
- ▶ **Scala Santa or Holy Stairs** is a replica of the staircase that Jesus climbed to gain access to the Pretorium of Pontius Pilate. It is therefore a precious reminder of Our Lord's Passion (closed during winter).
www.sanctuairesainteanne.org

Located steps away from the Shrine, the **Cyclorama de Jérusalem** is one of the largest frescos in the world and has been a tourist attraction since 1895. This gigantic work measuring 14 metres high and 110 metres in circumference depicts the Crucifixion. www.cyclorama.com

This afternoon, prolong your discovery of the religious heritage of Côte-de-Beaupré. Two renowned sacred art workshops are a must-see.

- ▶ **Albert Gilles Copper Art** presents beautiful repoussé metalwork on silver and copper, including fifty scenes depicting the life of Christ, the Christorama. This workshop has provided decorations for many churches in Canada and the United States, including the Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Basilica. Guided tours are offered, as well as repoussé demonstrations, workshops and tea room. www.albertgilles.com
- ▶ At **Atelier Paré – Economuseum of Wood Sculpture** you will see the work of master sculptor Alphonse Paré whose works can be found in many churches in Québec and throughout the world, including the Vatican museum. www.atelierpare.com

On your way back to Québec City, visit one of the picturesque processional chapels in Ange-Gardien or Château-Richer and admire the riches of **Route de la Nouvelle-France** (vegetable cellars, ancestral homes, church rectories, etc.). www.cotedebeaupre.com

Just before reaching Québec City from the Beupré Coast, an unescapable stop is **Île d'Orléans**, a jewel of the Québec region. The traditional Québec countryside is preserved here, in the cradle of New France. Visitors can delight in the island's flavourful agricultural heritage nestled amid gorgeous scenery. The island has 8 churches, 6 procession chapels, 5 calvaries, 19 roadside crosses and an oratory. www.tourisme.iledorleans.com

Day 3



This morning, discover Wendake, the Huron-Wendat native reserve, and visit the charming Notre-Dame-de-Lorette Church which was built around 1730 and modeled after Santa Casa de Loreto in Italy. A small sanctuary is dedicated to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a young Christian Iroquois who was canonized in October 2012. She is the first member of the First Nations to be canonized in North America. It is also here that were found the **Treasures of the Jesuits**, a collection of objects that belonged to these missionaries, and then handed over to the Huron-Wendat in 1793. Once restored, wood sculptures, precious pieces of jewelry, antique missals, vestments and several other witnesses of the Jesuit apostolate with First Nations will be a major asset for the **Musée Huron-Wendat's** collection (opening 2014). www.tourismewendake.ca

This afternoon return to the Old City where a multitude of options awaits you:

► The **Musée des Ursulines** de Québec presents its new permanent exhibition L'Académie des demoiselles, dedicated to the education of girls. Upon their arrival from France in 1639, the Ursulines founded the first school for girls in North America. And their work continues to this day. During the summer, the Museum invites the public to discover the Garden of the Ursuline's Monastery, a hidden secret for almost four centuries, in the heart of Old Québec. The decor of the Ursulines' Chapel is recognized as one of the most beautiful carved wood ensembles in all of Québec. www.museedesursulines.com

► Immerse yourself in a high place of learning where the architecture is just as impressive as the history: the Séminaire de Québec. The seminary is home to the **Musée de l'Amérique francophone**, Canada's oldest museum. The permanent exhibit « On the Road : the Francophone Odyssey » relates the courage and vision of the French-speaking migrants who hit the trail-drawn by hope or fleeing from oppression to broaden their horizons in search of a better life in North America. Temporary exhibitions or workshops and guided tours will round out your visit. Take some time to enjoy the magnificent **Chapelle du Musée**. It contains the largest collection of relics in Canada. www.mcq.org



► **The Jesuit's Chapel** was built in 1817. Not only is it a place of worship, but it also displays a particular devotion towards Canadian martyrs such as Charles Garnier and Jean de Brébeuf. Invaluable treasures and cultural artefacts can also be found in this Chapel. Since 1992, the Jesuits have been working with La Maison Dauphine, which assists homeless youths. Furthermore, the basement of the chapel, as well as other rooms, is used to welcome troubled youths.



The Québec Region is famous for its many festivals and lively evenings! You can take a look at the list of events taking place during your stay at <http://www.quebecregion.com/en/what-to-do/events>

Here are two events you cannot miss:

Summer, Chamber Music in Sainte-Pétronille. www.musiquedechambre.ca

Autumn, Québec Festival of Sacred Music. www.imsq.ca