

Great Explorations



Trip Dates

2012

September 10-15

2013

September 9-14

Self-guided and custom trips also available and can start any day. Call or email for details.

Trip Size

8-12 participants

Total Days:

6 days/ 5 nights

Arrive/Depart:

North Hatley/Eastman

Activity Level:

16 km (10 miles) daily average

Terrain:

Mostly level ground with opportunities for moderate and challenging hills

Quebec, Walking Eastern Townships

Travel back in time and take in the old-world flavour of Quebec's Eastern Townships. In the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, uncover the delights of charming French villages, lush green valleys, enchanted woods, and idyllic farmland. The cross-Quebec Route Verte, abandoned rail lines and forested pathways will lead you from stately Victorian Mansions to captivating covered bridges to the underground labyrinth of one of Canada's oldest copper mines. Hunt for that one-of-a-kind memento in the shops and artists' galleries you encounter along the way. Embrace the region's storied past and culture in one of many scenic villages; enjoy your nights in cozy accommodations and remember to sample the finest in local cuisine. The romance of this landscape is sure to leave you with a lasting impression.

Itinerary



Getting there :

North Hatley (about 120 km east from Montreal): It is possible to reach Montreal by air from all major Canadian cities and most major American cities. A transfer from Montréal to the tour start can be arranged.

If travelling by car from the United States, North Hatley is only a 1-hour drive north of the Vermont / Canada border via Interstate 5.

DAY 1:

North Hatley - Arrive in North Hatley. If you arrive early enough, take some time to explore the town and take in the verdant beauty that made this area immediately attractive as a summer get-away for the wealthy. Wander down streets lined with stately Victorian mansions once owned by well-to-do southerners who preferred the Townships as a summer retreat following the American Civil War. It is said that many drew the blinds of their railway cars as they passed through New England, which they commonly referred to as "Yankeeland".

DAY 2:

North Hatley - Begin with a transfer out to the quiet university town of Lennoxville. Take a moment to delve into the history of the region or appreciate the work of a local artist in this culturally rich village. Your return route is an easy stroll to North Hatley along meandering river banks, through shady woods and down a forgotten rail trail. Savour the romance of the postcard-picturesque covered bridges you pass on your journey. Stop and head underground to explore Capelton Mine, one of the oldest copper mines in Canada.

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Cost

Land Cost (current year):

CAD \$1950/US \$1950
Includes 5B/2L/4D

Single Supplement:

CAD \$440/US \$440



DAY 3:

Magog - Today is quite literally a walk in the Parc (du Mont Orford, that is!). Choose the adventure that beckons you and we will look after the details. There are four alternatives, ranging from a short loop trail past lakes and lookouts to a vigorous trek over roots and rocks to a dazzling mountaintop vista. Whether you decide on the Etang, Mont Chauve, Mont Alfred-DesRochers or Pic de L'Ours walk, you will come away with a mind clear of troubles and a day full of

memories. At the end of your day you will be taken to the lively town of Magog to discover one of its many wonderful restaurants. This lively town sprang up in the late 1700s around a saw- and flour-mill. Take the time to explore the shops and boutiques of Magog.

DAY 4:

Magog - Begin your day with a trip to the beautiful and contemplative Saint-Benoît-du-Lac Abbey on the west shore of Lake Memphrémagog. Be sure to pick up a sample of the monks delightful cheeses and pies as well as a sampling of their potent apple ciders, before returning to Magog. You will then have the opportunity to explore the marsh trail along the Rivière-aux Cerises and along the north shore of Lake Memphrémagog. Keep an eye out for the legendary lake creature - Memphré, that is said to inhabit the lake.

DAY 5:

Eastman - Travel once again along the gravel pathways of the Route Verte for several kilometers as it winds its way through the Parc du Mont Orford. Traverse this extension of the Appalachian Mountain Chain, through temperate valleys covered with dense Maple forests and take in the majestic landmarks of Mount Orford and Mount Chauve. Witness the evolution of a landscape as you pass by large boulders - erratics - remnants of glaciers long forgotten. Cross the threshold of two streams and return to civilization as you finish your day in the relaxing spa town of Eastman.

DAY 6: Enjoy a final few moments at your beautiful accommodation in Eastman before departing for home or another adventure.

What's Included in the Cost of Your Trip?

- services of one or more experienced Great Explorations guides and support vehicle
- 5 nights lodging
- all breakfasts, 2 lunches, and all dinners but 1
- entrance fees for selected historical sites and museums
- detailed map and route instructions
- all baggage transportation
- all transportation from initial meeting point to final drop-off (see arrive/depart cities)

Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 5% must be charged on trips in Canada.

Please note: Final itinerary is subject to revision; any changes made are done so in an attempt to provide the best possible trip given route conditions and available services. Due to the nature of our business and exchange rates, prices are subject to change. All prices quoted are U.S. dollars but we gladly accept payment in Canadian dollars also. Due to cancellations and waiting lists, trip availability fluctuates daily. If you have any questions or would like to confirm space on this trip before making your reservation, please contact us at info@great-explorations.com or by telephone at **604.730.1247**

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Accommodations



Tapioca, North Hatley

This award winning 4-star B&B is of the most attractive in the region and features turrets, terraces, and a large veranda. All rooms have views and guests enjoy a hearty four-course breakfast. A lovely Victorian-style Heritage home, Tapioca enjoys an excellent reputation by virtue of its charm, elegance and welcoming hostess.



La Maison Drew, Magog

This beautifully restored heritage building is located downtown, steps from the theatre, art galleries, boutiques and restaurants. Each room has cozy bedding and a fireplace. Enjoy a healthy, gourmet breakfast in the solarium.



Spa Eastman, Eastman

With an international reputation for their spa treatments, Spa Eastman also offers unique and tranquil accommodations that complement the spa environment quite nicely. Spread throughout seven different pavilions, the accommodations almost form a small country village and offer something for every taste.