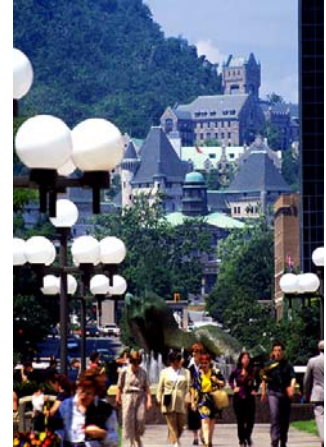


VISIT CANADA



GALVIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

UNE EXCURSION FRANÇAISE À LA VILLE DE MONTRÉAL

Sample Itinerary

DAY ONE: SUNDAY, APRIL 15

3:00pm

Depart school on a deluxe, climate-controlled and restroom-equipped motorcoach (your exact departure time may vary).

Arrive in Montréal, the second largest French speaking city in the world, and meet your VISIT CANADA guide at the [Hotel Gouverneur Place Dupuis](#).

You'll have about a half hour to check in and freshen up, then walk or transfer (depending on your exact arrival time) to **Old Montréal**, *pictured at right*.



4:00pm

Arrive at the 200-year-old Nelson Column, from which your guide will lead you on a short walking orientation tour of [Place Jacques Cartier](#) (pictured above, top left).

Bounded on the north by Montréal's distinctive City Hall and on the south by the Port of Montréal, and intersected by [rue Saint-Paul](#), the oldest street in Canada, [Place Jacques Cartier](#) is a gathering place for Montréalers and visitors who congregate there in the spring, summer and fall.

The walking tour will end with **dinner** at the *Palais des congrès*, Montréal's contemporary, glass and steel convention centre.

There, upon arrival at [Fourquet Fourchette](#), you will travel back in time to the lost era of Nouvelle France for a traditional dinner served by waiters and waitresses in costumes of the period, where you will also learn about the famous Québec [Legend of the Flying Canoe](#).



After dinner, walk via Montréal's own [World Trade Centre](#) to 1000 de la Gauchetière, an architecturally acclaimed office building in the heart of downtown Montréal.

There, in the atrium lobby of this postmodern landmark you can spend the evening [ice skating at l'Amphithéâtre de Glace](#), a 10,000 square foot ice-skating pavilion "without equal in North America".

You'll return your skates, then return to the hotel at about 9:30pm. Overnight security begins at 10:00pm.

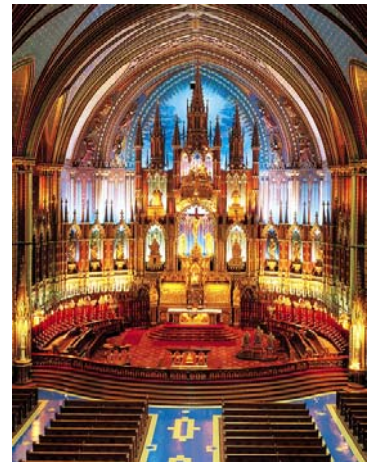
DAY TWO: MONDAY, APRIL 16

7:30am

Meet your guide in the lobby, then depart for an 8:15am breakfast at **Eggspectation**, a trendy *new* bistro-style café in *Old Montréal* that has become quite popular as much for its imaginative breakfast menu as for its eclectic architecture and décor.

9:00am

After breakfast, you'll walk to the [Notre Dame Basilica](#), the Jewel of Montréal (pictured at right), for a tour of [one of the most beautiful churches in North America](#).



9:45am

After your tour of Notre Dame, you'll transfer to an accredited downtown French language school where you will participate in a 90-minute **comparative French cultures class** (conducted by a university-degreed professional language teacher) that will familiarize you with the cultures of various French-speaking communities of the world including Quebec and France, of course, as well as Belgium, Switzerland, Louisiana, Haiti, Algeria, Tunisia, and others. (A 90-minute "Survival French" class is also an option.)


You will learn about their histories, music, literature and their cuisines, and through **listening, speaking, reading and writing activities**, you will leave the classroom with a greater understanding of the linguistic similarities and differences that exist between the French languages of these communities.

11:30am

Board your bus and transfer to **Place Montréal Trust**, "*le coeur de Montréal*", where you will descend into the vast Underground City. There, upon arrival, you will be free for an early lunch on your own at one of the many European-style fast-food restaurants in the food court, then spend the early afternoon practicing your French in "*la ville souterraine*," a 39-kilometer network of underground shops and passageways.

12:30pm	Meet the bus on McGill College Street and depart for the Village of Lachine, the site of the Lachine Rapids that halted Jacques Cartier's 1541 exploration up the Saint Lawrence River, forcing his landing on the island that would become Montréal.
1:00pm	Upon arrival in Lachine (at about 1:00pm), time permitting, your guide will point these rapids out to you.
1:30pm	Then, (at 1:30pm) you will be introduced to the quintessentially Canadian sport of curling , " <i>the art of the stone and the broom</i> " (pictured at right).
3:30pm	After your curling lesson, board the bus and depart for a short visit to St-Joseph's Oratory (en route to an evening in the country.)
4:45pm	Depart for la Sucrerie de la Montagne , and a memorable evening of French-Canadian folklore where, upon arrival, you will be driven to the sugar shack, a 100-year old restored barn large enough to welcome 600 guests, in a hay wagon pulled by two 2000-pound Belgian horses.
6:00pm	 <p>6:00pm. After an all-you-can-eat dinner of Québécois fare, you'll learn traditional dances and folk songs, and your evening will end with a sugar-on-snow party, with real maple syrup and real snow (stored in the winter and served every day of the year).</p> <p>You will board your bus at about 9:00pm and return to the hotel.</p>
10:00pm	Overnight security services begin at 10:00pm.

DAY THREE TUESDAY, APRIL 17

8:00am	Breakfast in the hotel, then bring your bags to the lobby and place them on the bus.
9:30am	Transfer to the Parc Olympique and the Biodôme de Montréal .
10:00am	Arrive at the Parc Olympique and pause outside the Biodôme and stadium tower for a group photograph .
10:15am	<p>Upon entering the Biodôme, you will walk down a 500-meter Nature Path where, and in a matter of minutes, you'll go from a hot and moist tropical rain forest to the Antarctic, and you can see 4000 animals from 200 species including penguins (at right), parrots, puffins and piranhas, beavers, bats, and ducks, alligators, otters, and monkeys, and hundreds of others.</p> 

11:15am

Walk next door to the **Olympic Stadium**, where you will ascend 556 feet on the [funiculaire](#) to the top of the **world's tallest inclined tower** (pictured on previous page and below) for a panoramic, 50-mile view of Montréal, the St. Lawrence Seaway and the surrounding countryside.

11:30am



11:30am. On a clear day you can see all the way to the Green Mountains of Vermont and the Adirondack Mountains of New York.

12:00pm

12:00pm. Transfer back to [Place Jacques Cartier](#) or the **Eaton Center** (depending on the weather), for lunch on your own.

1:00pm

1:00pm. After lunch you'll be free for some last-minute gift shopping and picture-taking in Old Montréal or the [Montréal Underground](#) as the case may be.

2:00pm

Meet the bus and begin your journey home.

9:00pm

You'll arrive at school at about 9:00pm. (Actual arrival times will vary depending on school location and other factors.)