

The way of Québec's National Shrines

7 days / 6 nights

This unique pilgrimage on the way of Québec's National Shrines offers you an opportunity to return to the source, discovering the sites which have witnessed the faith of men and women, founders and saints, and have contributed to our national history. Live a spiritual experience punctuated with sacred music, discussions, contemplation of our religious heritage as well as views of spectacular landscapes, cultural visits, spiritual reflections and time to renew.

Day 1 Sunday

MONTREAL

Our pilgrimage will begin in **Montréal**, at the **St-Joseph's Oratory on Mont-Royal**, a jewel of Canadian heritage, founded at the beginning of the 20th century by Saint Brother André, a man of God with unshakable faith. After having climbed the stairway to the most beautiful panoramic view of Montreal, after discovering the crypt, Basilica and visiting the Votive Chapel, let us take in the sounds of music and Holy chants, which raise our spirits and inspire prayer. From the office, the Basilica resonates with the beautiful sounds of the "Maîtrise des Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal" boys' choir: a way for each of us to open our hearts and give thanks. In the afternoon, the bronze bells of the famous The Carillon respond to the majestic sounds of the world renowned Beckerath Organ of the Basilica. As the music lifts our hearts & spirits, it accompanies us in the Oratory and through the gardens from where we follow the path of the Cross for an unforgettable moment of reflection. Dinner and overnight in Montréal.



Day 2 Monday

MONTREAL – TROIS- RIVIÈRES (150 kms)

This morning, it is via the **le Chemin du Roy** that we make our way to **Trois-Rivières**: this land route is the oldest in Canada (1737) and joins the three most important cities of La Nouvelle France (Montréal, Trois-Rivières and Québec City.) This is an occasion to discover the rich heritage of the villages we will see along the way on the shores of the mighty St-Laurence River. In the afternoon, our religious exploration of **Trois-Rivières** will invite us to better understand the establishment of religious institutions in Nouvelle France, the importance of their work in the areas of education, justice and health. This visit will bring us to churches, chapels, museums and cemeteries to finish with a stop at the Cathedral of the Assumption, a unique cathedral containing stained glass by Guido Nincheri, noted as one of the most beautiful in all of Québec. It is at the Our Lady of the Cape Shrine that we end this day full of discovery with the celebration of Mass. Dinner and overnight on site.



Day 3

Tuesday

TROIS -RIVIÈRES

It is under the watchful eye of Mary, Mother of Jesus that we pass our day at the Our Lady of the Cape Shrine, the largest Marian shrine in Canada. The visit to the Little Sanctuary which is reputed to be one of the oldest churches in Canada (1720) and of the Basilica will open our eyes to two major events which occurred here: the miraculous ice bridge and the Miracle of the Eyes. We will ponder the symphony of colours, the beauty of the stained glass work of the Basilica with depict among other things, the life of Mary. Afterwards, a priest of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate will offer an enlightening conference, followed by a period of reflection on the Marian theme. The intercession prayer will be followed by a meal together on site. During the afternoon, weather permitting, enjoy free time to explore (the gardens or the Basilica) through prayer, chanting or just listening. Lunch, dinner and overnight on site.



Day 4

Wednesday

TROIS- RIVIÈRES – QUÉBEC (170 kms)

We continue our pilgrimage along the **Chemin du Roy**, on our spiritual quest, to arrive at the **Shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré**, a site dedicated to Sainte Anne, the grandmother of Jésus. Along the way, we will stop in the villages of **Deschambault-Grondines** and **Cap Santé** to admire some beautiful ancestral homes.

As a good pilgrim, be sure to carefully discover the Basilica of the **Shrine of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré** not only as a beautiful example of art and architecture, but as a place where one can accomplish the step of taking the time to center one's self and absorb the sense of peace and tranquility of the place. Following the visit of the Basilica and the Immaculate Conception Chapel we will explore the extraordinary history of Sainte Anne by way of the artistic masterpieces (paintings, mosaics, stained glass, stone and wood sculptures,) we will participate in celebration of Mass, the rosary and the path of the Cross. There will be the possibility of a torch-lit procession in the evening. Lodging will be in Old-Québec.

Day 5

Thursday

QUÉBEC – LAC-BOUCHETTE (270 kms)

This morning, explore Québec City are our own rhythm, discover this UNESCO of world heritage site according to our preferences: the citadel, the plains of Abraham, Parliament hill, the Old Champlain district, or perhaps our pilgrims will be drawn to the crypt in the Basilica Cathedral which houses the tombs of four governors of Nouvelle France and the **Church of Notre Dame des Victoires** on the Place Royale (the oldest stone church in North America!) In the afternoon, we regain our route to Lac-Bouchette to settle in at **St. Anthony's Hermitage** at the end of the day: dinner and overnight on site.

Day 6

Friday

LAC- BOUCHETTE

What a beautiful place to reset, meditate, contemplate and reflect on the messages of the past few day, The Saint-Antoine Hermitage: the beauty of the natural environment, the shores of Lac Quiatchouan, the proximity of Lac-Saint-Jean all magnify and amplify, without a doubt, the quality of the spiritual experience. Above all, try to become a part of the space in this open-air basilica which is tended by the



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Capuchin Friars Minor: Saint Antony's place, Marian chapel, Way of the Cross, Scala Santa, the museum and Miss Bouffier's boutique... all while participating in liturgical life and in the pastoral services of the Capuchin Friars. Lunch, dinner and overnight on site.

Day 7

Saturday

LAC- BOUCHETTE – MONTRÉAL (400 kms)

This morning, accompanied by Brother Sylvain, we will be hiking in the forest where we will discover or re-discover the pleasures of nature: smell, touch and taste the leaves, flowers, roots and small berries (weather permitting). This will be accompanied by a spiritual and philosophical speech based on The Canticle of the Sun (Saint Francis of Assisi).

.....Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth, who feeds us and rules us, and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs

Between lake and forest, on the path of life, the pilgrim which we have become confronts himself before his Faith, internalises and finds his place.

In the afternoon, return to **Montréal** by tour bus.

This package includes: Transportation by tour bus (From Day 2 to Day 7), 6 nights accommodation with breakfast (in 3-star hotels and religious houses), cultural, spiritual and religious activities as described in the program, admission and entry fees as outlined, 2 lunches, 5 dinners, the service of a Spiritours tour escort for the trip duration and all taxes (including the Compensation fund for customers of travel agents and airport taxes)

This package does not include: Optional activities in Québec City (Day 5), travel insurance, meals not mentioned, drinks with meals, personal expenses, tips or donations at sanctuaries.

Number of participants: Minimum of 20 participants.