



On the hillside, Quebec City's funicular ride.

QUEBEC CITY

With more than 400 years of history to its name, Quebec City, one of the oldest settlements in North America, enchants visitors with the storybook beauty of its architecture. The stone walls that surround its old quarter; the castle-like Chateau Frontenac, looming over the St. Lawrence River; the 19th-century, star-shaped Citadel fortress—all this, plus the French that's spoken nearly everywhere one turns—combine to make this the most European of North American cities.

Yet other cultures thrive here, too. In Wendake, a territory tucked within Quebec City, visitors can learn about the Huron-Wendat people, one of the indigenous tribes that were the first to call the area home. At the hotel-museum-restaurant complex Hotel-Musee Premieres Nations, storytelling, dancing and crafts highlight their fascinating heritage. So, deliciously, does the restaurant's menu, which boasts traditional foods like wild game and roasted salmon.

INSIDER TIP: From mid-December to mid-March, visitors can take advantage of what may be the cheapest thrill in town: the toboggan slide next to the Chateau Frontenac. Anyone with C\$3 and a need for speed can whoosh down it at up to 40 mph; an extra C\$2.50 supplies hot chocolate afterward. Not visiting in winter? A ride on Quebec City's funicular provides similarly lofty (if slower) thrills; for a mere C\$2.25, you can ride along a 45-degree slope between the town's upper and lower sections, soaking up great views along the way.

WHERE TO STAY



FAIRMONT LE CHATEAU FRONTENAC



The peaked turrets of this AAA Four Diamond-rated landmark rise from the historic heart of Old Quebec.

Take a stroll through the fortified colonial city, or stay in for perhaps the tastiest tour of all: a panoply of local cheeses at the hotel's 1608 Wine & Cheese Bar.



Hotel-Musee Premieres Nations

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: iSTOCK; FAIRMONT LE CHATEAU FRONTENAC; TOURISME WENDAKE

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