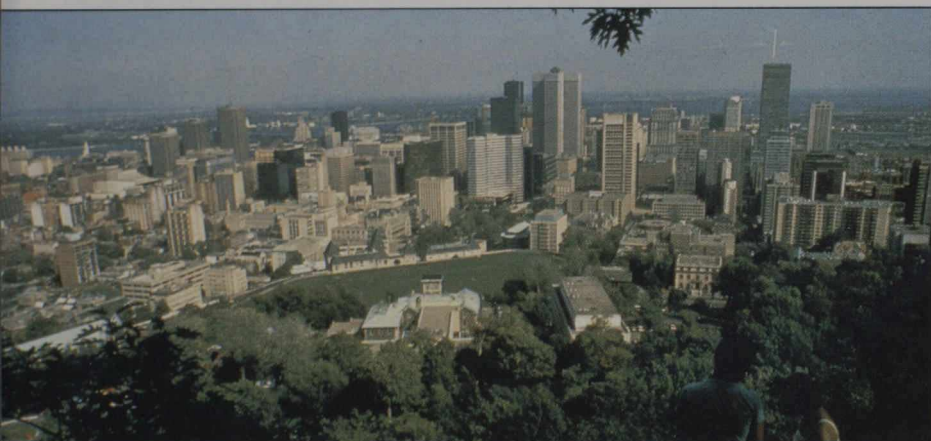


## Wide selection of holidays on offer



Montreal skyline

Last year, Canada attracted a record number of visitors from the UK, and that trend looks set to continue. As a result, tour operators specialising in Canada are now offering a wide selection of holidays, including several that feature the province of Quebec.

Travel to Quebec has never been easier or offered better value for money. There are scheduled flights direct to Montreal from both Gatwick and Heathrow. Return fares start at £318 for scheduled flights, £269 for charters. Alternatively, you can fly from your local airport to Toronto, and travel on to the Province of Quebec from there.

In fact, some package tours set off from Toronto. Canada Air Holidays, for instance, offers an 11-day Ontario and Quebec VIA Rail Tour, which takes in Niagara Falls and Ottawa, as well as Chateau Montebello, Quebec City and Montreal. The cost, including air travel, starts at £1080 (twin accommodation) or £1357 (single).

National Holidays offers a coach tour entitled 'Highlights of Ontario and Quebec', which provides a similar itinerary plus a day at the Gray Rocks mountain resort. The 12-day package starts at £1175 (twin) or £1438 (single). For people with only one week to spare, there is an unescorted 'Toronto and Montreal Explorer' tour which starts in Toronto and ends in Montreal (or vice versa). The cost - £260 (twin) or £440 (single) - includes sightseeing tours, rail travel and accommodation, but not air travel from the UK.

If you prefer an all-Quebec tour, the 'Gaspé and Quebec City Tour', operated by Canada Air Holidays in conjunction with Horizon, looks promising. The tour starts in Montreal and follows the southern shore of the St Lawrence to the Gaspé peninsula where the explorer Jacques Cartier landed in 1534. It also includes a ferry cruise along the St Lawrence and two nights at the Château Frontenac in Quebec City. The cost of this 12-day package, (including flights to and from the UK), starts at £1289 (twin) or £1478 (single).

### Opportunities for the independent traveller

Both Montreal and Quebec City are fascinating places, and it is possible to spend all or more of

your time in one or other of them. American Connections, for instance, offers a week's accommodation in Montreal, including air travel to and from the UK, for £599 (twin) or £742 (single) in the high season. An independent city-package tour from Toronto to Quebec City - offered by Canada Air - costs £182 (twin) or £228 (single) for two nights.

People who prefer a 'go as you please' holiday may well wish to hire a car. An economy car during the high season costs £121 per week from All Canada Travel and Holidays, with no mileage charge for the first 1500 kilometres. All Canada also offers self-drive tours where the components of the programme are pre-arranged and accommodation is included in the cost. A 14-day tour from Montreal costs £565 (twin) or £989 (single), UK-Canada air fare not included.

If you do not want to be tied down to hotel accommodation, why not hire a motor home? For many Canadians this is the favourite mode of transport on vacation. The vehicles come equipped with all mod cons - including hot and cold water, shower and WC - and the largest models will sleep up to six people. American Connections can provide a two-person motor home with unlimited mileage for £364 a week during the high season (July 1 to August 15). Before June 1 and after September 15, the charge is £240.

Finally, don't overlook the public carriers. Air Canada, for example, has a Flexipass (starting at £218 for four flight coupons); Greyhound Travel Passes allow unlimited travel on all routes at a cost of £68 for seven days; and the VIA Rail Canrail Pass gives you a fortnight of travelling over the whole Canadian rail network for £147.

These are only a few of the holidays available in Canada. Many other tour operators, such as Thomas Cook and Kuoni, offer a full range of holidays both in Quebec and across the country.

### Addresses:

All Canada Travel and Holidays, 90 High Street, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 1XN (0502 585825)

American Connections, 95 High Street, Burnham, Slough, Berks SL1 7JZ (06286 68061)

Canada Air Holidays, 50 Sauchihall Street, Glasgow G2 3AG (041 333 0503)

National Holidays, George House, George Street, Wakefield, W Yorks WF1 1LY (0924 383888).

Thomas Cook, PO Box 36, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SB (0733 503232)

Kuoni Travel, 33 Maddox Street, London W1 (01 499 8636)

For a full list of operators please contact:

Tourism Section, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London SW1Y 5BJ (01 629 9492)

Quebec Tourism, Agent General for Quebec, 59 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JH (01 930 8314)

