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A Tour of the City

What is the best route to take for a day's tour of the city of Montreal? This is a question that might be debated a long time and yet pass without a satisfactory answer. In the first place, even excluding all the sights dealt with at length in other chapters, such as the theatres, the parks, the harbor, etc., it would be a huge day of hard work to attempt to inspect the remaining features of Montreal. It is, therefore, proposed here merely to lay down the principal characteristics of Montreal and give the best and quickest means of throwing a good preliminary glance on the City.

First, let us say the City is divided into two parts, the East and the West, the dividing line being St. Lawrence Main street which you can easily find on the map.

The French part of the population, which is more than half of the total, occupy mainly the eastern section of the city. The Irish occupy the south west part known as Point St. Charles and the English and Scotch generally live in the western part.

The chief business streets, with the best shops and stores are St. Catherine street, St. James street, Notre Dame streets, and also St. Lawrence street, all except the latter running parallel with the River St. Lawrence.

The streets immediately adjoining the river, principally in the centre part of the city, are reserved for wholesale houses, storages, provision merchants, and business pertaining to the harbor, as marine companies etc.,

Banking, insurance, stock exchange, mining, and brokers in general are to be found south of the Post Office, on St. Francois Xavier street, St. Sacrament, Notre Dame, St. James, St. Peter, Place D'Armes, etc.

The manufactures, as a rule, are located in the extreme parts of the city, on the boundary limits, either east or west.