

QUEBEC

Quebec City, capital of the Province of Quebec, was founded in 1608 by the famous French explorer, Samuel de Champlain. Strategically located at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and St. Charles Rivers, it eventually became the centre for all types of activity in French North America; and, after its capture by the British in 1759, the city continued to be an important administrative centre. In 1864, it was the site of the second conference of the Fathers of Confederation, the anniversary of which is now being celebrated. The resolutions agreed upon at the conference formed the basis of the British North America Act which brought about the federal union of the Provinces of British North America. During the last war, in the years 1943 and 1944, Quebec became the site of the historic meetings between Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt, where the D.-Day invasion and much of the strategy and administration of the war were planned.

Many of the buildings in Québec date from the French period, with the oldest part of the city to be found around and below the Chateau Frontenac hotel.

Notre Dame des Victoires Church, built in 1688 and located below Dufferin Terrace, commemorates the unsuccessful British attacks on Quebec of 1690 and 1711. The Basilica, partially destroyed by fire on two occasions in its long history, dates back to 1647. The seminary was founded in 1663 by Monsignor de Laval, first Bishop of Québec. Laval University, Quebec's famous institute of higher learning, is an outgrowth of the seminary and now boasts a new and beautiful campus not far from the famous Quebec Bridge. The Citadel, together with the walls encircling the upper town, make Quebec the only remaining fortified city in North America.