

COURIER

travel  exchange '16

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 **NTA**

CITY SPOTLIGHT

Québec City

COMPILED BY PENNY WHITMAN

“Québec City is a living museum. It is the birthplace of French heritage in North America and remains culturally rich with a blend of British and French influences to this day. Our military history speaks volumes about Québec, Canada and the United States, and our religious history had a foundational role in our educational and healthcare systems.”

—Nancy Dacres, Québec City Tourism

To learn more about packaged tourism product in Québec City, reach out to Nancy Dacres at nancy.dacres@quebecregion.com or go to the travel trade pages at quebecregion.com.



We Know It's Not Europe

Québec City Tourism's Nancy Dacres shared that Québec City was named in Lonely Planet's Best-value Destinations for 2016. "You want to visit Europe, but lack the time and funds?" writes Lonely Planet's Tom Hall. "Consider Québec City. Yes, we know it's not in Europe. But there's enough of the exotic in this Francophone city to remind you of the Old Continent. In a few days you can tour the beautiful UNESCO-listed old town, dine in old-school bistros and get thoroughly lost in the timeless cobblestone streets."



Stay in a Restored Cloister

Québec City Tourism is enthusiastic about the city's newest hotel, Le Monastère des Augustines, which opened in August. It offers a unique holistic health experience and immersion into the rich heritage of the Augustines. With 65 rooms, this property is ideal for small groups and FIT clientele with a health and wellness focus. Features include a restaurant and museum in a building that served as North America's first hospital north of Mexico. monastere.ca/en



The Holy Door Reopens Dec. 12

Faith-based tourism has always been a natural segment for Québec City with the Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Shrine as well as the Anglican and Catholic cathedrals. In 2014, The Notre Dame de Québec Basilica celebrated its 350th anniversary with the opening of the only Holy Door in North America. These days, Québécois and faith-oriented visitors are focused on the Jubilee Year of Mercy in 2016. The Holy Door will remain open until Nov. 13, 2016. More than 300,000 pilgrims entered through the Holy Door in 2014, and Québec City Tourism expects 2016 to be another busy year. quebecshrines.com

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Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec Expansion Opening 2016

The MNBAQ complex will soon open its new world-class building that combines art, architecture and nature. Eight new galleries will showcase the museum's collection of post-1960 Québec contemporary art, including Inuit art, decorative art and design. Major international exhibitions are planned as well as numerous cultural activities. mnbaq.org/en

Personalized Walking Tour App

Trails of Old Québec is a new mobile app that creates a personalized walking tour that can be tailored to one's interests and time available. The free app, available from Apple's App Store and on Google Play, can be downloaded before a visit, so users don't need connectivity during the tour. 📱



Contact '16, NTA's annual tour operator retreat, takes place in Québec City, Aug. 25-27, and registration opens January 2016. Find out more at ntaonline.com.