



Experience Holidays

The Art of Travel

Experienced Eye – Canadian City Breaks

City breaks are a great get-away year round, and Canadian cities are no exception. Whether your ideal break is for history and culture, the Arts, sightseeing, fine wines and dining or for a little retail therapy, Canadian cities have it all. The cities of the East – Montreal and Toronto – rival their American neighbours for their variety of accommodation and shopping, whilst the cities of Atlantic Canada provide a complete change of scene, and a far more laid-back outlook. A little further a field are Calgary and Vancouver – a longer flight, but making up for this in style and ambience.

Getting there: Air Canada offers direct services to its gateway cities of Halifax in Nova Scotia, Montreal and Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver – the latter four being daily services. British Airways also offers direct flights to Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, and with the chartered aircraft of Air Transat, Thomas Cook Airlines and My Travel, and internet based Zoom, the choice is almost complete. In-direct services through the States are also an option, although perhaps not quite so convenient for a short break. We will advise on the best option for you, just pick up the phone, or email us with your enquiry

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Let's take a quick tour around our favourites

St John's, Newfoundland – we have to confess to Newfoundland being rather a favourite in this office – this tiny city huddled around its natural harbour is reminiscent of a Cornish port, or perhaps a Scottish seaside town. But there's more to St Johns than meets the eye. Fishing was the main occupation here for many years, and the colourful houses of the old town follow in the tradition of their fishermen owners. Fishermen would use any remaining paint from the upkeep of their precious fishing boats to paint their homes – hence the array of bright weatherboard residences we see today. The main street comes alive on Saturday evening with entertainment coming from all corners of the earth – Saturday night is the time to enjoy yourselves, whether in an Irish bar, or a contemporary restaurant – its all here. Visit also the Johnson's Geo-centre for a fascinating insight into the geology of this Island (incidentally, Newfoundland is the size of the UK) together with the well-known tragicstory of the Titanic. See our Atlantic Canada Experienced Eye for further ideas in Atlantic Canada



Montreal has firmly earned its place on the favourites list – the major gate-way city to Quebec Province. A cosmopolitan city with a distinct French flavour, a warm welcome awaits here even on the chilliest of winter days. The Quebecois people delight in their visitors, speaking with their lovely French-Canadian drawl, welcoming short and long break visitors with equal enthusiasm. Modern Montreal is alive and vibrant, but the historic port and old city are only a few blocks away, giving a fascinating contrast between the old and the new. Take a city tour, to include the Olympic Village, F1 Motor racing circuit, and the intriguing residential quarter - the wrought iron balconies need to be seen to be believed. The view from the top of Mont Royale should not be missed, with its vistas across the city to the mighty St Lawrence – see our Eastern Canada and Quebec Experienced Eye's for further ideas

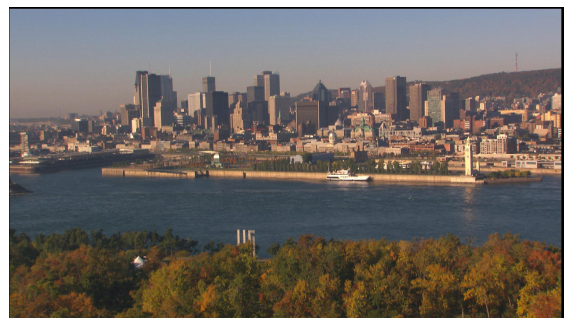


Photo credit C Parent and Quebec Tourism

Toronto is the next stop on our journey west, and with multiple flights from the UK on a daily basis – a 7 hour flight - is a very real alternative to the Big Apple. Toronto is a city of many faces – a vibrant multi-cultural mix, with shopping and eating options to suit every taste. The city centre is small, and easy to navigate on its grid system, and the subway service offers an easy link to the outer areas. The Royal Ontario Museum is a must, as is the Hockey Hall of Fame – and why not take in a show at one of many theatres. The choice of hotels crosses the board, from modest to luxury,



Photo courtesy of Toronto Tourism

and plenty in between. **Niagara Falls** is a few hours drive out of the city around the shores of the Lake – take a day tour from the city to this extraordinary natural feature – winter or summer, this never ceases to delight.

Calgary is next on the list – the major city of Alberta and gateway to the Canadian Rockies. A short break to this western city should include a visit to the little mountain towns of Banff and Lake Louise – a short-break ski trip is a very real possibility, perhaps taking in an ice hockey match at the Saddle Dome.

Vancouver is our final stop – Canada’s major city on the west coast, although perhaps surprisingly, not its Capital city. Vancouver is a neat little city, described by one client as the ‘Bath of Canada’. The city clings to the shore between the Coast Mountains and the water – a short flight by floatplane gives a birdseye view – take a city tour to include the Totem Poles and Aquarium of Stanley Park, trendy Granville Island, Robson Street, English Bay and Canada Place. Take the cable car to the top of Grouse Mountain, and don’t miss the Capilano Suspension Bridge – if you have a head for heights! Again here, a variety of accommodation to suit every taste and pocket – or visit Vancouver as the start or end to a Western Canada adventure – see our Western Canada Experienced Eyes for further ideas



Photos courtesy of Vancouver Tourism/Al Harvey

So why book with us? At Experience Holidays we pride ourselves on our high standard of service and attention to detail. With many years experience, our widely travelled staff aim to offer you a holiday that not only fits, but also exceeds your expectations. We offer value for money, not necessarily looking for the cheapest, but the best option for you. We would like to help you buy a dream, not simply sell you a holiday.

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