

OTTAWA & MONTREAL: A Capital Tour

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

Day 1: Depart for the nation's capital, **Ottawa**. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel. En route, enjoy a **panoramic city tour** including Sussex Drive, one of the oldest streets in Ottawa and home to the official residence of the **Prime Minister of Canada**. Also located on Sussex Drive is Rideau Hall, the home of the Governor General of Canada, Every Governor General since the Confederation in 1867 has lived and worked in this stately building. Additional sites of interest include the National Peace Monument, Gatineau Park, Rockcliffe Park, the Terry Fox Statue and more!

Day 2: Today enjoy a guided tour of the **Center Block of Parliament** – the veritable “center stage” of Canadian democracy. Follow your tour with a self-guided visit to the **Peace Tower observation** for a spectacular view of the grounds, and a stop at the Memorial Chamber which houses a special collection of books commemorating those Canadians who perished in war. Visit the Public Galleries to watch the **Senate** and/or **House of Commons** sit if they are in session. Listen to an audio guide on handsets. Make your way to **Confederation Square**, one of the centerpieces of the Parliament Hill area and home to the National War Memorial. The beautiful granite arch honors the legacies of the 66,651 Canadian men and women who died in World War Later this afternoon, visit **Rideau Hall** for a guided tour of the magnificent residence and gardens, and wander through the grounds.



Day 3: Visit the **Canadian Museum of Civilization**. The museum aims to promote understanding between the various cultural groups that comprise Canadian society. Visit Laurier House commemorating Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King. The Rideau Canal has been in operation since the 19th century. During the winter months, the **Rideau Canal** serves as the world's largest naturally frozen skating rink. The locks, allowing boats to travel both uphill and downhill, are operated today by hand crank in much the same way as when they first opened in 1832. Visit the Canal. This evening shop Rideau Center, Ottawa's premier shopping destination.



Day 4: Visit the **Canadian War Museum** presenting Canada's military past and how it shaped the country. Learn about Canada's rich military history from the earliest times to present. Visit the Supreme Court of Canada, not only one of Canada's most historic buildings, but also the ideal place to learn about the roles and responsibilities of the judicial system. If court is in session, it may be possible to sit in on an actual hearing of an appeal. Visit one of Canada's oldest and largest public market, colorful and historic, **ByWard Market**. Browse through the boutiques and galleries, and stop to listen to the street musicians! If you are visiting during the annual Winterlude Festival – a sub zero extravaganza and North America's greatest winter celebration, enjoy the activities including skating the Rideau Canal Skateway, admiring the glittery ice masterpieces, sliding at the Snowflake Kingdom, witnessing the amazing snow sculptures at the VIA National Snow Sculpture Competition, stepping inside a real snow shelter, and more!

Day 5: Visit the **National Gallery of Canada**. These exhibitions range from Canadian and Aboriginal art to European and American prints and drawings! See the **Bank of Canada Currency Museum** to learn about the history of currency in Canada and how bank notes are designed and printed today. Alternatively, you may prefer to visit the **Diefenbaker Cold War Museum**. Named after Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, the museum was once a giant bomb shelter built in 1960 to house important Canadian government and military figures in the event of a nuclear attack. This evening, possibly attend an **Ottawa Senators hockey game**.



Day 6: Day excursion to **Montréal**. Visit Old Montréal, where the story of Montreal begins. One thousand years of history and architecture are recorded in the museums and buildings of Old Montreal. Make your way to the **Notre-Dame Basilica**. The architecture of this church is dramatic. Grand and colorful with stained glass windows that unlike typical churches do not depict biblical scenes, but rather scenes from the religious history of Montreal, this church is a must-see. Transport to **Hochelaga-Maisonneuve**, the location of Montreal's Olympic Park. Remainder of day free to explore Montreal. Later, check into your hotel for the night.

Day 7: Transfer to Montreal International Airport for your flight home.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Return airfare to Ottawa return from Montreal
- Coach transfers
 - o Arrival in Ottawa with panoramic sightseeing tour
 - o Full day excursion to Montreal
 - o Airport departure in Montreal
- 6 nights hotel accommodation with private facilities
- 6 Breakfasts
- 3 dinners
- Entrances/visits:
 - o Guided orientation tour upon arrival
 - o Guided tour Parliament with other listed visits
 - o Guided visit Rideau Hall
 - o Canadian Museum of Civilization
 - o Laurier House
 - o Rideau Canal
 - o Canadian War Museum
 - o Supreme Court of Canada
 - o National Gallery of Canada
 - o Bank of Canada Currency Museum OR Diefenbaker
 - o Notre Dame Basilica Montreal
 - o Hochelaga Maisonneuve

