

Travel

Honeymooning in Quebec

By Lella Lecorps

When you're in love and planning a honeymoon you think of champagne corks popping, dinners by candlelight, couples swirling around dance floors and comfortable, invitingly decorated rooms.

Quebec offers all this and much more: Luxury combined with the rustic, all the essentials for town and country romance. Magnificent hotels await disciples of the goddess of love in the city and in the country.

The charm of Montreal and the old city of Quebec lies, at least partly, in their locations - lush greenery, bordering on the romantic Laurentian Mountains.

MONTREAL

A number of luxury hotels in Montreal will satisfy the fondest wish of any man-about-town seeking to please his ladylove. He might consider, for example, the Bonaventure, the Chateau Champlain and the Meridien - ultramodern hotels located in the heart of the city and ideal for underground shopping. Below street level are endless galleries of shops and there is access to the subway. And what woman doesn't love to go shopping! While Romeo relaxes in the hotel swimming pool or sauna, his Juliet can enjoy herself in the fitting rooms.

The Bonaventure Hotel, attached to the Place Bonaventure shopping centre, offers the Bar Boccaccio and an outdoor swimming pool that is heated even in winter. A weekend special costs just \$32 a couple each night for a minimum stay of two nights. Telephone: (514) 878-2332.

All you have to do to visit the equally palatial Chateau Champlain, located at the corner of Peel and University Streets, is stroll through the tunnel connecting it with the Bonaventure Hotel. The Chateau Champlain boasts crescent-shaped windows from which can be seen the lights of Montreal by night. You won't want to miss the Cal'Conc' - a restaurant

cabaret complete with can-can dancers - or miss having a drink at "the top of the world" at the Escapade. You will discover a cinema on the lobby level. The Chateau Champlain adjoins the shops of Place du Canada and offers a lovers' weekend special, which includes two night's hotel accommodation with the choice of Friday and Saturday nights or Saturday and Sunday nights, for \$33 a couple a night, double occupancy (514-878-1688).

The Meridien, built for the 1976 Olympics, is a fairly new hotel and is part of the Desjardins office and shopping complex. It is located across from Place des Arts, Montreal's entertainment centre, has a coffee-house-discotheque and some fine restaurants. The Universel, a restaurant in the Meridien changes its menu to feature the cuisine of a different country every month. Their weekend special costs \$28 a couple per night for a room from Friday to Sunday (514-285-1450).

Two of Montreal's newest hotels are the Four Seasons and the Hyatt Regency.

The Four Seasons, facing McGill University, has a select dining room and discotheque. A small shopping centre is located in the basement. Accommodation is free for children under 18 when accompanied by their parents. The rate is \$45 a night for two (514-284-1110). Just across the street from the Four Seasons, lovers will find an outdoor cafe at the Constellation Hotel and a discotheque up above.

The Hyatt Regency, located on Victoria Square, is the newest of the city's prestige hotels. It houses the much talked-about international club, Regine's, center of nightlife in Paris, New York and now, Montreal. The revolving restaurant on the top floor has no equal. The price for two nights, Friday and Saturday, is \$31 per night for two (514-879-1370).

Two older hotels known for

their discreetly elegant charm and offering the spacious accommodation of another age are the Ritz-Carlton on Sherbrooke Street, which is much appreciated for its restaurant, Le Jardin du Ritz set in a real garden and offer a weekend rate of \$32 for two per night (514-842-4212), and the Windsor on Peel Street at Dominion Square which houses "Charly's" a very popular discotheque. The special weekend rate for two nights, only in effect in winter, is \$54.95 per night for two, or about \$35 a night for a double room in summer (514-866-9611).

use of sports facilities (tennis, badminton, pedal craft, outdoor heated pool and more), luxury, tranquillity, and enjoyment are yours. Val David (819-322-2020), Montreal (514-866-8262).

Barely 15 miles from the old provincial capital stands the Manoir Saint-Castin, built in the style of the great Norman houses but combining luxury with rustic simplicity in a way all its own. This superb fieldstone inn on the shore of magnificent Lac Beauport offers fine food and a peaceful atmosphere. During the summer, lovers will enjoy the entertainment pro-

The magnificent Chateau Montebello, formerly the seigneurie of Louis-Joseph Papineau and a hunting lodge, is a log structure situated approximately midway between Ottawa, the national capital, and Montreal. The black logs of the building's exterior give it a rustic look, and its dimensions are indeed those of a manor house. The entrance hall is especially enchanting with its great chandeliers illuminating a ceiling as high as a cathedral's and fireplace where flames are always crackling, even in summer. The rate is \$37 a night for two; three meals are included. The hotel boasts indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a golf course, a bowling green, horseback riding and much more. As well, the hotel boasts several shops selling luxury items and Canadian handicrafts (819-423-6341).

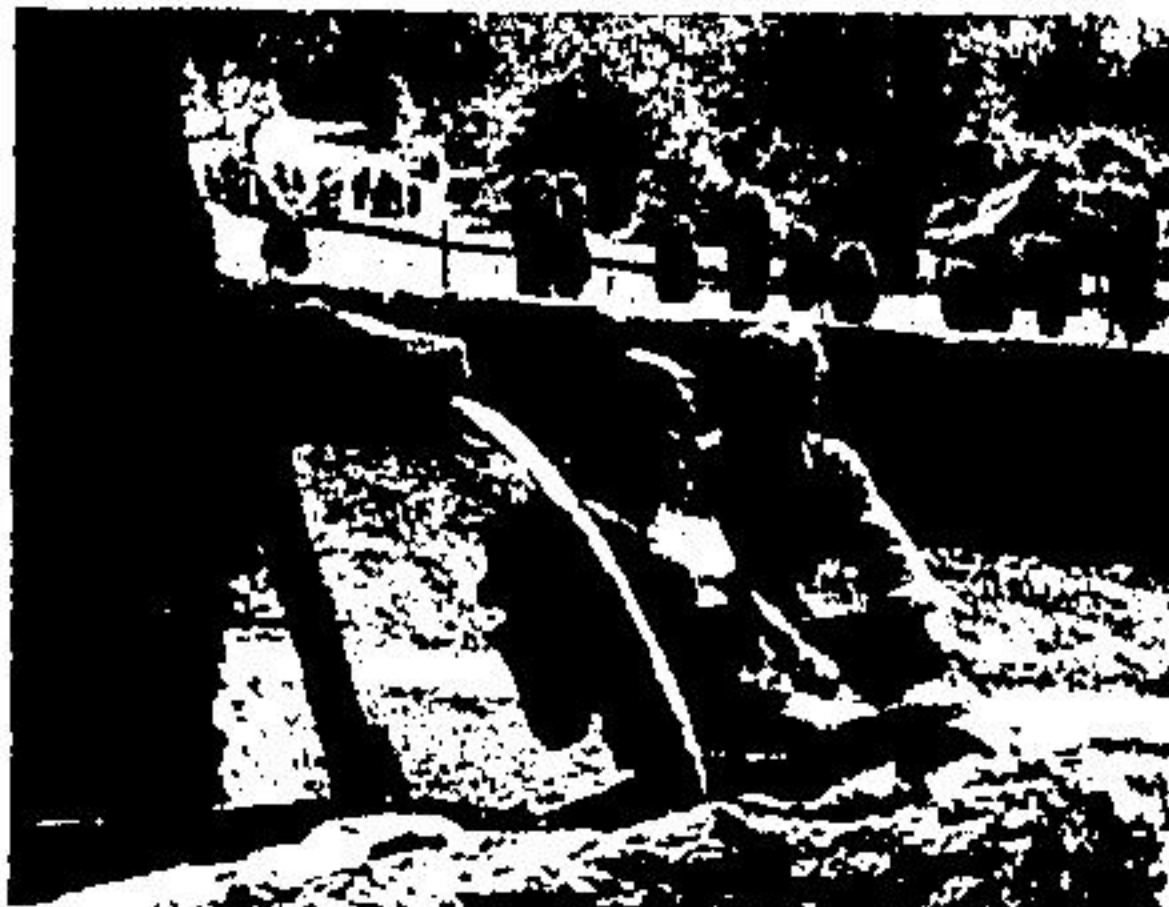
The Manoir Richelieu at Point-au-Pic is located in one of Quebec's most beautiful regions, the county of Charlevoix between Tadoussac and Baie Saint-Paul. The clientele of the renowned holiday resort, which looks like a fairy-tale castle, will enjoy the offerings of Manoir

Richelieu's summer theatre during that season and a visit to the nearby village of Baie Saint-Paul, set in superb countryside on the shores of the St. Lawrence River. For those in love, a meal at the inexpensive, distinctive Mouton Noir will be a real pleasure. And Manoir Richelieu is located almost directly across from Ile-aux-Coudres with its quaint charm, its schooners from another age and its old farms, which are mainly homes of fishermen.

The Manoir has been renovated over the past three years and the 300 rooms have been furnished in the Quebec style. The cost of accommodation varies from \$32.50 to \$44.50 depending on your choice of a room with a view of the river on the forest. The hotel's snack bar is open all day but three meals a day are provided in the dining room for \$24. The Manoir offers special rates to senior citizens and conference groups (418-665-3703).

Have a very happy honeymoon in Quebec!

For general information on tourism in Canada, please contact the Canadian Government Office of Tourism, Ottawa, K1A 0H6, Canada.



THE LAURENTIANS

Not far from Montreal, at Val David, is the holiday centre of La Sapiniere where young couples and couples who are still in love celebrate their honeymoons again and again. La Sapiniere's French chef is a true artist who has earned the highest honors for the establishment. For those guests who are not housed in the stone-and-log main building there are small cottages. The location is breathtakingly beautiful. For approximately \$115 per day per couple, which includes room, three meals, service charge and

vided by Manoir Saint-Castin's summer theatre. Rates vary slightly according to room selected: a room overlooking the mountains costs approximately \$42 a day for two without meals or \$70 a day for two including two meals; rooms overlooking the lake will cost \$49 and \$77 respectively for the same services. The special rate for honeymooners amounts to approximately \$325 a couple for one week and includes two meals a day. Guests of the Manoir have access to tennis courts, a mini-golf course, pedal craft and rowboats, among other facilities (418-849-4461).

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