

Case Studies

A trip to Montreal, Canada



Like many schools, the **North London Collegiate School**, modern languages department had to compete with ski trips, geography trips, cultural & history trips (to all manner of exciting destinations) when arranging their own trip. Our remit was to offer the girls an exciting francophone location which would also reflect their interest in the arts, and which offered host family accommodation in order for the students to truly immerse themselves in the language and culture of the host country. The French teacher who was arranging the trip was also keen for the girls to speak and improve their French within a culture and environment outside France for a change.

After consultation and discussion, the school settled on a school in Montreal. Here, we arranged closed group French language classes for a group of twenty Year 10 girls. The programme included a workshop run by the Quebec Circus School, where the students learnt juggling, the art of trapeze and other circus skills. Language lessons took place in the mornings and excursions filled the afternoons.

Host families generally lived a bus or metro ride away from the school. As a whole the group found Montreal's public transport system very efficient and easy to use, though they did have to contend with the city's worst winter in 20 years! Each family had been visited by the school accommodation officer and had been through the school's selection procedure. In addition, families were happy to be contacted by the teachers every evening/afternoon to check that the girls had arrived home safely.



North London Collegiate School for Girls trip to Montreal Canada



Montreal School Group Itinerary

Sunday	PM	Arrival into Montreal. Evening with host families
Monday	AM	Level test and French lessons
	PM	Afternoon activity: walking tour of Montreal
Tuesday	AM	French lessons
	PM	Afternoon activity: Circus skills at Quebec Circus school activity workshop
Wednesday	AM	French lessons
	PM	Guided visit to Pointe à Callière Museum of Archeology and History Visit to the Sugar Shack to see how maple syrup products are made and to sample maple products
Thursday	AM	French lessons
	PM	Afternoon activity: Guided visit to Biodome followed by "This is Montreal" Exhibition
Friday	AM	French lessons
	PM	Afternoon activity: Guided hiking on Mount Royal
Saturday	AM	Free morning
	PM	Afternoon in Parc Jean Drapeau and the underground city
Sunday	AM	Departure from Montreal

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- Mrs M Harvey, Herefordshire