THE OCEAN

YOURS TO KEEP

ROUTE GUIDE MONTRÉAL — HALIFAX

This guide chronicles the points of interest along the *Ocean*'s route. From Montréal, your train travels 1,346 km (836 mi.) through rural communities of the Lower Saint Lawrence, down the Matapédia Valley, across New Brunswick and on to Nova Scotia.

01 MONTRÉAL, QUE.

Mile: 74.1
Population: 1,753,034
Montréal is a city at the crossroads of America and Europe. Both Latin and Nordic, international and Québecois, Montréal holds nothing back. Overseas visitors love the rebellious, nonchalant atmosphere, while North Americans are charmed by the European cachet.

When it comes to celebrating jazz, film, comedy, singing or the provincial holiday Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day, hundreds of thousands of people invade the city's streets, making these events friendly and popular gatherings. The city's cultural attractions, such as the Museum of Fine Arts, Pointe-à-Callière Museum of Archaeology and History, the Musée d'art contemporain and the McCord Museum of Canadian History, complement its other must-see points of interest, such as Mont-Royal Park, the Olympic Stadium and its famous tower, the Montréal Botanical Garden, and the Biodôme.

The Montréal area has evolved over the years and now boasts an incredibly cosmopolitan population. Francophones and anglophones have learned to appreciate their respective differences, and both enjoy the advantages of the province's metropolis. In the last hundred years, immigrants from every continent have joined these two main components of Montréal society. Some of these minorities, notably the Italian, Greek, Jewish, Portuguese and Chinese communities, have filled

the neighbourhoods where they settled with touches of their homeland. This great variety of cultures and people contribute to Montréal's delightfully distinct charm.

02 SAINT-LAMBERT, QUE.

Mile: 70.3
Population: 22,159
The development of Saint-Lambert, today a peaceful suburb of Montréal that merged with Longueuil in January 1, 2002, is closely tied to the construction of Victoria Bridge in the mid-19th century. The railway's presence attracted a large anglophone community, giving it a slightly British flavour. The Saint-Lambert lock, inaugurated in 1959, is the gateway to the St. Lawrence Seaway, which starts here and ends 3,700 km to the west at the tip of the Great Lakes. The seaway allows ships to navigate through natural obstacles along the St. Lawrence River and directly supply the continent's industrial heartland.

03 SAINT-HYACINTHE, QUE.

Mile: 40.9
Population: 54,777
The city of Saint-Hyacinthe came into being at the end of the 18th century. Thanks to the region's fertile soil, it grew quickly, attracting a number of religious, commercial and business institutions. Food conversion and distribution still plays a leading role in the city's economy. Thanks to its Agri-Food Science Park, in 1993, it was the first Canadian

city to be inducted into the International Association of Science Parks. A major regional agricultural fair is held here every year in July. Saint-Hyacinthe has also made construction of the huge world renowned Casavant organs its specialty.

04 DRUMMONDVILLE, QUE.

Mile: 98.3
Population: 75,091
Drummondville was founded after the U.S.–Canada War of 1812, initially as a military post on the Saint-François River. The colony soon became a major industrial centre thanks to the establishment of mills and factories in the vicinity. With the advent of hydroelectric power at the start of the 20th century, industry took the lead over agriculture, and the manufacture of silk and gunpowder became the basis of Drummondville's industrial development. This gradually gave way to the textile industry, particularly from the 1920s on, with the establishment of two large industries, Dominion Textile and Celanese. Textiles proved to be the engine of local economy and job creation for several decades.

Le Mondial des Cultures, a celebration of the world's cultures, takes place during the second week of July. This event is organized to promote exchange among the world's various traditions and cultures.

05 SAINTE-FOY, QUE.

Mile: 3.6
Population: 104,035
The borough of Sainte-Foy–Sillery–Cap-Rouge enjoys 15 km of coastline, punctuated by breathtaking views and stimulating recreation facilities for visitors and locals alike. The area proudly wears its history like a badge—in terms of European settlement alone, there have been people here since 1541.

06 MONTMAGNY, QUE.

Mile: 78.1
Population: 11,335
Montmagny has a long industrial history. It was the home of the Bélanger factories, which for many generations manufactured cast iron cooking appliances that were highly prized by Québec families. Twice a year, in the spring and fall, Montmagny welcomes an unusual visitor: the snow goose. In the fall, these geese return from the Arctic regions where they spend the summer and touch down here before heading south to milder climes. En route, they stop on Montmagny's elevated riverbeds, a protected site offering them abundant food. This is when the town celebrates the Festival de l'oie blanche with all sorts of activities related to observing and understanding of this beautiful migratory bird.

The excursion to the national historic site of Grosse-Île and the Irish Memorial is a journey back in time to a

painful era in North American immigration. Fleeing epidemics and famine, people emigrating from Ireland to Canada were especially numerous between 1830 and 1850. To limit the spread of cholera and typhus in North America, the authorities decided to quarantine transatlantic passengers before landing at the Port of Québec. In total, some 4 million immigrants from 42 different countries passed through the Port of Québec between 1832 and 1937.

07 LA POCATIÈRE, QUE.

Mile: 42
Population: 4,076
In 1672, the former seigneurie of La Pocatière was granted to Marie-Anne Juchereau, widow of an officer in the Carignan-Salières Regiment. The opening of a classical college in 1827, and of the first agricultural school in Canada in 1859, transformed this market town into a centre of post-secondary studies. Also found here is the main factory of the multinational giant Bombardier, which specializes in public transit equipment. Subway cars for Montréal, New York City and many other large cities around the world are manufactured here.

08 RIVIÈRE-DU-LOUP, QUE.

Mile: 188.8
Population: 19,645
Rivière-du-Loup has become one of the largest urban centres in the Lower St. Lawrence region thanks to its exceptional geographic location, which made it a communication hub, first maritime and then rail, when the city was the easternmost point of the Canadian Railway. Today, Rivière-du-Loup is the departure point for both the highway leading to New Brunswick and the ferry to Saint-Siméon on the north shore of the St. Lawrence.

09 TROIS-PISTOLES, QUE.

Mile: 161.7
Population: 3,323
Legend has it that a French sailor passing through the region in the 17th century lost his silver goblet, worth three gold pistoles (an old type of coin), in the nearby river. That's how a very picturesque name was given to the river and later to this small industrial town on the Lower St. Lawrence. Trois-Pistoles is dominated by a colossal church erected in 1887, Notre-Dame-des-Neiges, that is crowned with three bell towers plated in silver coloured sheet metal.

Birdwatchers and archaeologists alike will enjoy an excursion to l'Île aux Basques. Evidence has shown that Basque fishermen visited this island regularly as early as the 16th century to hunt whales. This is several years

before Jacques Cartier, who is often credited as the first European here.

10 RIMOUSKI, QUE.

Mile: 123.4
Population: 49,281
The development of the Seigneurie de Rimouski, a Micmac name that means "land of the moose," was laboriously undertaken at the end of the 17th century by merchant René Lepage, who hailed from Auxerre, France. As a result, it became the most advanced settlement in the Gulf of St. Lawrence under the French regime.

Beside Rimouski, at Pointe-au-Père, the monument to the Empress of Ireland commemorates the tragic night of May 29, 1914, when more than a thousand people lost their lives in the St. Lawrence when this Canadian Pacific passenger vessel, which ran between Québec City and England, sank. The Musée de la Mer presents a fascinating collection of objects salvaged from the shipwreck and presents a detailed account of the tragedy. The nearby lighthouse marks the exact spot where the river officially becomes the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

11 MONT-JOLI, QUE.

Mile: 105.4
Population: 6,451
Located on the border of the Lower St. Lawrence and Gaspé regions, Mont-Joli developed in the years 1900 and 1910 thanks to the Intercolonial Railway. In addition to its many natural attractions, the town offers a number of cultural activities.

Not far, in Grand-Métis, you can visit the magnificent Jardins de Métis botanical garden. In 1927, Elsie Stephen Meighen Reford inherited the estate from her uncle, Lord Mount Stephen, who made his fortune by investing in the transcontinental Canadian Pacific Railway. The following year, she decided to create an English garden, which she maintained and expanded until 1959. A few years later, the government of Québec acquired the property and developed it for public display. Today, repurchased by the founder's grandson, Jardins de Métis is divided into eight distinct ornamental garden entities.

12 SAYABEC, QUE.

Mile: 75.9
Population: 1,788
Located at the head of Lake Matapédia, Sayabec (after the river of the same name, pronounced "saybec," which means "blocked") relies on forestry and the tourism industry. This village is the gateway to the Matapédia Valley and offers big city amenities. Sayabec's natural

attractions draw crowds of sports anglers eager to check out the area's great fishing.

13 AMQUI, QUE.

Mile: 60.9
Population: 6,146
Thanks to its location in the heart of the Matapédia Valley, Amqui has become a major service centre over the years. Here, even the tourist information kiosk has its own distinct architecture; it was built in the model of the former Amqui station. Inside, a mural display reveals the region's historical heritage. It appears that the site was once a major gathering point for First Nations peoples. In fact, the town takes its name from the Micmac word for "where one has fun!"

14 CAUSAPSCAL, QUE.

Mile: 47.5
Population: 2,315
The Causapscal sawmills dominate this town divided by the Matapédia River, one of the best salmon fishing rivers in North America. A longstanding source of conflict between the local population and private clubs, salmon fishing is now a major contributor to the regional economy.

15 MATAPÉDIA, QUE.

Mile: 12.8
Population: 653
The Patapédia and Matapédia rivers are tributaries of the Restigouche River. The Matapédia River carved out a deep valley between the mountains, which define the western border of the Gaspé Peninsula. Nearby, the national historic site commemorating the Battle of the Restigouche has many objects on display as well as an interesting audiovisual reconstruction that brings to life the sequence of events during the summer of 1760, when a French fleet that had sailed from Bordeaux to liberate New France fell into the hands of the English. Only three ships made it into the Baie des Chaleurs. The English, who considerably outnumbered them, decimated the French flotilla in a matter of hours.

The village of Saint-André-de-Restigouche, a Micmac village that is the hub of the largest First Nations community in the Gaspé region, rises to the north of Matapédia. This is the site of Fort Listuguj, where in 18th century, French colonists, Micmac and recently deported Acadians joined forces and fought side by side against English invaders.

Please note: Québec and the Atlantic provinces are not in the same time zone. When you enter New Brunswick travelling east, set your watch forward an hour. When you enter Québec travelling west, set your time back an hour.

16 CAMPBELLTON, N.B.

Miles: 0 and 173.2
Population: 7,385
The town of Campbellton is located on an estuary of the Restigouche River and is the largest municipality around. Salmon fishing is big around these parts and every year a salmon festival is held from late June to early July. The arrival of the railway in the 1870s heralded a new chapter for Campbellton and tripled the population in just 15 years. Construction of the McLennan Engineering workshops in 1888 and the second Alexander Mill (later known as the Richard Mill) in 1891 spurred the town's growth, especially on the west side.

17 CHARLO, N.B.

Mile: 154.3
Population: 1,324
Located on the shores of the Baie des Chaleurs, tucked between the earth and the sea, the town of Charlo has a natural beauty all its own. With an excellent tourism infrastructure and a range of activities thanks to its proximity to Sugarloaf Provincial Park, Charlo has everything it takes to delight visitors. The village includes beaches, green spaces, rivers and lagoons.

18 JACQUET RIVER, N.B.

Mile: 138.7
Population: 1,548
Located on Chaleur Bay, the town of Jacquet River faces the Québec towns of Maria and Carleton. One of the most beautiful beaches in the area is found here and there is a full-service campground nearby at Belledune. The view from its wooded bluff above the clean sand and gravel beach is gorgeous.

19 PETIT-ROCHER, N.B.

Mile: 121.6
Population: 1,908
Petit-Rocher brings you right to the sea. Welcoming in the summer, friendly and full of activities in the winter, it is a lovely place to visit at any time of year. With warm-hearted villagers and a wide range of tourist attractions, you're sure to have lots to do during your stay. Every year on August 15, the Acadian national holiday is celebrated here with great ceremony.

20 BATHURST, N.B.

Mile: 110.2
Population: 12,275
An industrial town located at the mouth of the Nepisiguit River, Bathurst is the largest urban centre in the northeast part of the province and provides a wide range of services. Visitors are interested in Bathurst first and foremost for the

many natural sites found close by and because it is the northern gateway to the Acadian Peninsula.

21 MIRAMICHI, N.B.

Mile: 66.1
Population: 17,811
Miramichi, located at the mouth of the major salmon fishing river of the same name, is the largest municipality in the area. Unlike other communities on the shore, its population is primarily English speaking. In fact, every year in early July, an Irish Canadian festival is held here. This town owes its existence to forestry operations, the region's main economic activity for the last two centuries.

22 ROGERSVILLE, N.B.

Mile: 44.4
Population: 1,213
If you can't pronounce "Kouchibouguac," you are not alone. KOOSH-e-boo-gwack is a Micmac word meaning "river of long tides." Here, the land is quite flat and the tides can flow inland several kilometres. Rogersville is located not far from the Acadian coastline and the Kouchibouguac National Park, which was established in 1969 to preserve and protect a number of distinct landscapes. Visitors have access to a tourist information booth, restaurants and lodging.

23 MONCTON, N.B.

Mile: 124.9
Population: 69,074
Due to its geographic location in the heart of the Maritimes and its pool of qualified and bilingual workers, Moncton is now a rising star in New Brunswick. A small Acadian settlement stood on this site beside the Petitcodiac River before the Acadian Expulsion of 1755.

Then, colonists of American origin settled here and founded the city, which prospered in the mid-19th century as a shipbuilding centre and later as the terminus for the Intercolonial Railway.

With French Maritimers making up 35% of the population, Moncton is the largest Acadian city and its cultural centre. The community's major economic and social institutions are located here, including the province's only French-language university, Université de Moncton. Ironically, the city, and by extension the university, got its name from Robert Monckton, commander of the British Forces during the taking of Fort Beauséjour in 1755, which was the prelude to the fall of the French Empire in North America and the start of the Great Disturbance.

24 SACKVILLE, N.B.

Mile: 86.7
Population: 5,558
Sackville exudes discreet charm and a special connection to its past, with stately tree-lined streets showcasing beautiful homes. The city is home to Mount Allison University, a highly regarded educational institution which was also once home to Radio Canada International, the voice of Canada around the world.

It was in Aulac, just outside Sackville, that the tragic episode of the expulsion of Acadians began following the recapture of Fort Beauséjour by British troops in 1755. Constructed in 1751, Fort Beauséjour occupied a strategic site at the time, overlooking Chignecto Bay on the frontier of the French and British colonies.

25 AMHERST, N.S.

Mile: 76.8
Population: 9,811
The "gateway to Nova Scotia," Amherst is located on the Chignecto Isthmus, an area first settled by the Acadians in 1672 and founded by explorers from the British Isles in 1764. Amherst experienced a great industrial boom from 1880 to 1914, when it was integrated into the Canadian railway network. Known for its beautiful Victorian mansions built during that era, this pretty town is equally visited for the spectacular wall murals found throughout its Victorian business district. From Amherst, visitors can

travel along the shores of the Bay of Fundy to the famous Joggins Fossil Museum or to the beautiful beaches of the Northumberland Strait, which offer the warmest ocean waters north of Virginia.

26 SPRINGHILL JCT., N.S.

Mile: 59.6
Population: 3,868
Founded in 1790 by Loyalists who first came to farm this region, Springhill flourished as a major Canadian coal mining centre when the famous Springhill Mining Company opened in 1871. Its fascinating Miners' Museum, which offers mine tours, rivals the town's other top attraction, namely a museum dedicated to Springhill's most famous citizen, international singing star Anne Murray.

27 TRURO, N.S.

Mile: 0.4
Population: 12,059
Served by the railway since 1858, Truro has been known as the "hub of Nova Scotia" and is the main industrial, commercial and shopping centre of the region. The town offers historical architecture and excellent restaurants. Built around the Salmon River, which empties itself into the Minas Basin, Truro is situated near the Bay of Fundy. Twice a day, visitors can catch a glimpse of the famous tidal bore, in which a wave of water from the bay gushes

up the Salmon River, reversing its flow. Truro is home to the famous Stanfield Underwear Company, which invented cotton stretch knitwear and the trap door in long johns. Nearby is the town of Parrsboro, renowned for its geological and dinosaur museums with specimens from the Jurassic and Triassic periods. Another nearby attraction is the Bay of Fundy, which boasts the highest tides in the world and where you can end an incredible whitewater rafting experience. Maitland, a village that's won awards for its Victorian and colonial homes, is also close by.

28 HALIFAX, N.S.

Mile: 0
Population: 390,323
What a pleasure to discover the "birthplace of English Canada" and many of Canada's founding institutions, including its first Parliament. Founded by Britain in 1749 along the world's second largest natural harbour, Halifax became known as the "most British city in America." This is exemplified by its famous Citadel, a massive, star-shaped fort and by its many Victorian gardens. The Changing of the Guards, performed by guards wearing kilts, is a must-see event at the Citadel.

Today Atlantic Canada's largest city and busiest port, Halifax is an affluent and beautiful cosmopolitan city offering superb restaurants, live theatre, sophisticated shopping and a fabulous pub district, overflowing with Maritime hospitality. It is a real joy to stroll through the hilly

and historic downtown and along the harbour boardwalk, exploring some of Canada's oldest buildings. Cafés set within Historic Properties, the Casino or the moving memorial to Canada's era of 20th century immigration which is located at Pier 21 are all must-sees. Take North America's oldest salt water ferry to Canada's only museum devoted to Black culture or take a boat cruise to a fjord with million dollar homes.

RAILWAY SIGNS TO WATCH FOR

One of the railway traditions—the milepost—provides the key to locating a train's current position. Mileposts may be on either side of a track, and are usually rectangular white signs with black numbers. Though Canada now uses the metric system, the original markers for railroads were in miles—and they still are today. Each line is subdivided at railway division points; these subdivisions are not a standard length, as they were based on the distance a steam locomotive could travel in a day.

MILEPOSTS

Milepost numbers increase as you travel from east to west and reset to zero at the start of each subdivision. Subdivisions are 43 to 146 miles (69 to 235 km) long.

SIDING AND STATION NAME BOARDS

Newer siding and station name boards are white with the name in black. Older station name boards are also white with the name in black but the lettering is all uppercase and the sign is mounted on a building.

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