

Montréal's OPUS Hotel: A Place To Embrace Anytime of the Year.

Anytime of the year, Montreal, Canada welcomes all to experience their passion, purity and sense of peace. In the winter, visitors come mostly for the skiing; in the summer, the many music and comedy festivals and in the fall, the season comes alive with a multi-rainbow of foliage that embraces the heart and soul. Spring in Montreal is the most enticing and energetic, with the Grand Prix and endless outdoor activities. Regardless of when you visit, the place to stay and lay your head down for the night is the OPUS; a hotel that will welcome and embrace your visit anytime of the year.



Formerly the Hotel Godin (since 1914), the newly re-named premiere boutique hotel, Opus, surpasses all expectations for success. The downtown Montreal property is located at the famous intersection of Sherbrooke and St. Laurent, just steps from the entertainment section of the city and minutes from old Montreal and the "Plateau" Mont-Royal. Trilogy Properties re-designed the hotel in an art deco refined minimalism, while keeping in mind the history of its art-nouveaux structure. The 136 rooms are designed and luxuriously decorated with five different décor and color schemes to fit a guest's lifestyle: such as Chic Elegance, Urban Retreat, Sensual Escape, Spacious Practicality, and Style and Function. Additionally, the Presidential treatment: the Indulgence room is a two-story penthouse suite, with a 'floating' loft bed. All rooms are provided with all exclusive amenities.

There are two eateries in the Opus Hotel that will whet your culinary appetite. KOKO restaurant hosts a Pan-Asian menu with refreshing textures and tempting auras, nestled within a Petit Salon setting, combining food with fabric and art with attitude. After dinner, a quick step into the adjoining Grand Salon invites after dinner drinks and a walk or dance on the brightly lit catwalk. An outdoor fantasy terrace offers sanctuary and solace from moonlight to afternoon tea. Executive Chef Don Letendre, whose culinary adventures stem from Tokyo's Soba Ni Unazake Yo-

shimura restaurant, has a complete grasp on "clean and innovate cuisine," mixing eastern delicacies with a flare for western accents. Highlights on the menu include the Hamachi-Sashimi, with pan seared foi gras, spicy Masala lobster and Star Anise barbecue pork belly bites, to name a few.

Downstairs, the SUCO lounge is the place to unwind and is becoming the most popular place in the city for visitors and locals alike. Perfectly ordained mirrors and stainless steel sculptures by Scott Eunson, along with a 30-foot Cardosa marble bar, merge to create in-

timacy and ambiance for a style-savvy crowd. Globally inspired tapas menus such as Trilogy of Prawns and Chorizo Aiguillettes and naughty nuances at the bar such as the Opus 136 and the Manana, combine with Montreal's hottest DJ's and live bands that sensuously bond you to the moment and place, leaving a good memory for tomorrow.

Memorable places to visit in Montreal include the Notre Dame Basilica, an historical site and well-known location for weddings, attracting visitors worldwide, the Underground City, the Olympic Stadium and the Montreal Casino, among many shopping stops in Victoria Square, St. Paul Street and the trendy "Plateau" district. The Beaux-Arts de Montreal (www.mbam.qc.ca), from May through September 2008, hosts a remarkable exhibition at the MBAM that pays tribute to a true fashion legend, the late Yves Saint Laurent. Designed in partnership with the Fondation Pierre Berge, the retrospective celebrates 40 years of the artist's work that started in the House of Christian Dior. Laurent revolutionized Haute Couture by creating the ever-enduring "pantsuit," the 1958 Trapeze line and the 1965 Mondrian line. Before his recent death in June, he was acknowledged at its opening as the only living designer to be honored with such an exhibit.

You can't visit Montreal without some personal pampering at The Valmont Spa (446 Rue Sainte-Helene), tucked neatly downtown just

blocks from the Cathedral Notre Dame. Valmont is truly a decadent pleasure designed to enhance the mind, being and soul. Renowned for their anti-ageing and skin care line; Switzerland's most coveted natural elements and technology are used by Valmont to master and maintain the visible signs of time. Cherished by women throughout the world, treatments range from facials and body massages, to product lines available for the newborn baby and men in 32 countries throughout Europe, Asia, the Middle-East and North America.

Other places to dine and drink in Montreal include the Trinity Restaurant (1445 Drummond), a festive and engaging Mediterranean estiatorio designed to resemble a Greek monastery. Imagine dining in Santorini or Crete, consuming the best the ocean has to offer such as Mediterranean white sea bream and yellow nose grouper or the heartiest meats such as braised lamb 'mousaka' or grilled Greek sausage 'loukaniko,' accented with the richest wines and Greece's finest Ouzo. Meeting new friends or sharing memories with old friends, while enjoying the finest cuisine, add sparkle to this shining trinity of food, drink and festivity. After dinner, Barmacie (www.baldwinbarmacie) is one of the many happening nocturnal spots in Montreal. Late night visitors enjoy a myriad of elixirs and elations in this modern intimate locale, while decadent DJ's play retro beats and the local clientele make you feel right at home.

No matter when you visit, and even when it rains, the City of Montreal with its old world, French charm and modern conveniences is a great destination for all.



For more information, contact Opus Hotel at 10 Sherbrooke Ouest, Montreal, Quebec, T: 514.843.6000, www.opushotel.com.

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