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CHRISTMAS IN THE FOREST

You wish to live an outstanding experience for the holiday's season? We've prepared you two exciting packages which will able you to celebrate Christmas in an enchanting setting! In addition to the visit both Montreal and Quebec City, you'll istay at the legendary Sacacomie Hotel where you'll be in position to take part to a wide range of winter activities while enjoying the comfort of this unique and spectacular log-made lodge. This is actually a dream destination to truly experience Quebec's winter!

 Region	Eastern Canada
 Activity	Winter
 Duration	7 days
 Code	HIVER-20
 Price	From €790
 Level	2/5
 Comfort	4/5

ITINERARY

Day 1 Montréal



Rendez-vous in the thrilling and appealing city of Montreal! Second French speaking city in the world after Paris, Montreal combines old world influences with North American modernity in a very unique way. Let yourself be charmed by the romantic streets of Old Montreal and conquer its exhilarating nights! You'll then understand why the city has been for long time known as the "Northern New Orleans"!

- Accommodation ; Hotel

Days 2 to 5 Montréal - Saint-Alexis-des-Monts



After a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, the moment has come to leave the big city and to continue on towards the wild territories of the Mauricie region. Your destination: The spectacular Sacacomie Hotel which overlooks boldly a magnificent lake. Once installed, you'll be in position to take advantage of this outstanding setting as you wish. If some takes advantage of the site to take a rest while admiring the breathtaking view the hotel offers on the lake and the surrounding area, the sports enthusiasts will be delighted with the wide variety of activities available. The place is indeed a true kingdom for soft adventures. You'll hence have the opportunity to visit the activity center where the welcoming staff will be more than happy

to inform you about the various free activities available on the site: traditional snowshoeing in the wild, cross-country skiing in the surrounding forests, ice fishing and skating on a frozen lake. You'll also take advantage of plenty of free time that you could fill with several optional activities available on the premises (PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH US SHOULD YOU NEED TO KNOW THE PRICES). Among other things, you could then go for:

- A guided snowmobile excursion through the fabulous landscapes of the Laurentian Mountains.
- A guided dog-sledding excursion.
- A guided snowshoeing excursion.

If you choose the December 21 departure, you'll celebrate Christmas in a very unique way. On December 24 you'll enjoy an evening filled with enchantment and magic. It will start with a gastronomical buffet dinner featuring a traditional Quebec cuisine and it will be followed by a moonlight stroll along a torch-lit path which will lead you to the Pavillon de l'Érablière where the Christmas Eve mass will be celebrated at 10:30 pm. After the celebration, you'll enjoy a glass of wine at the Pavillon de l'Érablière and warm up by the roaring exterior bonfire. Upon your return to the hotel at around midnight, you will be greeted by a sweet table filled with Quebec desserts. On Christmas morning, the children wearing a pajama will receive a special present from a very special visitor!

- Accommodation : Hotel

- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 6 Saint-Alexis-des-Monts - Quebec City



Your next stop is beautiful Quebec City. Rich in culture, history and beauty, Quebec City has the appearance and the atmosphere of an old-world town. Indeed, its old section has kept its historic character and a “Vieille France” charm. Moreover, the surrounding areas offer delightful landscapes. Yield to temptation of an excursion toward the spectacular Montmorency Falls and the Île d’Orleans.

- Accommodation

- Breakfast

📍 Day 7 **Quebec City- Montréal**



Continue on to the Airport or to Montreal for your return flight.

- Breakfast

PERIOD & BUDGET

When to travel?

The best period for travelling is during the following months:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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Price

From C\$1,179

This budget is indicated per person, according to availability. Your local agent will send you a personalized quote with the exact price. Indeed, the latter can vary according to several elements (availability, service levels, period, number of participants, reservation time and many others).

The budget is an indication of the price per person, subject to availability. Your local agent will send you a customized quote with the exact price. The price can vary according to availability, level of services, period of travel, number of participants, booking time frame and other items.

Included

- Free activities available on the premises: ice skate, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, tube sliding, indoor pool, etc.
- Special program like mention below
- 6 nights accommodation
- 14 meals (see abbreviations)
- Applicable taxes

Not included

- Air travel
- Transfers (OPTION)
- Personal expenses
- Drinks (excluding coffee and tea with meals included)
- Tips for guides

Notes

*What is a deductible: The deductible is the amount of liability of the customer in case of damage to the snowmobile **What is a deposit: This is the amount that the customer must leave as security on his credit card before departure.

International flights

On request, ask your advisor at canada@altaibasecamp.com

Terms and conditions

Booking conditions

By registering for one of our travel, the customer bindingly accepts the General Terms and Conditions of Sale. Each customer must complete a registration form. The booking is definitively recorded when the customer has settled the payment of a deposit of 35 % of the total travel price (subject to availability at the time of registration). In case of short term bookings – within 35 days prior to the travel departure – the full travel price is due immediately. Payments can be settled via bank transfer (SWIFT code/IBAN number) or online, directly from our website (soon available). You will receive an email with a booking confirmation as quickly as possible

Invoice procedure

Once your booking is registered, we send you an email with the invoice. Full payment is required at least 35 days before your arrival. If the customer does not settle the payment of the travel price within the period agreed upon, Altaï Canada reserves the right to cancel the booking free of charge.

Cancellation policy

If, for any reason, you need to cancel your trip, any payments already made will be refunded **subject to the following deductions:**

If cancellation occurs:

- **More than 31 days before departure:** 20% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Between 30 and 21 days before departure:** 35% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Between 20 and 14 days before departure:** 50% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Between 13 and 7 days before departure:** 75% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)
- **Less than 7 days before departure:** 100% of the total booking amount (excluding insurance and fixed fees)

Special Cases:

Regardless of the cancellation or contract modification date, the following fees **are added** to the standard cancellation terms above:

- **Airfare fees:** If your flight ticket has to be issued well in advance—often to secure the best fare—**100% of the non-refundable flight costs** will be charged in case of cancellation or change. In this case, the standard cancellation terms apply **only to the land portion** of the trip.
- **Land service fees:** Any non-refundable fees incurred early for firm bookings will be charged in case of cancellation.
- **Insurance:** Whether you purchased multi-risk or cancellation insurance, the **insurance premium is non-refundable** under any circumstances.

If you are forced to cancel your trip before departure, you must inform both **Altai Canada** and your insurance provider as soon as possible, using **written communication that provides proof of receipt**.

The **date the written notice is received** will be considered the official cancellation date and will determine the applicable cancellation fees.

If Altai Canada is required to cancel a group departure due to an insufficient number of participants, this decision will be made, and customers notified, **no later than 21 days before departure**.

Altai Canada may also cancel a trip due to **exceptional circumstances** considered force majeure (e.g., volcanic eruptions, social unrest, strikes, severe weather) that could compromise the safety of participants. In such cases, **all amounts paid will be fully refunded**, but **no additional compensation** can be claimed.

Changes to travel contract

If a change to travel contract is made at the customer's request, any fee that might arise from this change shall be paid by the customer. In any cases, every request for changes shall be notified in writing. In case of external events that could not be foreseen, Altai Canada might change some aspects of the travel contract. We will endeavour to advise you of any changes as quickly as possible.

Pricing

All group travel prices on our website have been calculated for the indicated number of participants for each trip. The price list is confirmed after the booking. If the number of participants is lower than expected, an additional payment charge might be applied. For each travel and program, we mention the price per person – valid for the minimum number of participants – and we provide you with detailed explanations about the services included or not. Any change in the exchange rates or in the price of travel services in particular regarding the cost of the fuel, might entail price revision.

Contract transfer

In case of transfer of the contract by the customer to an assignee, modification and cancellation conditions apply.

Insurance

We recommend that you get personal insurance before your departure to cover the activities undertaken by Altai Canada. If you have not purchased your insurance directly with us, we ask that you email us your insurance contract information (company, policy name, policy number, phone number) and bring this information with you on your trip.

Food

All meals are not included in your stay. You can go to the restaurant in the evening. Enjoy all the restaurants and snacks you will come across during your stay.

Accommodation

Depending on the category of hotel, you will sleep in 2-star or sun (Canadian classification) rated accommodation. When you request an estimate, you can ask to be upgraded in more comfortable accommodation for some days or for all the days of your trip, near national parks or out-of-the-ordinary accommodation such as cabins in the trees, cottages or tent (Huttopia, or ready-to-camp). We offer a wide range of accommodation, from classic to original, all of our trips are flexible and can be adjusted to your desires!

Transportation

In some cases and depending on your needs, we can offer private or public transfer services such as train, shuttle, ferry or seaplane... We can also include a car rental with very interesting rates. You just have to make it clear in your initial estimate in the box "describe your trip precisely" of our form, we will be pleased to do so.

Driving in Canada : Autotours by car are perfect to explore the great Canadian landscapes. Our country offers numerous breathtaking roads with panoramic sceneries. Traffic is generally moderate when compared to other countries.

Standard European driving license is valid in Canada. Traffic regulation is no different. The speed limit is 100 Km/h on the highway (110 km/h on certain highways in Alberta and Nova Scotia); 90 km/h on main roads; 50 km/h in urban areas. Highways are free (except for one in the Toronto region), generally well-maintained, they provide rest areas..

Traffic lights are situated on the other side of the streets intersection. There is no priority to the right: priority is indicated by road signs at each intersection. It is generally allowed to turn right when the light is red (if no road sign forbid it) in Canada, except for the Ile de Montréal.

To park your vehicle, pay attention to road signs that indicate authorized days and hours of parking. It is forbidden to park near a fire hydrant. Parking fees are sometimes required by hotels (especially in big cities) and in public parking areas. In Toronto and Montréal, parking fees can rise up to 20\$ per day. In small cities, it is easy to find free parking spaces.

Wearing a seatbelt is mandatory everywhere and at every time, for all the passengers, in the front seat and in the back seat.

Children must sit in a child car seat specially designed, adapted to their weight and height and be appropriately installed until he is tall enough to wear the seatbelt correctly. Seek your car rental.

It is mandatory to stop at more than five meters from a school bus which flashing lights blink. You can only cross or pass a school bus when its flashing lights are off. You must make sure that this manoeuvre is riskless.

In Canada, it is forbidden to drive with a blood alcohol level of more than 0.08% (80mg for 100ml of blood). Drivers younger than 25 years old and the ones who have a learner's permit are submitted to the rule of "0 alcohol" which forbids driving after alcohol consumption.

Budget & exchange

Canadian currency is the Dollar (\$) which is divided in 100 cents. You can find 5\$, 10\$, 20\$, 50\$, 100\$ and 1000\$ bills. Although they are still in circulation, 1\$ and 2\$ bills have been replaced by coins of .05\$, .10\$ and 0.25\$.

To benefit from the best exchange rate, we advise you the exchange your currency in a Canadian bank. Generally, these institutions are open between 10 AM and 3 PM from Monday to Friday (except statutory holiday). You can also exchange your currency in exchange offices. Although the office schedule might be more flexible, exchange rate and service fees could vary considerably from office to office.

Traveler's check in Canadian dollar are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops. You can also exchange euros: 1 Euro = 1,57\$CAN (04/04/2018). Before your arrival in Canada, make sure your credit card is programmed to be used in ATMs. They are open at any time in banks, airports, stations and malls. The most accepted credit cards are Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

Tips

In the United States and in Canada, service is never included in the prices. In bars, restaurants and all the places where service is provided, it is expected that you tip the waiter/waitress between 15% and 20% of the total sum. Note that a lot of employees working as waiters are paid by tips only. Not giving anything or not giving enough would be poorly received. Even when paying by credit card, you'll indicate the sum you wish to give.

Supplied equipment

See what is included in your stay.

Vital equipment

From head to toe:

- A pair of warm shoes or a pair of padded boots
- Slippers or sneakers for the cottage
- Pair of wool socks
- Anorak
- Warm pants
- Warm pullovers or polar fur
- Underwear made of fine technical fibers
- Swimsuit
- Gloves, hat, scarf (depending on the season)

Material

- Toiletry bag
- Pair of sunglasses
- Sun protection cream (face and lip)
- Pocket knife Flashlight or headlamp with spare batteries
- Gourd of 1.5 liters minimum, light and insulated.

You can also provide a water bag of 2 liters. The latter has the advantage of allowing direct consumption thanks to its pipette. You do not have to drop the backpack to grab the gourd. So you drink more regularly and in small quantities which is recommended for a good hydration. Tip: having two containers allows you to consume one while the other is being processed.

Helpful equipment

Waterproof bag for your passport and / or your identity card

Your driving license,

your vaccination record

Your travel insurance leaflet

Your currencies

Your credit card and your personal papers
Plastic bags to guarantee the tightness of your business
Cameras and clothes Laundry bag sale
Earplugs Notepad and pen Book, card game ...
Walking sticks (optional).
Pair of binoculars
Camera and battery charger Adapter for electrical outlet

Luggage

Provide :

A flexible travel bag with side zipper giving easier access to its contents than a sack. Pendant during the trip, it will contain the items you will not use during the day a small backpack (capacity about 40L) for your day's business sweater, spare tee shirt, gourd, glasses, lunch picnic etc. In case, please to foresee in cabin of what to "survive" the first days in the event of delay of your luggage in the hold (toothbrush, T-shirt, walking shoes with the feet etc).

Passport

Consular formalities for Europeans and Swiss nationals:

Upon your registration, please transmit your passport information (name, first name, passport number, date of issues and expiration). Currently, to stay as a tourist for less than six months, a visa is not mandatory and a valid passport is sufficient with a validity exceeding by one day your stay in Canada.

Travelers must imperatively have **an electronic travel authorization (eTA) to enter Canada**. You will have to fill the form online and individually (**one application per person**) on <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/ave.asp> It is essential that you have a valid email address. The 7 CAD fees are payable by Visa, Mastercard or American Express credit cards. The eTA is granted in just a few minutes but we advise you to apply for it as soon as your trip is confirmed. The eTA is an electronic document linked to your passport and stays valid for **5 years or until the expiration of the passport**, depending on the first of these eventualities to occur. You must then travel with the passport used to apply for it.

CAREFUL: for French women, the eTA must be filled with your maiden name. Hence, to facilitate the check-in at the airport, we ask travelers in Canada to indicate their maiden name for the booking of their tickets.

You travel with children:

Children and adults are submitted to the same obligations regarding passports and visa described above. Registration of minors on parents' passports is now impossible; children must hold an individual passport. It is compulsory to apply for an eTA for each child individually.

CAREFUL, from January 15th 2017 onwards, for all French minors traveling abroad alone, an authorization to leave the country is compulsory

The child will have to submit the three following documents:

- The minor's valid passport
- A photocopy of the signatory's identity card, valid or expired for less than 5 years and the birth certificate
- The form, signed by one of the legal guardians, available online on <https://www.service-public.fr/particuliers/vosdroits/F1359>

Concerning other nationalities, seek the Canadian consular authority of your country.

ARRIVAL IN CANADA VIA A TRANSIT THROUGH THE UNITED STATES :

CAREFUL, we can exceptionally use American airlines for travels bound for the American continent (North and South). They stop over in the US: you must **possess an electronic or biometric passport which is still valid 6 months after your departure from the US** (under "passport", a rectangle under a circle meaning a secure symbol)

You must also apply for **an electronic travel authorization (ESTA)** on the official website <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>. Valid for a duration of two years or until the expiration of the passport, this authorization must be requested at the latest 72h before your

departure: we advise you to apply to it as soon as your trip is confirmed. It has to be paid for (14 USD online by credit card). The name you put on the form must be the same as the one that figures on your plane tickets and must of course appears on your passport. If the name used on the ESTA form is different from the one on your tickets, the airline can deny your boarding. Minors must also fill out an ESTA authorization.

The Visa Waiver Program allows French nationals to enter the American territory without a visa, either via transit or for a stay of 90 days to the maximum. A visa is nevertheless necessary if you only have an emergency passport. Furthermore, travelers who went to Iran, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Yemen or Soudan since March 11th 2011 and people who are national of Iran, Iraq, Syria or Soudan cannot benefit from the Visa Waiver program anymore: more information on <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/conseils-aux-voyageurs/conseils-par-pays/etats-unis/>

ARRIVAL IN THE US OR TRANSIT THROUGHT THE US :

Upon your arrival, the immigration service will take your photo and fingerprints. You'll have to wait behind the yellow line and not cross it unless you're told to, it can take some time. Customs controls will take place at the first access point to the territory (in case of a transit through a Canadian airport, it will be considered as a first access point to the US and the following process must be applied). Once you've been through the immigration service, you'll get your luggage back from the conveyer belt and go to the customs. In case of a continuation of your trip, you'll have to get your luggage back and bring them the baggage conveyer which serves.

Health information & recommendations

Pharmacy

Participants are advised to bring their personal medications:

- Aspirin
- Intestinal antiseptic
- Small scissors
- Tricosteril
- Cream of protection Solar face and lips
- Mosquito cream or lotions

Also think of your feet: elastoplast, eosin etc.

Recommendations No vaccine required.

Hygiene :The tap water is drinkable.

Weather

Spring is a rainy season in the major part of Canada. During the day, temperatures generally get high but nights still cool. The median temperature is 12°C in March, April and the beginning of May. Summer officially starts on June 21st but for most Canadians, July and August are the real summer months. It is warm in most regions of Canada. In the South, they are above 20°C during the day and can sometimes pass 30°C. Autumn starts in September. Temperature gets chillier and leaves change color and fall. This season can be very rainy. In some regions, particularly in the North and in the mountains, it may start to snow towards the end of October. During the day, normal temperatures vary between 10 and 12°C in the major part of the country.

Unlike Europe, seasons are well defined in Canada. Temperatures can get higher than 30°C in summer and down to -30°C in winter. In fact, Canadian climate changes a lot from a region or a season to another. Canada extends from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean and lies at the same latitude as Roma at his southern extreme, where it reaches the Arctic.

To know the current climate and weather conditions by provinces and territories, go to www.meteo.gc.ca or www.meteomedia.com

Spring : Spring comes as soon as February on the West Coast. In the rest of Canada, weather gets warmer at the beginning of April and lasts until June.

Summer : Summer in Canada brings cool to hot temperatures from the end of June to the end of September. The warmth of summer lasts from June to August, and July is often the hottest month.

Autumn : Autumn brings pleasant and cool temperatures, particularly in September and in October. It is the best time of the year to enjoy the spectacular beauty of Autumn leaves in the East of Canada, to take long walks while breathing fresh air.

Winter : A major part of Canada is covered with a white coat during winter, temperatures fall below the freezing point, and snowfalls start at the end of October. However, winters are very cool on the West Coast where the snow doesn't stay long.

Electricity

As everywhere in the US, voltage runs at 110 Volts/60 cycles. New electric devices can be adapted to the current. It's preferable to check whether or not your device is equipped with a current transformer. In general, it is a black box located between the electric plug and your device. If your device isn't compatible with the 110-volt current, you'll need to get a current transformer sold separately. As electrical plugs are flat, you'll also need an adaptor to plug your device in. You'll find it easily on the spot or before departure in a shop specialized in travels. A waterproof Zip Lock bag is a good way to keep your equipment in a dry place.

Sustainable tourism

Since the outset, Altai works for an eco-tourism and an organization of trips that respects equitable and sustainable principles.

The harmonization of practices assures:

- A fair economical repartition
- The improvement of local teams' working conditions and their awareness of the protection of the environment
- The information of travelers about respecting the local population and environment and the collection of their feelings at their return.

You can also act in favor of an eco-tourism by adopting simple green gestures during your trips:

- Avoid letting waste out, throw it in the trash can or bring it with you
- Use potable water sparingly (take a shower instead of a bath and report any leaks) and avoid wasting it (use biodegradable soap to wash yourself)
- Avoid damaging cultural sites: don't touch the statues, don't move the stones and objects
- Exchange instead of giving (too important gifts can destabilize the local economic stability of the country depending on their living standards)
- When taking a walk, especially in some fragile ecosystems, observe the fauna from afar, do not go beyond beaten roads, limit stamping and do not bring any souvenirs: give up picking rare flowers picking fossils...
- In some hotels, you can have individual air conditioning. It is advised to systematically switch it off when you're out of the room to avoid energetical overconsumption and greenhouse gas emission.