

2018 BURLINGTON, VT TO MONTRÉAL, QC TOUR ITINERARY

This one-of-a-kind trip begins in Burlington, Vermont and concludes in Montréal, Québec with a festive ride in the famed Tour de l'Île—a recreational ride through Montréal on streets that are closed to traffic specifically for this event. Ride the Island Line Trail north from Burlington to the Lake Champlain Islands. This former rail line is a (mostly) paved trail that follows the Lake Champlain shoreline north to a bike ferry that carries cyclists across a narrow gap in the trail to the islands. An opening reception and dinner overlooking Lake Champlain kicks off the fun at the conclusion of the first day's ride. The following day we'll cross the US-Canadian border at a tiny border crossing station and enter the French-speaking province of Quebec. En route to Montréal, rural roads, bike paths, and quite level terrain typify each day of cycling. Lodging ranges from lakeside inns in Vermont's Lake Champlain Islands, to a full-service hotel in Montréal. You will also enjoy the opportunity to meet the delightfully energetic and personable Madame Boutin—the major promoter of cycling in the region just north of Lake Champlain and the owner of a hotel where the group will stay. A percentage of proceeds from the trip will be donated to Local Motion, the Vermont-based non-profit organization devoted to developing regional trails, fostering walkable communities, and promoting healthy lifestyles. Join us for this wonderfully fun cross-border ride and festive tour of Montréal, by bike!

Thursday, May 31, 2018—Day 1: Burlington to North Hero – Ride north out of Burlington on the Island Line Trail. This former rail trail enables cyclists to follow the shore of Lake Champlain then cross to the Lake Champlain Islands via a bike ferry operated by Local Motion. The ferry crossing is necessary as the old railroad bridge that once spanned the short gap from the trail's causeway to the Islands was dismantled many years ago to allow the passage of pleasure boats between Malletts Bay and the broad lake. Enjoy a visit to Vermont's first vineyard and winery for a picnic lunch hosted by your tour leaders. Ride through the patchwork farmland of the Lake Champlain Islands whose agricultural heritage is firmly rooted in apples and dairy. After settling into your room at Shore Acres Inn, enjoy a swim in the lake or visit the tiny village of North Hero and its eclectic general store whose politically divided bench is worth a visit in and of itself. This evening, the group will gather for a welcome reception and dinner overlooking Lake Champlain.

Lodging: Shore Acres Inn North Hero, Vermont

802-372-8722

www.shoreacres.com

Cycling Options: 32 miles

Friday, June 1, 2018—Day 2: Cross the Canadian Border – Enjoy a beautiful ride along the lakeshore of the Champlain Islands before crossing the border into Canada. Once across the border, the roads narrow and the landscape flattens as farmland dominates the scenery for much of the ride. The Richelieu River, which flows north out of Lake Champlain on its way to rendezvous with the St-Lawrence, is never far from your route to the town of St-Jean-sur-Richelieu. Break for lunch at a French bistro in the town of St-Paul-de l'Île-aux-Noix. The nearby fort at Île aux Noix was alternately occupied by the British, French, and Americans during the French and Indian War until the British loss to the Americans in what would prove to be the final naval confrontation on Lake Champlain. Following lunch, ride north to Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu and your lodging at Auberge Harris which is owned and operated by local legend and cycling promoter, Madame Boutin. Please note that the accommodations here are simple in terms of standard Sojourn accommodations yet clean and comfortable. Take a dip in the pool or a walk the path along the Chambly Canal National Historic Site into town for dinner at one of many restaurants or bistros. The historic canal and its nine locks were completed in 1843, finally allowing ships to pass between Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River without having to portage around the rapids. The 32-mile ride option includes a van transfer from St-Paul-de-l'Île-aux-Noix to Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu.

Lodging: Auberge Harris Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC 450-348-3821 www.aubergeharris.com

Cycling Options: 31 and 50 miles

Saturday, June 2, 2018—Day 3: St-Jean-sur-Richelieu to Montréal – Today's ride follows the *Path du Canal-de-Chambly* north to the charming village of Chambly along an intricate series of locks. The locks enable boats to avoid the unnavigable rapids of the Richelieu River as they pass between Lake Champlain and the Saint Lawrence Seaway. Explore the shops in town or visit Fort Chambly which sits overlooking the rapids and a large basin in the river. The fort serves as another reminder of the battles for control of strategic waterways during Colonial times. The route continues from Chambly to Montréal following bike paths into the city. Early arrival provides the opportunity to explore the city from your hotel located conveniently on the edge of the Latin Quarter and the Quartier des Spectacles (show district), only a few blocks from Old Montréal, or enjoy an additional ride along the city's bike lanes and dedicated paths to Parc René-Lévesque. This evening, the city of Montreal offers an array of dining options just a short walk from the hotel. The Metro—Montréal's fabulous subway system—is close by and offers plenty of additional options for venturing out to other sections of the city.

Lodging: Gouverneur Place Dupuis 888-910-111 <http://www.gouverneur.com/en/hotel/montreal>

Cycling Option: 29 miles

Sunday, June 3, 2018—Day 4: The Tour de l'Île – This morning, join your fellow tour participants and 15,000 others for the Tour de l'Île. This annual ride is a festive event that follows different routes through the Montréal on streets closed to vehicular traffic for this event. The route is often lined with bystanders who cheer for cyclists young and old, slow and fast, those dressed in costume and those who are not. For most of us, it's as close to imagining that we're riding in the Tour de France as we'll ever get. Needless to say, it's an event that every cyclist should experience at least once in their lifetime. There are rest stops along the route and a carnival-like atmosphere in a city park at the end of the ride. Following the conclusion of the ride the group will be transported back to Burlington, Vermont with anticipated arrival during the late afternoon (4:30-5pm).

Cycling Option: 16 – 30 miles

TRAVEL & TOUR QUICK FACTS

Tour Start	10:00am Thursday (Day 1) – Meet in Burlington at 175 Lakeside Ave, Burlington in the Champlain College parking lot behind the Miller building.
Tour Conclusion	5:00 pm – Group return to Burlington (start point, hotel, airport drop-offs). Departure flights should not be scheduled prior to 6:00pm.
Group Size	Limited to 40 participants. As a fund-raiser, the size may be larger than a standard Sojourn tour which is capped at 18 participants. The ratio of tour leaders to participants will be approximately 1:10.
Travel To/From Tour	Fly into Burlington International Airport (BTV). Parking is available at the tour start location.
Pre-Tour Lodging	Reserve through Sojourn for Hotel Vermont . \$275 single/\$300 double occupancy per room. Includes breakfast.
Rating	Intermediate, 28 – 50 miles/day over level to gently rolling terrain.
Weather	Temperatures typically range from 65 – 75 during the day to 45 – 55 at night.
Price	\$1,595 per person double occupancy. \$50 discount for use of your own bicycle and helmet.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO CANADA

As you will be crossing the border between the US and Canada, appropriate documents are required. All travelers are required to have a valid passport, valid passport card, or other WHTI compliant identification. For further travel document information visit the [US Customs & Border Protection](#) website. Please be advised that there are a variety of reasons why Canadian Customs may refuse entry to US citizens. These include prior alcohol related driving infractions in the US. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are eligible to enter Canada. Sojourn is not responsible for anyone who is refused entry into Canada. We suggest a complete review of the information outlined here: [Canadian Customs](#).

DATES & PRICING

Burlington, VT to Montréal 2017 Tour Dates	Per Person DBL Occupancy	Single Room Supplement	Pre & Post Tour Lodging Option Price Per Room SGL/DBL Occupancy
May 31 – June 3	\$1595.00	\$445.00	\$275 SGL / \$300 DBL room

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Equipment	Computer-equipped road or hybrid bike, helmet, rear light, seat bag for road bike or rack bag for hybrid, map case, water bottle, and jersey. Bring clipless pedals, seat, or helmet for a more personalized fit.
Tour de l'Île Entry	Entry fee for the Tour de l'Île and preferred entry to starting line of ride.
Van Support	Rides supported by Sojourn vans as well as tour leaders on bicycles.
Tour Leaders	A group of experienced tour leaders will guide the trip from start to finish. The ratio of tour leaders to participants will be approximately 1:10.
Accommodations	One casual lakeside inn in Vermont, one smaller and basic city hotel in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, one full-service hotel in downtown Montreal. Accommodations are clean and comfortable but more basic than Sojourn's typical accommodations and is reflected accordingly in the tour price.
Meals	All breakfasts, two lunches, and one dinner.
Ride Nourishment	A selection of snacks and refreshments are supplied throughout all rides.
Ride Information	Detailed route directions, maps, and a daily briefing are provided.
Office Support	At your service 9AM – 6PM EST, Monday – Friday. 800-730-4771.
Detailed Information	Provided upon confirmation of reservation (travel, parking, Burlington, etc).

WEATHER

Burlington	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg. High	28°	31°	42°	55°	68°	77°	82°	78°	71°	60°	45°	32°
Avg. Low	8°	10°	21°	34°	44°	54°	58°	56°	48°	42°	28°	15°
Avg. Precip.	4.0 in	4.5 in	4.3 in	2.6 in	3.2 in	3.1 in	3.2 in	3.2 in	3.3 in	2.9 in	3.3 in	3.7 in