



# Explore Eastern Canada

## 9 Night Self Drive Tour

Explore Eastern Canada's highlights with a road trip through vibrant cities and scenic landscapes on this 9 night fly drive holiday.

Start in Toronto, visiting the CN Tower and nearby Niagara Falls, and then head to Ottawa for Parliament Hill and the charming ByWard Market. Drive to Quebec City via the scenic Chemin du Roy, where you'll discover Old Quebec's historic charm and then explore Montreal's Mount Royal, Old Port, and colourful neighbourhoods, ending with a scenic drive back to Toronto via the Thousand Islands.

### Highlights:

- Capture sweeping skyline views from Toronto's iconic CN Tower.
- Wander through Ottawa's Parliament Hill and lively ByWard Market.
- Stroll the cobblestone streets of Quebec City's historic Old Town.
- Experience the French charm of Montreal's Old Port and Notre-Dame Basilica.

### What's included:

- Getting there: Return flights to Toronto
- Transport: car hire inclusive of GPS
- Accommodation: 9 nights total duration (including 1 night on inbound flight) – 8 nights in hotels: 2 nights Toronto, 2 nights Ottawa, 2 nights Quebec City, 2 nights Montreal
- Meals: as per accommodation booked, most hotels will only offer room only or breakfast

### Not included:

- Any meals (other than the one mentioned in the itinerary), drinks, tips, expenses of personal nature.
- Early/late check-in/out service at hotels (surcharge if requested)
- Optional excursion/tours
- Travel insurance and visa

# Full Itinerary

## DAY 1 - UK TO TORONTO

Arrive in Toronto and pick up your rental car at the airport. Settle into your hotel, and if time allows, explore a bit of the city. Head to Toronto's Harbourfront or Distillery District for a relaxed evening stroll and dinner.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Pantages Hotel Downtown Toronto or similar



## DAY 2 - TORONTO

Spend the day seeing Toronto's highlights, including the CN Tower, Royal Ontario Museum, Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Toronto Islands for amazing skyline views. For foodies, Kensington Market and the St. Lawrence Market offer diverse food options.

You may also wish to take a 1.5-hour drive south to Niagara Falls for a thrilling experience. You can enjoy views from the falls' edge or take the famous Hornblower boat tour. Visit the Journey Behind the Falls tunnels or head to nearby Niagara-on-the-Lake to explore charming shops and wineries.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Pantages Hotel Downtown Toronto or similar

### **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:**

- CN Tower - Observation Experience: look out over the glittering skyline of Toronto at the world-famous CN Tower with this self-guided trip to the top. Towering above Toronto at a height of over 550 metres, the CN Tower was the world's tallest tower for over three decades. Starting point 301 Front Street West, Canada
- Kensington Market and Chinatown Tour: Skip the generic, tourist-trap sights and join this Toronto tour to see two of the city's coolest communities. Hit Chinatown to see where China and Canada collide, then visit the Kensington Market area for graffiti, vintage shops, coffee houses, comic book stores, and everything else decidedly hip. NB: Not available Mondays or through Festive season
- Journey Behind the Falls: Observe the thrilling power of nature at close quarters with this year-round attraction that affords astonishing views of Niagara Falls from below and behind



## DAY 3 - TORONTO TO OTTAWA

After breakfast you will follow Lake Ontario's north shore and head east towards Canada's capital city, Ottawa. You may wish to stop in Kingston if you'd like to break up the drive and take in its waterfront and historical buildings.

Arrive in Ottawa by late afternoon. Check into your hotel and explore the ByWard Market area, full of shops, pubs, and restaurants.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Le Germain Hotel Ottawa or similar

DRIVING TIME: 4 hr 15 min / 280 mi



## DAY 4 - OTTAWA

Spend the day in Canada's capital. Start at Parliament Hill with a tour of the iconic buildings, then head to the Rideau Canal, which is especially scenic in the warmer months (or an ice-skating paradise in winter).

Visit the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Museum of History in nearby Gatineau. For a unique viewpoint, take a stroll across the Alexandra Bridge, which offers great views of the Ottawa River.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Le Germain Hotel Ottawa or similar

## DAY 5 - OTTAWA TO QUEBEC CITY

Depart Ottawa and head northeast, taking Chemin du Roy (Route 138) for a scenic drive along the St. Lawrence River; this route offers picturesque small towns like Trois-Rivières and quaint countryside views.

Arrive in Quebec City in the afternoon and take a leisurely walk around Old Quebec. Explore the cobblestone streets, historic buildings, and vibrant cafés.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Hotel Clarendon, Quebec City or similar

DRIVING TIME: 5 hr 25 min / 285 mi



## DAY 6 - QUEBEC CITY

Spend the day immersing yourself in Quebec City's charm. Walk around Old Quebec (a UNESCO World Heritage site) and see Château Frontenac, Place Royale, and the historic Fortifications of Quebec.

Explore the Petit Champlain district, known for its narrow streets and artisan shops, or visit Montmorency Falls just outside the city. For a taste of history, check out the Musée de l'Amérique francophone or the Plains of Abraham.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Hotel Clarendon, Quebec City or similar



## DAY 7 - QUEBEC CITY TO MONTREAL

Head southwest to Montreal, and if time permits, stop in Trois-Rivières along the way for a coffee break and river views.

Arrive in Montreal and check into your hotel. Spend the rest of the day exploring the Old Port and Old Montreal (Vieux-Montréal) with its historic architecture, cobblestone streets, and French charm.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Best Western Ville-Marie Montreal Hotel & Suites or similar

DRIVING TIME: 3 hr / 166 mi



## DAY 8 - MONTREAL

Start with a visit to Mount Royal for panoramic city views. Then, explore downtown Montreal and its Underground City, or enjoy the colourful vibe of the Plateau neighbourhood with its murals and cafes.

Visit Notre-Dame Basilica, the Jean-Talon Market, and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. End the day with dinner at a classic Montreal bistro or try the city's famous bagels or poutine.

ACCOMMODATION: 4\* Best Western Ville-Marie Montreal Hotel & Suites or similar



## DAY 9 - MONTREAL TO TORONTO

This morning you will begin your journey back to Toronto; you may wish to stop at the Thousand Islands Parkway enroute for a scenic break.

Arrive in Toronto, return your rental car to the airport and board your return flight back to the UK.

DRIVING TIME: 5 hr 25 min / 342 mi



## DAY 10 - ARRIVAL IN THE UK

Your overnight flight arrives back in the UK for you to make your journey home.

# FAQs

## BEST TIME TO TRAVEL

The best time to travel to Eastern Canada is in the summer for warmer temperatures, longer days and the best conditions for exploring coastal towns and discovering vibrant summer events. The autumn months (September to October) are also ideal, with fewer crowds and opportunities to view the beautiful fall foliage. Take caution if travelling in winter as heavy snow can make travel challenging.

## CAR HIRE

Please note to rent a car the lead driver must have a credit card in their name. Debit cards are only accepted in some cases. Please ensure a GPS is included in the car rental, as well as multiple drivers and a free tank of petrol should you wish to benefit from this. There may be an excess applicable for car rentals in Canada, which will be advised at the time of booking. You may wish to include rental car excess cover in your travel insurance policy, or ask one of our team if there is an additional policy that can be added to your holiday.

## MAPS

Your car hire will have a GPS included so you can find your way; physical driving instructions are not included, to give you the flexibility to stop and change route at any time.

## ALTERNATIVE ROUTE

You may also wish to travel Eastern Canada s a one-way journey from Toronto to either Montreal or Ottawa; the airports that service these cities offer direct flights to the UK. Keep in mind there may be a one-way rental fee charged which can be advised at the time of booking.

## VISA

British passport holders require an eTA to enter Canada by air. Please visit the FCDO website for more information.

## NATIONAL PARKS

Most National Parks and historic sites in Canada charge a mandatory fee. Please visit Parks Canada for more information.