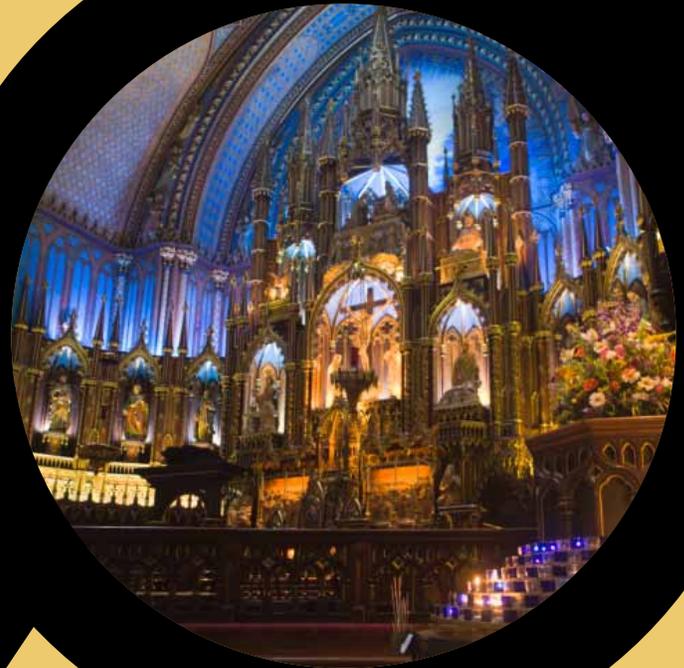


MONTREAL

FALL & WINTER GUIDE 2010 – 2011



The best places to eat, sleep and play in Montreal this fall and winter

With more than 40 million reviews and opinions, TripAdvisor makes travel planning a snap for the 40 million travelers visiting our site each month.



INTRODUCTION



TripAdvisor, the most trusted source for where to eat, sleep and play in thousands of destinations around the world, has collected the best insider tips from its 40 million monthly visitors to produce a unique series of travel guides. In addition to the best hotels, restaurants and attractions for every type of traveler, you'll get great advice about what to pack, how to get around and where to find the best views. Be sure to check out the guides at www.tripadvisor.com.



You'll find reviews for more than 479,000 hotels, 93,000 attractions and 580,000 restaurants on TripAdvisor.com. Learn from other travelers what to expect before you make your plans.



PACKING TIPS

1. "If you don't speak French, it may be a good idea to bring along a **French-English dictionary**."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal
2. Pack **fashionable clothes** for evening. "Montrealers know how to dress well. Wear a pair of black pants or stylish jeans/skirt with a nice shirt."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal
3. "Bring good **sneakers or walking shoes** that you don't mind getting a tad dirty" if the weather is less than perfect.—TripAdvisor Member
4. "Summer evenings can be chilly, especially if you're anywhere near the water, so bring a **sweater or a jacket**. A jacket can do double duty in case you get a rainy day."—TripAdvisor Member, Ottawa

Inside MONTREAL

In 1760, France lost the colony that became Montreal to the British, but the French influence is permanently imprinted upon this cosmopolitan Canadian city of almost two million people. Outdoor cafes, numerous parks crisscrossed with cycling paths and an energetic nightlife scene contribute to the "joie de vivre" that permeates the air.

Bask in the serenity of the Montreal Botanical Gardens in spring or watch the changing colors of the wooded Laurentian Mountains in the fall. Take a hike up Mount Royal in the heat of summer to enjoy sweeping views of the city. And during the winter deep freeze, the buzz continues in the vast Underground City of restaurants and shops that connects to the Metro system. Above or below ground, the streets of Montreal are a playground for visitors year-round.

Top VIEWS



MONTREAL'S BEST VIEWS



Take in “a panoramic view of downtown and the mountain” from **Le Pier Cité du Havre**, famous for Habitat 67, an experimental (and controversial) housing complex built during the Montreal World's Fair (Expo 67).—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Le Pier Cité du Havre

The view from the 574-foot **Olympic Tower**, the tallest leaning tower in the world, “truly is amazing and definitely worth the visit. You get to see all of Montreal, and the elevator on the way up is really fun; it has glass so you get to see the city” en route.—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Olympic Tower, Pierre-de-Coubertin Ave., near Metro stop Pie-IX, 877 997 0919

Take a ride up 761-foot **Mont Royal** “to see a beautiful view of the city for free, lots of people exercising and taking pictures and The Smith House, a beautiful chalet-type building with lots of stairs for resting.” The pleasant mountain spot is the only truly elevated area of Montreal.—TripAdvisor Member, Pennsylvania

Mont Royal, Information Center, Remembrance Road, 514 843 8240

Where to PLAY

TOP 10 Attractions

1. Notre-Dame Basilica (Basilique Notre-Dame), 110 Notre-Dame W., 514 842 2925
2. Montreal Botanical Gardens (Jardin Botanique de Montreal), 4101 rue Sherbrooke E., 514 872 1400
3. Jean-Talon Market, 7075 Casgrain Ave., 514 277 1588
4. Mont (Mount) Royal, Information Center, Remembrance Road, 514 843 8240
5. L'atelier de Sculpture du Village, 1206 boul. de Maisonneuve E.
6. Old Montreal (Vieux-Montreal)
7. Canadian Railway Museum, 110 rue Saint-Pierre, Saint-Constant, 450 632 2410
8. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (Musée des Beaux-Arts), 1380 rue Sherbrooke W., 514 285 1600
9. Lafontaine Park, Sherbrooke North to Rachel, 514 872 2644
10. St. Joseph's Oratory (Oratoire Saint-Joseph), 3800 chemin Queen Mary, 514 733 8211

FAMILIES



“We visited the **Canadian Railroad Museum** and loved it. Our 2 1/2 year old son was so excited he didn't know what to look at first! There's an old station rebuilt on site and a miniature railway you can ride for free.”—TripAdvisor Member, Newcastle, England

Canadian Railroad Museum, 110 rue Saint-Pierre, Saint-Constant 450 632 2410

The **St. Lawrence Valley Ecomuseum** is “a charming zoo. The animals include bears, coyote, deer, fox, porcupines, birds/owls, raccoons, and, of course, the playful otters who are always a big hit with the kids.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

St. Lawrence Valley Ecomuseum, 21 125 Chemin Sainte-Marie, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, 514 457 9449

“Just outside the city, **La Sucrierie de la Montagne** is a historic sugar shack offering guided tours, hay rides on horse-drawn carriages and, of course, sugary treats from the hundred-year-old bakery.”—TripAdvisor Member, Toronto, Ontario

La Sucrierie de la Montagne, 300 rang Saint-Georges, Rigaud, 450 451 0831

“...so romantic you'll fall in love all over again.”

ROMANCE



With evening tango in the summer and a skating rink over the winter, “**Parc Lafontaine** is a jewel of a park that will make you fall in love with Montreal.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Lafontaine Park, rue Sherbrooke and Parc-La Fontaine Avenue, 514 872 2644

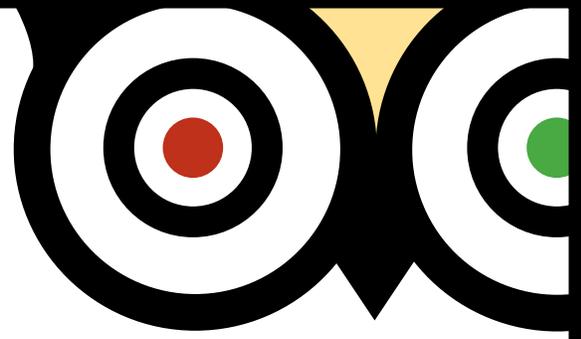
“We sat in a window seat in the **Museum of Fine Arts'** cafeteria and watched the Montreal morning, then wandered around the well laid-out, calming galleries.”—TripAdvisor Member, Passaic, N.J.

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (Musée des Beaux-Arts), 1380 rue Sherbrooke W., 514 285 1600

Take a stroll through the cobblestone streets of **Old Montreal**, which is “so romantic you'll fall in love all over again.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Old Montreal (Vieux-Montreal), rue Saint-Antoine S. to the Saint-Lawrence River, rue Bleury E. to rue Saint-Denis

Where to **PLAY**



BUDGET

A 19th-century square that serves as one of Montreal's favorite meeting places, "**Place Jacques-Cartier** is also an exciting adventure, with its street entertainers and other performances."—TripAdvisor Member

Place Jacques-Cartier, Old Montreal

"The **Old Port** is a nice place for a walk by the ocean. There are a few piers lined with numerous shops and restaurants. At one end of the port is a high clock tower with an observation deck."—TripAdvisor Member, New York, New York

Quays of the Old Port of Montreal (Quais du Vieux-Port de Montreal), 333 rue de la Commune Ouest, 514 283 5256

"Try **Le Sainte-Elisabeth** pub on the corner of Rue Ste-Elisabeth and Rue Ste-Catherine. It's a little hard to find, but it's a local favorite, especially for university students."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Le Sainte-Elisabeth, 1412 rue Saint-Elisabeth, 514 286 4302



ADVENTURE

Experience "some gigantic rapids at the foot of a big city" with **Saute-Moutons**. Ride in a jet boat "that executes the climbs and descents of gigantic waves on the Saint Lawrence River and see the rapids of Lachine. Fantastic!"—TripAdvisor Member, Paris, France

Saute-Moutons / Lachine Rapids Jet Boat Tours, 47 de la Commune Ouest, 514 284 9607

Road trip north of Montreal to the mountainous **Laurentiens**. Known for skiing, these are "really four-season locales with hiking, mountain biking, etc."—TripAdvisor Member, Ottawa, Ontario

The Laurentides Wildlife Preserve

"Gather to watch the surfers" taming the waves (and avoiding the winter ice floes) of the **St. Lawrence River** behind Habitat 67.—TripAdvisor Member

St. Lawrence River

TripAdvisor members have posted more than 3,000,000 photos on the site. The good, the bad and the very candid. It's almost like being there!



EDUCATIONAL/HISTORICAL

Notre-Dame Basilica is a must-see for the "beautiful architecture, amazing details and the stained glass windows that tell the history of Montreal. There was also a pipe organ with over 7,000 pipes!"—TripAdvisor Member, Albany, N.Y.

Notre-Dame Basilica (Basilique Notre-Dame), 110 Notre-Dame W., 514 842 2925

The **Museum of Archaeology and History** "unearths the original city. Its approach is unique and exclusive, just like my beautiful city, ma belle province! One can spend hours here."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Museum of Archaeology and History (Pointe-a-Calliere Museum), 350 Place Royale, 514 872 9150

Chateau Ramezay Museum, filled with "paintings, models, writings and maps," is "a great representation of life in Montreal years ago."—TripAdvisor Member, New York

Chateau Ramezay Museum, 200 rue Notre-Dame E., 514 861 3708

"...stained glass windows that tell the history of Montreal."



RELAXATION

Chill out at **Cinema du Parc**. The city's legendary repertory theater closed after financial difficulties, but has reopened and promises to continue its tradition of showing "great offbeat, arty and retro" films.—TripAdvisor Member, Toronto, Ontario

Cinema du Parc, 3575 Ave. du Parc, 514 281 1900

"**Montreal Botanical Gardens** are enormous; there are dozens of different gardens. It's a great place for flower lovers or people who like to feel surrounded by nature."—TripAdvisor Member, Leon, Spain

Montreal Botanical Gardens (Jardin Botanique de Montreal), 4101 rue Sherbrooke E., 514 872 1400

Saint-Joseph's Oratory "was magnificent, the views fantastic and it was effortless getting to the top as the escalators did all the hard work."—TripAdvisor Member, Shropshire, England

Saint-Joseph's Oratory (Oratoire Saint-Joseph), 3800 chemin Queen Mary, 514 733 8211

"...the escalators did all the hard work."

What's the **TOUR**

How to Get Around

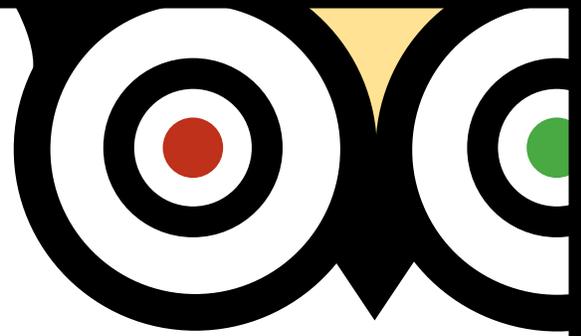


STM – Société de Transport de Montréal



What's the **TOUR**

How to Get Around



Use the city's effective subway system, the **Métro**. The most important lines are the green (downtown shopping, Olympic Park) and the orange (Old Montreal).

"Montreal has the most **bike paths** of any North American city, and some of them go through Old Montreal."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Want more information on Montreal? TripAdvisor.com offers free weekly e-mail updates filled with new deals, reviews and articles for Montreal or any other destination you choose.



WHERE to eat

FAMILIES

"The sandwiches at **Santropol** are awesome! I love their homemade bread, and all the ingredients are always so fresh."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Santropol, 3990 rue St. Urbain (at rue Duluth), 514 842 3110

"The food at **Brasserie T** is great, the ambience bustling, and the service very good. The prices make it spectacular—healthy portions of delicious food at really affordable prices."—TripAdvisor Member, Madison, Wis.

Brasserie T, 1425 rue Jeanne-Mance, 514 282 0808

"We loved **Chalet Bar-B-Q** as kids growing up in Montreal 55 years ago. It hasn't changed a bit. Same pine walls and formica tables. Same delicious chicken."—TripAdvisor Member, Vancouver, B.C.

Chalet Bar-B-Q, 5456 Rue Sherbrooke O., 514 489 7235

ROMANCE

"**Bonaparte** is one of my favorites in old Montreal. The last time I had a table by a window looking down a cobblestone street. It was very romantic. It's in an old auberge—cozy, wonderful food and good service."—TripAdvisor Member, Quebec

Bonaparte, 447 rue Saint-Francois-Xavier, 514 844 4368

"...a visual and an aromatic delight."

"The chef at **Chez L'Epicier** indulges you with spontaneous creations. The food entices you through all five senses. My husband tried the foie gras and was mesmerized, calling it not only a gustatory but also a visual and an aromatic delight."—TripAdvisor Member

Chez L'Epicier, 311 Saint-Paul E., 514 878 2232

"**Le Club Chasse et Peche** has a lovely atmosphere. The wine list was over the top with selections from many countries, and the menu lived up to the name with choices of fish and game. My oysters with Hollandaise, bacon and spinach were superb!"—TripAdvisor Member, Houston, Texas

Le Club Chasse et Peche, 423 rue St-Claude, 514 861 1112

BUDGET

"For quick crepes," try **Crêpe 2 Go**, "a small mom-and-pop place that serves very good crepes at even better prices! They serve the crepes or paninis with fresh fruits."—TripAdvisor Member

Crêpe 2 Go, 2150 rue de Bleury (at Sherbrooke), 514 987 6060

"...like a bagel factory"

Montreal is famous for its unique bagels. "I kept thinking that we were in the wrong place, because it was like we walked into **Fairmount's** bagel factory!" Grab some cream cheese and take the perfect snack to go.—TripAdvisor Member, Charlottesville, Va.

Fairmount Bagel, 74 Fairmount W., 514 272 0667

"For something a bit out of the box that won't break the bank, try **Olive & Gourmando**—stellar lunches. If you have a chance to sample their brownies, you'll walk away a happy camper."—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Olive & Gourmando, 351 rue Saint-Paul W., 514 350 1083

WHERE to eat



HEALTH-CONSCIOUS

Chez Gatsé, a small Tibetan restaurant just west of Saint-Denis, serves “a good vegetarian meal for less than \$10. If the weather permits, eat on the back terrace.”—TripAdvisor Member

Chez Gatsé, 317 rue Ontario E., 514 985 2494

“**Cafe Lola Rosa** is the first veggie restaurant I’ve been to where I was tempted by everything on the menu. Watching other people’s food arriving was a treat, because it was colourful and beautifully arranged.”—TripAdvisor Member, Haverfordwest, U.K.

Cafe Lola Rosa, 545 Milton, 514 287 9337

“Try restaurant **Chu Chai** for really amazing Thai food that’s 100 percent vegetarian.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Chu Chai, 4088 rue Saint-Denis, 514 843 4194

HIDDEN GEMS

Restaurant Le Grain De Sel is a “wonderful, intimate restaurant with one of the friendliest staffs we’ve ever seen. The menu is limited in number of items but certainly not in range or creativity. All of the presentations were fantastic, and the food was spot on!”—TripAdvisor Member, Dallas, Texas

Restaurant Le Grain De Sel, 2375 Rue Saint Catherine E., 514 522 5105

“If you like Asian food, **Tchang-Kiang** is a little gem. Ask Mrs. Xiao to advise you on your meal, and melt from Szechuan and Pekinese pleasure.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Tchang-Kiang, 6066 rue Sherbrooke W., 514 487 7744

“**La Montée de Lait** is a “tiny place with a scrumptious taster menu and an impressive number of wines by the glass.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

La Montée de Lait, 1424 rue Bishop, 514 289 9921

“...a scrumptious taster menu”

SPECIAL EVENTS



As the northern November air gets cooler, it’s time to head inside and warm up with a movie at any one of the many film festivals going on in Montreal throughout the month. Try a French-language film (with English subtitles) at **Cinemanía** (November 4 – 14), open your eyes to new realities with a documentary at **RIDM** (November 10 – 21), or celebrate diversity on film at **Image+Nation**, Montreal’s LGTB film festival. (October 28 – November 7)

Cinemanía, Cinéma Impérial, 514 878 2882, <http://www.cinemaniafilmfestival.com>

RIDM – International Documentary Meet, Various venues, 514 499 3676, <http://www.ridm.qc.ca>

Image+Nation, Various venues, <http://www.image-nation.org>

Indulge that sweet tooth with the tastiest of treats and products as well as sampling, shopping and live entertainment at **Salon Passion Chocolat & Cie.** (November)

Salon Passion Chocolat & Cie, Marche Bonsecours, 416 925 3666, <http://www.salonpassionchocolat.com>

Considered the largest craft fair in North America, the **Salon des Métiers d’Art** is the perfect place to pick up a unique Christmas gift for your friends and family. Overwhelmed by the choices presented by over 450 exhibitors and artisans? Take a break from shopping and watch a parade or dance to live music. (December 3 – 22)

Salon des Métiers d’Art, Place Bonaventure, 514 861 2787, <http://www.metiers-d-art.qc.ca>

Don’t hide from the cold—embrace it at the **Fête des Neiges de Montreal**, where le Boule de Neige, the king of the carnival, reigns in his snow castle over a kingdom that encompasses ice sculptures, ice climbing towers, a winding skating path, tube slides, workshops and much more. (January 22 – February 6)

Fête des Neiges de Montreal, Parc Jean-Drapeau, 514 872 6120, <http://www.fetedesneiges.com>

Food, art and music come together at the **Montreal High Lights Festival**, where top chefs demonstrate their craft while DJs, performers, acrobats, artists and entertainers wow the crowds. This year, Montreal’s Portuguese community will be bringing a taste of their home to the festival, with events featuring Portuguese wine and culture. (February 17 – 27)

Montreal High Lights Festival, Various venues, 514 288 9955, <http://www.montrealhighlights.com>

Although Quebec is known for its French-speaking population, the Irish community in la Belle Province is large and proud, and nowhere is this more evident than the **Montreal St. Patrick’s Parade**, one of the longest-running parades of its kind in North America. Join throngs of green-clad onlookers to catch the vibrant music, brilliant floats and marching bands parading along Rue Sainte-Catherine. (March 20)

St. Patrick’s Parade, Sainte-Catherine Street, <http://www.montrealirishparade.com>

Where to STAY



FAMILIES

“Staying at the gorgeous **Le Square Phillips** was like coming to my dream home every night. The high ceilings, the gorgeous pillars, the lighting, the bathroom—it was a wonderful experience. It’s a true jewel that reflects Montreal’s class.”—TripAdvisor Member, Caracas, Venezuela

Le Square Phillips Hotel and Suites, 1193 Place Phillips, 514 393 1193

“The room at **Hotel du Fort** was large, clean and comfortable, with excellent city views. Having a kitchenette in the room was great. Reception staff was helpful and efficient and even managed to find me an emergency dentist.”—TripAdvisor Member, London, England

Hotel du Fort, 1390 rue du Fort, 514 938 8333

Parc Suites Hotel is a “home away from home, very centrally located near the Plateau neighborhood, downtown Montreal and Old Montreal. Extremely quiet considering how close it is to all the entertainment, shopping, and activity of Montreal.”—TripAdvisor Member, Montreal

Parc Suites Hotel, 3463 Ave. du Parc, 514 985 5656

“...très très bien fait!”



Have questions about Montreal? Get insider advice from local experts in our forums. The majority of questions are answered within 24 hours.

ROMANCE

At **Le Saint-James** “the décor was beautiful and elegant, an excellent melding of classic luxury and technology. Your entire stay will be filled with unexpected niceties.”—TripAdvisor Member, Michigan

Le Saint-James, 355 rue Saint-Jacques, 514 841 3111

Loews Hotel Vogue is “top of the line. The staff is pleasant, informed, clear and just a delight to deal with. This is the way it should always be done. Congratulations, et très très bien fait (well done!)”—TripAdvisor Member, Paris, France

Loews Hotel Vogue, 1425 rue de la Montagne, 514 285 5555

“From the tasteful, individual decoration of the sumptuous rooms with their wonderful beds and bathrooms to the staff who will go out of their way to make your stay a great one, **Hotel Kutuma** is hands-down the best hotel I’ve stayed in.”—TripAdvisor Member, Almere, Netherlands

Hotel Kutuma, 3708 St. Denis St., 514 844 0111

BUDGET

A l’Adresse du Centre-Ville offers “no pretense: You are welcomed with open arms. You feel at home right away, and the hosts are always ready to you inform you of one curiosity or the other. The experience is wonderful and leaves good memories that last.”—TripAdvisor Member, Liège, Belgium

A l’Adresse du Centre-Ville, 1673 Saint-Christophe, 514 528 9516

Chateau de l’Argoat is the “perfect European style hotel. The staff are very friendly and go out of their way to be helpful. The location is great, close to the trendy restaurants of the Plateau and the Old Town.”—TripAdvisor Member, Paris, France

Chateau de l’Argoat, 524 rue Sherbrooke E., 514 842 2046

Au Git’Ann’s “location is superb for both sightseeing and nightlife. Breakfast is delicious, copious and varied. It was like visiting an old friend! Ann will definitely make you feel at home!”—TripAdvisor Member, Munich, Germany

Au Git’Ann, 1806 Saint-Christophe, 514 523 4494

“Our dream hotel.”

LUXURY

“It was bliss when we arrived at **Hotel Gault**, a four-star hotel with five-star service. The staff rushed to carry our suitcases. They were so fast the cab driver did not have time to get out of the car.”—TripAdvisor Member, France

Hotel Gault, 449 Saint-Helene, 514 904 1616

Le Saint-Sulpice is a “marvelous hotel! The welcome is perfect; the staff, attentive and the rooms, to the height of their description. The location is ideal for a discovery of Montreal.”—TripAdvisor Member, Lyon, France

Le Saint-Sulpice, 414 rue Saint-Sulpice, 877 785 7423

Hotel Nelligan “got it all right—from the decor to the food to the staff and atmosphere. This hotel really has put together a wonderful setting for a romantic stay in Old Montreal. It was our dream hotel.”—TripAdvisor Member, Edinburgh, Scotland

Hotel Nelligan, 106 rue Saint-Paul W., 514 788 2040

Where to STAY



HIDDEN GEMS

“The warm welcome of Reno and Josée at **Le Kensington** right away made us comfortable. Thanks to their kindness and to their good advice, we visited very beautiful corners of the city, and we did not lack anything! Especially not at breakfast—abundant, colorful, absolutely divine!”—TripAdvisor Member, France

Le Kensington, 4660 Kensington, 514 489 2027

Alexandre Logan “was in a wonderful location—we could walk everywhere. Tastefully decorated. The food was great; the rooms, clean and comfortable. But the best thing was our host, Alain. He was so fun and helpful. It completed a truly wonderful trip.”—TripAdvisor Member, Munich, Germany

Alexandre Logan (1870), 1631 Alexandre DeSeve, 514 598 0555

Le Relais Lyonnais is a “secret hotel that deserves to be discovered. The room is really luxurious and well decorated for a reasonable price. The location on rue Saint Denis is really good, and the room was not noisy, even if on the street. The perfect place for independent travelers.”—TripAdvisor Member, Puteaux, France

Le Relais Lyonnais, 1595 rue St-Denis, 514 448 2999

“...we did not lack anything!”

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