



Québec and the military: from “Gibraltar of America” to “Summit of Americas”

Organizer

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*Int’al Conference on Military Geology
and Geography (2007)*

Place or route

Starting from Parliament Hill we will visit the Citadel and the Plains of Abraham in Old Quebec. We then go to the Parc des Braves in Montcalm before visiting the former parishes of Saint-Malo and Notre-Dame-de-la-Pitié. We then continue along the St. Charles River, stopping in the Saint-Roch and Saint-Jean-Baptiste neighborhoods as well as Old-Limoilou. We end at the Palais and the Place Royale. Return via the Ecolobus, line 21.

Schedule

8 August, 12:30PM to 6:30PM

Capacity

Max 20 persons, Min 10 persons

Note

Approximately 11 km, walking including several climbs and descents hills and stairways.

This walking excursion begins on Parliament Hill and visits the Upper and Lower Towns, sites of numerous military events and buildings including the Citadel and the Plains of Abraham. After crossing the Plains of Abraham, we will go through the streets of the Montcalm district, noting the toponyms honoring the French and British officers of 1759 and 1760, arriving on the avenue des Braves (avenue of the Brave) and the parc des Braves, a part of the National Battlefields Park. We then descend into St. Malo where we will see an armory and the former Dominion arsenal (1938-1945) before arriving at to in a residential area near the St. Charles River that once housed munitions workers. In St. Jean Baptiste, the St. Vallier street is the site of a First World War anti-conscription riot. We then go to Martello Tower n° 4, a defensive fortification, before embarking on several streets named after military notables including Horatio-Nelson (1805), Les Voltigeurs, de Salaberry and Châteauguay (1813). Contemporary history comes alive when we observe the land which remains more than twenty years after being expropriated for an urban freeway project blocked by the citizens (1973-1993). We then visit the memorial cemetery of the Hôpital-General (1759, 1775), where Montcalm rests. A point by the Victoria Park (FLQ, 1963) will take us to Limoilou and the simulated fortifications of the park of the Old Passage (1759). From there onwards to the Latin American park, the Palais train station (1917), the Old Shipyard (1738), the New Barracks (1752, 1901), the Artillery Park (1712-1871) and the house of Montcalm on the Rue des Remparts. In the Old Port, from Pointe-à-Carcy (HMCS Montcalm Reserve, 1923 and Canadian Forces Naval School and Naval Museum) we will go to the Rue de la Barricade and the Sault-au-Matelot (1775) (1691) and Notre-Dame-des-Victoires Church (1690, 1711) on the site of the second Habitation de Champlain (1633).

