

Villegia Hotels: ideal family getaways

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How's this for a spring break? A slow moonlight skate on a stunning three-kilometre ice ring, then retiring to a winter terrace with a warm crackling fire, hot chocolate and wool blankets for an intimate snuggle or simply to stargaze on a clear wintry night.

Villegia Hotels offer enough winter activities and packages for every taste and budget, helping Montrealers discover a richly rewarding jewel in their own backyard. If you are into skiing, tobogganing, snowmobiling or simply indulging in some rest and relaxation while admiring Quebec's natural beauty in the most stunning and peaceful settings, then check out the four unique Villegia hotels -getaways so close to home they make the school break a real learning experience in fun and style.

Nestled in the heart of the picturesque Magog-Orford region, Hotel Cheribourg is the ideal family destination with something for everyone. With 117 rooms, 13 cottages and condos, top-notch accommodations offer amenities designed to take care of you, body and soul -from the sauna and whirlpool baths to the fitness centre and indoor pool.

Pets are welcome, which is a thrill for kids, as is the nearby skating rink and the ever-popular Cheri-Club, a 1,500-square-foot supervised game room offering children, ages 4 to 12, a safe play area while parents enjoy time to themselves.

Just imagine relaxing in a whirlpool bath while the kids play in inflatable games -or sample Cheribourg's renowned continental-regional cuisine while your kids enjoy air hockey, arts and crafts, the toddler corner and more. For the ultimate indulgence, treat yourself to Spa Cheribourg's unique treatments including balneotherapy, massotherapy, waterfall massage and more.

About a kilometre away, Manoir des Sables offers more romantic ambience, with a host of activities from ice skating to cross-country ski trails. Located between Mount Orford and Lake Memphremagog, with 140 rooms and luxurious suites offering exceptional views, it's a magical part of the Eastern Townships, one of Canada's most naturally beautiful regions.

Escape the city's doldrums in a sauna or take a dip in a Nordic bath and admire enchanting landscapes.

Try out the tube sliding or have a workout indoors, then opt for one of the many body-care services at the new 6,000-square-foot Spa Villegia with Hammam, including pressotherapy, oxygenotherapy and facial care.

Both hotels offer shuttle service to Mount Orford and downtown Magog.

Just minutes north of Quebec City in Lac Beauport, Manoir St-Castin offers vacationers an experience reserved for those romantic and unique getaways that are at once a peaceful winter wonderland and a gateway to exciting cultural activities.

You can alternate between snowshoeing and sea-salt body treatments, or finish a day of testing your mettle on St. Castin's 250-metre-long tubing slide with a dip in the indoor heated swimming pool, or that moonlight skate (Manoir St-Castin offers one of the largest skating rinks right on Lac Beauport) and starlit winter terrace.

Your palate needs some pampering, too, so head for the panoramic Tiffany dining room, where superb culinary traditions await you with fresh and savoury dishes highlighting local products prepared with expertise and flair.

With 104 beautiful, comfortable rooms and suites -and 15 condos for those wanting a bigger space with family or friends -the complex is an ideal location to enjoy the best of both worlds: close to numerous tourist attractions in the greater Quebec area and Vieux-Quebec, yet a true resort where one can savour the great outdoors or relax, unwind and indulge at the Spa, which draws from the natural elements of earth and water to benefit your entire body and spirit.

Looking for excitement? Then head for the heart of Quebec to Victoriaville where all roads lead to Hotel Le Victorin.

If the roads you seek have more twists, turns and adventures, then this is the stop for your winter break.

For motor sports fans this is a premier destination, whether you love to tackle trails up close and personal on an ATV or try your hand at some of the best snowmobiling trails in the region.

When you're done, let the therapists at the Azur Spa usher you into a haven of calm and indulgence, where professionalism and

