

The Centre-du-Quebec region is a favourite

... enjoying the outdoors

Centre de la biodiversité du Québec

- In winter, the trails around the Centre de la biodiversité are groomed for walking. You can also take part in a forest rally to enhance your hike through the woods! Whatever the season, visitors can also take part in a guided tour of the Centre.

Club de ski de fond Saint-François

- The Club de ski de fond Saint-François has trails that lead skiers through the Village Québécois d'Antan pioneer village, through a sugar bush, and along the St. Francis River.
- These include 21 km of trails designed for one-step double poling and 6 km groomed for ski skating.

Forêt Drummond

- Nighttime sliding at the Courvalloise: December 30, January 22, February 5 and February 26. The site will be open exceptionally from 6 to 10 p.m. for experiencing the joys of sliding in a different light! The Courvalloise features three sliding corridors, a mechanical lift, and hours of fun!
- Treetop adventures at D'Arbre en arbre in the winter: December 30, February 5 and February 26. Thrill seekers will be able to brave winter on this aerial trail with over 80 challenges. Reservations required.
- The site also features 20 km of classical cross-country ski trails, 10 km of ski skating trails, and 6 km of snowshoe trails along the St. Francis River.

Mount Arthabaska

- This is the best observation point over the city of Victoriaville and its surrounding area. In the winter, Mount Arthabaska has more than 10 km of classical cross-country ski and ski skate trails, several snowshoe trails and 4 wide tube sliding corridors with a mechanical lift.

Bird-watching

- Whatever the season, the Centre-du-Quebec region is an ideal destination for bird-watchers. The new bird-watching guide for the Centre-du-Quebec region includes a bird-watching route. This guide helps both professional and amateur bird-watchers find the best bird-watching areas, and provides directions on how to get there. It also includes information on the uniqueness of the site, the best time of day and ideal time of year for bird-watching at that site, and a few suggestions of activities taking place nearby.

Parc Marie-Victorin

- Quebec's largest ecological botanical garden will take on a new look for the winter season! A new 1.5-km skating path will be created in the great outdoors, along the Nicolet River. Visitors will have access to a heated terrace, with coffee and other beverage services, and a gourmet boutique.

Parc de la rivière Gentilly

- In addition to the rustic all-season chalet and two prospector camps, outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy 4.7 km of cross-country ski trails and 10 km of snowshoe trails on the enchanting site of Parc de la rivière Gentilly.

Randonnée Mïcklà (dogsledding)

- In partnership with the Gîte Aux Plaisirs Partagés B&B, Randonnée Mïcklà offers guests the opportunity to experience the Far North with its package featuring two hours of dogsledding, overnight accommodations and breakfast.
- The more adventuresome can reserve guided excursions of up to three hours.

Station du Mont Gleason (skiing, snowboarding and snowshoeing)

- The Station is adding a 1.5-km trail for skiers and snowboarders in 2010. Station visitors will also note other improvements, in terms of both lighting and snowmaking equipment.
- Known for its festive family setting, the Station will continue this year with special events every weekend.
- The snowshoe trails have been extended and now allow enthusiasts of this winter sport to travel in loops.

... enjoying amazing exhibits

Fromagerie Saint-Guillaume and its new interpretation centre (cheese factory)

- A unique initiative in this business, the cheese interpretation centre will help visitors discover how cheese is made and learn all about its history. The tour is not only highly educational, but also very interactive. During the guided tour you can even press your own cheese and take a piece of fresh cheese home with you!
- The Centre-du-Quebec region has long been known as the dairy capital of Quebec. Its cheese factories have each developed their own specialties... to the delight of those with discriminating taste buds!

Musée des religions du monde

- Running until March 13, 2011, the museum presents the exhibition *Mourning*, a fascinating exploration of the various Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Jewish and Christian rites and customs surrounding death.
- From November 16 to January 9, the Christmas arts and crafts show will be held. The creations of 15 artists will be available for purchase: jewellery, lamps, hats, dishes and much more. The ideal spot to find that original gift you've been looking for!

- During the same period, an exhibit of nativity scenes will be featured at the museum, featuring 30 nativity scenes from around the world that the public will be able to admire. A magical experience awaits!

Musée populaire de la photographie

- The only museum fully dedicated to photography!
- Running from September 15 to December 19 is an exhibition featuring the work of photographer Michel Hébert entitled *Le cycle glacial*. The 30 photographic images present the metamorphic stages of the St. Lawrence River between December and March, enabling the public to establish a relationship with the world of water and ice.

Musée des Abénakis

- The museum will be celebrating the 350 years of Odanak until December 23! A photographic retrospective paying tribute to the men and women who lived through the various eras of the community's history is being presented as part of the 350th anniversary celebrations.
- Presented in conjunction with Médiat-Muse's regional theme, the *Machinawagan: Death in the Circle of Light* exhibit continues until May 29, 2011. Through visual arts and crafts, this exhibit addresses the mythology, history and customs of the Wabanaki pertaining to death.

...satisfying your sweet tooth!

Érablière chez les P'tits Prince (sugar shack)

- Over the past 30+ years, the Érablière chez les P'tits Prince sugar shack has developed a solid reputation among those with a sweet tooth! On the program: walking along the trails in the sugar bush, mini farm, early settlers' museum, observation of red deer, sleigh rides, taffy on snow, and, of course, a traditional sugar camp meal.

Festival de l'Érable de Plessisville (maple festival)

- From April 29 to May 1, 2011, the world's maple capital invites those with a sweet tooth to the second-oldest festival in Quebec: the Festival de l'Érable.

Village Québécois d'Antan (pioneer village)

- In March and April, Quebecers revel in the return of sugaring season! A traditional old-time sugar camp menu, music, a party atmosphere, sleigh rides, and guaranteed fun are on the slate at the Village.