

# guided charlevoix hut to hut



## trip highlights

- Hike one of the best long-distance trails east of the Canadian Rockies
- Experience the freedom of thru-hiking while carrying only a daypack
- Enjoy the untouched wilderness of UNESCO-designated Charlevoix Biosphere Reserve
- Take in the beauty of Parc des Hautes-Gorges-de-la-riviere-Malbaie
- Look out for rare caribou in Parc des Grands-Jardins
- Meet like-minded outdoor enthusiasts on the trail and at the huts



<b>Trip Duration</b>	8 days	<b>Trip Code:</b> GCV
<b>Grade</b>	Moderate	
<b>Activities</b>	Guided hiking	
<b>Summary</b>	1 night hotel, 6 nights in equipped back country huts	

## welcome to Great Canadian Trails

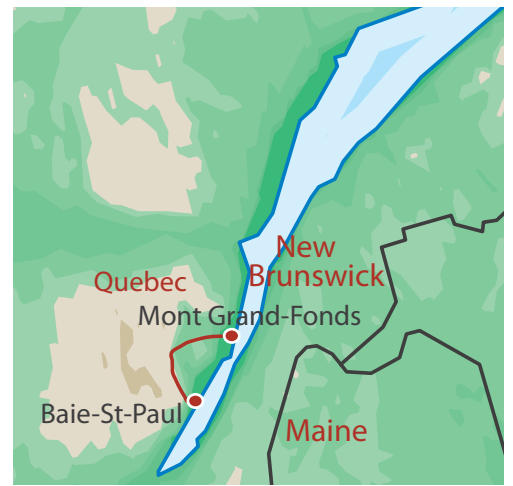
Thank you for your interest in our Guided Charlevoix Hut to Hut trip. With a small population compared to its vast size, Canada's wilderness is immense, wild, and largely untouched; an endless natural playground with countless opportunities for outdoor adventure. And, with history and character unique to each region, Canadian culture is a rich mosaic of customs. With Great Canadian Trails, experience charming communities and changing landscapes on foot or by bike, paddle along dramatic shorelines, or hike rugged trails with the support of our expert local teams. If you enjoy a physical challenge in the great Canadian wilderness or prefer a more leisurely pace, we're here to provide all you need so that you can enjoy your active holiday to the fullest. From the grand mountains of the West to the impressive Great Lakes and jovial Maritime culture of the East, not to mention the unimaginable scale of the remote North, there is no shortage of beauty and wonder awaiting the active traveller. We invite you to discover all of Canada's treasures from coast to coast to coast.

## why travel with Great Canadian Trails?

We are Canadian, our team is highly-experienced, and our understanding of the land means carefully-crafted hiking and cycling holidays that offer the active traveller an immersive and truly authentic experience. Our unique selection of itineraries draws upon some of the country's most inspiring landscapes, incredible networks of trails, and stunning national parks while showcasing communities along the way. Our wide range of accommodations include our selection of friendly bed & breakfasts, charming inns, perfectly-located hotels, and quiet cottages or cabins. Our drivers are local, professional, and full of information which they are eager to share as they take you to the trailheads and move your luggage ahead to the next overnight stay. We provide you with sectional maps, an emergency hotline, and a customized route booklet with detailed local information and the inside scoop on where to eat, visit, and explore each day. Each itinerary has been tried and tested with every detail accounted for, so that all you need to do is spend the day exploring at your own pace, to your heart's content. By travelling with Great Canadian Trails you are also making a positive impact, since most of our trips include a donation to the local non-profit organization who builds and maintains the trail. This helps others get out and experience Canada's natural wonders.

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This trip is based on twin or multi-share accommodation, such as mountain huts or cabins. A single supplement is not available due to lodging/campsite restrictions. On backpacking trips, sharing tents also allow us to keep the shared weight to a minimum.

## trip dates

**2026** 18 Jul - 25 Jul  
22 Aug - 29 Aug

## fast facts

**Countries Visited:**  
Canada

**Visas:**  
Please check visa requirements with your reservations consultant\*

**Vaccinations:**  
Please consult a travel vaccination specialist for up to date information

**Private Groups:**  
Private group options are available for this trip\*

**Singles:**  
A single supplement is not always possible on this trip. In many instances campsite size is limited and it will be necessary to share with another team member. This also applies to mountaineering expeditions. Single supplement in hotels is available. Please contact your World Expeditions Consultant or Travel Agent for specific details relevant to your trip.

**Leader:**  
Expert local leader

**Advice for people with limited mobility**  
This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

## responsible travel

The natural environments that you'll travel through are fragile and the cultures and traditions precious. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence, protect what is precious and where we can leave a positive impact.

## the trip

The Traversée de Charlevoix is one of the longest and most magical hiking trails in Quebec at 105km/60 miles from start to finish. Located in the mountainous hinterland of the Charlevoix region, at the heart of a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, this rugged trail offers outdoor enthusiasts a real challenge through a pristine forest environment. Six backcountry huts line the trail, each equipped with a 2-burner camp stove, cooking/dining equipment, and comfortable mattresses in an upstairs sleeping area. The huts, combined with daily luggage transfers, allow hikers to tackle the rugged trail without the need to carry camping equipment. With your luggage transfers, we've included drinking water refills, easy-to-prepare meals, and daily fresh food items. This means that you only have to carry a day pack on the trail and no advanced food planning is required - We'll take care of it all!

## at a glance

DAY 1	ARRIVE IN QUÉBEC CITY
DAY 2	TRANSFER TO TRAILHEAD AND HIKE TO MARMOT HUT (14.9KM/9.3MI, 4-6 HRS)
DAY 3	HIKE TO OWL HUT (11KM/6.8MILES TO 17KM/10.6MILES, 4-7 HRS)
DAY 4	HIKE TO BLUE JAY HUT (15KM/9.3MILES TO 20KM/12.4MILES, 6-8HRS)
DAY 5	HIKE TO COYOTE HUT (15.7KM/9.8MILES, 5-6HRS)
DAY 6	HIKE TO HAWK HUT (19.7KM/12.2MILES, 6-8HRS)
DAY 7	HIKE TO UAPISHTAN HUT (12.6KM/7.8MILES, 3.5-6HRS)
DAY 8	HIKE TO SAINT SIMEON 12.5KM/7.8MILES TO 17.2KM/10.7MILES, 6-8HRS)

## what's included

- 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 6 dinners
- Drinking water delivered daily to each hut
- 1 night double occupancy hotel
- 6 nights in multi-share back country huts (non-private)
- Licensed wilderness guide
- Pick-up from Québec City
- Drop-off in Québec City
- Daily luggage transfers
- Sleeping mat
- Sleeping bag (needs to be requested separately in advance)
- Shared use of group camping equipment
- Emergency assistance
- Park entry fees

## detailed itinerary

### DAY 1 Arrive in Québec City

Arrive in Québec City, the renowned provincial capital. Québec City is famous for Old Québec, the fortified historical and cultural heart of the city and a beautiful UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will be staying in or near the Old town tonight, and the treasured city will be available for you to explore. Québec City has plenty to see and do, and we suggest extending your stay here before or after your tour. We can assist with reserving extra nights so that you can fully experience one of the oldest European cities in North America.

**meals: NIL**

### DAY 2 Transfer to trailhead and hike to Marmot Hut (14.9km/9.3mi, 4-6 hrs)

This leg has lovely downhill slopes. From Lac-de-l'Écluse, the trail runs along the Ruisseau aux Mouches, then the southwest Gouffre River. Crossing forests and plains, today's highlights include



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## trip grading

### Moderate

These adventures involve trekking, cycling, rafting or paddling for up to 6 or 7 hours a day at a steady pace. Hikers should be prepared for plenty of roots, rocks, significant elevation gain, steep ascents/descents, and potential variable weather conditions. You will need a good level of fitness and be in good health. The Charlevoix Traverse is a back country hike mostly through forest with side trails to awesome view points. Daily hiking ranges from 4km to 20km+ and the fitter you are, the more you will enjoy this trip. The terrain is rugged and you should be prepared for lots of roots and rocks and potentially muddy trails. As with all trips in Canada, weather plays a major factor in the difficulty of this hike, so come prepared and with an open mind. You will be expected to collect/boil water at the huts for cooking and to prepare your own (included) meals using the propane stoves at each hut. You will be sleeping on a mat on the floor of shared loft spaces and using outhouse facilities at each hut - This trip is therefore best suited to those who enjoy camping and who enjoy forest walking.

## adventure travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. When hiking, expect rugged terrain with plenty of dirt, roots and rocks. In wet conditions, trails can be muddy and slippery, potentially raising the level of difficulty of your trip. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with our trained staff.

old and imposing fir and spruce trees, a lush array of shrubs and herbaceous plants, and a view over the edge of an impact crater. The crater was created by a meteorite some 360 million years ago. Overnight Chalet la Marmotte.

(Elevation gain/loss: +160m/-420m or +520ft/-1380ft)

meals: **B,L,D**

### DAY 3 Hike to Owl Hut (11km/6.8miles to 17km/10.6miles, 4-7 hrs)

Today's hike culminates with panoramic views at the top of Mt. Noyee. The view is beautiful - on clear days you can even see the St-Lawrence River in the distance. The descent that follows soon leads to the Chalet La Chouette, located near the lake of the same name. (Elevation gain/loss: +550m/-400m or +1800ft/-1310ft)

meals: **B,L,D**

### DAY 4 Hike to Blue Jay Hut (15km/9.3miles to 20km/12.4miles, 6-8hrs)

Awaiting you today is a real treat - the Hautes-Gorges Valley and the beautiful Malbaie River, the region's majestic 160km/100mile long waterway. While covering a long distance, today is mostly downhill and offers amazing views, bridge crossings, and the gigantic trees of Grands-Ormes ecological reserve. After an initial uphill bringing you to amazing views of the Acropole des Draveurs and Mont Félix-Antoine-Savard, a long downhill brings you to the entrance of Parc National des Hautes-Gorges-de-la-Riviere-Malbaie. This Parc National is a protected area where you will be wonderfully immersed for the next two hiking days. The location of your hut tonight is spectacular with views of the Malbaie River and the surrounding mountains. Overnight Chalet Gaie Bleu.

(Elevation gain/loss: +440m/-780m or +1440ft/-2560ft)

meals: **B,L,D**

### DAY 5 Hike to Coyote Hut (15.7km/9.8miles, 5-6hrs)

There is an uphill climb for most of the day, but it is gradual. After following the Malbaie River, the trail leaves it and climbs along Chouinard stream (Ruisseau Chouinard), leading to some lovely panoramic lookouts of the narrow valley and the surroundings. Overnight Chalet Le Coyote.

(Elevation gain/loss: +550m/-180m or +1800ft/-590ft)

meals: **B,L,D**

### DAY 6 Hike to Hawk Hut (19.7km/12.2miles, 6-8hrs)

The trail today is mostly comprised of former forestry paths, making for a lovely walk. Along the way, you will walk through an area of regrowth as the site was once destroyed by forest fire. In the summer, note the wide array of berries (strawberries, raspberries, blueberries) growing along the trail. Keep your eye out for a beaver dam - the patient hiker may even get a glimpse of its resident. Overnight Chalet l'Épervier.

(Elevation gain/loss: +340m/-500m or +1120ft/-1640ft)

meals: **B,L,D**

### DAY 7 Hike to Uapishtan Hut (12.6km/7.8miles, 3.5-6hrs)

The trail continues from the Traversée de Charlevoix and offers breathtaking views of the river, especially in the first few kilometres. After circling Lake McLeod, the path leads towards Mount Originac and onwards to your hut for the evening. Overnight Chalet Uapishtan.

(Elevation gain/loss: +398m/-394m or +1306ft/-1293ft)

meals: **B,L,D**

### DAY 8 Hike to Saint Simeon 12.5km/7.8miles to 17.2km/10.7miles, 6-8hrs)

Your final day on the trail involves a climb to several interesting viewpoints over the valley. Afterwards, the trail heads towards the mountain peaks, passing by the Petit Lake Noir and

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## important note

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

continuing to the village of Saint-Siméon. Depending on timing, your pickup will either meet you here or by the Petit Lake Noir with your luggage for a transfer to Québec City. The group will make a well-deserved gourmet stop at a restaurant on the way back.

(Elevation gain/loss: +599m/-1000m or +1965ft/-3281ft)

**meals: B,L**

This itinerary is subject to change with any change in Community regulations as well as Governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

## suggested extensions

- King's Road by Bike
- Quebec's Blueberry Bicycle Route
- Le Petit Train du Nord

## joining instructions

Before departure you will receive details of your accommodation in downtown Québec City. You will need to make your own way to your accommodation.

If you feel you may arrive later than 7pm, please notify your hotel.

## country information

Quebec's Charlevoix region is where the Laurentians plunge directly into the St. Lawrence River. A paradise for climbers, thanks to the backcountry mountains and vertiginous walls of the Hautes-Gorges (high gorges) along the Rivière Malbaie, which reach up to 1000m in height. A unique site in terms of geomorphology and ecology, Hautes-Gorges attests to the titanic forces of nature that shaped its surprising and majestic scenery. Two important geological phenomena shaped the landscape: movements of the Earth's crust associated with the formation of the Canadian Shield, and the great glaciations. The result are features such as glacial troughs, hanging valleys, glacial cirques, rock basins, and riegels. On the plateau in Grands-Jardins, a small herd of resilient caribous live in a semi-Arctic climate - One of the last remaining herds in the Laurentians. The low-lying areas shelter white-tailed deer, the boreal forest is home to moose, the towering cliffs are frequented by the Golden Eagle and the Peregrine Falcon and, in the heart of Rivière Malbaie's main valley, the Osprey is often seen.

The 105km trail makes its way from the west to the east of the central Laurentians, starting in Parc des Grands-Jardins, traversing Parc des Hautes-Gorges-de-la-rivière-Malbaie, and ending at Parc Régional du Mont Grand-Fonds. In both summer and winter, outdoor enthusiasts enjoy the trail's spectacular mountains and valleys, making it one of the most popular long excursions in Quebec.

The communities of Baie-Saint-Paul and La Malbaie serve as regional gateways to the trail, each located along the mighty St. Lawrence River and each with their own charms. Baie-Saint-Paul, nestled in a lovely valley crossed by the Rivière du Gouffre, welcomed its first settlers in the 17th century and now attracts many artists as can attest the wide array of art galleries and other craft shops. La Malbaie is the regions administrative centre and offers plenty of lodging and services.

## dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure, we are able to cater to vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (ideally, months prior to your trip/at time of booking) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when



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those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

## pre and post tour accommodation

Accommodation is not included before or after the hike. We highly-recommend an overnight in Québec City prior to or after your tour to explore and enjoy this lovely city. If flying out of Québec City after the tour, we strongly recommend booking an extra night to allow time to make your flight.

## what you carry

Day pack only, to carry water, rain gear, layers, lunch/snacks, and personal first aid kit.

## equipment required

A day pack of at least 30L, good quality hiking boots (broken-in), 3-season sleeping bag. Personal first aid kit. Each participant must bring a dishtowel, toilet paper, matches, fire starter or paper to start a fire. These can be placed in your main luggage and transferred each day.

## luggage

Luggage will be transferred each day to the next hut.

## getting there

### PARKING & TRANSFERS

If you plan to drive, you will need to find multi-day parking in Québec City. There should be some parking lots with weekly or multi-day rates in Old Québec. See <https://www.parkme.com/> for a list of parking lots and rates.

### BY TRAIN

Québec City has train service with VIA Rail to Gare du Palais station downtown in Old Québec. Regular departures are offered from Montreal. Should you decide to take the train in one direction, we recommend traveling by bus or plane in the opposite direction. Please visit <https://www.viarail.ca/en> for schedules and fares.

### BY AIR

The nearest International Airport is Québec City's Jean Lesage International Airport (YQB). From the airport, you can either taxi, take the public bus, or a shuttle to your downtown accommodations. (about 30 minutes away by taxi)

### BY BUS

Autobus Intercar services Québec City on a daily basis to and from Gare du Palais station downtown in Old Québec. Visit <https://intercar.ca/en/> for the latest schedules and more information.

## special visa requirements

All international visitors will require proper documentation to enter Canada. Most nationalities require either a tourist visa or an ETA. Detailed information will be provided upon booking.

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## what's not included

- Travel to/from Québec City
- Items of a personal nature
- Meals and transfers not indicated in the itinerary
- Travel Insurance
- Tips and gratuities
- Applicable taxes of approx 15% when booking made in North America
- Rental equipment such as backpacks, and walking poles (needs to be requested, limited supply)

## private groups

The adventures featured on our website are just a starting point for many of our private group travellers. Working closely with our Groups Department we can organise custom designed itineraries for groups of friends, clubs, charities, schools or even work colleagues. Our team will assist you with all aspects of your private group adventure from itinerary design to group flights. Contact our team today.

## subscribe to our e-newsletter

To keep up to date with our new and exciting adventure opportunities, special promotions and adventure news, subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter! You can do this on line through our website, [www.greatcanadiantrails.com](http://www.greatcanadiantrails.com)

## social networking

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GreatCanadianTrails>, on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/@GreatCanTrails> and on Instagram at <https://instagram.com/GreatCanadianTrails>

## trip availability

If this trip seems right for you then we encourage you to book now. There are many reasons why you may not be able to join your desired departure and limited space on our small group departures is just one of them. Our self-guided holidays visit small communities with limited accommodations, and we can only guarantee rooms once we've booked and confirmed with each property. For this reason, we can only confirm availability of tour once bookings have been received. The demand is increasing each year making it difficult to join a trip last minute. To ensure we can confirm your adventure of a lifetime we ask that you check trip availability with our team at your earliest convenience.

## how to book

To book a Great Canadian Trails trip, you will need to complete a booking form and pay a non refundable deposit which you can do by using our online booking function. We can also help you with any additional arrangements that you require, such as pre or post trip accommodation in conjunction with the main Great Canadian Trails trip.