

Winter Getaway to Montreal



By Loukia Zigoumis

Ottawa is a perfect place to call home, because there is always so much to do on weekends and during holidays. Even though I've lived here most of my life, I still love exploring the city with my family, visiting our favourite places, and discovering new areas we've not yet explored.

I also love that we're close to the wonderful city of Montreal. Since it's just a short drive away, I've spent many weekends with my family enjoying all the cosmopolitan capital has to offer. Montreal is a historic city, with plenty to see and do in all seasons.

My boys have been to Montreal many times with my husband and me. From quick day trips to shop to special getaways to enjoy the Formula One weekend in June, we always love visiting.

If you're looking to get away this winter but don't want to travel far from Ottawa, why not head to Montreal, and stay at the iconic and historic Ritz-Carlton hotel? It's located right in the heart of downtown.

This hotel is luxury defined. And not only is it a great place to visit as a couple or with friends, it's most certainly an ideal destination for your family. Despite what you might think, it's a perfect spot for children. The service is excellent, and the rooms are simply breathtaking.

Dating back to 1912, the Ritz-Carlton is a charming hotel in an equally charming city. It reminds me of *The Great Gatsby*—especially because of its captivating lobby area called the Palm Court, which is a perfect place to people watch and enjoy afternoon tea.

What really impressed me about this hotel was the incredible attention to detail in the rooms: the heated bathroom floors and heated toilet seats, the large windows with gorgeous views of downtown Montreal, the neutral colour scheme with a splash of colour, the Nespresso machine and turndown service, and the comfortable slippers and robes for all members of our family.

My children loved the motion sensors that activated the lights to turn on at night when they had to use the bathroom. It's the details like this that they fell in love with.

The Ritz-Carlton Montreal also has a great indoor saltwater pool on the rooftop, and the children enjoyed swimming in the pool as I relaxed with a newspaper and a cup of coffee.

I love the idea of exploring our city, but sometimes it's important to get away and do something different. Montreal is that perfect destination for the family, with so much to explore—Old Montreal, Crescent Street, and the BioDome.

Happy travels!

