

## RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS IN MONTREAL

Ranked by order of preference of the authors, French cuisine is affordable, and Montrealers like to indulge in restaurants. Prices are moderate to high regardless of the neighborhood. Restaurants are full after 7:30 pm so reservations are necessary unless you are going at off-peak times. Credit cards are accepted unless otherwise noted. Unfortunately, many Quebecers still smoke, but a bylaw makes a non-smoking section mandatory in many establishments, so ask for it. Get there by taxi or BMW (bus, métro and walk). Prices are in Canadian dollars and do not include wine or drinks.

\$ = \$25 or less per person      \$\$ = \$30-\$49/person      \$\$\$ = \$50-\$100/person

*FRENCH: Unique in NA and what will make your stay in Montreal memorable.*

\$\$\$ **Chez la Mère Michel**, 1209 Guy, 934-0473. Open Mon-Sat 5:30pm-midnight, Tue-Fri 11:30am-3:30pm, closed Sunday. *The New York Times* said, "For dinner, you have to try Chez la Mère Michel, if only because it might just be the finest of Montreal's more than 4,000 restaurants."

\$\$\$ **La Rapière**, 1155 Metcalfe (inside SunLife Building), 871-8920. Spacious and can accommodate a large group in a separate room. Really fine food using fresh local ingredients.

\$\$\$ **Les Chenets**, 2075 Bishop, 844-1842. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-3pm, Mon-Sun 5:30-11pm. For traditional, buttery cuisine in a delightful, intimate decor with lots of copper pots. Holds Guinness record for highest number of different cognacs. Great 3-course lunches for about \$20 per person. In business for over 40 years.

\$\$ **Chez Gautier**, 3487 du Parc, 845-1245. Open weekdays 11:30-3pm, 5:30-11:30 pm and Saturday 9am to 4:30pm, 5:30-11:30pm. Closed Sunday. Authentic French onion soup, steak and *frites* as well as elaborate dishes at this traditional bistro.

\$\$ **Le Paris**, 1812 Ste. Catherine West, 937-4898. Open Mon-Sat noon-3pm & 5-10pm. Simple bourgeois fare typical of Paris. Now in its fifth decade.

\$\$ **Le Caveau**, 2063 Victoria (corner President Kennedy), 844-1624. Open Mon-Fri noon-11pm, Sat-Sun 5-11pm. Authentic, traditional French cooking using organically grown products. In a nineteenth century house since 1949.

\$\$\$ **Laloux**, 250 des Pins East (corner Laval), 287-9127. Open Mon-Fri noon-3pm, Sun-Wed 5:30-10:30pm, Thu-Sat 5:30-11:30pm. Reservations recommended for delicate dining in this chic Parisian bistro.

\$\$ **Thursdays**, 1449 Crescent, 288-5656. Open every day noon-11pm. Upstairs, bustling bistro dining with skylights, stained glass and brick walls. Good for groups.

\$\$ **L'Express**, 3927 St. Denis, 845-5333. Open Mon-Fri 8am-2am, Sat 10am-3am, Sun 10am-1am. A lively Parisian bistro and, perhaps, Montreal's best. Recommended by *Gourmet magazine*.

\$\$\$ **Guy et Dodo Morali**, 1444 Metcalfe, 842-3636. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-midnight, Sat 5pm-midnight. Spectacular plates. Delectable, ample duck leg is the best in town for some.

\$ **Le Grand Comptoir**, 1225 Carré Philips, 393-3295. Very busy at lunch, quieter in the evenings.

\$\$\$ **Les Caprices de Nicholas**, 2072 Drummond at De Maisonneuve, 282-9790. Open for dinner 6-10pm every evening. Luxurious, sophisticated, award-winning, and expensive.

\$ **Au Bistro Gourmet**, 2100 St. Matthieu, 846-1553. Open Mon-Fri 11:30-2pm, daily 5-10pm. Tiny, unassuming, modestly priced, authentic and good.

*In Old Montreal*

\$\$ **Chez Queux**, 154 Saint-Paul East, 866-5194. Open every day 11:30am-3pm, 5-10pm. Basic French food in intimate atmosphere. Brunch on Sunday.

\$\$\$ **Chez Delmo**, 211 Notre Dame West, 849-4061. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm, Tue-Sat 5:30-10pm. A fish-and-seafood shrine offering oysters in season, arctic char, lobster bisque and lobster Thermidor. Missing a no-smoking section.

\$\$\$ **Claude Postel**, 443 St. Vincent, 875-5067. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-2pm & 5:30-11pm, Sat-Sun 5:30-11pm. Discreet inn atmosphere.

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\$\$\$ **Beaver Club**, 900 René Lévesque West (in Queen Elizabeth Hotel), 861-3511. Open Mon-Fri noon-3pm, Tue-Sat 6-11pm. For a high-end slice of Canadiana: Alberta beef, oysters, prosciutto and lots of stuffed animals (on the walls). Five stars from Mobil Travel Guide.

\$\$ **Ferreira Café Trattoria**, 1446 Peel, 848-0988. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-11pm, Sat 6-11pm. For fish and seafood, beautifully served Portuguese-Italian cuisine from an open kitchen.

\$\$\$ **Restorante Bice**, 1504 Sherbrooke West, 937-6009. Excellent Italian food in a beautiful decor.

\$\$\$ **Da Vinci**, 1180 Bishop, 874-2001. Open . Excellent Italian food and fresh fish.

\$\$ **La Sila**, 2040 St. Denis at Ontario, 844-5083. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm, Mon-Sun 5:30-11:00pm. AAA recommended. Cozy layout with Italian fare in the Latin Quarter since 1977.

\$\$ **Il Cortile**, 1442 Sherbrooke West, 843-8230. Open daily noon-11pm. Great food of Italy lightened but authentically presented in a terrace setting. The tiramisu is one critic's favorite.

\$\$ **Le Piemontais**, 1145 de Bullion at René Lévesque, 861-8122. Open Mon-Fri 11am to midnight, Sat 5pm-midnight. Northern Italian fare in close quarters. Popular and relaxed.

#### *K O S H E R*

\$\$ **El Morocco II**, 3450 Drummond, 844-6888. Open Sun-Thu noon-3:30pm and 5-10pm. Simple kosher fare.

#### *I N D I A N*

\$\$ **Le Taj**, 2077 Stanley, 845-9015. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm & 5-10:30pm, Fri-Sat 5-11pm, Sun noon-2:30 & 5-10:30pm. Substantial lunch buffet for less than \$10.

\$ **Bombay Palace**, 2051 St. Catherine West, 932-7141. Open Sun 12-3pm, 5:30-10:00pm and weekdays. Tried and true. Nice buffets at lunch and on weekends.

#### *J A P A N E S E*

\$\$ **Sakura Garden**, 2114 de la Montagne, 288-9122. Open Tue-Sat 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-10pm, Sun 5-10pm. Traditional Japanese cuisine with private tatami rooms.

\$\$\$ **Katsura**, 2170 de la Montagne, 849-1172. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm, daily 5:30-11pm. Traditional Japanese cuisine with private tatami rooms.

\$\$\$ **Koji's Kaizen Sushi Bar & Restaurant**, 4120 Ste-Catherine West in Westmount, 932-5654. Open Mon-Sat 11:30am-2:30pm, daily 5:30-10:30pm. Serving classic combinations in a high-styled, modern setting.

#### *C H I N E S E (Most open seven days a week.)*

\$\$\$ **L'Orchidée de Chine**, 2017 Peel, 287-1878, Open Mon-Thur 11:30am-10:30pm, Fri 11:30am-11:00pm, Sat 5-11pm, Sun 5-9:30pm. Great Szechuan, duck and specialties. Spacious, good for groups.

\$\$\$ **Mr. Ma**, corner Mansfield/Cathcart or inside Place Ville Marie Shopping Promenade, 866-8000. Open Mon-Thur 11:30am-10:30pm, Fri 11:30am-11:00pm, Sat 5-11pm, Sun 5-9:30pm. Great Szechuan, seafood (lobster) and dim sum. Spacious, good for groups.

\$\$\$ **Piment Rouge**, 1170 Peel, 866-7816. Fried spinach is a treat here. Open 7 days 11:30am-11pm.

\$\$ **Lys de Sechuan**, 4022 St. Catherine West at Atwater, 932-1968. Open Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm, Mon-Sun 5-10:30pm. Closed Sat, Sun noon. Offers some Thai dishes also.

\$\$\$ **Zen**, 1050 Sherbrooke West (in the Westin Hotel), 499-0801. Open Sun-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm & 5:30-10pm, Sat 5:30-10:00pm.

\$ **Formosa**, 2115 St. Denis at Sherbrooke, 282-1966. Open Mon-Fri 11am-11pm, Sat-Sun noon-11pm. Serving a tasty \$4.95 buffet lunch. Table service at dinner. A beautifully designed space.

\$ **Restaurant Lotte**, 215 René Lévesque East (in the Days Inn Furama Hotel), 393-3838. Open daily 8am-11pm. Known for its dim sum brunch.

#### *V E G E T A R I A N*

\$\$ **ChuChai**, 4088 St. Denis near Duluth, 843-4194. Open Mon-Sun noon-3pm, 5-10pm. More or less spicy Thai vegetarian selections that are MSG free and good.

\$ **Le Commensal**, either 1720 St. Denis at De Maisonneuve, 845-2627; or 5043 St. Denis at Laurier, 843-7741; or 1204 McGill College at St. Catherine, 871-1480. Open 7 days 11:30am-10 pm. BYOB. Line up for a tasty smorgasbord of food from many countries and pay by weight.

*Prepared by Michel Laroche who would welcome your feedback.*