



The Fairytale

Fairmont Le Château Frontenac Québec City

CANADA

ISABELLE CLARK

ROOM RATES

The average room rate
is £270 a night.

THE SCENE

Dominating the cliff once scaled by British troops during the 1759 siege of Québec City, Fairmont Le Château Frontenac looks like something out of a Wes Anderson film – all honey-coloured stonework, steep copper roofs and fairytale turrets. It's an icon of the city – and of Canada – that has long been the *hôte de choix* among royalty, celebrities and world leaders; it hosted Churchill, Roosevelt and Mackenzie King during the Second World War. They even planned the Normandy landings here, though rumour has it they left the papers behind and had to call upon a hotel employee to retrieve and return them to the military.

THE VIBE

Château Frontenac was built in 1893 by the Canadian Pacific Railway company and it's clear from the gleaming chandeliers, impeccably dressed guests and feel of old-world sophistication that this era of opulence is still very much alive. A multi-million-dollar renovation project in 2014 revitalised the property while preserving its historical integrity. But for all its visual appeal, the standout feature of Château Frontenac is its service. With the most Clefs d'Or concierges of any hotel in the country, guests can expect an unparalleled level of personalised attention and insider knowledge.

ROOMS

Guests have a choice of 610 rooms across 18 floors – some sit within the top towers where you can admire the labyrinthine streets of Old Québec. Each room offers premium amenities – expansive minibars, luxury toiletries and seriously comfortable bedding – with Fairmont Gold members enjoying elevated privileges, such as a private lounge and check-in. At the top of the range, many of the hotel's suites are designed with former guests in mind: the Grace of Monaco Suite offers a glamorous space adorned with some of the princess' personal items, and in the Churchill Suite, guests are greeted by a hologram of the former British prime minister and can browse the artefacts he left behind during his stay.

FOOD & DRINK

In Le Champlain, the discovery menu with wine pairings is a must; the miso-glazed arctic char with a parsley cream sauce and scallops with wild-boar bacon and thyme butter are particular standouts. With snow settling outside, a fire flickering in the corner and a backdrop of jazz, you may well stay long after your final dish. Just steps away is Bistrot le Sam, which celebrates the hotel's connection to the Canadian Pacific Railway with plush velvet booths, and gilded seating that mimics the grille on



the front of old steamers. Here, guests can savour a more relaxed, but equally refined bistro-style menu.

STANDOUT FEATURES

The spa is well thought-out, with ten treatment rooms, a beauty salon, an indoor pool and an outdoor terrace peppered with cabanas where you can take in the views of the historic city. This would be an excellent spot for a cocktail come the summer. Guests can also enjoy luxury car rental and chauffeur services.

ECO CREDENTIALS

The hotel was awarded a Five Green Key rating proving the highest integrity of eco standards. There are 25 EV charging stations, a chef's garden on the fourth floor and four beehives on the roof. The hotel also uses no single-use plastic.

ACCESSIBILITY

There are eight accessible rooms which feature a wheel-in shower with a seat and adapted furniture, electric sockets, wardrobe space and bedframe. **A**

