



Eats Around Montreal

This was our 2nd trip to Montreal in the last few years, and this was very food centered for us. Besides being a beautiful, walkable city with so much to just purely explore, it is also filled with delicious food. Don't worry too much about speaking French, although there are a couple places that only speak French, the majority of the city speaks both languages. It is still Canada. So, without further explanation, here's what we did:



On Your Way There

If you are driving from NYC to Montreal, we highly recommend a pit stop in Saratoga Springs, NY. It's about half way between both cities, and it's perfect for a quick lunch. We went to college there and have several recommendations. ←Triangle Diner for brunch (only until 2 pm), the Local, Parkside Eatery or Roma's.

Where We Stayed:



We stayed in an Air BnB near the Atwater Market on Atwater Ave (a fairly busy street) on the border of Little Burgundy. This neighborhood is local and residential but still urban. It is super close to the metro and quite easy to navigate to other parts of the city. We loved it, especially, for it's proximity to good cafes and bars, and Montreal's Joe Beef, one of the best restaurants in the city, was just a few blocks away. Highly recommend if you are a New Yorker trying to blend a little into the local scene.

Here's a picture of us having next day, leftover Pizza on our Air BnB porch from the incredible Pizzeria Gema in Montreal's Little Italy.

Atwater Ave in Little Burgundy ends on the Canal de Lachine where the Atwater Market is. The market is in a gorgeous historic building and is filled with younger vendors trying their foods out for the first time and the best floral market in the city. We strolled it on a cloudy day, but it's perfect for kayaking and paddleboat.



What We Did:

What didn't we do? This being our second time to the city, we didn't do too much touristy stuff, but we did of course visit Old Montreal for a little walk just to take in the history. Our favorite part of visiting Montreal is just walking aimlessly from lunch to snack to dinner to snack to dessert to snack... It's such an incredibly beautiful city from the beautiful wrought iron staircases that are on most of the homes and buildings to the historical 18th century architecture to the amazing street art (this city may have the best street art). The city is also has several food and floral markets to grab great (illegal in America because it's unpasteurized) cheeses and meats, prepared foods, and incredible flowers, especially in May when it's lavender season. Our favorites were Atwater Market and Marche Jean Talon (in the picture below). There's also incredible thrift shopping in the Mile End neighborhood.



Here's some of our suggestions:



Old Port

Jean Talon for cheeses and meats

Graffiti Crawl



Food Hall at Atwater Marche

Picnic on top of Mont Royale

What We Ate:



Everything. No, really, everything. If someone was hawking on the street, we asked what it was, and most of the time, we ate it. Everything is because there is a huge push of fresh produce and a love of local product, especially in spring and summer. One place you will not find on here is Schwartz's for smoked meat sandwiches. It is great, but we had been before and definitely recommend it, but here are our favorites from this trip:

↑ First, the bologna sandwich from Willensky's Lunch in Mile End. I don't know why it is so good. It's just ridiculously good. I ate 6 or 7. It screams old school, so perfect for any Queenskid!



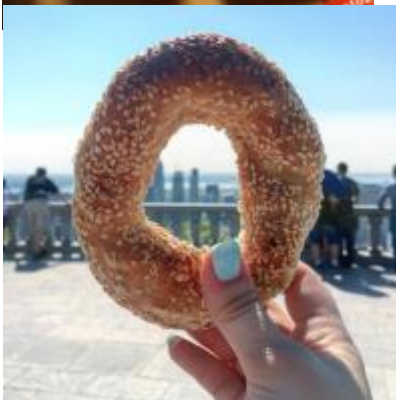
Please, please, please don't forget to make a reservation (at least one month) at Joe Beef in Little Burgundy prior to going Montreal. It is without a doubt, the most decadent meal of our lives. This is their steak topped with foie gras. Just one of the 4 foie gras dishes we had that night. It's totally insane.



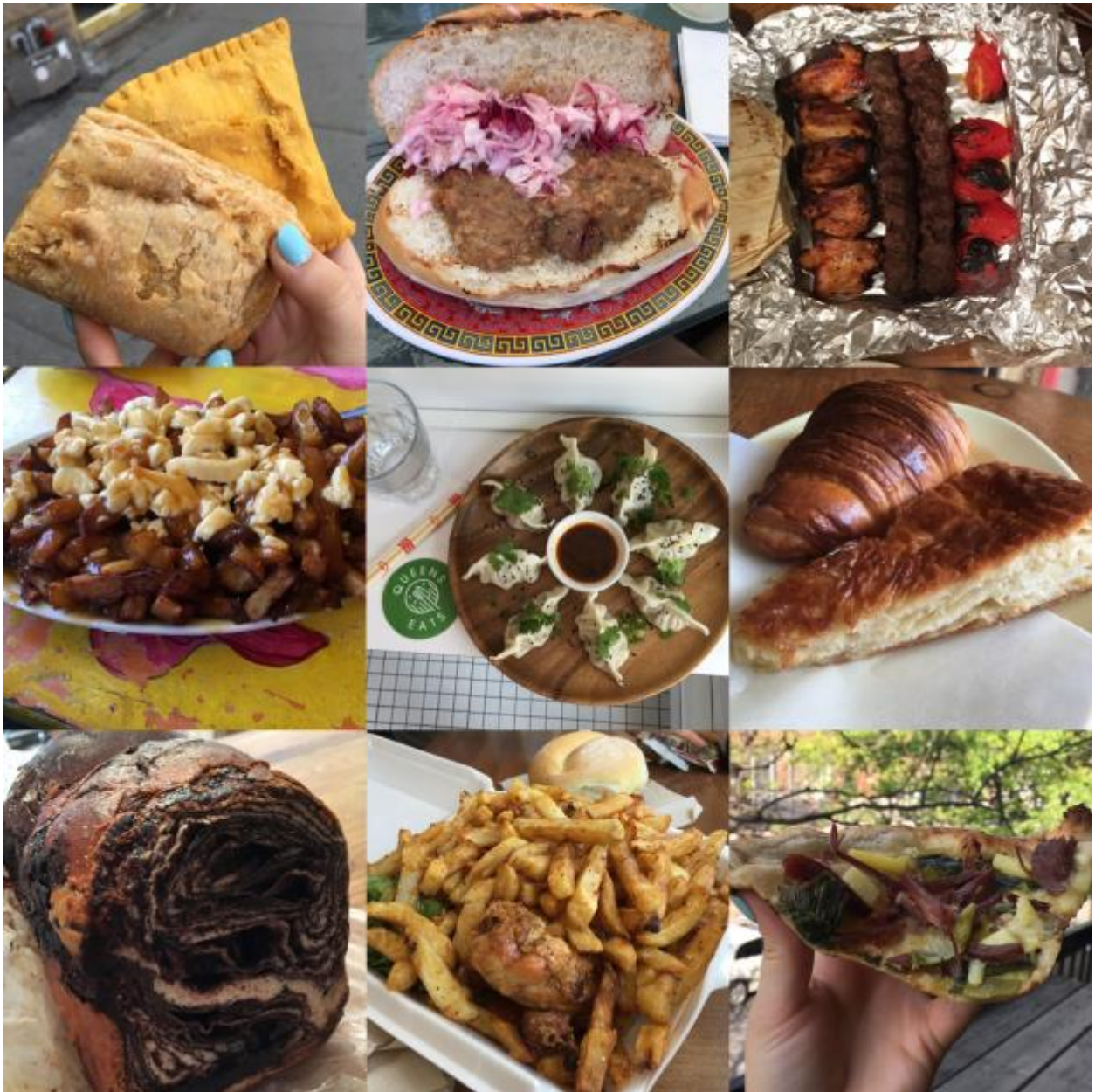
I'm a sucker for Italian because that's my roots. So when @MissTanyae, a friend from LIC who never steers us wrong, suggested Pizzeria Gema and it's sister restaurant Impasto in Little Italy, we knew we had to go. So, we had incredible modern, higher end Italian for dinner at Impasto and took pizza home to the Air BnB with a couple beers ☺



For drinks, we really enjoyed ←La Distillerie on the border of the Gay Village and Milton Park near Downtown Montreal, Agrikol in the Gay Village, and Dieu de Ciel in Mile End which brews their own beer. However, you can't go wrong, most of the bars in Mile End, Mont Royale, and Little Burgundy will be great, just look for the ones with people inside.



Other musts are trying both sets of bagels from St. Viateur and Fairmount. These are the only bagels I can say are just as good as NY's but they are still different. St. Viateur was our personal favorite. Also, poutine. Please eat poutine in Montreal. It is delicious and fattening, but you are walking so it's okay. We hit up Poutineville and La Banquise. La Banquise was our favorite.



These 9 rounded out our top favorites of easily accessible snack foods, many of which we ate on our food crawl (see below). From top left, beef patties from Caribbean-African market Marche Meli Melo (Villaray), sandwich from Satay Brothers (Atwater Market- Little Burgundy), kebabs from Restaurant La Maison de Kebab (Little Burgundy), Poutine from La Banquise (Mont Royale near Parc le fontaine), dumplings from Épicerie HAO (Mont Royale), Kouign Amann butter cake from Au Kouign Amann (Mont Royale), Babka from Cheskie's (Mile End), roasted chicken from Rotisserie Romadas (Mont Royale), and pizza from Pizzeria Gema (Little Italy).

Food Crawl

Planning food crawls stresses me out like crazy, I searched for days to find one already done on Yelp, Instagram, and blogs, and I found nothing. So, here's the map I planned. We didn't do all these as a crawl, but you can make your own by selecting

the places you want and going from there. We vetted all the places, and found them to be worth the visit! If you would like the list, please email us at queenseatsinstagram@gmail.com.

