

Send North America: Montreal

Montreal Fun Facts

1. Montreal was incorporated as a city in 1832.
2. The Hochelaga Archipelago, also known as the Montreal Islands, sit at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers. There are more than 200 islands, the largest being the Island of Montreal; it forms the main city of Montreal.
3. 3.5 million people live in the metro Montreal area.
4. Montreal is the second largest city in Canada. It was the largest city until sometime in the '70s when Toronto took over the title.
5. Montreal is one of the five largest French-speaking cities in the world. Paris is first.
6. Montreal has a flag with five symbols. The cross represents Christian principles. The fleur-de-lis is for the French, the shamrock for the Irish, the thistle for the Scottish and the Lancastrian rose for the English.
7. No building in Montreal can be taller than the cross on Mount Royal Mountain.
8. There are nine bridges surrounding the city of Montreal.
9. Montreal is home to the world famous Cirque du Soleil.
10. Montreal was home to the 1976 Summer Olympics. They were the first Olympic games ever held in Canada.
11. Montreal is home to several professional sports teams, including the Montreal Canadiens, an NHL team; the Montreal Expos, a baseball team; the Montreal Alouettes, a CFL team; Montreal Impact of Major League Soccer.
12. The U.S. city of Detroit was founded by soldiers and settlers from Montreal. In 1701, Detroit was founded by Lamonthe de Cadillac (yes, ironic since it later became the Motor City). The French expansion into what is today the American Midwest continued into Illinois all the way down to New Orleans, La.
13. Montreal is actually an island—one of the more than 400 on the St. Lawrence River.
14. Montreal is a city rich in both culture and history. Today, about 70 percent of its 3.5 million residents are of French descent, while another 15 percent claim British heritage. The remainder of residents come from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, including a growing immigrant population. The various languages and cultures represented in the city today stand as a testament to Montreal's storied history.
15. Quebec is the world's largest producer of maple syrup.
16. There is one Canadian National Baptist Convention church for every 105,000 Montreal residents.