

**HOTEL INTEL**

# MONTREAL'S MONVILLE ACCESSIBLE FOR EVERYONE

*Rooms suitable for people in wheelchairs, those with auditory or visual challenges*



**ROCHELLE LASH**

Hôtel Monville on Bleury St. is at the top of Isabelle Ducharme's hospitality list for its cool bar-resto and appealing decor, but especially for its responsiveness to people with physical challenges.

Ducharme has been a wheelchair user since she sustained a spinal-cord injury during a car crash more than 30 years ago. She always loved the outdoors, culture, dining and travel, and the accident didn't diminish any of that, so she became an expert in issues faced by people in similar situations.

As chairwoman of Kéroul, the excellent resource centre for accessible tourism in Quebec and beyond, Ducharme's main goal is to improve the accessibility of hotels and tourist and cultural venues.

What impresses her about Hôtel Monville is that the developers set out to build extensive adapted facilities from the get-go. That includes rooms and suites designed with furnishings suitable for people in wheelchairs and for those with auditory or visual challenges. Even the gym has the welcome mat out for all.

"Accessibility is fundamental at Monville," Ducharme said. "The designers and architects consulted extensively with

Kéroul during both the planning and construction.

"It paid off — the hotel won an award for its efforts," she added, referring to a 2018 Tourism Excellence Award from the Alliance de l'industrie touristique du Québec.

**Hôtel Monville:** The 20-storey tower is halfway between Old Montreal and the Quartier des spectacles, and almost adjacent to the Palais des congrès, so it is steeped in action.

It's pure urban, airy and contemporary, and so tech-savvy that it has a kiosk for self-check-in and a robot named H2M2 that takes care of room service. Yes, there are humanoids waiting to assist and I am happier knowing I can get help.

Monville has conference and banquet rooms, as well as inviting places to chill. The lobby and bar are warmed with brass trim and leather and tweed seating, and black and white murals of vintage Montreal scenes. And the rooftop is an outdoor lounge and party space with dramatic views of downtown.

Each guest room has one king-sized bed, touch controls for drapes and lighting, and a 50-inch TV (all suites have two TVs). The look is bright and minimalist, with a stark colour contrast of black and white decor.

The accessible accommodations have peepholes at two levels on the doors, a lower-than-usual bed with extra space around it, and bathrooms with adapted showers and toilets.

Monville's team wants to make sure that all guests experience the best of the hotel.



Ten per cent of Hôtel Monville's rooms and suites are accessible for all travellers. **HÔTEL MONVILLE**

"Sustainability — environmental, social and economic — is part of Monville's DNA, and accessibility is part of that," said Jean-Cédric Callies, director of sales and marketing at Monville and its affiliate, Hôtel Gault, a property in Old Montreal.

"We built 10 per cent of our rooms and all of our public spaces to be fully accessible," said Callies. "That's the law, but not every hotel respects it. We want to be the best in that category and for all visitors to Montreal."

**Food and drink:** Monème, an open-concept bar and bistro, serves breakfast and, after 5 p.m., dinner and drinks.

The chef does one-bite apps of shrimp, scallops and salmon tartare, plus plates of charcuterie or oysters. Some main courses, like the rib-eye steak, veal chops or halibut, are prepared for two people (\$55-\$70), and some dishes, like mushroom fettuccine or veal filet, are for one (\$20-\$26). Breakfast is nicely done, with 10 riffs on barista coffee —

including a short, intense shot of ristretto, which you don't see everywhere — and a choice of four feasts (\$20-\$26): the Health, the Continental, the Benedictine and the American.

**Kéroul:** Kéroul is Quebec's ultimate resource for accessible tourism, including lodging, cultural institutions and attractions.

It has a platoon of inspectors who rate venues, plus an annual print magazine, Québec for All, and a related website with a map and suggested itineraries. Kéroul isn't a travel agency, but it can recommend ideas for overseas jaunts, as well as agents trained for accessible needs.

One of Ducharme's favourite countries is Spain, partly because it is particularly progressive about adapted facilities.

"I've taken the TGV (train) between Madrid and Barcelona, as well as the subway, which is easier than in Montreal," she said. "But air travel is not always a smooth ride. I've been left alone for a long time when a

**IF YOU GO**

**Kéroul and Québec for All:** 514-252-3104; keroul.qc.ca, quebecforall.com; annual membership \$25.

**Hôtel Monville:** 514-379-2000; hotelmonville.com; 1041 Bleury St. Price: 215 rooms from \$219; 54 suites from \$309, including gym, robot room service, concierge, Wi-Fi, Nespresso, mini-fridge, gym. Valet parking available.

**Tourisme Montréal:** 514-844-5400, mtl.org.

flight landed, waiting for assistance, and the airlines handle your wheelchair like luggage, so it's often broken."

The good news is that Canada enacted a law in 2019 to improve the situation in airports and on airlines.

"It won't be perfect," said Ducharme. "But it likely will be better."

**TV TIMES TONIGHT - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15**

	B	W	E	V	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	
2	SRC	10	4	4	2	En direct de l'univers (N)	Le tour du monde (N)	Les ambassadrices	Le téléjournal (N)	Québec, terre			
3	CBS	282	21	21	87	Channel 3 News	Investigate TV	NCIS: Los Angeles	48 Hours	48 Hours			
5	NBC	280	23	18	84	Jeopardy!	NCAA Football	Stanford at Notre Dame. From Notre Dame Stadium - South Bend, Ind.					
6	CBC	206	13	13	6	NHL Hockey	Ottawa Senators at Toronto Maple Leafs. From Scotiabank Arena - Toronto, Ont.				NHL Hockey	Calgary vs Edmonton.	
8	CJOH	229	-	-	10	W5	*** Iron Man 3 ('13, Act) Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert Downey Jr..						
9	MATV	-	9	9	7	LeZarts	Mon île	Ma première Place des Arts	JAZZ@VUE	Vue sur la relève		MUZ	
10	TVA	115	7	7	4	6:30	*** Jumanji: Bienvenue dans la jungle ('17) Dwayne Johnson.	50	*** Lutte en famille ('19, Bio) Lena Headey, Dwayne Johnson.				
12	CTV	70	11	11	7	W5	*** Iron Man 3 ('13, Act) Gwyneth Paltrow, Robert Downey Jr..						
17	TQc	138	8	8	3	SOS sages-femmes	Les gens du voyage	Cette année-là (N)	Belle et Bum (N)	05	*** Trois affiches tout près d'Ebbing, ...		
22	ABC	281	22	22	86	Football Scoreboard	NCAA Football				50	Football Score.	
33	PBS	-	57	-	88	Still Open All Hours	My Hero	Father Brown	Death in Paradise		Seaside Hotel		
35	Noovo	114	5	5	5	6:30	*** Le Code Da Vinci ('06, Dra) Audrey Tautou, Tom Hanks.	*** Anges et Démons ('09, Dra) Ewan McGregor, Tom Hanks.					
44	FOX	283	46	36	85	4:00	NCAA Football	FoxFootballExtra	NCAA Football	USC at Utah. From Rice-Eccles Stadium - Salt Lake City, Utah			
46	GBL	234	3	3	8	The New Reality (N)	Border Security	Private Eyes	Ransom		48 Hours		
57	PBS	-	24	40	89	M.Lake Journal	New York NOW	Midsomer Murders	Masterpiece Mystery!				
62	CITY	207	14	14	14	NHL Hockey	Montréal Canadiens at Washington Capitals. From Capital One Arena - Washington, D.C.				Hudson and Rex		
A&E	615	39	-	90		The First 48	One Good Deed	The First 48	What About Me/ Last Round	The First 48: Mind Over Murder	Taken (N)	Killer Cases	The Exchange Student Murder (N)
AMC	293	-	-	209		6:00	*** Christine ('83) Keith Gordon.	*** Poltergeist ('82, Hor) Heather O'Rourke, JoBeth Williams.				*** Child's Play	
APTN	23	10	58	16		Gespe'gewa'gi	Merchants Wild	Yukon Harvest	Red Earth	*** A Beautiful Mind ('01, Dra) Jennifer Connelly, Russell Crowe.			
CBCNN	502	48	48	18		The Fifth Estate (N)		The Nature of Things	The Last Walrus	CBC News Live (N)	marketplace	The Nature of Things	The Last Walrus
CD	129	20	20	36		Écureuils, histoires de famille		Biographies	WWE Bret 'Hitman' Hart (N)			*** Louis 19, le roi des ondes ('94)	
CNN	500	36	27	81		CNN Newsroom With Pamela Brown (N)	CNN Newsroom With Pamela Brown (N)	Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy	Calabria	Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy	Umbria		
CRVMI	300	-	-	211		15	*** The Secret Garden ('20, Dra) Richard Hansell, Dixie Egerickx.	*** Redeeming Love ('22, Rom) Tom Lewis, Abigail Cowen. (P)					
CTVDR	30	34	-	102		5:15	*** Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of G...	*** The Mummy ('99, Adv) Rachel Weisz, Brendan Fraser.				Movie	
CTVSc	90	32	-	101		5:15	*** Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of G...	*** The Mummy ('99, Adv) Rachel Weisz, Brendan Fraser.				Movie	
CV	135	44	35	44		Rénover pour louer	Flip ultra payant	Trois designs	Le Jour J	And Just Like That... (v.f.)			
DISC	636	37	37	102		North Woods Law	Turkey Trouble	Street Outlaws: No Prep Kings	Luck of the Draw (N)				
FAM	556	-	-	64		Goosebumps	Goosebumps 2/2	The Canterville Ghost	10	*** Addams Family Values ('93, Com) Raul Julia, Anjelica Huston.			
HBO1	306	-	-	215		5:40	*** Jane Fonda in Five Acts ('18)	One Perfect Shot	One Perfect Shot	House of the Dragon	10	House of the Dragon	
HGTV	83	29	-	97		Love It or List It Vancouver		Home Town	Island of Bryan	Good Bones: Risky Business			
HIST	84	47	-	107		FBI: Most Wanted		FBI: Most Wanted	S.W.A.T.	S.W.A.T.			
MAX	142	48	32	32		6:00	*** La robe rouge ('15) Rachel Skarsten.	*** La Boîte ('09, Dra) James Marsden, Cameron Diaz.		15	*** Le cercle: Le pouvoir de tout cha...		
MUCH	570	35	-	112		*** Grown Ups 2 ('13, Com) Kevin James, Adam Sandler.		The Simpsons	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	The Simpsons		
OWN	526	-	-	94		The Oprah Winfrey Show		Love & Marriage: D.C.	Put a Ring on It	The Oprah Winfrey Show			
PEACH	294	-	-	218		Atlanta Eats		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Friends	Friends	Friends	
RDI	126	19	19	19		6:30	Découverte (N)	Le National (N)	Grands rep. Inceste: l'épreuve de la parole (N)	Le téléjournal (N)	La Facture (N)	Le téléjournal	Le National (N)
RDS	123	33	33	25		LMB Baseball	Série de division de la ligue américaine.					L'antichambre (N)	
SC	73	205	205	205		15	*** Enhanced ('21, Sci-Fi) Alanna Bale, George Tchortov.	*** North Hollywood ('21, Dra)				Movie	
SE	180	-	-	201		*** OSS 117: Bons baisers d'Afrique ('21, Com) Pierre Niney, Jean Dujardin.		*** Norbourg ('22, Dra) Paul Henry Athis, François Arnaud.					
SHOW	616	40	-	105		6:00	*** Jurassic World ('15, Adv) Bryce Dallas Howard, Chris Pratt.	*** Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom ('18, Act) Bryce Dallas Howard, Chris Pratt.					
SLICE	27	-	-	99		6:30	*** Notting Hill ('99, Rom) Julia Roberts, Hugh Grant.	*** Neighbors ('14, Com) Zac Efron, Seth Rogen.					
SNI	418	-	-	184		MLB Baseball					MLB Baseball		
SNE	406	38	38	179		MLB Baseball	Division Series.				MLB Baseball	Division Series.	
STARZI	304	55	-	216		15	*** Casper ('95, Com) Bill Pullman, Christina Ricci.	*** The Conjuring ('13, Hor) Vera Farmiga, Patrick Wilson.					
TCM	292	-	-	219		5:00	*** Raintree County ('58)	*** THX 1138 ('71, Sci-Fi) Donald Pleasence, Robert Duvall.				*** RoboCop ('87) Kurtwood Smith.	
TLC	521	27	39	91		Dr. Pimple Popper		90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After?	90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After?	90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After?			
TLN	700	-	-	250		Cook Like an Italian	Mexican Table	Dolce Southern Asia	Luxury Homes	*** Last Vegas ('13, Com) Michael Douglas, Robert De Niro.			
TOONE	85	49	-	57		*** Straight Outta Nowhere: Scooby-Doo! Meets Courage the ...	45	DramaRama	*** Scooby-Doo! and KISS: Rock and Roll Mystery ('15)	45	DramaRama		
TOONF	87	45	34	53		Titans/45	Titans	American Dad!	Family Guy	Les Simpson	American Dad!	Family Guy	Les Simpson
TSN2	401	-	-	187		NCAA Football						NCAA Football	
TSN5	404	28	28	190		UFC UFC Fight Night	From UFC Apex - Las Vegas, Nev.				SportsCentre (N)	Boxing	Top Rank.
TV5	145	15	15	29		Sam (N)		La story	Gainsbourg, le punchliner (N)	50	La vie secrète des chansons		
TVAS	193	-	-	23		LNH Hockey	Canadiens de Montréal c. Capitals de Washington. - Washington, District de Columbia			45	L'après-match LNH	45	LNH Hockey
TVO	22	-	-	71		The Kangaroo King		World's Most Sc	Scotland: Far North Line (N)	Diana Kennedy: Nothing Fancy (N)		Brilliant Ideas	
VISN	65	-	-	159		To Be Announced		Sardari	Aikam	Journey of Healing	Waqt 4 U		
WGN	295	-	-	222		Chicago Football	Hispanic Heritage	Backstory-Larry (N)	Friends	Friends	Friends	WGN Weekend News at 9:00 p.m. (N)	
WSBK	296	-	-	223		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	*** Secret Window ('04, Thril) John Turturro, Johnny Depp.				CBS News Boston Now on TV38 (N)	
YTV	25	-	-	65		6:00	*** Despicable Me ('10)	*** Despicable Me ('10, Ani) Voices of Jason Segel, Steve Carell.				The Next Step	The Next Step

B - Bell TV; W - Vidéotron West Montréal; E - Vidéotron East Montréal; V - Vidéotron Illico