



PRESS RELEASE

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## The Old Port of Montréal – The Ultimate Destination for Fun this Winter!

With programming that's more exciting than ever!

- The Old Port's **refrigerated skating rink** is back with plenty of hosted activities and special event nights from December 9, 2023, to March 10, 2024 ;
- Special on-water dining events aboard **Bateau-Mouche Montréal anchored** at Clock Tower Quay starting December 15 ;
- **An outdoor photo exhibition A Landmark in Canada's History** about the heritage of the Old Port site, starting December 1 between the Grand Quay and the St-Pierre entrance ;
- **Igloofest**, the world's coldest music festival is back! At the Old Port starting January 18!

### After a highly successful summer season, make way for the Old Port's winter program!

The Old Port of Montréal welcomed **nearly 4 million visitors this summer** as they enjoyed its activities, festivals and events. People came out for DJ Nights at Clock Tower Beach during Feux Loto-Québec fireworks nights as well as for Cirque du Soleil shows, First Fridays events, PoutineFest, and the Orientalys festival... not to mention the new immersive experience *Space Explorers: The Infinite*, which opened on May 3. Piles of smiles from families and friends enjoying our attractions site and all the fun it had on offer this summer.

**Now, let's make way for the winter season!** The Old Port's winter program will feature a wonderful series of activities for visitors of all ages, including the **grand opening of the Old Port Skating Rink**, located at the foot of the iconic observation wheel known as La Grande Roue de Montréal where visitors can ride 60 metres up to enjoy breathtaking views of the city under the sun or under the stars. This year's winter program at the



skating rink will also feature all-new **Music Theme Nights** every Wednesday and Friday alongside the well-known **DJ on Ice** events on Thursday nights. Aside from all the fun at the rink, this winter's rink program also features five special events, each more magical than the next (see further for all the details).

Other highlights of this winter's Old Port program include **Igloofest**, the most iconic and coldest wintertime electronic music festival in the world, as well as all-new features like an **outdoor photo exhibition** about the heritage of the Old Port site called *A Landmark in Canada's History* to be discovered as you walk along the quays. **Bota Bota spa** also offers wintertime visitors a completely unique relaxation experience aboard its moored ship where you can pamper yourself and enjoy spectacular views of the city on any given day of the week until spring. Another all-new feature will be on-water Saturday evening dinners aboard a ship anchored at Clock Tower Quay, an experience offered by **Bateau-Mouche Montréal** starting December 15.

*"We're very proud to offer our visitors such a wonderful gamut of activities that lets them to enjoy our site all year around. Every season is high season at the Old Port of Montréal."*

**- Benoît Renaud**, Old Port of Montréal Director

## **The Old Port Skating Rink is back for another season with all-new highlights... and it all starts December 9!**

Whether they know the Old Port Skating Rink or not, everyone is invited to come enjoy its refrigerated ice **starting December 9 until March 10**. As always, bring your skates or rent them right on site and get ready to hit the ice! New this year are **Music Themes Nights** on Wednesdays (from 7pm to 9pm) and Fridays (7:30pm to 9:30pm). Each event will feature different styles of music, from rock and disco to movie soundtracks, 80s and 90s, and more. Our **DJ on Ice** events, held on Thursday nights from January 11 to March 7, will feature music from local DJs performing right on site from 7:30pm to 10pm.





**Five all-new special events** will take place at the Skating Rink this year and it all starts on **December 16** with two **visits from Santa** from 3pm to 4:30pm and from 7pm to 8:30pm. He will be arriving on site with the Mixbus accompanied by a cast of colourful characters. Then on **January 1** we celebrate the **New Year** from 1pm to 5pm with traditional Québécois dance performances by **Tissés Serrés**, followed by a special **Valentine** event on **February 14** from 7:30pm to 10pm with an appearance from famous local drag queen **Chouchoune** and activities to help singles mix and mingle. On **February 9** at 7:30pm and **February 10** at 3pm we will be celebrating the **Lunar New Year** with a special **Lion Dance** performance. And finally, a very special **Nuit Blanche** à Montréal event on **March 2** starting at 9pm. Under the theme of **Nordic Magic**, rink visitors will be taken across the lands of the north with a laser show and projections to the sounds of Inuit-inspired music.

To help everyone stay warm, Coca-Cola invites you to its “hot spot” alongside the rink. Meanwhile, at Bonsecours Pavilion, skaters can go capture memories of their visit to the rink thanks to an all-new photobooth zone. [Learn more and buy tickets](#)

## **A Landmark in Canada's History - An outdoor photo exhibition to honour the Old Port as a Canadian heritage site**

Explore photographs, drawings, and maps that retell the centuries of history that have made the Old Port of Montréal a veritable landmark of Canada's history since 1645. Launching in mid-November, come enjoy the stories told by a series of outdoor panels as you stroll down the quays between the Grand Quay and the St-Pierre entrance and discover how the Old Port's lands have evolved from a gathering place and the continent's maritime nerve centre to one of Canada's most well-known attractions site. *(This exhibition was made possible with the support of the McCord Museum, the City of Montréal archives, the National Library and Archives of Québec, and the Port of Montréal).*

To promote accessibility, this photo exhibition can also be viewed online through QR codes made available on the exhibition panels.



## Igloofest 2024 – Back at the Old Port with a fresh new program!

The Old Port of Montréal is thrilled to host the **16th edition of the iconic Igloofest event** from January 18 to February 10. Igloofest is a one-of-a-kind music festival held on Jacques Cartier Quay with nighttime events on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and free, family programming on Saturday afternoons at 1pm and 6pm. Come celebrate the magic of our famous Canadian winter and enjoy the Sapporo slide, marshmallows courtesy of Videotron, volley-pong, a drawing workshop for kids, and a chill-out area too. Our food trucks and bars will also be serving up hot chocolate, coffee, and cocktails. [Learn more](#)

## Family Fun this Winter... at the Montréal Science Centre!

The Science Centre is happy to present your family with a variety of activities this winter, where laughing and learning go hand in hand. Come enjoy our two latest feature exhibitions launched in the fall: ***Inspiring Nature, Inspired Techno – Biomimetics and Transport*** and ***The Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards Exhibition*** both presented until March 24. You can also enjoy *Animal Kingdom 3D* and *Into Nature's Wild 3D* showing at the Science Centre's **IMAX® theatre**. Four activities that put nature in the spotlight! All this on top of our four fascinating permanent exhibitions ***Fabrik – Creativity Factory***, ***Explore – Life-sized Science, Human***, and ***Mini Mondo***. Come explore the fun and wonder of science thanks to marvellously engaging content! [Learn more](#)

## About the Old Port of Montréal

The Old Port of Montréal, a division of the Canada Lands Company, has offered a variety of interactive, cultural, and recreational activities for more than 25 years. As home to the Montréal Science Centre, the second most visited science centre in the country, it also offers many opportunities for scientific discovery. Bordering a 2.5-kilometre stretch of the St. Lawrence River, the Old Port of Montréal is the most popular recreational tourism site in Québec, with more than six million visitors annually. Its partners are Coca-Cola, Sleeman, TELUS, Rythme 105.7, 92.5, CKOI and 98.5 FM.

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