

Story Ideas

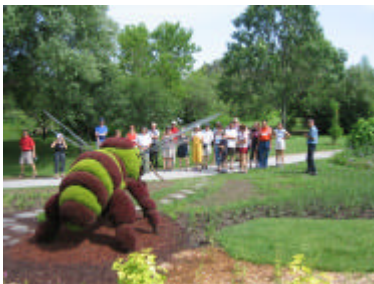
Romantic floral havens and heritage gardens Southern Quebec – a destination in full bloom

Southern Quebec invites gardening enthusiasts and plant lovers to discover or re-explore three places found not far from large urban centres. Season after season, Quebec's gardens blossom into beautiful sights to see.



Domaine Joly-De Lotbinière : *The Domaine, a National Historic Site of Canada, invites you to step back in time. Relive the 19th century as you visit its heritage gardens and seigniorial manor. Featuring more than 2200 species of vegetation, these gardens are among the most beautiful in North America. The Domaine Joly-De Lotbinière also invites visitors to enjoy outdoor concerts during the summer. A walk in the forest or a picnic near the St. Lawrence River will delight Domaine visitors who appreciate nature. Visit the Domaine's Web site for its April-to-September flowering calendar.*

Parc Marie Victorin : *These contemporary gardens will become the largest ecological gardens in Quebec in*



2009, thanks to an investment of more than \$4 million over two years. The park will launch several projects this year, including the fantastic "Brother Marie-Victorin" island and an eco-energy centre. The island will be inspired by the many trips Brother Marie-Victorin took. Education was one the values advocated by this park's namesake, and visitors will be able to enjoy the park as a pleasant place to learn more about the region's flora and environment. The current reception pavilion will become an eco-energy centre with the mission of providing information on new energy sources and their properties.

Bleu Lavande *The splendour of lavender is found in Quebec's Eastern Townships. Bleu Lavande in Fitch Bay*



is the largest lavender producer in Canada. Visitors can view the various sites where lavender is grown and view the tools used in processing its derived products. Begin your visit with a high-definition presentation on the company and lavender cultivation in Quebec. Visitors are free to stroll through the fields of lavender and savour its amazing fragrance. The prime flowering period occurs around July 14. In 2009, Bleu Lavande will provide a shuttle bus service from Montreal. Discover Bleu Lavande's new interpretation centre and new massage therapy sites amid the lavender fields.

Nearby:

- Tourisme Bois-Francis
- The Navigators' Route
- Boutique et Chèvrerie L'Angéline (goat farm)
- Vignoble le Cep D'Argent (winery)

Visit our Web site: www.southernquebec.ca