



VIVE LE QUÉBEC!

Music in French Canada
An exclusive tour with Classical KUSC

September 16–23, 2014

Join morning host **Dennis Bartel** and fellow Classical KUSC listeners on a deluxe tour to the province of Quebec, the home of French civilization in North America and a cosmopolitan atmosphere unique on our continent. Our trip to Canada will feature three of the most prominent music ensembles of the province as well as three renowned young pianists.

For three nights we will visit the charming city and surroundings of Quebec City, the provincial capital and the only walled city in North America north of Mexico, while based at the grand Chateau Frontenac. We will hear a concert by the town's pride, Les Violons du Roy. Then it's on to the great international city of Montreal for two concerts by the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, led by famed native Californian Kent Nagano, formerly Music Director of Los Angeles Opera, in their beautiful new symphony hall, as well as a performance by Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. Finally, participants will be treated to an exclusive private concert by a major artist on the last evening of the tour. In both cities, we will sample outstanding cuisine of the region, as well as make excursions into the countryside—yet leave you ample free time for relaxing, shopping or additional sightseeing.



Kent Nagano and the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime tickets to two concerts by the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, one by Les Violons du Roy, and a performance of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens
- Private concert performed exclusively for the group
- Optional performance at a characteristic *boite à chansons* to hear traditional French music
- Tours of the major sites of Montreal and Quebec City by expert guides
- Excursions to the lovely Ile d'Orleans and Richelieu River Valley, with wine tastings
- Informal commentary on the music by Classical KUSC's Dennis Bartel
- Deluxe accommodations at the Chateau Frontenac in Quebec City and the Hotel Place d'Armes in Montreal
- Fine dining at some of the Quebec's best restaurants, and tastings of some of its best food products
- Private air-conditioned motor coach on all excursions
- Free time to relax, shop or additional sightseeing



Dennis Bartel is the Classical KUSC weekday morning and Sunday afternoon host. Dennis is a thirty-year veteran broadcaster, having served in Washington, DC, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh. He began his broadcast career in his native Los Angeles as morning host at

KUSC in late 1970s, when he also produced a celebrated series of hour-long documentaries on California writers. Dennis is also an accomplished writer and has published hundreds of articles, stories and essays with such enterprises as Harper's, Time-Life, Doubleday, and others. Dennis and his wife Erin are parents to four young children.

TOUR COST: \$4,265 per person, ground only
Single supplement: \$975. Group limited to 25 participants.

The Quebec tour is an exclusive presentation by KUSC and is organized by The Grand Tour Travel Company, Peterborough, New Hampshire. Calif. Lic.: 2088711-40.

Daily Itinerary

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 BIENVENUE!

The optional group flight departs from Los Angeles on Air Canada with arrival in Quebec City in the evening, then transfer to the magnificent Chateau Frontenac, where we will reside for the next three nights. The elegant Chateau with more than 600 rooms was first built in 1893 and stands as the grand symbol of the city. The hotel will offer participants a **welcome dinner** at the Chateau's famous restaurant.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 OLDE QUEBEC

Following **breakfast daily** at both hotels, the group sets off for a walking tour of the old town of Quebec. We experience the charm of the cradle of French civilization in North America, founded in 1608 to take advantage of the burgeoning fur trade. The town's stone houses from the 17th and 18th century, quiet cobblestone streets, and vistas over the Saint Lawrence give off a distinctly European feel. **Lunch** is at a charming restaurant in the old town. The afternoon is free to explore more or simply relax at the Chateau by the pool. Tonight we attend a concert at the Palais Montcalm by the world class Les Violons du Roy (Violins of the King), conducted by the ensemble's music director Bernard Labadie, with French pianist Alexandre Tharaud as soloist, in music by Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 LA BELLE ISLE

Today we venture out into the country with a tour of the Ile d'Orleans. Settled in the 17th century and protected from development, this small island evokes the life of New France. We will visit several of the island's small food manufacturers to sample their products of patés, cheese, jams and jellies, plus visit an historic manor house. **Lunch** is at La Goéliche overlooking the Saint Lawrence. En route back to the mainland we take in the magnificent Falls of Montmorency, the highest in Canada —1 ½ times higher than Niagara! Dinner is on your own. This evening you may join us at one of the town's *boite à chansons* to hear traditional French and Québécois songs.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 BALLET IN MONTREAL

We bid farewell to Quebec City and board our private motorcoach to Montreal, with **lunch** en route. Upon arrival in Montreal, we check in at the beautiful Hotel Place d'Armes, situated on a pretty square near Old Montreal. The innovative dance company, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, has been amazing audiences since 1957 with creative classical ballet and modern

dance. Tonight famed German choreographer Christian Spuck's full length ballet, *Leonce and Lena*, uses compositions by the Waltz King, Johann Strauss, to narrate a tragicomic story.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 OLD MONTREAL & NAGANO

This morning a walking tour of Vieux Montreal begins at the beautiful Cathedral of Notre Dame de Montreal across from our hotel. From its origin as an outpost to convert the natives to Christianity, Montreal is now a great cosmopolitan metropolis of nearly two million people, predominately French-speaking but with a sizeable population of English speakers and a polyglot of other ethnic groups. Our course through the lively old town covers three centuries of history, and ends in the lovely Place Jacques Cartier.

The afternoon is free before an early **dinner** at Toqué, one of the city's finest restaurants. Then we attend our first concert by the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal under Kent Nagano. Maestro Nagano became the first Music Director of Los Angeles Opera in 2003 after serving two years as principal conductor. He has held important positions around the world, principally in Berlin, Munich and Lyon and has been Music Director of the OSM since 2006. In 2011, he inaugurated the city's beautiful new Maison Symphonique. He is joined by Russian pianist Boris Berezovsky, a Tchaikovsky Gold Medal winner, in Prokofiev's Piano Concerto no. 2. Ravel's colorful *Le Tombeau de Couperin* and Mussorgsky's brilliant *Pictures at an Exhibition* complete the program.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 NAGANO & STRAUSS

Montreal is a city of diverse neighborhoods. We will explore a few and take in some of their culinary treasures. At the famous Saint-Viateur Bagel Shop you will learn all about this savoury Montreal-style pastry. At Jean-Talon Market, one of the temples of food in Montreal, you'll meet some of the local stand owners and taste some of Quebec's cheeses. **Lunch** takes place on Rue Saint Denis, surrounded by its mostly francophone shops. The afternoon concert at the Maison Symphonique of the OSM, led by Maestro Nagano, celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of Richard Strauss. His moving "orchestral monodrama" *Death and Transfiguration* is paired with another masterpiece, his *Sinfonia domestica*, representing himself and members of his family. In between, British pianist and prodigy Benjamin Grosvenor plays Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto no. 2. Dinner is on your own and your evening is free.



Place des Arts in Montreal

MONDAY, SEPTMEBER 22 RICHELIEU RIVER VALLEY

Today we travel along the Richilieu River for a day in pretty Montrégie and the Eastern Townships. The massive Fort Chambly was built in 1709 by the French to protect Montreal against invading British army but then taken over by the British in 1760. Traveling along the river, we pass numerous small villages with historic houses, vineyards, and orchards, and enjoy tastings of wine and cider as well as a nice **lunch**. On our last evening, a major artist, to be announced, performs an exclusive recital for the group followed by a light **supper**.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 AU REVOIR

Today come with us to visit Montreal's vast Montreal Botanical Garden featuring 30 thematic gardens, 10 exhibition greenhouses and an Insectarium, or stroll over to the Biodome which recreates four ecosystems in the Americas. The group flight returns non-stop to LAX on Air Canada in the early evening.

Itinerary is subject to change. Meals in bold are included in the price of the tour.

TOUR REGISTRATION

TOUR COST: \$4,265 per person, ground only, double occupancy

Single supplement: \$975

Optional group flight: \$755, on Air Canada

DEPOSIT: \$900 per person; includes tax-deductible contribution to KUSC of \$400

BALANCE DEADLINE: August 11, 2014
After that date, call for availability.

REGISTRATION: To reserve your place, contact Minnie Prince of KUSC at mprince@kusc.org or call 213-225-7534 to make a credit card deposit; or send a check for the deposit amount to:

KUSC Quebec Tour, PO Box 7913, Los Angeles, CA 90007

For registration materials go to: www.kusc.org.

QUESTIONS? Contact Minnie Prince at mprince@kusc.org or 213-225-7534 or The Grand Tour at info@thegrandtour.com or 800-727-2995.