



PRATESI LIVING

FOOD • TRAVEL • LEISURE

Where to Stay and Dine in Charlevoix

BY GWEN PRATESI • CANADA, FARMS AND ARTISANS, TRAVEL



This is the last article in a three-part series of travel through the Charlevoix region of Québec. The first article can be found [here](#) and the second one at [this link](#).

Just an hour north of Québec City lies Charlevoix, a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. This unique agriculturally rich area features what is known as the Flavour Trail. A destination in and of itself, we visited the region between our time in [Québec City](#) and [Montreal](#). To fully experience Charlevoix, plan to stay several days or a week.

Where to Stay

Accommodations in Charlevoix offer a range of mostly smaller hotels, inns, and intimate B & Bs. Properties in La Malbaie offer some of the best scenery with picturesque views of the St. Lawrence River, with the largest and most impressive being the Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu.

THE FAIRMONT LE MANOIR RICHELIEU – LA MALBAIE



[The Fairmont Le Manoir Richelieu](#), just south of Pointe-au-Pic, is a luxury property perched high above the St. Lawrence River. Located on [Le Train Léger de Charlevoix](#) train line, it boasts upscale amenities and a popular casino. With several dining options, golf, and the Spa du Manoir, this resort is a destination property, but there is so much to see just outside the entrance.

We had lunch with Chef Patrick Turcot, the hotel's award-winning executive chef, at the Chef's Table. A long-time proponent of supporting the local foods movement in Québec, we chatted with him to learn more about the artisans and farmers in Charlevoix, while tasting several regional specialties. We also wandered the property to enjoy the stunning views from the elevated vantage point.



LOBBY AT THE HOTEL



THE CHEF'S TABLE



A SAMPLING OF REGIONAL PRODUCTS AT THE CHEF'S TABLE

HOTEL LE GERMAIN CHARLEVOIX – BAIE-SAINT-PAUL

The central location of the charming town of Baie-Saint-Paul is ideal for exploring the Flavour Trail and there are a number of accommodations to choose from in town. There are also many wonderful restaurants, many of which are included along the Flavour Trail. You will know which ones they are by the [little orange chef's hat](#) displayed outside the restaurant.

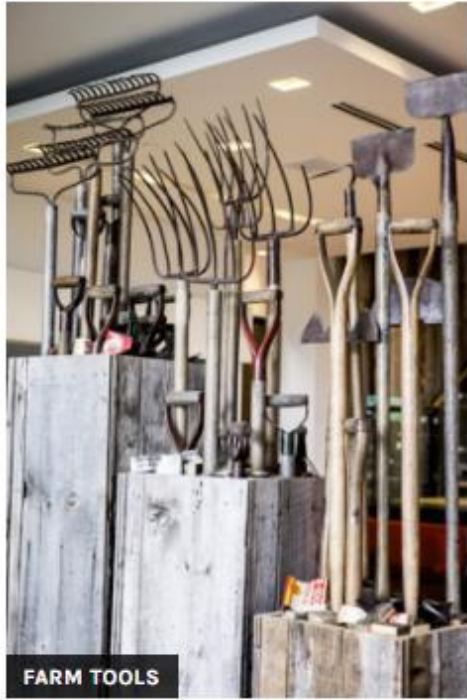
During our time in Charlevoix, we stayed at Hôtel La Ferme, which was recently renamed [Hotel Le Germain Charlevoix](#).



* HOTEL LE GERMAIN

This modern luxury property, located in Baie Saint-Paul and on Le Train Léger de Charlevoix rail line, is one of the most unusual hotels we have experienced. Built on a working farm with fields and animals surrounding the property, La Ferme (The Farm) lived up to its name. Its unique design was awarded the Top Design in the World at the 2013 Retail & Leisure Interior Awards.



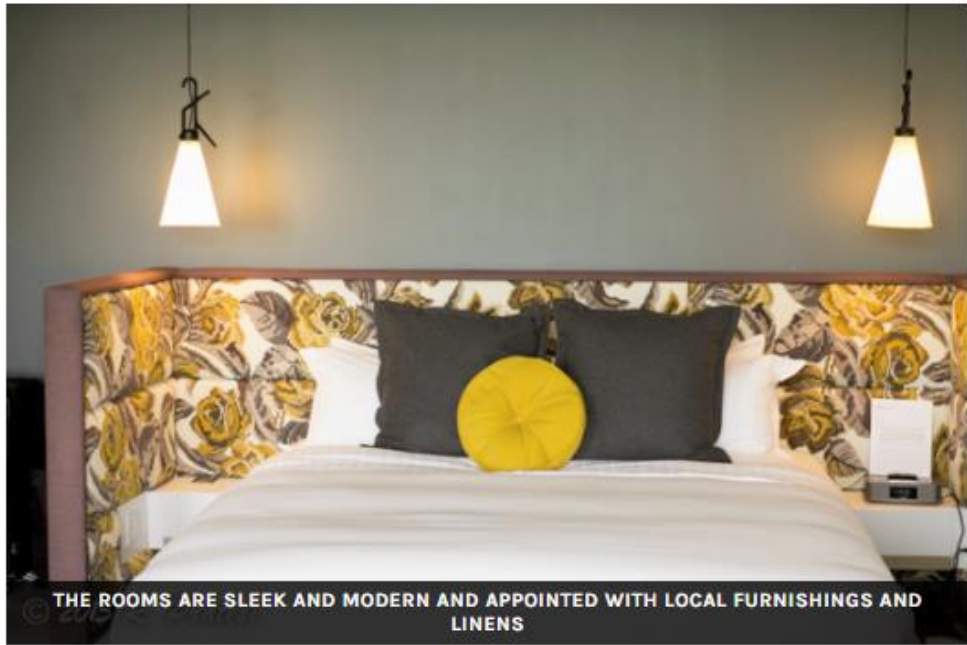


FARM TOOLS



THIS COW IS ALLOWED INDOORS

The hotel's eclectic rooms, housed in several buildings on the property, feature locally produced furnishings and linens and are contemporary in design. There are a number of different room types, depending on your needs. Popular during ski season are the shared rooms with single beds. For our visit, we were in a large superior room with a king bed and a beautifully appointed bath with soaking tub overlooking the farm and the St. Lawrence River.



THE ROOMS ARE SLEEK AND MODERN AND APPOINTED WITH LOCAL FURNISHINGS AND LINENS



THE BATH AREA OPENS INTO THE BEDROOM AND IS FITTED WITH CONTEMPORARY BATH FIXTURES



SOAKING TUB OVERLOOKING THE GARDEN WITH VIEWS OF THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER IN THE DISTANCE



*** EACH ROOM STYLE IS UNIQUE IN DECOR**

The hotel's Spa du Verger, with its windows overlooking the farm, offers a unique thermal spa experience with hot and cold outdoor pools, a Nordic shower, a snow fountain, Finnish sauna, and a eucalyptus steam bath.



THE SPA OVERLOOKING THE FARM