

## How Hotel William Gray Became Montreal's Hippest Hotel



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There's no better time to visit [Montréal](#) than now. And why? Well, the sophisticated, thrillingly diverse metropolis is celebrating its 375th anniversary this year – which has culminated in over 175 cultural events. (For example: The upcoming [Électro Parade](#) on September 2nd transforms the city into a massive, lively dance party.)

Because there's no shortage of things to see, do, and eat (hello, smoked meats and bagels) in Montreal, choosing where to rest is key. Below, all the reasons why you should consider [Hotel William Gray](#) your home base.



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## Background in Brief

As part of the Antonopoulos Group, a locally-based hospitality group founded by brothers Tony and Costa Antonopoulos in 1973, Hotel William Gray is the latest addition to a portfolio of acclaimed hotels, restaurants, and spas. Located on St-Vincent in the heart of Old Montreal (and a stone's throw from Place Jacques-Cartier and the Old Port) the hotel is comprised of two historic, 18th-century buildings capped by a new eight-floor glass building. The result is a boutique property that manages to feel both old world and contemporary, thanks to the design efforts by local firm CAMDI Design. Juxtaposition of contrasting colors, lighting, and other design elements play a key role in the hotel's look. (For example: the furniture, which was curated by the property, sports a bold mix of rugged leather and delicate textiles.)



The William Gray

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## Accommodations

All of the 127 rooms and suites feature a decidedly softer look than the hotel's common areas. Though my Deluxe King Room wasn't super spacious, I had ample room to properly spread out, relax, and work. And the white oak flooring, white walls, and sheer curtains helped everything feel airy, bright, and fresh. Amenity wise, there weren't any big surprises, but I appreciated the plush beds dressed with lofty Marie l'Oie down comforters, the very of-the-moment La Labo Santal 33 toiletries, and complimentary bottled water. (Come to think of it: why doesn't every hotel offer its guests complimentary drinking water?) Subtle, but thoughtful pops of color were provided by art local art and the chairs.



*Terrasse William Gray offers both breathtaking views of Montreal and delicious cocktails and bites. [+]*

## **Dining**

Hotel William Gray packs such a delicious punch, you'll find it hard to leave. At Maggie Oakes, the hotel's bustling all-day restaurant on the ground floor, you'll discover a living wall of greens and herbs, dry age meat cooler, and handsome grey marble bar. (Translation: there's something for every palate and appetite here.) Terrasse William Gray and Perché both offer an elegant respite from the city's hustle and bustle – the views can't be beat – alongside well-crafted cocktails and light bites. Adjacent to the lobby is the casual Library Bar, where you can curl up with a book or shoot a round of pool. For a grab and go situation, head to Café Olimpico. The Montreal mainstay, which opened in 1970, specializes in expertly-poured espressos and Italian pastries.

## **Spa**

You'd be hard pressed to find a more luxurious spa than the one here. Located in the lower level, the spacious facilities boast cutting-edge treatments and technology, including a quartz bed, sound wave bed – I can't remember the last time I felt so chilled out in just 30 minutes – light therapy showers, and a thermal circuit, which promotes blood circulation and of course, relaxation. All facials and skincare treatments incorporate luxurious skincare brands, such as Comfort Zone from Italy and Intraceuticals from Australia.

## **Hotel William Gray**

421 St Vincent St

[hotelwilliamgray.com](http://hotelwilliamgray.com)