

## Just back from ... Montreal

### What's new in North America's Gallic metropolis

**A**S the US dollar continues to climb, the time has never been better to visit **Montreal**. Here are some of its fabbest finds.

**STAY:** Following a head-to-toe \$200 million redo, Montreal's unrivaled grand dame, **The Ritz-Carlton**, has never looked better. Set in an entire block on Sherbrooke Street, the 129-room property is an easy walk to both Old Montreal and the city's new culture-filled Quartier des Spectacles. Along with a fantastic indoor saltwater pool, the hotel includes a branch of Maison Boulud, über-chef Daniel Boulud's tribute to haute (and mod) Mediterranean cuisine (from about \$450; [Ritz-Carlton.com](http://Ritz-Carlton.com)).

**DINE:** Set in the just-opened Renaissance Montreal Downtown Hotel, **East's** authentically regional menu is the brainchild of a crew of Montreal's leading dining and drinking talent. Standouts include meat-filled dim sum, hearty kung-pao lobster, an inventive sashimi loup de mer and perfectly crisp Peking duck ([Marriott.com](http://Marriott.com)).

**DRINK:** **Bar Cloakroom** takes its name from its unusual setting — the back of a men's clothing store and bar-



Ritz-Carlton Montreal

Ritz-Carlton, Montreal

bershop Maison Cloakroom. Hidden behind a mirrored doorway, the sleek speak-easy is low-lit and louche — with a warren of rooms covered in black-and-white photos. The crowd sips Champagne and cocktails like the rum-and-Aperol-spiked Riviera with hand-carved ice (2175 Rue de la Montagne; [Maison-Cloakroom.com](http://Maison-Cloakroom.com)).

**SHOP:** No Canadian fashion brand has achieved cult status like **WANT Les Essentiels** — whose twin founders Dexter and Byron Peart have created must-have leather accessories, apparel and fragrances. Shop it all at **WANT Apothecary** (4960 Sherbrooke St. W.; [WANTApothecary.com](http://WANTApothecary.com)), the brand's Montreal flagship, which features all the WANT must-haves.

—David Kaufman



WANT Apothecary; founders the Peart twins (inset)

WANT Apothecary

