

An aerial photograph of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The image shows a dense urban skyline with numerous skyscrapers and buildings. In the foreground, there is a large, lush green park with many trees and a winding path. A body of water, likely a lake or river, is visible in the lower left corner, reflecting the surrounding greenery. The overall scene is a mix of urban development and natural beauty.

Montréal

July 11 to 15, 2026



International
Herpesvirus
Workshop

business
events /
MONTREAL

An aerial photograph of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, taken during the "golden hour" of sunset. The city's skyline is visible in the background, with numerous skyscrapers and buildings illuminated by the warm, orange light of the setting sun. In the foreground, the city is divided by the Allegheny River. To the left, a large industrial or commercial area is visible, featuring several large white tents and structures. In the center, a large Ferris wheel stands prominently. To the right, a green park area with trees and a small building is visible. The overall scene captures the diverse landscape of the city, from its industrial roots to its recreational and cultural offerings.

A city
that has it all



Montréal ranks at the top

**#1 city in the Americas
for hosting international
events for the 6th year
in a row**

ICCA - 2021



**Top 40 smartest
and most humane
cities in the world**

SMART CITY INDEX - 2021



**#1 North American
city for students**

QS TOP UNIVERSITIES - 2022



**#1 North American
city for wellbeing**

TECHTALKS - 2019



**First Canadian city
to join the Global Destination
Sustainability Index**

GLOBAL DESTINATION SUSTAINABILITY INDEX



**The 2nd most
innovative city
in Canada**

INNOVATION CITIES INDEX - 2021



**#1 world's safest city
to travel to in 2022**

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY TRAVEL PROTECTION - 2022



**#1 city in North America
and #10 in the world for
hosting international
events**

UIA 2021





Easy to love



That certain *je ne sais quoi*.

- **North American effervescence** and **European flair**
- Montréal is different than any North American city with **one-of-a-kind energy**
- **Montrealers**: Friendly, warm, inclusive, make you feel at ease
- **International**: North American city where you feel right at home
- **Americans**: Europe without the jet lag



International and inclusive.

- Population of more than **4 million**
- The most trilingual city in Canada — French, English, and some **80 other languages**
- Over **120 ethnic groups** are represented in the metropolitan Montréal area
- In 2022, Montréal launched the very **first Montréal Multicultural Festival** to showcase the city's many **cultural communities** as well as to **celebrate diversity and inclusion**.



Our creative cuisine celebrates eating.

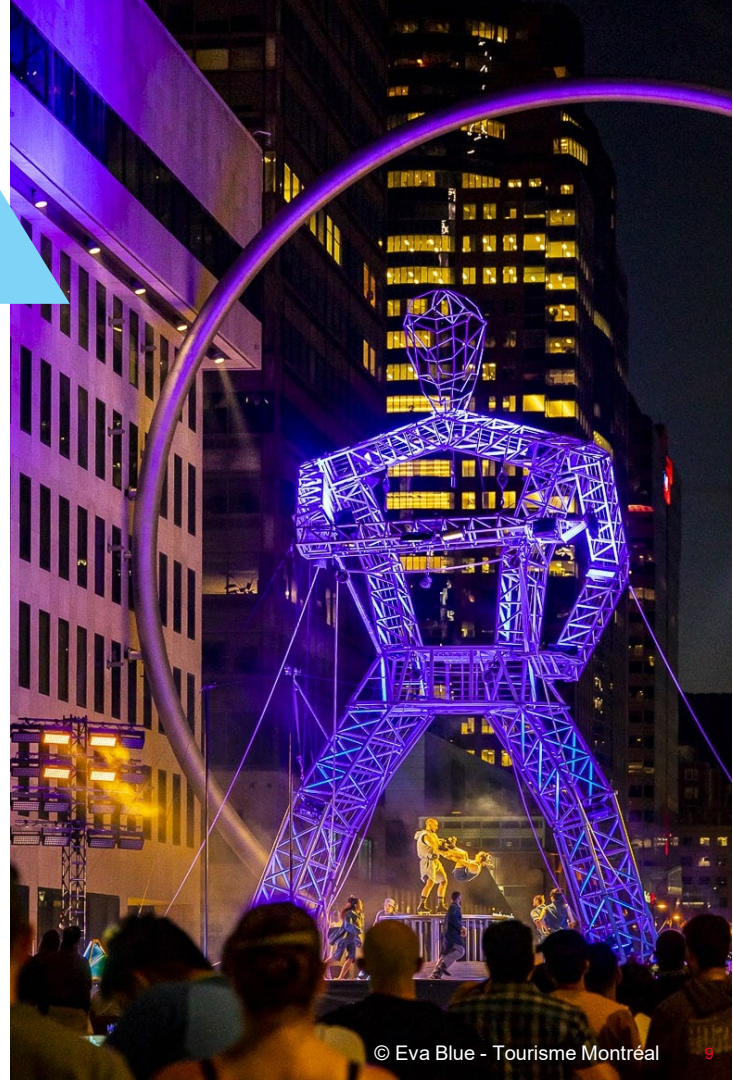
- Load up your plate with our custom blend of **local influences**, bold **global inspirations** and **European heritage**.
- **28 Montréal restaurants** made **Canada's 100 Best Restaurants** list in 2022.
- **Street food** is an integral part of the city's culinary landscape. Montréal is home to First Fridays, the **biggest food truck and street food event in Canada**.
- Montréal is the only city in Canada that is a member of the network of **Good Food Cities of the World**. Today, the network brings together **31 cities in over three continents**.



North America's circus hub.

- Headquarters of **Cirque du Soleil**
- Montréal is **home to the National Circus School**, one of the **most prestigious** circus schools worldwide.
- MONTRÉAL COMPLÈTEMENT CIRQUE is the **first North American international festival dedicated to circus arts**.

"Montreal is called the **home of *nouveau cirque***. Not only do we do acrobatics and flexibility, but almost every performer does theater, dancing, music.
It's very **multiskilled**."



An arts and culture infusion.

- **First UNESCO City of Design** in North America
- Renowned **Quartier des spectacles**
- **264 outdoor murals** in the city
- **64 museums**, including:
 - The oldest museum in Canada, the **Montréal Museum of Fine Arts** (1860)
 - The largest natural sciences museum complex in Canada the **Space for Life**.





A city that never sleeps.

Enjoy outdoor activities without leaving the city such as:

- Dancing to the beat of local and world-renowned artists
- Taking a walk in one of many and unique parks
- Experiencing an international firework competition

Discover:

- Montreal's unique and multicultural gastronomy and food trucks
- Montreal's street art
- Montreal's history and architecture by bike

Safe and secure.

- Voted best city for women travelling solo*
- Listed among the safest cities to travel to in 2023.**
- A city that thrives on diversity and **respect**.
- We combine fun and games with the assurance of **safety**.





**Easy to
get to**





**Consider us your next-door neighbour,
and borders are a breeze.**

140+ world destinations

120+ direct flights from the U.S.
(2-hours or less from many major cities)

46 miles away from the U.S.
border (45-minute drive)

20 minutes from the airport
to downtown

PLUS: No visas needed for US citizens

Driving distance from major NE and MW cities

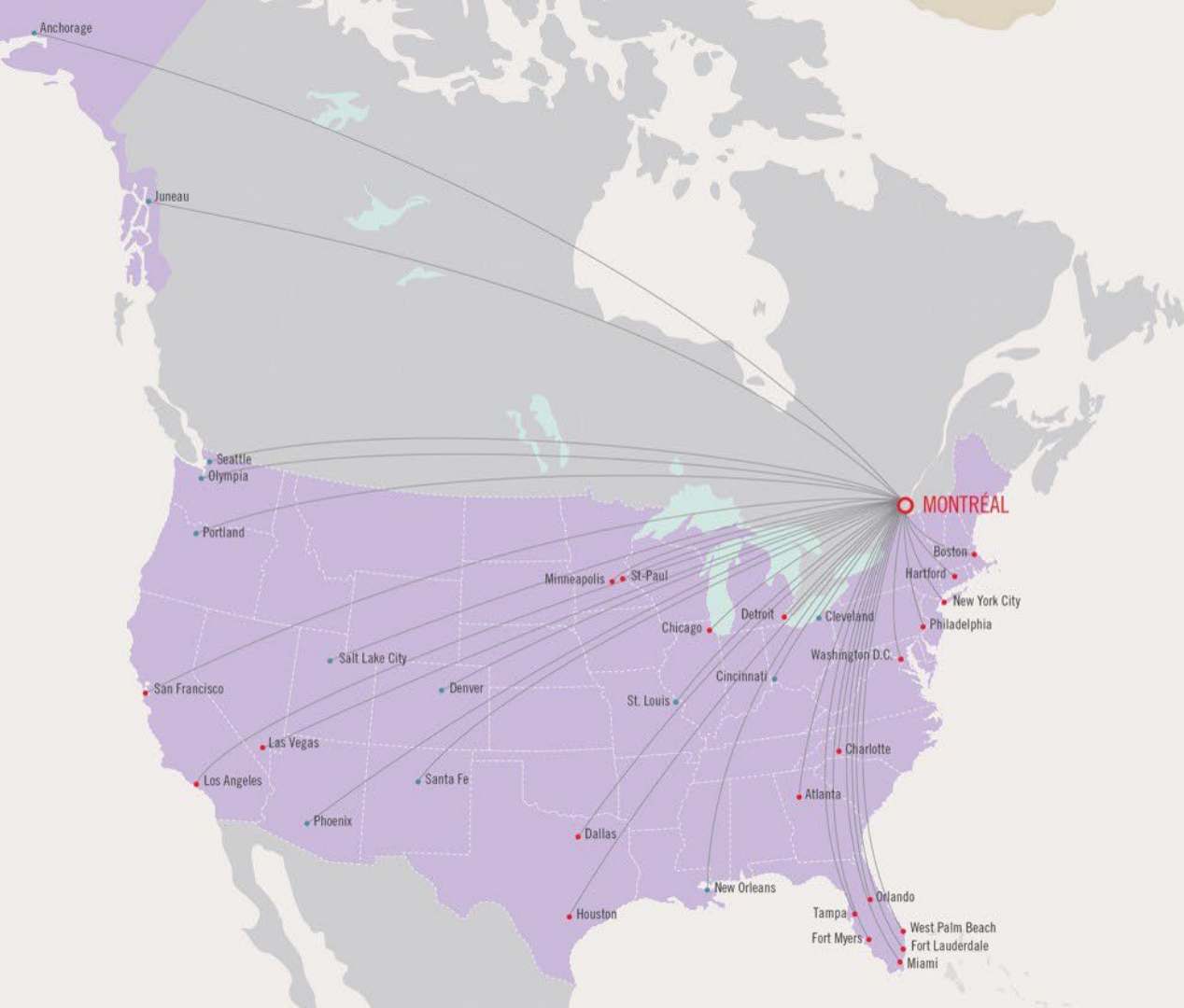
City, State	Distance (in miles)	Estimated driving time
Boston, MA	308 miles	5 hours
New York City, NY	379 miles	6 hours
Buffalo, NY	380 miles	6 hours 40 minutes
Philadelphia, PA	460 miles	7 hours 15 minutes
Detroit, MI	563 miles	9 hours 30 minutes
Pittsburgh, PA	604 miles	9 hours 30 minutes
Washington D.C.	584 miles	9 hours 45 minutes
Cleveland, OH	582 miles	11 hours 40 minutes
Chicago, IL	850 miles	13 hours

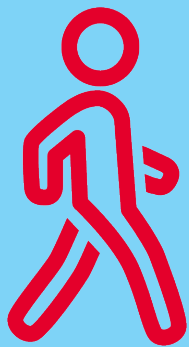


International flights



U.S. flights





**Easy to
get around**





Easy to get around.



Compact, **walkable**, convenient and safe: that's Montréal in a nutshell.

Taxis and Uber cars are available **24/7** throughout the city.

Our vibrant downtown—the city's heart and soul—is home to **16,000 hotel rooms** and to:

- **20 miles** of stores, restaurants and services in the underground pedestrian network
- An **ultra-modern metro** (subway) system
- **BIXI**, a public bike rental system with **800 stations** and **9,600 bikes**
- Over **547 miles** of bike lanes



Sold on Montréal?

Now Let's Talk IHW!



Your Hosts



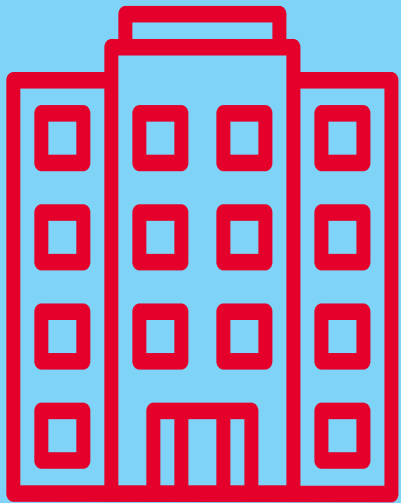
ROGER LIPPÉ
University of Montreal



JENNIFER CORCORAN
University of Calgary



BRUCE BANFIELD
Queen's University



Venue



Centre Mont-Royal

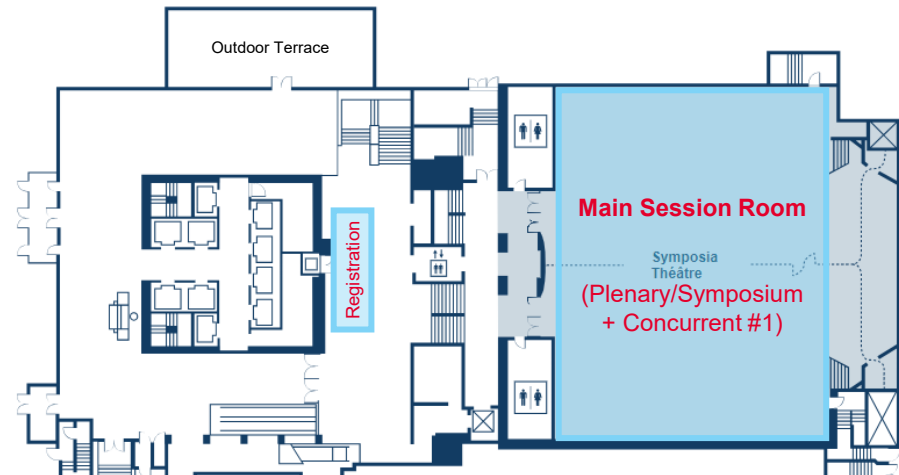
- Located in the heart of Montréal, the Centre Mont-Royal is a stand-alone conference center that will house all of IHW under one roof.
- IHW will have the entire facility, which allows for networking and conversations to happen anywhere in the building.
- The Centre Mont-Royal is connected to the Metro and offers indoor parking onsite, to ensure access to locals and travelers alike.





Main Session Room

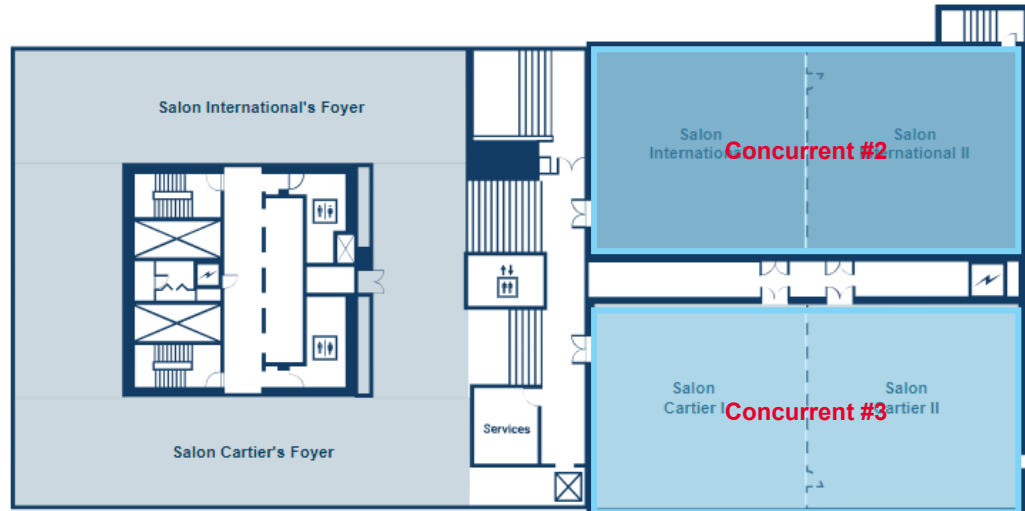
- The Symposia Theatre, with 730 tiered seats and a built-in stage, will serve as IHW's main session room.
- Registration will be held in the foyer of this room, for easy access to get your questions answered.
- The foyers offer floor-to-ceiling windows, and a private outdoor terrace for discussions in between sessions.



Concurrent Sessions



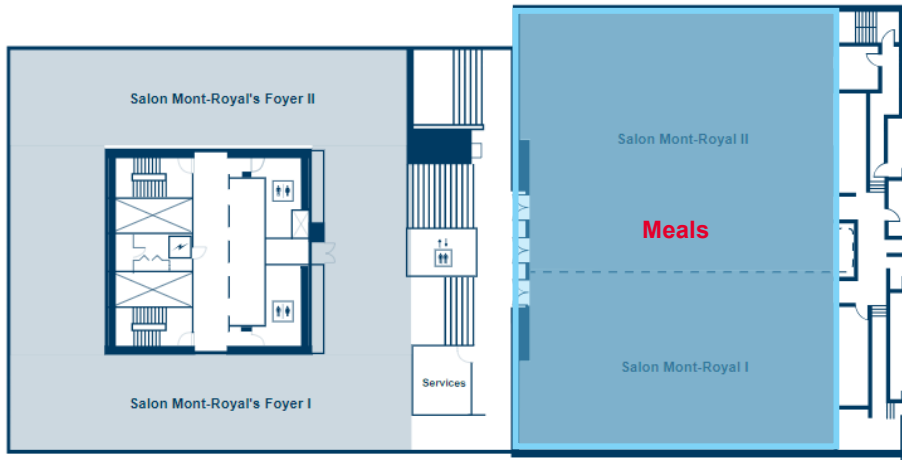
- The Salons International and Cartier will serve as the other two concurrent sessions.
- Each salon can hold up to 370 attendees, and are located just one short flight of stairs up from the Symposia Theatre.





Meals

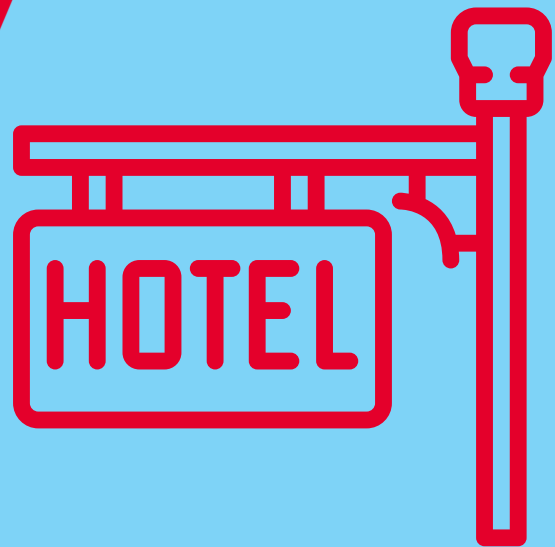
- On the third floor of the Centre Mont-Royal, you will find the Salon Mont-Royal, where all attendees will gather for lunches.
- This ample room offers seating for up to 650 attendees, ensuring all delegates will be able to enjoy meals together as a group.
- The Centre Mont-Royal offers an exclusive in-house catering team.



Posters

- The posters will be placed in the airy foyers on levels 2 and 3, featuring city views and floor-to-ceiling windows.
- This allows attendees to conveniently explore the posters in between sessions, in addition to during dedicated poster sessions.
- Each level features a 30-foot bar, ready to serve beer and wine with ease!



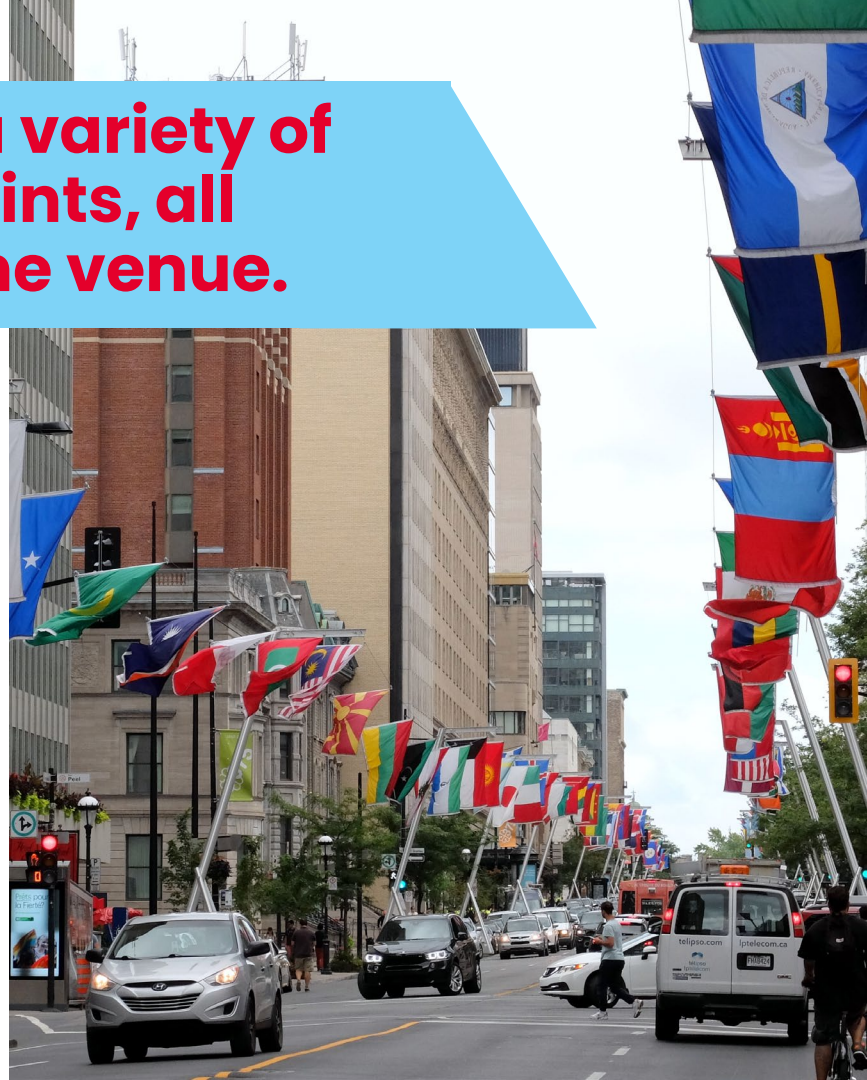


Housing



IHW 2026 will contract with a variety of hotels with varying price-points, all within walking distance to the venue.

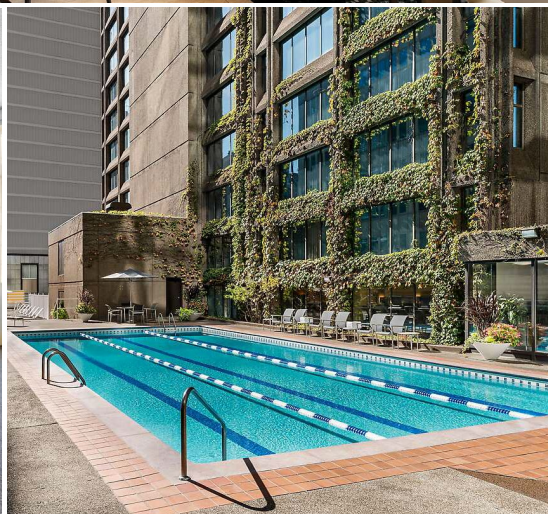
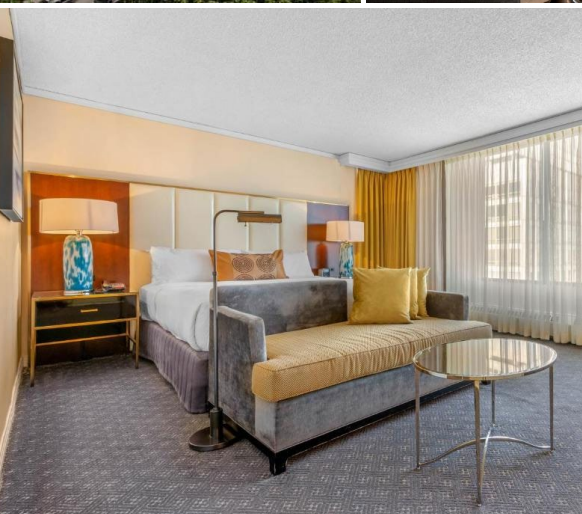
Hotel Name	Distance to Venue	# of Rooms on Peak	2027 Rates (not including taxes)
Hotel Omni Mont-Royal	2 minute walk (200 m)	175	\$268 CAD \$198 USD
Hotel Le Germain Montreal	1 minute walk (34 m)	60	\$315 CAD \$233 USD
Marriott Residence Inn Montreal	4 minute walk (350 m)	95	\$285 CAD \$211 USD
McGill Dorms	7 minute walk (550 m)	100 beds	TBD (will not confirm pricing until 1 year out)





Hotel Omni Mont-Royal

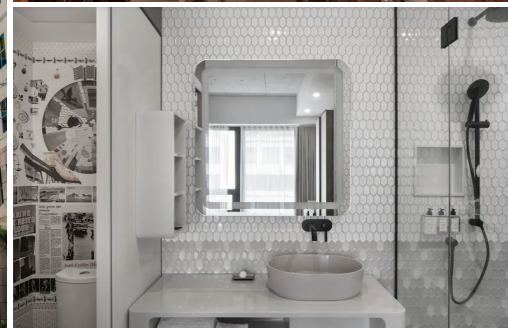
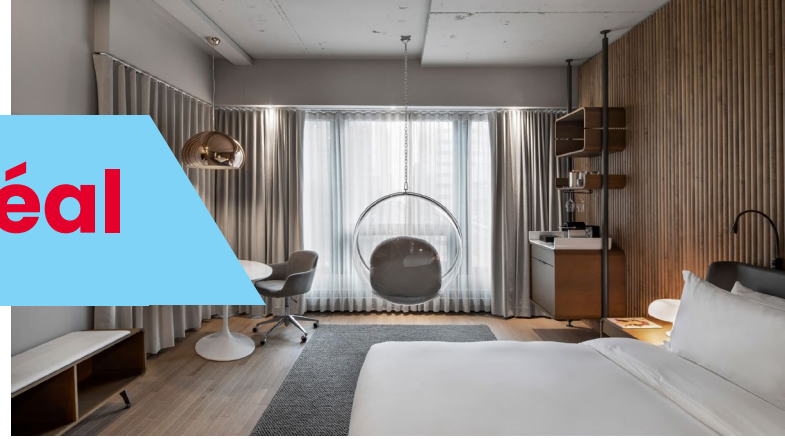
- **\$268 CAD | \$198 USD room rate**
- Located just one block away from the Centre Mont-Royal, the Omni will hold the majority of IHW attendees.
- The Omni boasts spacious and well-appointed guest rooms.
- Two onsite outlets: a full-service restaurant open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and a bar that offers drinks and light bites until 11:00 pm. Plus – 24 hour room service.
- Enjoy the 24-hour fitness center, spa and pool in between or after sessions.



Hotel Le Germain Montréal

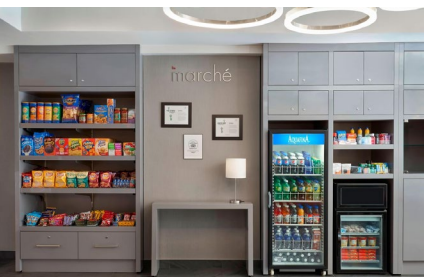
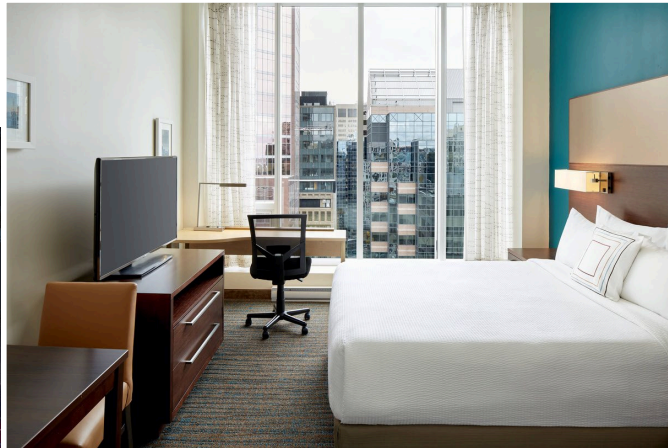
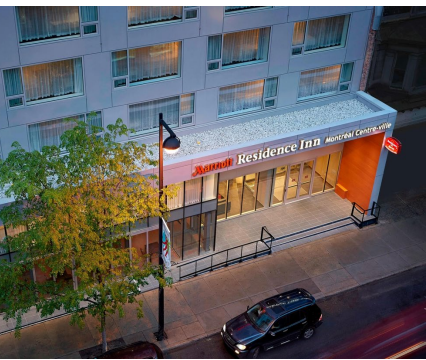
- **\$315 CAD | \$233 USD room rate**
- Located right next door to the Centre Mont-Royal, you can't get any closer to the meeting!
- Fully remodeled inside and out.
- Two onsite outlets: a full-service restaurant open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and a bar that offers drinks and light bites until 11:00 pm. Breakfast and dinner room service available.

MONTRÉAL





Marriott Résidence Inn Downtown

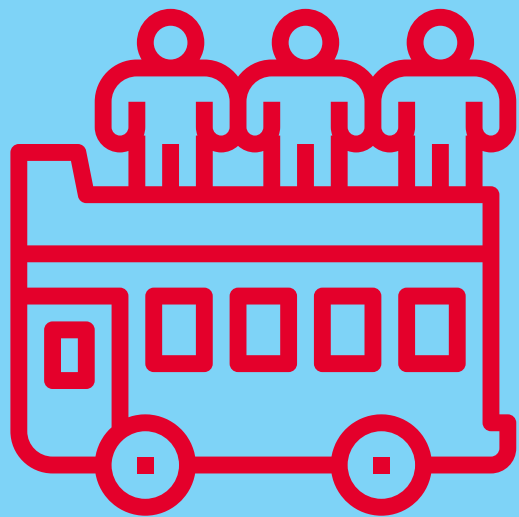


- **\$285 CAD | \$211 USD**
- Located three blocks away from the Centre Mont-Royal.
- The Residence Inn offers fully equipped kitchens in every room.
- Complimentary full American breakfast included. Plus – take advantage of the Marriott's free grocery service, and ensure all your favorite foods are waiting for you upon arrival.
- Enjoy 24-hour fitness studio and game room.

McGill University Residence Halls

- We plan to contract with McGill University for student housing.
- Due to their current policies, we are unable to contract more than 1 year in advance, but we expect prices to be similar to other dorm packages.
- We have backup dorm and economy accommodations as well, if needed.





Excursions





Closing Banquet





Key economic sectors

Brianna Note: Do you think we need these?





Education



- **Among the top** student cities in North America*
- Montréal ranks **number 1 in Canada** for funds invested in university research and for its vast pool of university researchers.
- Home to four major universities:
 - McGill is the best university in Canada and ranks **31st** in the world*
 - Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)
 - Concordia University
 - Université de Montréal (UdeM)
- Over **46,000 degrees** are awarded to students in Montréal each year

*QS Best Student Cities 2023

**QS Top Universities 2023



Life sciences

Montréal's dynamic ecosystem is why the city ranks among the **world's top life science cities**.*



- **Cutting-edge health** infrastructure and an ethical framework to access data
- A global **AI hub**, with many **life sciences** projects including major players **Novartis, Roche and AstraZeneca**
- **80%** of Québec's ecosystem is based in Montréal
 - **+ 1000** companies
 - Several thousand **researchers** in public organizations
- A **large ecosystem** driven by many supporting organizations
- An extensive network of **VC investors**



Artificial intelligence

Montréal is a **world-class** artificial intelligence hub and is North America's top AI city*.



- **Cutting-edge expertise** developed by world-renowned **researchers**
- Close to **900 researchers** MSc, PhD, post-doc and applied AI students at Mila
- Montréal is home to **centres of excellence** to propel the industry
 - SCALE AI
 - Forum IA Québec
 - Mila (Montreal Institute for Learning Algorithms)
 - IVADO
- **Leading world companies** are developing their AI expertise in Montréal.

Startups and innovation



Montréal named one of the world's 100 most innovative cities*

- **1,300+ startups** and more than **3,000 founders**
- **32 funding** programs
- In the **top 15 funding ecosystems worldwide**, as measured by the importance of early-stage funding and investor activity
- **1.2 G\$ venture capital (VC)** invested in startups for 2020

Montréal ranked 31st among the top startup ecosystems in the world **

Unlock the potential of your event by leveraging [Startup Montréal's](#) network, resources, and expertise

* Innovation Cities Index, 2021

**Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking, 2021



**Can't wait to welcome
you in Montréal!**

