



The Sacred Heart School of Montreal

.....

A Weekend in Ottawa

November 26th to 28th, 2021



Please note: boarders are considered members of the same household; therefore, are not required to wear a mask.

As Christmas break gets closer and closer, we headed out on our second weekend trip of the year to Ottawa! We started early Friday morning with a quick breakfast before setting off on the two hour drive. Most of the girls napped on the way, but woke up as we entered the city. Our first stop was the Canadian Museum of Nature. The girls loved exploring the different Canadian habitats and the animals which inhabit them. The museum is home to thousands of real fossils and models of Canadian wildlife. The girls were shocked by the size of some ancient and extinct species of sea turtles, as well as the blue whale which still swims in our oceans today. They especially enjoyed the owl exhibit where we saw a variety of live owls native to Canada. After an educational morning, we checked into our accommodations for the weekend. The girls chose their rooms and had a chance to rest and unpack. Soon enough, we were back in the car heading to the Byward Market for dinner at Zak's Diner. The quaint old style diner decor set the mood. We ordered delicious

milkshakes to go with our meals of burgers, chicken wings and grilled cheese. We left the restaurant absolutely stuffed, but luckily we had some walking to do to help digest our dinner. We headed over to the meeting point for our last activity of the day, a haunted walk! Our tour guide and storyteller took us from one historic site to the next telling us stories of the many ghosts which haunt Ottawa's most popular establishments, such as the Fairmont Chateau Laurier Hotel. The temperature was dropping fast, so as soon as the tour ended, we quickly made our way to the car and back to the house for a good night's sleep.

Saturday morning started with some breakfast at the house before driving off to our first stop of the day, the Canadian Science and Technology Museum. The museum shows the evolution of science and technology in Canada throughout the years. There are exhibits displaying inventions and discoveries in several fields, such as medicine, transportation, and music. The girls loved the hands-on activities found throughout the museum, such as a turntable with 5 different songs where you could hear the effect of speeding them up, slowing them down, and even playing them backwards. We watched a demonstration on fire: how fires grow, are put out, and the impact of forest fires, especially in Canada. After another educational morning, the girls were ready for lunch. We drove back towards the Byward Market area and headed into the Rideau Centre where the girls chose different foods from the food court. They were then given some free time to do some much anticipated shopping! They enjoyed the stores which we do not have in Montreal, such as Nordstrom, and got some early Christmas presents to bring home. Just as the sun began to set, we headed over to Parliament Hill, home to Canada's federal government and the Centennial Flame which commemorates Canada's 100th birthday. It has been burning for over 50 years! We walked back down to Byward Market and explored the small independent stores and stalls to work up our appetite for dinner. We decided on pizza so our next stop was The Grand, a delicious pizza and pasta restaurant serving wood fired oven pizzas. Yilin and Jasmine Z enjoyed their mushroom and seafood pizzas, respectively, while Jasmine H and Sofia chose pasta over pizza. Jennie and Yoonha split a salad and a margherita pizza. It was all amazing! We stopped for bubble tea on our way back to the car and made our way back to the house where we all went to sleep early after another long day of exploring.

On Sunday, our last day in Ottawa, we woke up slowly and packed our suitcases before heading to Elgin Street for brunch. After browsing the many cute stores and cafes we stopped at The Lieutenant's Pump for brunch. Most of the girls chose a classic brunch of eggs, toast, bacon, potatoes, and baked beans, while some preferred omelettes or french toast. It was all wonderful and definitely filled us up for our drive back. We were finally back at school and the girls unpacked, did some laundry and got ready for the week to come. Ms. Celia prepared a delicious chicken casserole with broccoli, mushrooms, and pasta. After dinner, the girls studied and worked on some homework.

We can't wait for next week!

- The Residence Life Staff











