



ARCC UPDATE

April 2017

President's Letter

by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

By the time you read this ARCC Update, most of us will already have taken our Alfas out of hibernation and out on the road at least once. This is going to be a pretty special year for those of us in the Eastern region, as we get ready to host somewhere around 350 *Alfisti* from all over Canada, the USA and even overseas for ALFA expo17. This month, I wanted to share our guide to the tours we are offering at the convention. Won't you come join us? It's going to be loads of fun!



Pre-Convention Tours

by Marc Faubert, Gatineau QC

Hopefully, you have already registered for one of our two popular Voyageur Pre-Convention tours, as the Jos Montferrand Tour is filled to capacity, and the Bytown Tour is filling up quickly!

Both tour groups will depart from Kingston, Ontario early on Monday morning, July 10th and will meander along scenic and historic country roads towards Ottawa, our national capital.

Arriving in Ottawa on Monday afternoon, there will be much to see and do throughout the tours, as we'll be visiting museums, historic sites, quaint towns and other locales; stopping to experience local cuisine and relaxing at our tour hotel for two nights along the way. We will also enjoy the friendship and camaraderie that are hallmarks of Alfa Romeo owners everywhere, as we continue winding our way over the country roads towards the convention hotel, arriving on Wednesday

afternoon. Participants from both tours will stay at the same hotel in Gatineau, Québec, sharing evening meals and events.



Alfas on tour. Photo by n@han photography.

The Bytown Tour

"Bytown" was the original name of the city of Ottawa. The Bytown Tour will focus on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River. Participants will drive scenic roads and discover the engineering that went behind the construction of the lock system on the Rideau River and may even spend a bit of time underground!



Rideau Canal. Photo from Ottawa Tourism.

The Jos Montferrand Tour

This tour is named after a famous Québécois voyageur, logger and strong man and will focus on the Québec side of the Ottawa River. You will

discover the heritage left behind by the log barons in the golden age of the logging industry.

It would be foolish on my part to think we can show you everything Canada's National Capital region has to offer. But if we can just tease you enough to come back for a more leisurely visit, my mission will have been accomplished.

The beauty of our region never ceases to amaze me, and this is true on both sides of the Ottawa River. It will truly be an honour to have you discover our neck of the woods.

2017 is a very important year for Canada as we celebrate our 150th year as a nation. Ottawa and Gatineau are hosting many cultural events, attracting tourists worldwide. As exciting as this may be, it also poses a logistical challenge for the tours. Therefore, the tours will be avoiding the downtown core and focus more on outlying areas where we can actually drive our Italian beauties.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Self-Guided Driving Tours

by Jean-Michel Reysset, St. Hubert QC

Québec is a vast and beautiful part of Canada, and taking in even a small portion of its beauty, culture and history would require a vacation of many days in length. To provide convention guests with a wide variety of different driving tour choices, we have put together several fun and varied self-guided road trips, which will give participants a taste of our region. Tour packages will be available free to convention registrants from our ALFAexpo17 desk at the hotel. Each package will include maps, route instructions and a suggested itinerary, including a list of interesting stops, sights and attractions to help make sure that you will enjoy the day's tour. Proceed on your own, or get together with a group of Alfisti friends... Either way, you're bound to have fun! Here's a list of our available tours:

Tour #1 - See the City *about 3.5 hours, ~50kms/31miles*

Take in the sights of the only French speaking metropolis in North America, the city which lent its name to a rare and revered Alfa Romeo model. Take in the beautiful views from the lookout in Mount Royal Park. Do some sightseeing in the historic neighborhood of 'Old Montréal', but be careful on the ancient cobblestone streets. View some of our more modern sights like the Olympic Stadium. To help guide you, our tour directions will provide you opportunities to see much of our city, with views and stops to see spiral outdoor staircases on our century-old row houses, the

modern city skyline, magnificent cathedrals and the public markets, and, of course, there will be lots of places to stop, relax and enjoy the local cuisine and beverages from the many breweries, pubs and restaurants.

Tour #2 - The West Island *about 4 hours, ~60kms/37miles*

This tour will take you on a short road trip along the estate lined roads of the Lake of Two Mountains through the little known hideaway for billionaires and movie stars known as Senneville to the quaint and historic village of Saint Anne de Bellevue, where an ancient lock moves boaters safely past the rapids at the mouth of the Ottawa River. This village features a boardwalk chock full of outdoor terraced restaurants and bars. Leaving the island headed west, you will soon wind up on L'Isle Perrot, where you can visit a working fruit and vegetable farm, watch the ships passing on the seaway and enjoy the views of Lac Saint Louis and the Saint Lawrence River. The island is also home to the headquarters of Blues music and award winning Montreal Smoked Meat sandwiches, known as 'Smoke Meat Pete's'. Returning via the old Lakeshore Road, you will pass through the well to do communities of Baie D'Urfé and Beaconsfield and the historic village of old Pointe Claire.

Tour #3 - Lac des deux Montagnes *about 5 hours, ~140kms/87miles*

Heading to the North and West of the city, this tour will wind its way uphill into the countryside, exploring hills, valleys and lakes, with a ferry ride from the town of Oka to the historic village of Hudson with stops for lunch and a visit to the historic Catholic Sanctuary on Mont Rigaud. Be ready for some twisty roads!

Tour #4 - Le Richelieu *about 5.5 hours, ~160kms/100miles*

Touring along the banks of the Richelieu River, from St-Jean-sur-le-Richelieu to Beloeil via Chambly, there will be stops to visit an old fort used during the War of 1812 and places for a picnic or a walk along the river to admire some of the beautiful homes built along its banks. If you wish, you can stop for a great lunch at Restaurante Tri Colori, a very nice Italian restaurant owned by one of our club members. Mention that you are a registered ALFA expo17 participant.

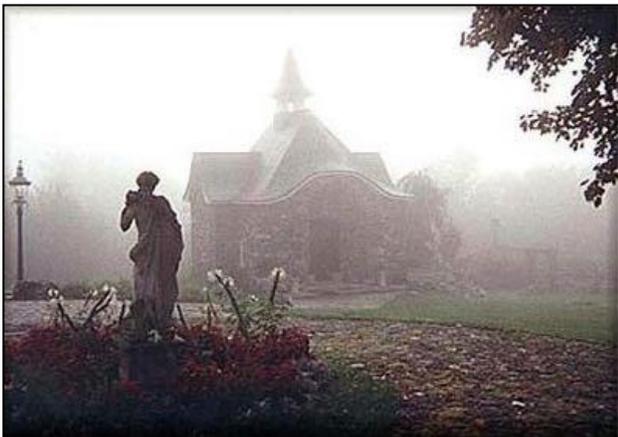
Tour #5 - Chateauguay Valley Apple Country *about 6 hours, 240kms/150miles*

The Chateauguay Valley follows a meandering and slow moving river through the heart of

Southern Québec's Rural 'Apple Country'. Very popular as a driving destination for its quaint and historic villages, scenic hills, orchards, farms and covered bridges, the 'Apple Country' tour will provide lots of great scenery, with a nice lunch stop and plenty of other places to rest and take in the views.

Tour #6 - L'Estrie (Eastern Townships)
about 6.5 hours, ~285kms/177miles

Heading off in an easterly direction, this tour will take you to Venice ... well, our local version called 'Venice-en-Québec' anyway. You will then follow the country roads on the Canadian side of Lake Champlain skirting the U.S. border through our 'Eastern Townships'. The trip will include historic towns and places to eat, a visit to a renowned hard cider house and a stop at a rustic little chapel in a local vineyard.



Chapelle Ste Agnes. Photo from vindeglace.com.

All we ask is that you drive safely, follow the route maps, keep an eye on the speed limits (in kilometres per hour) and share the road with the many pedestrians (children, runners, skateboarders and skaters), bicyclists, motorbikes, farm machinery and animals. And please remember that all Québec road signs are written in French.

Regardless of which of our tours you choose, we wish you a great drive!

Historic City Bus Tours
by Alex Csank, Vankleek Hill

Both of our escorted bus tours offer the same itinerary so you can choose the one which suits your schedule best. Tour #1 is on Thursday; Tour #2 is on Saturday. Both tours leave the hotel at 9:00am and return at about 4:00pm.

Experience an overview of Montréal and its historical sites where you will discover all of the characteristics this city has to offer. Your tour

guide will present to you one of the world's largest French speaking cities filled with great architecture, museums, restaurants, pubs and nightclubs and more shops than you can count.

Departing from the convention hotel, your tour will include stops at the city's most captivating attractions where you will have time to take memorable pictures. There will also be a longer stop so that you can have a lunch. Here are some of the highlights of the tours:

Olympic Stadium

Created for the Summer Olympic Games in 1976, it is truly an architectural masterpiece. Its tower, integrated into the base, is the tallest inclined tower in the world, at 165m (539ft).



The "Big O". Photo from Wikipedia.

Mount Royal Park Lookout

This enchanting park offers an impressive view of the city below. It has provided many outdoor activities for over 100 years.

Saint Joseph's Oratory

An Italian Renaissance style basilica which is the largest in Canada and is dedicated to the country's patron saint. Its founder, Brother André had performed many miracles here in the early 1900's and still today, millions of visitors come to visit. Brother André was canonized in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI.

Old Montréal

Enjoy a journey through time as you visit Old Montréal, nestled between the St. Lawrence Seaway and the downtown skyscrapers. Founded in 1642, this old town is a main attraction for visitors and locals alike, with its many boutiques and restaurants. It is in this part of the city where you will find the Notre-Dame Basilica. Built in 1824, this church is amidst the most impressive landmarks in the world. Its original stained glass windows paint a story of Montréal's religious history.

Upcoming ARCC Events

Regional representatives are requested to send your 2017 events calendars to the secretary or the editor for inclusion in the next issue.

Club Alfa Romeo de Montréal

Date	Time	Event
1 st Saturday	Monthly	Alfas & Espresso, LaSalle Alfa
April 23	10:00am	Springtime First Drive
May 7	9:00am	Montréal City Gimmick Rally
May 21	10:00am	Gatineau Hills Road Adventure with ARCO
June 10	1:00pm	Grand Prix BBQ
June 11	12:00pm	Veteran's Hospital Tribute
June 17		Italian Car Parade in Ottawa
July 13-16		ALFA expo17 Convention
July 16	9:00am	Fiat Breakout
August 13	9:00am	Drive with Scuderia Alfa Romeo
September 9-10		Overnight Road Trip
September 24	10:00am	Radunno Montebello
October 14	9:00am	Autumn Leaves Tour
November 25	2:00pm	Holiday Party

Alfa Romeo Club - Ottawa

Date	Time	Event
May 21	10:00am	Gatineau Hills Road Adventure with CARM
June 17		Italian Car Parade in Ottawa
July 13-16		ALFA expo17 Convention
September 24		Radunno Montebello

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Alfa Romeo Club of Edmonton

Date	Time	Event
July 13-16		ALFA expo17 Convention

Calgary Alfa Marque Society

Date	Time	Event
July 13-16		ALFA expo17 Convention

Toronto Chapter

Date	Time	Event
1 st Tuesday	Monthly	Cruise Night, La Paloma
April 5	7:00pm	AGM
April 22	10:00am	Auto Detailing Seminar
May 7	9:00am	Go-kart event, Downsview
May 22	9:00am	Victoria Day Pancake Drive
June 4	TBD	Member Appreciation BBQ
June 16-18	TBD	Vintage Festival, Mosport
June 25	10:00am	Rattlesnake Run
July 9	10:00am	Sun Collision Event
July 13-16		ALFA expo17 Convention
August 13	9:00am	Italian Car Day, Woodbridge
August 27	10:00am	Italian Gathering, Forks of the Credit
September 17	10:00am	Drive & Wine Tour, Niagara
September 24		Radunno Montebello
October 15	9:00am	Fall Colours Drive
November 25	6:00pm	Holiday Dinner Party

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