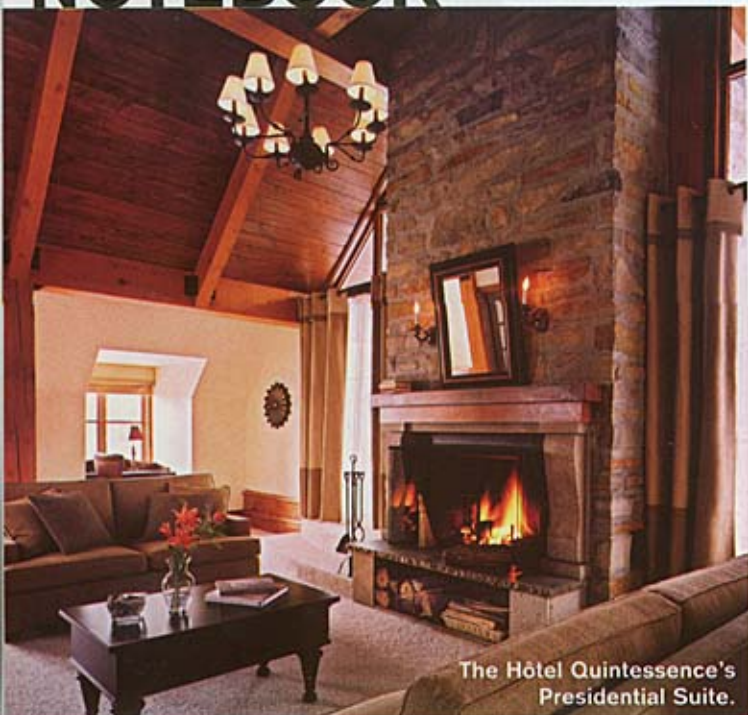


TRAVELER'S NOTEBOOK



The Hôtel Quintessence's
Presidential Suite.

COZY IN QUEBEC

For couples who love winter sports and the intimacy of a boutique hotel, **HÔTEL QUINTESSENCE**, a new gem, has opened in **Mont Tremblant, Quebec**, the ski resort ninety minutes from Montreal. The lobby of the thirty-room hotel, with its twenty-foot-high ceilings and enormous stone fireplace, recalls a European château, yet it feels cozy. And velvet- or leather-covered couches and chairs are an unabashedly opulent touch. Upon arriving in your immense 700-square-foot suite, you'll be greeted by the crackling of logs in the fireplace, tended by the firewood concierge. A not-to-miss indulgence is the hotel spa's fireside massage in your room, after which you can sink into a Victorian claw-footed tub and enjoy the view of Lake Tremblant. For après-ski, try Québécois cuisine at the hotel restaurant, where regional dishes, like organic duck with dried-fig sauce, are prepared by Breton chef Jean-François Lalendec. Or unwind with a bottle from the extensive selection at the wine bar, which offers a casual menu and a spectacular view of the infinity pool overlooking the lake. Outdoor activities seem endless no matter the season: skiing, dogsledding or snowboarding in winter, and golfing, hiking, biking or motorboating on the hotel's restored 1910 Layare launch in summer. Mont Tremblant's International Airport now offers weekend flights from Newark that make getting there from the Northeast much easier. *Rooms from \$300 in winter. 888-425-3400; hotelquintessence.com.*

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