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Section du dépôt légal



BONJOUR QUÉBEC!


 PROVIDING EMOTIONS SINCE 1534

Bonjour!

Summer is almost here and what could be better than splashing yourself with water as you head down the river, take in the sea air, have fun in the city... or reboot your energy in the parks!

EXPLORE



Tourist regions



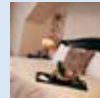
To do and see



Tailor-made holidays



Brochures



Lodging



Meeting planners

PLAN

WHAT'S UP



Nature adventure

Head out with family or friends and take up big or small challenges in one of the four corners of Québec: tree adventures, vias ferratas or canoeing. >>>



On the Navigators' Route

You'll discover incomparable scenery along the St. Lawrence, riverside villages filled with history and wild islands populated by seabirds. A world of discovery awaits you along these paths once

BOOK

Summer Packages

Get an Eyeful Package

- 1 breakfast (buffet)
 - 1 admission to the Montréal Biodôme, botanical garden, Tower and Insectarium
- From \$82 >>>

Tourist Package

- 1 night's accommodation
 - 1 American breakfast
 - 1 dinner (table d'hôte)
- From \$68 >>>

Getaway and Relaxation

- 2 night's accommodation
 - 2 American breakfasts (buffet)
 - 1 dinner (table d'hôte)
- From \$119 >>>

Grosse-Île Cruise's Package

- 1 night's accommodation
 - 1 American breakfast
 - 1 four-course dinner (table d'hôte) at La Couvée
- From \$149 >>>



Note : These rates are subject to change without notice.

traversed by our first explorers! >>>

[More packages >>>](#)



National park treasures

As you await the opening of the future parc du Lac-Témiscouata (Bas-Saint-Laurent), why not rediscover these open-air treasures that are Québec's national parks this summer. >>>



A visit in Outaouais

Our webzine will take you on a trip to Gatineau, Chelsea, to the splendid Gatineau Park and the Petite-Nation Valley. Enjoy the trip! >>>



Polishing our summer image!

Display a fabulous summer shot of Québec on your screen. Forest green, sunlight yellow, navy blue... a season of brilliant colours! >>>



It's time for holiday plans!

Our new Summer 2009-2010 brochures have arrived. To get your copy, plan your trip or reserve accommodations anywhere in Québec, contact Bonjour Québec seven days a week, year-round. >>>

EVENTS & FESTIVALS



International Garden Festival

Grand-Métis (Gaspésie), June 27 - October 4

This year, visitors will discover fascinating gardens designed by artists and landscape architects from France, Germany, the United States, Québec and Canada. >>>

Festival international de jazz

Montréal, June 30 - July 12

Over the past thirty years, this festival has become the focal point for Jazz fans! It offers a choice of some 500 concerts featuring the best ambassadors of Jazz and its musical cousins from Canada and around the world. >>>

Summer Festival

Québec, July 9 - 19

The Festival has been featuring numerous attractions for over 40 years. Hundreds of artists from several countries present their show to the greatest pleasure of the million festival-goers eager for discovery and celebration. >>>

Osheaga Festival musique et arts

Montréal, August 1st and 2nd

The festival line-up features more than 40 well-known artists - including Cold Play, the Beastie Boys and Caracol - in the natural setting of Parc Jean-Drapeau. As another "green" initiative, public transit is free for ticket holders! >>>

New France Festival

Québec, August 5 - 9

Come celebrate the history of Québec's first European settlers who landed here 400 years ago. The Festival will feature theatre, dance, parades, spectacular shows and street theatre. Five days of festivities will immerse you into the daily lives of its people from the 17th and 18th centuries, in the heart of Vieux-Québec! >>>

[Find out more about our events and festivals >>>](#)



Qualité tourisme

Twelve companies or so have been granted the *Certifié Qualité Tourisme* seal of approval, which recognizes their commitment to quality, safety and environmental safety. A badge of quality to look for when planning your next vacation! >>>

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Adventure courses

Between earth and sky



More and more, outdoor enthusiasts are becoming hooked on treetop adventure courses, via ferratas and canyoning. Across Québec, in forests, gorges and escarpments, challenges big and small await you and your family or friends. You'll encounter plenty of obstacles, true, but they sure won't obstruct your fun!

Treetop aerial courses

More than 20 sites offer beginners and seasoned adventurers alike a bird's-eye view of the immense boreal forest. Most are located in the forest massif north of the [St. Lawrence](#), and many are less than two hours from Montréal, Québec City or Gatineau.



In [autumn](#), a visit to an adventure park nestled in a maple forest is a great opportunity to feast your eyes on the brilliant fall foliage. Some parks offer gorgeous views of the St. Lawrence River or the Saguenay Fjord. From up to 30 metres (almost 100 ft.) above the ground, you'll soar along zip lines—the longest line is nearly 400 metres (1,300 ft.)!

Via ferratas and canyoning



If taking a stroll along cliff-side paths rather than gliding among the treetops is more your style, then you'll want to try a [via ferrata](#). Enjoy thrilling sensations and spectacular views while exploring the via ferratas of the Rivière Sainte-Anne canyon (Québec City), the Les Palissades park in Saint-Siméon (Charlevoix) or the Jardin des glaciers in Baie Comeau (Manicouagan), among others.

For something a little more adventurous—but still very safe—[canyoning](#) attracts thrill-seekers who enjoy the water. Gaspésie, Charlevoix, Mont Sainte-Anne and the Mauricie boast turbulent waterfalls and cascades in pristine natural settings. Prepare for an adrenaline rush!



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Aerial ropes courses



Accommodations

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Activities and attractions

- [Adventure game](#) (26)
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- [Trail](#) (3)
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DID YOU KNOW?

The [Forêt de l'aigle](#), in the Outaouais region, has a network of suspended footbridges totalling 550 metres (1,800 ft.) as well as a one-kilometre (0.6-mi.) course featuring 12 zip lines!

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- Whale Route

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- St. Lawrence Route

- Border Route

- Agricultural Tour

- Fjord Route

- Townships Trail

- Mountain Road

- Summit Drive

- Rivers' Road

+ Seasonal getaways

- Festivals & Events

The Navigators' Route

A scenic route



Limitless panoramas of the St. Lawrence, its islands and the magnificent mountains of the North Shore await you on the Navigators' Route ([Route des navigateurs](#)). As you travel this route, which mainly hugs the coastline of the Bas-Saint-Laurent, you'll be enveloped by three centuries of history and the spirits of fishermen, navigators and schooner builders. Along the way, take the opportunity to stop in the two largest cities, [Rivière-du-Loup](#) and [Rimouski](#), and the many picturesque villages in between. You might even take an excursion on the St. Lawrence!

Countless views of the river

Facing the striking mountains of the North Shore, the little village of [Kamouraska](#) is lined with pretty ancestral homes. Here you can enjoy strolls, go bird watching, climbing or sea kayaking at the [Société d'écologie de la batture](#) marine park and outdoor educational centre. On the surrounding plains, curious rocky hills are sure to catch your eye: these are the monadnocks! Just outside of Rivière-du-Loup, the departure point for numerous excursions on the St. Lawrence estuary, Notre-Dame-du-Portage is a tranquil village with salt air, opulent period homes and a view of the Îles Pèlerins archipelago. In Rimouski, you'll be astounded by the [Parc national du Bic](#), whose mountains and magnificent jagged cliffs provide the ideal shelter for seabirds and seals. A little further east, the [Pointe-au-Père lighthouse](#), a national historic site, is home to a museum that tells the history of navigation on the St. Lawrence.



Awe-inspiring scenery



As you leave the Navigators' Route, continue along Highway 132 and visit the Gaspésie; this portion of the highway was awarded three stars by the 2004 Michelin Road Atlas, ranking it among North America's top scenic drives. In fact, it offers a splendid view of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Chaleur Bay. A vast peninsula jutting out into the sea, the Gaspésie is a favourite vacation destination.

Your itinerary

The Navigators' Route (Route des navigateurs) links 16 Bas-Saint-Laurent municipalities along Highway 132, from La Pocatière to Sainte-Luce, east of Rimouski (190 km / 118 mi.).

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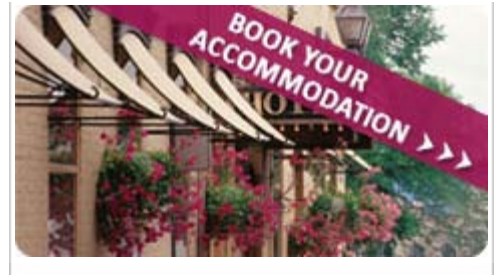
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USEFUL LINKS

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- ▶ [St. Lawrence River](#)
- ▶ [Experience Québec](#) (E-Magazine)

- ▶ [Lighthouse Trail](#)
- ▶ [Québec maritime](#)
- ▶ [Association des plus beaux villages du Québec](#) (network of authentic heritage villages)



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Day tripping in the Outaouais
Dining al fresco

What region offers **wide open spaces** for summer and winter fun within such close proximity to the city, combined with some truly **outstanding cuisine**? The **Outaouais** of course ! Join us as we make a break for **Gatineau, Chelsea, Gatineau Park** and the **Vallée de la Petite Nation**!



Throughout our trip, you'll have ample opportunity to fill your lungs with fresh air as you snowshoe, ski, bike or even travel by horseback. Various choice locales will present the opportunity for a tasty snack, whether at the [Château Montebello](#) or in any of the region's many restaurants. Open your mouth, take a deep breath, and... off we go !

Where there's smoke...

Ready to make a memorable discovery? Grab your basket: we're dining al fresco at one of the 19 designated picnic spots in [Gatineau Park](#)! Stock up at the park entrance and at [Boucanerie Chelsea](#), a smokehouse where an impressive variety of fish are smoked right on the premises, as well as other goodies like olives, cheese, tofu and... chocolate?! The owners like to experiment, so feel free to make suggestions!



On active duty

Follow your delicious meal with the perfect digestive aid—movement! Right before you is the largest outdoor playground in Québec, Gatineau Park. Enjoy 165 km (103 mi.) of hiking trails and 90 km (56 mi.) of mountain bike trails, all of which

Experience Québec

- Take me to Sainte-Rose...
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- Quebec's pearls
- Taking it easy: excursions to soothe the body and soul!
- On the Native trail again
- This round's on Québec
- The electric road
- Take the royal route
- Highway to Heaven

Équi-qualité

The [Fédération équestre du Québec](#), in association with [Québec à cheval](#), grants "Équi-Qualité" certification to riding stables that meet specific, compulsory standards, notably with regard to riding rings, customer service and safety. Once certified, the establishments are regularly inspected. The Équi Qualité seal lets you choose the establishment that best suits you!



feature splendid lookouts. You can also go canoeing, kayaking, pedal-boating or swimming in the park's many lakes. [Equipment rentals](#) are available on site.

The enchanted forest

Come winter, take advantage of Gatineau Park's 200 km (125 mi.) of cross-country ski trails and 30 km (18.5 mi.) of snowshoe paths. During the cold season, you can head off [Animal Tracking on Snowshoes](#), accompanied by one of the park's nature interpreters, who will be happy to share his or her knowledge on the teeming life beneath the snow. Other nature walks are offered throughout the year: [Spring Flowers Have Sprung](#) at the end of winter, [The Sights and Sounds of Birds](#) in early summer, and [Follies of the Fall Forest](#) later in the year.



Eat like a horse...



As the day draws to a close, you'll find no shortage of sustenance. For health conscious diners, [Café Soup'Herbe](#) offers up tasty vegetarian fare that's worth the detour, with live jazz on Wednesday evenings and artworks on exhibit at all times. If you're seeking something a little more upscale, two names in particular are worth noting: [L'Orée du Bois](#), which serves up its famous duck in a charming country setting, and [Les Fougères](#), renowned for its desserts. Got a yen to dine "in"? Les Fougères has a gourmet take-out shop full of delicious, local and affordable products that are ready to follow you back to your cottage or hotel.

...or ride one!

To cap your Outaouais escapade in fine style, a trip to the Petite Nation is in order. This bucolic paradise is best seen on horseback. Riders of any age and ability can saddle up their mounts at [Ranch El Pequeno](#). Owned by Mr. Lajeunesse, who has 32 years' experience, the riding stable offers up full- and half-day packages, along with a range of competitively priced courses given by instructors certified by the [Fédération équestre du Québec](#). Ranch El Pequeno has activities for every season. While you're there, indulge your sweet tooth at the sugar shack (which reopens in 2010), where sap is collected the old-fashioned way, using horses.



Want to prolong your stay? Treat yourself to a meal at the Château Montebello's magnificent restaurant, then visit [Oméga Park](#). From the comfort and safety of your vehicle, admire different wild species as they roam free in their natural habitat: bison, wapiti, deer, bears, wolves, wild boars and plenty more. You can also walk through a section of the park—an area that's home to the white-tailed deer, where you are the wild animal! Feed them, and you're guaranteed to make a few furry friends before you leave the region.

Hightail it to the Outaouais!

Civilize me!

A bit of culture to top off your stay? Visit Gatineau's greatest storehouse of knowledge, the [Canadian Museum of Civilization](#). In addition to its permanent exhibitions (Canada Hall, First Peoples Hall and Face to Face), [Postal Museum](#) and marvellous [Children's Museum](#), broaden your horizons with major travelling exhibitions like the recent show on [Egyptian mummies](#). And, should you feel the need for a pick-me-up, take a revitalizing stroll around the museum's exterior, where a splendid view of Parliament Hill awaits!



Hull-Chelsea-Wakefield steam train



For a real journey back in time, hop aboard the 100-year-old [Swedish steam](#) train that links Gatineau and Wakefield (64 km/40 mi.). Once at your destination, don't miss the spectacular pivoting of the steam engine on the last operating manual turntable in Canada. The picturesque village of Wakefield is a charming

haven abounding in art galleries—the perfect place for an enjoyable break. While you're there, be sure to sample something delicious at the famous Wakefield Bakery!

Sylvain Lacoursière

Photos: Tourisme Outaouais, Tourisme Québec, Musée canadien des civilisations, Restaurant Les Fougères, Sylvain Lacoursière

2009-05-18

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Québec's national parks

Nature to the tenth power

Québec's 27 national parks have extraordinary experiences in store for you! Together, these imposing protected spaces provide a perfect example of Québec's multi-faceted geography. Each park has its own unique personality owing to its location, flora and fauna, and they all boast an astounding diversity of natural sites and scenery.

All of Québec's national parks have hiking trails and picnic areas, with naturalists offering guided interpretation services. In most cases, you can rent equipment to practice recreational and sports activities in an untouched natural setting. These activities not only respect the integrity of the surrounding ecosystems, but also are a surefire way to recharge your batteries!



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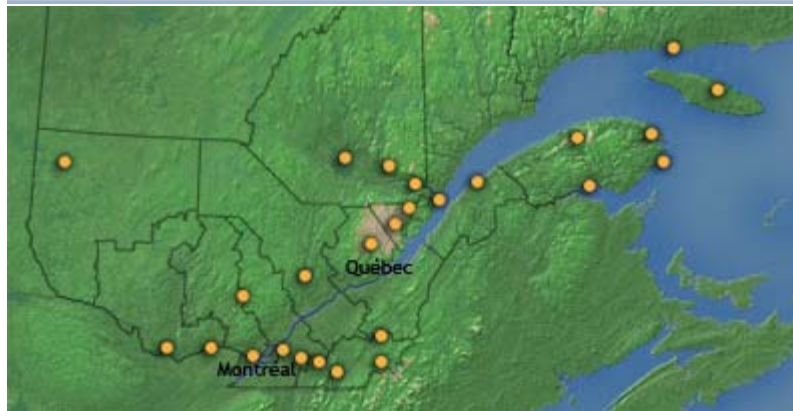


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Explore our national parks!

If you know the name of the park you wish to visit, use the drop-down menu below for direct access to its information page. You can also get a brief overview of each park by gliding your mouse over the map.

Select



DID YOU KNOW?

At 1,500 km² (579 sq. mi.), Parc national du Mont-Tremblant is the largest of Québec's parks, while the smallest—Miguasha, in the Gaspésie—barely measures 87 ha (215 acres). The latter is home to a fabulous museum displaying a collection of fish fossils dating back 370 million years.

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- [Play Outside](#) (E-Magazine)

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- New: [Parc national des Pingualuit](#) (Nunavik)
- [Sépaq](#) (Québec largest wilderness and outdoor network)
- [Parks Canada](#)
- [Aventure Écotourisme Québec](#) (adventure and ecotourism pros)

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Québec... before your eyes!

Keep sight of Québec by choosing one of the following images as your screen wallpaper based on the desired resolution: 800, 1024 or 1280 pixels. This selection also includes five screen savers (for PC only).

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Qualité tourisme

A seal of approval to guide your choices



The ministère du Tourisme seal of approval, *Certifié Qualité Tourisme*, is a guide you can use to select companies that have committed to offer their clients high-quality service. Companies wishing to use this seal of approval must meet the requirements of a rigorous process based on international standards. Organizations that are granted the *Certifié Qualité Tourisme* seal set themselves apart through their highly skilled staff and their commitment to quality, safety and environmental safety.

Certified companies

Following is a list of companies, operating in various business segments that have received this seal of approval.

Tourist attractions and events



[Véloroute des bleuets](#)

The Véloroute des Bleuets (blueberry bicycle trail) is a 256-km (160-mi.) cycling circuit around the majestic lac Saint-Jean. This diversified route, open to all, is an excellent means of exploring this region.



[Festival de Lanaudière](#)

Renowned soloists participate in this prestigious music event. The concerts and recitals are held at the Amphitheatre of Lanaudière (in Joliette) and in churches throughout the region.



[Canyon Sainte-Anne](#)

At this spectacular natural site, families are invited to discover a canyon created by a 74-meter (240-ft.) waterfall, as well as three bridges and a mini-canyon. Also enjoy games and puzzles, not to mention the *via ferratas* and a rope bridge.



[Musée de la nature et des sciences](#) - Sherbrooke

This museum's collections, comprised in total of 65,000 natural science specimens, demonstrate the diversity of wildlife and plant life that Québec and Canada have to offer. Young people enjoy various interactive educational activities.

[Quays of the Old Port of Montréal](#)

These quays, which are especially lively in the summer, are highly popular among visitors

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who enjoy views of the river, the range of water activities and a glimpse of the city.

Hotel accommodations



[Hôtel Le Francis](#) **** - New Richmond (Gaspésie)

This hotel, located near the parc national de la Gaspésie, offers a number of outdoor activities: swimming, kayaking, cycling and hiking. Recipient of a national *Grands Prix du tourisme* award.



[Hôtel Levesque Centre de congrès](#) **** - Rivière-du-Loup (Bas-Saint-Laurent)

This major resort and conference centre complex, associated with the Spas Relais santé network, is ideally located, along the Navigators' Route on the St. Lawrence River.

Cruises and ferries



[Croisières Le Coudrier](#)

Croisières Le Coudrier offer sightseeing cruises, dinner cruises and theme cruises (fall foliage, fireworks) to Québec City and Area and the islands in the region.

Bus transportation



[Autobus Galland](#)

Since it was founded in 1941, this bus charter company offers a professional, high-quality ground transportation service to multiple destinations in Québec, Ontario and the U.S.



[Autocars Murray Hill](#)

This subsidiary of Le Groupe Gaudreault guarantees comfortable and reliable vehicles, as well as courteous drivers. For more than half a century, this carrier has been providing quality service in Canada and the U.S.



[Groupe Bell-Horizon](#)

This company, which has been in business for more than 35 years, owns a fleet of approximately 100 vehicles, including 44 deluxe buses that travel throughout Québec from around ten base terminals in the outskirts of Montréal and Québec City and Area.

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International Garden Festival

[Français](#)

Location: Grand-Métis

Region: [Gaspésie](#)

Category: [Festival / special event](#)

June 27 2009 - October 04 2009

Innovative contemporary gardens created by artists, architects and landscape architects from around the world. This year, visitors will discover sensational gardens created by designers from France, Germany, the United States, Québec and Canada. A program of family activities and special events will be offered throughout the summer.



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Montréal International Jazz Festival

[Français](#)

Location: Montréal

Region: [Montréal](#)

Category: [Festival / special event](#)



June 25 2010 - July 06 2010

Attracting more and more visitors each year thanks to its worldwide reputation, the Montreal International Jazz Festival has become, in the space of thirty years, THE jazz rendezvous of the planet. Today, visitors can choose from among over 500 concerts - some 350 of which are presented outdoors, free of charge - that showcase the talents of the world's finest performers of jazz music and its spinoffs. Some 2,000 artists and over 1.5 million festival-goers converge

upon Montréal each summer.

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See also: [L'Astral \(Maison du Festival Rio Tinto Alcan\)](#)

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Québec City Summer Festival

[Français](#)

Location: Québec City (Downtown - Upper Town)

Region: [Québec City and Area](#)

Category: [Festival / special event](#)



July 08 2010 - July 18 2010

For the past 43 years, the Québec City Summer Festival has been drawing crowds with its unique holiday atmosphere. For 11 days the city is transformed into a giant outdoor stage where hundreds of performers show off their talents at some 10 venues in and around Old Québec City, all within easy walking distance.

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OSHEAGA - Festival musique et arts

[Français](#)

Location: Montréal

Region: [Montréal](#)

Category: [Festival / special event](#)

July 15 2010 - August 15 2010 (Dates to be confirmed)

Drawing its name from the Iroquois word meaning "large rapids", the OSHEAGA Music and Arts Festival highlights the local and international music scene, both present and future. Now in its 5th year, OSHEAGA will showcase over 40 bands on four stages at Parc Jean-Drapeau on beautiful Île-Sainte-Hélène.

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SAQ New France Festival

[Français](#)

Location: Québec City (Old Québec - inside the walls)

Region: [Québec City and Area](#)

Category: [Festival / special event](#)



August 04 2010 - August 08 2010

It was in Quebec City in 1608 that the whole adventure of New France began. And every summer for the past 13 years, the SAQ New France Festival has been celebrating the arrival of the first Europeans on American soil. The festivities include theater, dance, parades, spectacular shows, and street entertainment - a busy five day program of over 1,000 artistic events that take you inside the walls of Old Quebec for a unique journey back to the 17th and 18th centuries.

It's the perfect opportunity to dress up in period costume and take a trip back in time right in the heart of Old Quebec.

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