The Best Things to See and Do in Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines

Tucked away in the Laurentians just north of Montreal, Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines is one of those charming Quebec towns that rewards visitors who take the time to explore. With its rich agricultural heritage, peaceful green spaces, and warm local culture, this community offers a surprising variety of attractions for a town of its size. Whether you're a history enthusiast, an outdoor lover, or a family looking for a fun day out, here are the best things to see and do in Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines.

Explore the Seigneurie des Plaines Bike Trail

For cyclists and nature lovers, the Seigneurie des Plaines bike trail is an absolute must. This well-maintained route winds through scenic countryside, offering riders a chance to soak in the region's natural beauty. The flat, accessible path makes it ideal for all skill levels, from casual riders to seasoned cyclists. Pack a picnic and make a day of it — the trail connects to several rest stops and viewpoints along the way.

Step Back in Time at the Heritage Sites

Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines has a deep and fascinating history, and its heritage buildings tell the story beautifully. The town's historic church and old convent are standout architectural treasures worth visiting. Walking through the streets, you'll notice well-preserved century-old homes that reflect the region's rural Quebec charm. A self-guided heritage walking tour is a wonderful way to appreciate the town's past at your own pace.

Visit a Traditional Sugar Shack

No trip to this part of Quebec is complete without a visit to a cabane à sucre. Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines is surrounded by maple farms, and during sugaring plombier Mirabel season (typically March and April), visitors can enjoy traditional sugar shack meals, fresh maple taffy on snow, and tours of the syrup-making process. It's a quintessential Quebec experience that the whole family will love.

Enjoy the Great Outdoors

Beyond the bike trail, Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines offers plenty of opportunities to get outside. Local parks and green spaces provide ideal settings for hiking, walking, and picnicking. The surrounding countryside is perfect for nature walks, birdwatching, and simply enjoying the fresh Laurentian air. In winter, the area transforms into a snowy playground for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

Discover Local Flavors and Markets

The town's agricultural roots shine through in its local produce and food offerings. Seasonal markets and farm stands let visitors sample fresh vegetables, artisanal products, and homemade goods. Be sure to stop by local eateries to taste regional specialties and support the community's small businesses.

Bring the Family Along

Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines is a welcoming destination for families. Parks, playgrounds, and seasonal events make it easy to keep kids entertained. Many of the town's attractions are budget-friendly or free, making it an accessible option for a family day trip from Montreal.

Plan Your Visit

Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines is easily reached from Montreal by car, making it a perfect day trip or weekend getaway. Whether you come for the cycling, the history, the maple syrup, or simply the peaceful atmosphere, this charming Laurentians town has something special to offer every visitor. Come discover why it remains one of the region's best-kept secrets.

