



The Cathedrale Marie-Reine-du-monde contrasts with the modern highrises that shape Montreal's skyline.



I WAS SITTING AT A SIDEWALK CAFE, finishing my croque monsieur sandwich, swirling a glass of red wine and watching horses pull carriages along Rue de la Commune, when a chill swept down the waterfront. It was late summer, and autumn would arrive in Montreal soon, covering the city in leaves, or rather covering both cities: one Montreal with its cobblestone streets, gothic arches and towering cathedrals of the old world; and the new Montreal, with its throbbing discotheques, avant-garde cinemas and chic shopping strips that smack of a Paris catwalk.

The French Connection

Montreal is a confluence of the old and new, a melange of modern energy and relaxed pace BY FRANK BURES