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The National Battlefields
Commission

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

Press Release

For immediate release



Adults will also enjoy unusual activities on the Plains of Abraham

Québec City, Thursday October 15, 2009 – Who says Halloween only makes little ones shudder? The Plains of Abraham also invites older people to participate by attending two activities designed especially for the occasion, which will be offered starting tomorrow: the guided lantern tour and the period mystery dinner at the Martello Tower.

Guided Lantern Tour of the Park

October 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 (in French only)

At 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., starting point at 390, de Bernières (west of the Joan of Arc Garden)

Cost: \$12/person (13 or older), reservations required.

Tour available in English upon request for groups of 12 people or more

Duration: approximately 1 hour and 45 min. Dress warmly, the activity takes place rain or shine. You can bring your own lantern (optional).

Discover the Plains under a more ghoulish light in the company of Marie-Joséphite Corriveau, who was hanged on the Plains of Abraham for the murder of her second husband, or Governor James Murray, the same one who brought her to trial for this offence in 1763.

Participate in this utterly spellbinding interactive tour and take this advice: the superstitious should be warned, better safe than sorry.



Today it is a peaceful park but at some time in the past it was the scene of obscure illegal activities. During the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries this was a remote, disreputable location sheltered from prying eyes, and an ideal place for crime, prostitution, duels, black masses, bloody punishments, even executions.



This exceptional visit will unveil, by lantern light, a few of the gloomy tales of the park: the Québec City jail and the hangings, the voices of Joan of Arc, the widow's walk, the strange phenomena surrounding the white lady of Cape Diamond, the enigmatic white stone, the military discipline and punishments, the surgeries and sufferings of the soldiers, the treasure hunts, and more. And you can't tell who you might run into...

Council of War at Martello Tower 2

October 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31 (in French only)

At 7:00 p.m., Martello 2 (corner of Taché and Wilfrid-Laurier streets)

Cost: \$35/18-64 years old, \$32/13-17 years old or 65 and over, reservations required

Activity available in English upon request for groups of 35 people or more

Duration: approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes.



Become witness and suspect during a mystery dinner taking place in 1814 and unmask the traitor hidden among you. Sample the Soldier's Fare, a typical menu of the British occupation of the Martello Tower, and become immersed in the life of a soldier for the evening.

Ten participants will be selected to fill the roles of Charles-Michel de Salaberry, Laura

Secord and other witnesses of the period. Your skills and deductive abilities will be put to the test.



From among the rulers, intellectuals, allies, engineers and militarymen attending this council of war, try to find who sold information to the enemy for an astronomical sum. Could it be the distinguished lawyer's daughter afflicted with precarious mental health who would do anything to find her forbidden love? The opportunistic, ambitious officer who would do anything for glory? Or the Amerindian chief with a weakness for trickery? It is up to you to find the culprit.



This council of war, chaired by Captain John Le Breton or Lady Elizabeth Lake, promises to be memorable: period plot, military competition, anecdotes on military life, the soldiers' rations and work in the barracks, and the interpretation of the Martello Tower, a defensive work unique in Québec City.

Soldier's Fare menu: sentry's rations (bread and cheese), gunner's broth (Scotch barley soup), soldier's stew (meat in a sauce and garden vegetables), officer's delicacy (pumpkin pie), English tea (with a dash of sugar and a cloud of milk). Bring your wine.

Other activities to watch for:

Joan of Arc Garden Decorations

Throughout October

Day or night, at the Joan of Arc Garden. Free access.

In her magnificent fall garden, Joan of Arc receives mysterious legendary decorations connected with the history of the Plains of Abraham. Tombstones remind strollers of personalities who left their mark on the park.



Haunted tower and Fantastic Rally

Sunday October 18

From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Martello Tower 2 and at the Joan of Arc Garden. Cost: \$2/person.

Daring youngsters will venture into the haunted tower and its amazing labyrinth: treasure island, spatial lab, scarecrow and witches, mummy and cemetery... even Harry Potter is included! A fantastic rally will then invite them into the garden for a self-guided tour. Even small children will get a chance to ask questions.

Family Day and Costume Parade

Sunday October 25

From 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Martello Tower 2 and the Joan of Arc Garden. Cost: \$2/person

The haunted tower labyrinth, a sampling of uncommon candy, mysterious garden decor, giant period games and inflatable amusements, mini-train ride, fantastic rally, odd characters, pumpkin decorating at the UNICEF stand, parade of costumed parents and children on Grande Allée, etc.

Information and reservation

418 649-6157

www.theplainsofabraham.ca

or at the Discovery Pavilion of the Plains of Abraham
835, Wilfrid-Laurier Avenue, level 0, in Québec City
(east of Drill Hall)

Collaboration:



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Source:

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