

# Bienvenue à... Welcome to... ST. BONIFACE



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**Esplanade Riel, 2003**  
 This beloved pedestrian bridge is designed to look like a ship. It stretches 60 metres into the sky! Look at the Provencher Bridge next to it and admire the granite artwork etched into the side. What images do you see?

**Water tower, 866 ave. Taché, 1919**  
 This old surge tank is still being used! In fact, there's thousands of litres of water in there. If Winnipeg's water pressure gets too high, water bursts from the top and flows into the nearby river. There's a popular climbing wall nearby. Can you see it?

**Saint Boniface!**  
 Now channel your inner voyager and explore incredible imagination. Just some of the spots that sprang from Gaboury's Sang Church, and the Saint Boniface civic centre are The Esplanade Riel pedestrian bridge, Église Précieux many of Saint Boniface's most creative spaces and places. Étienne Gaboury. He was an architect who designed The last name you should keep in mind on your tour is Saint Boniface was founded over 200 years ago by a bishop from Québec named Joseph-Norbert Provencher. He ordered the construction of schools and churches. One of the schools here is even named after Father Provencher, along with the main street and a bridge! The Métis also built Saint Boniface. Their leader, Louis Riel, is honoured throughout the community. See if you can count all the ways!

When you stroll through Saint Boniface, you'll hear both of those greetings. That's because you're in the French quarter of Winnipeg—le quartier français!

Bonjour! Hello!

# WELCOME TO ST. BONIFACE!



an architecture tour for kids



**St. Boniface City Hall, 208 boul. Provencher, 1907**  
 Dominion Post Office, 219 boul. Provencher, 1905  
 Back in the day, post offices across Canada looked much like this. They were all designed in the same style, out of Ottawa. Can you tell what's been recently added to the building?

**St. Boniface Civic Centre, 227 boul. Provencher, 1964**  
 Saint Boniface's old civic centre used to be a police station and a courthouse. Now it's a medical clinic and a home for the Festival du Voyageur. Can you find the festival's distinctive red and black logo?

**Cercle Molière and Centre Culturel Franco Manitobain, 340 boul. Provencher, 1974 (CCFM) and 2010 (Cercle Molière)**  
 Bienvenue au centre de la vie francophone! This is where you can enjoy all forms of Francomanitoban culture, including food, music and theatre. Cercle Molière is Canada's oldest theatre company. In between the entrances to both buildings, look up! What do you see?

**Gabriele Roy's house, 375 rue Deschambault, 1905**  
 This house used to be the home of one of Canada's most famous writers. Gabriele Roy, author of The Tin Flute, grew up here. Now it's a museum, with special events throughout the year. Walk up the porch steps and admire the front window. What do you see?

**École Provencher, 300 ave. de la Cathédrale, 1924**  
 This handsome and sturdy elementary school is named after Father Provencher. He created the first school in Saint Boniface. You don't have to enter to feel like you're in class. Just take a seat on the sculpture out front! How many spots are there for students?

**Cathedral Manor, 321 ave. de la Cathédrale, 1912**  
 This domed building started as a convent (a home for nuns). Then it became a school for girls (including the author Gabrielle Roy). Who lives here now?

## Université de Saint-Boniface, 200 ave. de la Cathédrale, 1922

Welcome to the oldest university in Western Canada! Its sparkling silver dome is a local landmark. Check out Madeleine Vrignon's sculpture on the front lawn. What is it?

## St. Boniface Cathedral, 180 ave. de la Cathédrale, 1863 (original), 1972 (new)

This old church was ravaged by fire over 50 years ago. Its Tyndall limestone facade survived and the community added a new chapel. Roam around the cemetery. What Father of Confederation is buried here?

## La musée de Saint Boniface Museum, 494 ave. Taché, 1851

This is the largest oak log structure in all of North America. It was originally built for nuns. Since then it's been an orphanage, a school, a seniors' home, and the very first location for St. Boniface Hospital. Can you count the attic windows?

## Taché Belvedere, 2019

This is a great place to savour the Winnipeg skyline. Or read a book! In fact, there's a quote from a notable Manitoba novel on the ground. What does it say?

## Église Précieux Sang Church, 200 rue Kenny, 1969

This striking church is designed to look a bit like a teepee. The architect, Étienne Gaboury, said he "wanted to create a mystical space, going up forever and ever." Read the sign out front. When is mass?

The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation is a non-profit, registered charitable organisation dedicated to advancing the awareness and appreciation of Winnipeg's built environment through public education.

For more information about Winnipeg buildings, landscapes, and architects, please visit [winnipegarchitecture.ca](http://winnipegarchitecture.ca).

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