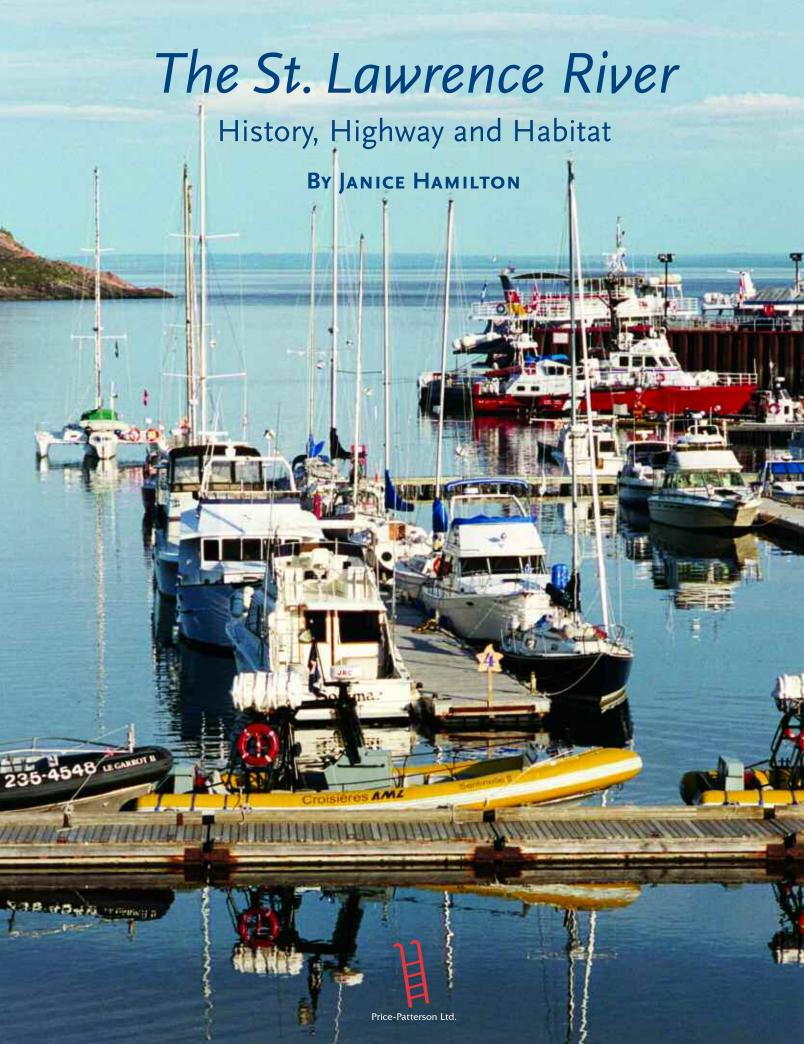
The St. Lawrence River

History, Highway and Habitat

BY JANICE HAMILTON





COVER PHOTO:

A farm overlooks the broad St. Lawrence River near St. Irénée in the Charlevoix region of Quebec.

PAGE 1 PHOTO:

Tour boats are tied up in Tadoussac harbour in the late afternoon.

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This cheerful field of dandelions is near Métis on the lower estuary.

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the memory of my father, Jim (Dr. James D.) Hamilton, with whom I first sailed down the St. Lawrence River aboard the Cunard liner *Franconia* in 1963.

JANICE HAMILTON
MONTREAL, 2006



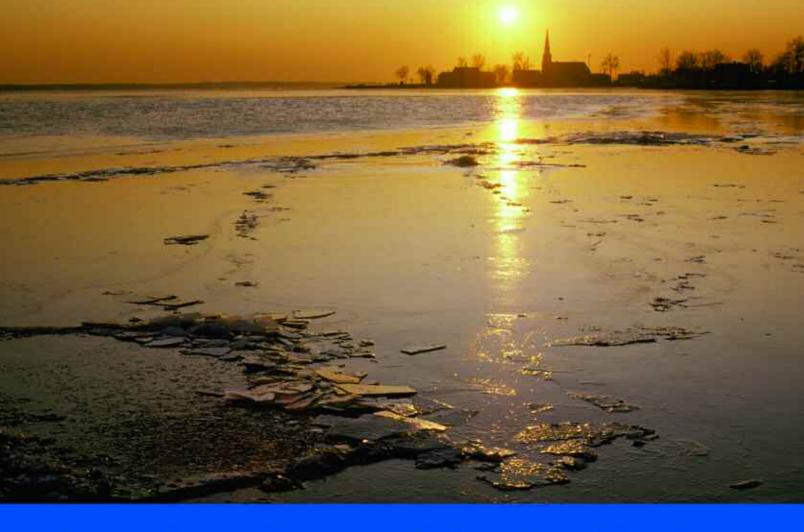


The River and Its Estuary

City. Just down the road are the solid grey stone walls that surrounded the old capital of New France. Beyond the city the ancient, rugged hills of the Canadian Shield fade blue into the horizon, and at your feet, a broad, straight river flows gracefully toward its destiny with the sea. This is the St. Lawrence, third largest river in North America (after the Mississippi and Mackenzie), on its way to the Atlantic Ocean from its source in the Great Lakes.

The St. Lawrence courses northeast from the heart of the continent, draining a vast basin of more than 1.3 million square kilometres (502,000 square miles), to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where it merges with the Atlantic. Near its source it is headstrong and exuberant, pointing like an arrow towards its destination. As it reaches the end of its voyage, it matures and expands to more than 50 kilometres (30 miles) in width. No wonder the people who live

A view of the St. Lawrence River.



The rich, varied photographs and informative text of The St. Lawrence River combine to provide a wonderful introduction to this great waterway.

This book follows the third largest river in North America from its source as the sole outlet of the Great Lakes on its journey to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, describing its evolution from a freshwater river that forms the international boundary between Ontario and New York State to a salt-water estuary more than 50 kilometres wide that is the artery and soul of Quebec.

"Incorporating a wealth of information and fascinating photos, Janice Hamilton has produced a valuable insight into the mightiest river of North America."

- Benny Beattie, author of Tadoussac, The Sands of Summer

\$34.95 Canada / \$29.95 USA Printed in Canada



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The St. Lawrence River also tells the story of the river as the cradle of Canadian history and launching spot for the exploration of North America. Today it is a vital transportation corridor, while its tributaries, tides and turbulent rapids create aquatic habitats for a variety of plants and animals.

The beauty of the river and its surroundings draws visitors from around the world, and inspires celebrations of many kinds. Those who love the St. Lawrence River will treasure this book.

"The fabulous photographs in this book are a tribute to the adventurers, inventors and refugees who've thrived or fallen within the St. Lawrence River's stunning, yet brutal territory. Her accompanying text aptly depicts life on and beside a mighty waterway. This work is long overdue."

- Tracey Arial, author of Ulysses' Guide to Hiking in Ontario

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