

Enterprising People

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Bernadette Henrard arranges for visitors to see bears in their natural habitat at Fairmont Kenauk Reserve.

Bernadette Henrard says that visitors are surprised and fascinated after returning from an excursion into the forest north of Montebello to see bears living in their natural surroundings. Bernadette, who worked on a farm with her husband before taking on this venture, says the size of the business is just right for her. Although it is an unusual venture, she is not afraid of challenges, she says. Travel time, with a nature guide, is one-half hour each way, with two hours of bear-watching, done from a secure lookout point, or “mirador”, where visitors have an unobstructed view of bears. While some people may fear bears, Bernadette notes that bears are shy and not aggressive, but nonetheless, she says, the tours are operated with complete respect for the bears, while ensuring security for guests.

A journey into the Kenauk Reserve, located north of Fairmont Chateau Montebello, gives visitors a chance to leave modern life behind and immerse themselves in nature. Visitors come away with a new respect for bears and often say their tour was the highlight of their vacation.

The Fairmont Kenauk at Le Chateau Montebello is one of the largest wildlife reserves in North America. Departures take place daily at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Find out more: Call Bernadette at 1-800-567-6845 or 1-819-423-5573.

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