

Auberge La Fontanella

BY ROCHELLE LASH, SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE OCTOBER 27, 2010



Tourism Ste. Agathe

Editor's note: Some of the details might have changed since the original publication date. Please check with the establishment before heading out!

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You've heard of B&Bs. Well, Lorenzo Gurreri runs what might be called a B&TIC - bed and terrific Italian cuisine.

Gurreri owns Il Vigneto, a popular Italian restaurant that gives Ste. Agathe des Monts a little slice of la dolce vita. And he recently opened a tiny, darling inn upstairs - Auberge La Fontanella.

It's hard to imagine a surprise in the long-established tourism industry of Ste. Agathe, where the first accommodations for visitors opened more than 100 years ago. However, Auberge La Fontanella is a surprise, and a totally pleasant one. With only four rooms, it's an appealing little getaway. It's quiet, air-conditioned and so subtly attractive that it rates three stars out of five from Quebec Tourism, even though it has no hotel facilities, pool or grounds. It does have heart, though, and it's a true mom-and-pop operation.

Maria, Gurreri's wife of 43 years, handled the inn's decor - modern, cool and serene. A reading area has a Zen-style indoor rock garden fountain, whose gurgling provides relaxing background music. The

