

INDEPENDENT VACATION

WESTERN EXPLORER – VIA RAIL

9 NIGHTS & 10 DAYS



Highlights: Daily Breakfast, Grouse Mountain & Capilano Suspension Bridge Tour, Cruise on BC Ferries through Gulf Islands, Butchart Gardens, Vancouver City Tour, Overnight travel on Via Rail, Discover Jasper Tour, Ice Explorer Ride at Columbia Ice-fields, Lake Louise, Discover Banff Tour with Sulphur Mountain Gondola, 12 Minutes Summit Helicopter Tour

Day 01: Vancouver

On arrival transfer from Vancouver International Airport to hotel. Rest of the day at leisure, overnight at hotel.

Day 02: Vancouver

After breakfast proceed on Grouse Mountain and Capilano Suspension Bridge Tour. This tour starts from sea level to 4,000 feet above Vancouver. Cross the Lions Gate Bridge, see British Property's exclusive homes, gardens and vistas. Visit Capilano Salmon Hatchery to observe at close range salmon returning to spawn at this beautiful river site. Later proceed to the 230 ft Capilano Suspension bridge overlooking the magnificent canyon. See traditional totem pole carvers, large totem pole and native displays, occasional dancing and historic logging exhibits. Walk through and admire the impressive living forest exhibit. At Grouse Mountain - ride the famous Skyride to this 3700 ft. high mountaintop playground. Ample time to visit Theatre in the Sky's "Born to Fly", seasonal logging shows, Peak Chairlift and other activities. Overnight in hotel.

Day 03: Vancouver

After breakfast proceed on a full day tour to Victoria. After a 90 minute ferry ride through the Gulf Islands, you will visit The Butchart Gardens where over 50 acres of magnificent gardens await you. Stroll through theme gardens linked by spacious lawns, streams and lily ponds. Next enjoy a scenic ocean drive with vistas of Juan de Fuca Strait and the Olympic Mountains, followed by the Royal Victoria Yacht Club and Beacon Hill Park. Upon arrival in Victoria, have ample time to explore the world famous Empress Hotel, British Import Ships, Parliament Buildings and other attractions around Inner Harbor. Late evening return back to Vancouver.

Day 04 : Vancouver/Jasper

After breakfast morning at leisure, afternoon checkout and proceed on Deluxe city sightseeing tour. This tour offers the

very best of Vancouver's sights, sounds and spectacular scenery. See Canada Place, Robson Street, the Public Library, Sports Venues, Theatres, Chinatown and Gastown. Soak in the natural splendour of Stanley Park's Totem Poles and sightsee from Prospect Point, pass the West End high-rises and the beaches of English Bay. Visit the vibrant Granville Island with its public market, unique shops, restaurants and galleries along the water. Visit The Lookout to take the glass elevator to the 360° views. Later drop off at Pacific Central Station to connect Via Rail Train at 8.30 pm for an overnight journey to Jasper.

Day 05: Jasper

On arrival, transfer to hotel. Rest of the day at leisure, overnight at hotel.

Day 06: Jasper

After breakfast proceed on Discover Jasper Tour. Jasper nestled within Jasper National Park is the largest and most northerly of the mountain parks. Its beauty and history is set amid some of the most rugged peaks in the Rockies. Explore the natural attractions of Maligne Canyon, Medicine Lake and Maligne Lake with our driver guide. At Maligne Canyon stroll along the 50 meter walls while learning about its unique underground water system. Discover the mystery of the disappearing lake and stroll along the shores of Maligne Lake, visit the giftshop or enjoy a snack in their restaurant. This excursion offers the opportunity to see wildlife in their natural environment. Afternoon at leisure, overnight at hotel.

Day 07: Jasper/Lake Louise

After breakfast checkout and transfer to Lake Louise. Travel along one of the most scenic drives in North America - the Icefields Parkway. This is home for Black and Grizzly bears, elk, moose, mountain goats and sheep, so keep your cameras ready! Visit the Columbia Icefields, a series of glaciers 325

square kilometers in area, where time is available for an Ice Explorer Ride (included) onto the surface of the Athabasca Glacier. From the Icefield Centre, continue along the Parkway to the Crowfoot Glacier, Peyto Lake and Bow Lake en route to Lake Louise. Upon arrival, you will be dropped off at the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure to visit beautiful Lake Louise.

Day 08: Lake Louise/Banff

After breakfast, morning at leisure. Afternoon checkout and transfer by coach to Banff. On arrival check in at hotel. Rest of the day at leisure to explore famous Banff Avenue.

Day 09: Banff

After breakfast proceed on Discover Banff Tour. The resort town of Banff is set amongst the towering mountains of Rundle, Tunnel, Cascade and Norquay. With a driver guide

learn about the natural attractions of the wind-shaped hoodoos which tower majestically over the valley. Visit the classic viewpoint of Surprise Corner along Tunnel Mountain Drive. A gentle ride on the Banff Gondola (included) in a four passenger car for 8-minutes takes you to the summit of Sulphur Mountain for a 360 degree panorama of the Bow Valley. Afternoon at leisure to explore famous Banff Avenue.

Day 10: Banff/Calgary

After breakfast checkout and transfer to Calgary. On the way stop at Kananaskis for the most powerful experience in the Rockies, a 12 minute Summit Helicopter Tour offering stunning views and remarkable landscape of the Rockies. Later continue your journey to Calgary Airport to connect flight to onward destination.

INCLUSIONS

- Eight nights accommodation.
- Daily breakfast at restaurant in the hotel.
- Arrival transfer on private basis.
- Overnight travel Vancouver/Jasper by Via Rail Chair car.
- Inter-city transfers Jasper/Lake Louise/Banff/Calgary on SIC basis.
- Train station transfers on private basis.
- Sightseeing tours on SIC basis with local English speaking driver/guide.
- Entrance fees to visit attractions as per itinerary.
- Hotel taxes.

Hotels

City	Value	Moderate	Deluxe
Vancouver	Empire Landmark	Sheraton Wall Centre	Fairmont Waterfront Centre
Jasper	Lobstick Lodge	Chateau Jasper	Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge
Lake Louise	Deer Lodge	Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise	Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise
Banff	Banff Ptarmigan Inn	Rimrock Resort Hotel	Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel

Recommended Optional Tours

City	Tour	Duration
Vancouver	Vancouver Scenic Float Plane Tour	30 Minutes
Jasper	Maligne Lake Cruise	1.5 Hours
Jasper	Whitewater Rafting Tour	2.5 Hours
Jasper	Athabasca River Raft Float Tour	2.5 Hours
Lake Louise	Lake Louise Gondola	At Leisure
Lake Louise	Mountains, Lakes & Waterfalls	4 Hours
Banff	Minnewanka Boat Ride	1.5 Hours

Departure: Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday.