Travel through the magnificent Canadian Rockies and White Pass & Yukon Route Railway in this 10-day rail journey.

INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE

Travel through dynamic landscapes and enjoy incredible sights and unique experiences in this 10-day rail adventure of Canadian Rockies and the Yukon Territory. Get on board VIA Rail’s iconic ‘The Canadian’ into the heart of the Rockies for 5 days then escape to Whitehorse for 3 days and enjoy a day trip to the scenic White Pass & Yukon Route Railway taking you to Skagway, Alaska. In late August, there’s chance to add aurora viewing in the evening.

HIGHLIGHTS

- VIA Rail’s ‘The Canadian’ Route
- Banff & Jasper National Park
- Lake Louise
- Icefields Parkway
- Whitehorse
- White Pass & Yukon Route Railway

INCLUSIONS

- 8-night hotel accommodation
- Private Sleeper Bedroom on-board VIA Rail for 1 night
- Scheduled flight to/ from Whitehorse
- Full day tour Jasper and Banff with picnic lunch
- Ice Explorer ride on Athabasca Glacier
- Glacier Skywalk
- Sightseeing tour of Banff
- Banff Gondola
- Coach transfer between Lake Louise & Banff hotels
- Flights both in and out of Whitehorse
- Full day Whitehorse to Skagway tour, including White Pass & Yukon Railroad
- 2.5 hr Whitehorse City Tour
- National Park fees

Note: This tour departs Tuesday, May 28 to August 20. Chances of adding aurora viewing evenings during late August. The package includes your flights both in and out of Whitehorse.

ITINERARY

Day 1, Vancouver to Jasper (Rail) This afternoon, check in at Pacific Central Station and board VIA Rail’s ‘Canadian’ for the famous train journey to the majestic Canadian Rockies. Step back in time to the days of classic rail travel, riding in the original stainless steel ‘streamliner’ railcars made famous by the ‘Canadian’ in the 1950s. Each has been restored with air conditioning, a café car, lounge car, and access to the dome car.

Exclusive to Sleeper Touring Class:

By day, sit back in comfortable seating and enjoy the exclusive comfort of your own accommodation. Come evening, attendants will transform your quarters into cozy bunks or a bedroom. Don’t forget to visit the Dome Car – the true essence of travelling by train is all in the panoramic views. Some Sleeper Plus Class amenities include towels, pillows, cozy down duvets and a shower kit.
Day 2, Canadian Rockies by daylight on-board VIA Rail; arrive Jasper late morning. (Rail) Rise to the snowy peaks of the Canadian Rockies today as you arrive in Jasper and transfer to your hotel. The day is free to explore this unique alpine community.

Day 3, Jasper – Evening wildlife tour Today is free to explore Jasper before departing this evening to experience the environs of Jasper, and for some amazing close-up photo opportunities of wildlife.

Day 4, Jasper to Lake Louise (Coach) Travel by coach today via one of the most scenic highways in North America – the Icefields Parkway. Visit the Columbia Icefield that covers an area of nearly 125 sq mi (325 sq km) and reaches a depth of 1050 ft (320 m). Time allows for an Ice Explorer ride (included) on the Athabasca Glacier, then a stop at the award-winning Glacier Skywalk (included) to experience a glass-floored observation platform 918 ft (280 m) over spectacular glacier-formed valleys and rushing waterfalls. After, continue along the Icefield Parkway where stops will be made at Bow & Peyto Lakes, the Crowfoot Glacier and the Athabasca Falls. This highway is renowned for sightings of bears, elk, moose & mountain sheep, so keep your camera handy. (L)

Note: Mountain lakes in this region will be frozen through to mid–June.

Day 5, Lake Louise to Banff (Coach) Depart Lake Louise mid–morning for a short drive via the scenic Bow Valley to Banff, arriving midday.

Day 6, Morning sightseeing tour of Banff with Gondola This morning, tour the town of Banff and its environs. Among the highlights are visits to the Hoodoo (shaped by centuries of wind) & Bow Valley Viewpoint, Surprise Corner, Bow Falls, Lake Minnewanka and Bankhead – an abandoned mining town and the relic of Banff’s industrial past. At the end of the tour you will be taken to the Banff Gondola for a breathtaking ascent to the pinnacle of Sulphur Mountain for an awe-inspiring 360–degree panorama of sheer mountain majesty. Return to downtown Banff at your leisure. (transfer not included)

Day 7, Banff via Calgary to Whitehorse (Coach / Air) This morning you’re free to explore Banff before your scheduled coach trip to Calgary departing early–afternoon. Follow the Trans–Canada Highway and leave the Rocky Mountains to the Great Central Plains that roll to the east for 2000 kilometres and extend as far south as Mexico. This is ‘cattle ranching country’ and the breadbasket of Canada. Arrive in Calgary Airport late afternoon to check–in for a scheduled flight to Whitehorse. Upon arrival transfer (own cost) to your hotel.

Day 8, Whitehorse to Skagway Excursion (Train & Coach) Board a motor coach at the White Pass Depot in Whitehorse for a trip along the scenic South Klondike Highway to Fraser, BC, where you will connect with the world–famous narrow gauge White Pass & Yukon Route Railway. Your 28–mile rail excursion will descend over the White Pass Summit and into Skagway, Alaska. The excursion includes a two hour layover in Skagway long enough to shop, have lunch, or just stroll around the unique and historic town. You’ll then re-board your motor coach for the trip from Skagway back to Whitehorse. Day 9, Whitehorse City Tour (Coach) Located on the banks of the Yukon River, Whitehorse is the largest city in the territory as well as the Yukon capital. This morning you’ll join a city tour for a brief introduction to the local history of Whitehorse. Highlights include Old Log Church, Log Skyscraper, Fish Ladder, SS Klondike, Miles Canyon and Miles Canyon Lookout. A stop will be made at the Visitor Information Centre, which offers a great variety of information on Whitehorse, Yukon, Alaska and Northwest Territories. An excellent film “As the Crow Flies” shown every thirty minutes is a must see for all those interested in Yukon. Use this centre to help plan your stay, or just enjoy the additional information. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 10, Whitehorse to Vancouver Depart this morning for your return flight to Vancouver. Your mini package ends upon arrival at Vancouver International Airport in mid–morning.
Your Accommodation

3/4/5-Star Canada Accommodation ★★★★★

Complete your extraordinary Canadian experience by staying at the best hotels & resorts of the country. Choose from our array of 3/4/5-star hotels, each featuring upscale facilities that will make your vacation truly unforgettable.