



CANADIAN ROCKIES

2024

August 12 - 21

Over 10 days, we explore the heart of Alberta, the most beautiful province of all in Canada. Known for the mountains, especially Banff National Park, which is part of the gateway to the Canadian Rockies. See historic cities that cradles Alberta: Calgary & Edmonton. Get lost in the world's largest shopping mall, West Edmonton Mall. Plenty viewings of wildlife, lakes and mountains, including short walking trails. Return home with an unforgettable memory and you'll want to return to Canada again!

DAY 1 . . .

Arrival into Calgary aka "Cowtown" due to its cattle industry. Your guide will meet you at the airport, and transfer you to hotel. Free time. Stroll around in the heart of downtown to see outdoor sights like the drop-dead gorgeous public library. Welcome dinner. Stay in Calgary for 2 nights.

DAY 2 . . .

A whole day exploring the sights and learning the history around Calgary: Stevens Avenue, Calgary Tower, Heritage Park, Eau Claire Market, Peace Bridge, Kensington Village and Fort Calgary.

DAY 3 . . .

Rise up and get on the famous Highway 1, the gateway to the Canadian Rockies! Head to the town, Banff and start exploring. Go up to the top by gondola and enjoy the panorama view of the Rockies. Dare to walk the Skywalk. Check out two cool stations - Meteorological and Cosmic Ray. Return to the bottom and go and see the pretty Bows Falls. Nearby, a tour inside the famous Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel. Return to town for the evening. Optional: you can take a dip in the Upper Hot Springs Pool before it closes at 10pm. Stay 2 nights in Banff.

DAY 4 . . .

With a good cup of coffee, we head out to see Vermillion Lakes briefly in the morning when the water is calm. Then go to Lake Minnewanka. You have several choices - take 1.5 hours cruise to see vantage points of the mountains, kayak on the lake on your own and/or sit down and chill with a beer or so. Have lunch. After feeling refreshed, we head to an adorable town, Canmore, for the rest of the day. Free time. There's a neat 2 miles long walking trail with view of the mountains, if desired. Return to Banff. Optional: you can take a dip in the Upper Hot Springs Pool before it closes at 10pm.

DAY 5 . . .

Again, rise up early but stock up with drinks and snacks for a whole day on the famous scenic drive on the Icefields Parkway from Banff to Jasper with plenty of quick stops for photo ops. First stop is at Lake Louise, a pristine turquoise colorful lake, thanks to its glacier water. Enjoy the Takakkaw

Falls in Yoho National Park as well as check out the Fairmont Chateau. Continue and stop by Peyto Lake briefly with a short trek. Before arriving in Jasper, we stop by Columbia Icefield Discovery Center to understand all about icefields. Arrive in Jasper by evening and free time afterwards. Stay 2 nights in Jasper.

DAY 6 • • • •

Put on your good hiking shoes/boots for a whole day exploring Jasper National Park. There's plenty to see - visitor's center, walking trails, short walk to Maligne Canyon, rent a canoe (if desired), ride in a tram up to Whistlers Mountain, observe wildlife and more! Return to Jasper. Free time.

DAY 7 • • • •

Say goodbye to the Rockies as we head for Edmonton. Stop by Hinton and walk on a two mile broadwalk to see, with luck, the Canada's National Animal, beavers! After lunch, arrive in Jasper and check in hotel. Stretch your legs before strolling and/or shopping at the largest mall in North America, West Edmonton Mall. Free time afterwards. Stay 2 nights in Edmonton.

DAY 8 • • • •

A relaxing day of exploring Edmonton. See sights such as: Ft. Edmonton Park, Alberta Legislature grounds, Beaux-Arts buildings, Borealis Gallery, watch 4-D interpretive video, ride on a vintage streetcar, explore Strathcona area, City Hall and more. Have dinner at Craft Beer Market, home to 100 Canadian microbrews.

DAY 9 • • • •

After a hearty breakfast, head to Elk Island National Park for wildlife viewing: elks, bison, deers and more. Nearby, a quick stopover at this unique Ukrainian Cultural Center where Ukrainians settled from 1890 to 1930. Finally, we depart from Edmonton to Calgary with a few funny stops, especially two world's largest fishing lure and bucking bronco. Arrive in Calgary by early evening. Check in hotel and have a farewell dinner at a nice restaurant.

DAY 10 • • • •

Transfer to Calgary airport for your flight destination at anytime.

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\$500 deposit per person is required to reserve space. The availability of space is based on a first come, first serve basis. 100% of the balance is required 90 days before the first day of the tour.

\$3,250
per person /double occupancy

10 DAYS

**SMALL GROUP: 8 to 14
people**

TOUR LEADER: Darren Frazier • darren@handson.travel

WHAT'S INCLUDED??

- 9 nights in 3-star accommodations.
- 10 meals: Breakfast (8), Dinner (2)
- Services of a deaf Tour Leader on call 24 hours a day.
- Services of local deaf and/or hearing guides.
- All transportation expenses.
- All admission fees for attractions and museums mentioned in the itinerary.
- Most tips, except for your Tour Leader.
- Informative travel preparation packet.
- Pre-tour and/or post-tour itinerary consultation.

WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

- Domestic and/or international airfares.
- All other meals not mentioned in the itinerary and personal expenses.
- Any COVID-19 related tests.
- Travel insurance.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

- Tour will be confirmed when we meet the minimum number of participants.
- When the tour is confirmed, additional deposits/payments may be required.
- Substantial amount of walking expected during the tour. Appropriate physical fitness is necessary.
- Please consult the most recent version of the HOT terms and conditions.
<https://handson.travel/resources/terms/>
- Hands on Travel recommends that you purchase a travel insurance plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. To learn more:
<https://handson.travel/resources/protection/>
- Tour itinerary and price are subject to change.