# **Canadian Rockies Tours | Cosmos® Affordable Trips**

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# COSMOS.

2025 Tour Details 2026 Tour Details »2024 Tour Details »

Canada's spectacular national parks and scenic drives highlight this wonderful Canadian Rockies tour that overnights in Vancouver, Kelowna, Banff National Park, Jasper National Park, Sun Peaks, Whistler, and Victoria. You'll spend time in Banff National Park—Canada's first national park—with its valleys, mountains, glaciers, forests, rivers, and meadows, and Jasper National Park, with its majestic mountains and abundant wildlife. Other Canadian national parks on this tour include Glacier National Park, with its rugged mountains, glaciers, and waterfalls, and Yoho National Park, with its vertical rock walls, waterfalls, and beautiful peaks. In addition to national parks, you'll also visit some of Canada's most popular resort towns, such as Kelowna, attractively set on the shores of Lake Okanagan and surrounded by orchards and vineyards. And the mountain resort of Sun Peaks, where you'll overnight after a beautiful drive that includes passing Mount Robson, the Canadian Rockies' highest mountain at 12,972 feet. Spend two nights in the alpine town of Whistler, surrounded by stunning glaciated mountains. Here you can hike, explore the village, or take an optional excursion, like flightseeing by floatplane for awe-inspiring views. A tour highlight is a stop at the Columbia Icefield, the largest expanse of ice in the Canadian Rockies where you'll ride the Ice Explorer, an all-terrain vehicle that travels on ice that is 750 feet thick! You'll also journey to the Pacific Coast, where you'll sail across the Strait of Georgia to Victoria for two overnights. Enjoy an included sightseeing tour, and a visit to Butchart Gardens, rated as one of the most beautiful gardens in the world, and then have free time to discover some of Victoria's most popular attractions like having high tea at the Empress Hotel or taking an optional Wildlife and Whale Watching Expedition. For the value-minded traveler, this tour exploring the Canadian Rockies is an unforgettable vacation not to be missed!

To know more about the visas for this vacation, click here



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# **Tour Highlights**

#### Notes:

Early departures may not be able to visit Columbia Icefield, which opens in early May, or take the Maligne Lake & Spirit Island optional excursion, which opens in mid to late May. Visiting and participating in other activities in this region may be subject to favorable

weather conditions and vendor dates of operation.

Maximum elevation on tour: 7,500 ft.

# Itinerary

## Day 1

VANCOUVER Welcome to Vancouver! Your Tour Director is on hand late this afternoon to answer any questions.

# Day 2

VANCOUVER This morning, an included city tour highlights Stanley Park, Chinatown, the harbour, beaches, and more. The rest of the day is at leisure; your Tour Director can suggest ways to further explore the city. Maybe take a water taxi to Granville Island with outdoor markets, street musicians, and waterfront cafés or, visit historic Gastown with its steam-powered clock.

# Day 3

VANCOUVER–KELOWNA Our journey begins in British Columbia's fertile valleys and continues through rich mountain forests to Okanagan Lake. Travel along the lake to the resort city of Kelowna, beautifully situated on the lake shore and surrounded by orchards and vineyards.

# Day 4

KELOWNA–BANFF NATIONAL PARK Motor north through the Okanagan Valley, famous for its peaches and vineyards. Climb up 4,379-foot-high Rogers Pass in Glacier National Park. Take a break at the pass, perfect for photos of the rugged mountains, glaciers, and waterfalls. Enter Yoho National Park and ascend Kicking Horse Pass at 5,332 feet. Reach Banff National Park, Canada's first national park, known for its unparalleled mountain scenery nestled in the heart of the magnificent Canadian Rockies. An orientation tour highlights Banff's unspoiled beauty.

# Day 5

BANFF NATIONAL PARK Enjoy the day exploring Banff, one of Canada's favorite yearround resorts, and home to 53 species of mammals. The most commonly seen are deer, elk, and big horn sheep. Hike, golf, horseback ride, shop in the townsite, or relax at the hot springs. Perhaps treat yourself to a once in a lifetime experience on an optional helicopter ride for spectacular views of the Canadian Rockies!

## Day 6

BANFF NATIONAL PARK–LAKE LOUISE–COLUMBIA ICEFIELD–JASPER NATIONAL PARK First, to Lake Louise, its turquoise waters a perfect natural mirror that reflects the surrounding mountains and glaciers. Precipitous gorges, snowcapped summits, and lakes of exquisite blues and greens come into view as the motorcoach continues northward into Jasper National Park. A highlight today is a stop at the Columbia Icefield to ride the Ice Explorer, an all-terrain vehicle that travels on ice measuring 750 feet thick! From ice to flowing water, take the opportunity to glide down the Athabasca River this afternoon on an optional scenic float trip. Enjoy an orientation tour of the town of Jasper upon arrival.

## Day 7

JASPER NATIONAL PARK Today is free to enjoy everything Jasper has to offer—from quaint shops to meandering wildlife. Find serenity of the glacial blue waters of Maligne Lake and Spirit Island\* with an optional narrated cruise revealing the history, geology, flora, and fauna of the largest natural lake in the Canadian Rockies.

\*This optional excursion begins operating in late May/early June.

### Day 8

JASPER NATIONAL PARK–MOUNT ROBSON–SUN PEAKS Leave Jasper and follow the Fraser River to the base of Mount Robson, the highest mountain in the Canadian Rockies, peaking at 12,972 feet. Continue following the Yellowhead Highway south along the North Thompson River—a route pioneered by fur trappers. Overnight in the mountain resort village of Sun Peaks.

## Day 9

SUN PEAKS–LILLOOET–WHISTLER Head south, following the once treacherous Cariboo Wagon Trail. Via Lillooet, "Mile 0 of the Gold Rush Route," your motorcoach will follow the shores of Seton and Duffey Lakes with a late-afternoon arrival in Whistler.

## Day 10

WHISTLER Spend the day in the alpine resort of Whistler, nestled at the base of breathtaking Blackcomb and Whistler Mountains. Enjoy free time to explore many sites of the 2010 Winter Olympics held here. Your own adventures await with a choice of optional excursions, including a flightseeing tour by floatplane over the glacial peaks, or a Ziptrek Adventure through an old-growth temperate rainforest.

#### Day 11

WHISTLER–FERRY CROSSING–VICTORIA Set sail across the Strait of Georgia, known for its Mediterranean-type climate. Afternoon sightseeing includes world-famous Butchart Gardens, and then a tour of the beautiful city of Victoria featuring Bastion Square, Thunderbird Park with its unusual collection of totem poles, and the inner harbour.

# Day 12

VICTORIA A day at leisure gives you the chance to discover this splendid city, including the Royal British Columbia Museum, shopping on Government Street, or a leisurely stroll around the harbor. Or get back to nature on an optional Wildlife and Whale-Watching Expedition while cruising the pristine waters of the San Juan and Gulf Islands, seeking whales, porpoises, seals, and eagles.

## Day 13

VICTORIA–FERRY CROSSING–VANCOUVER A scenic ferry crossing to the mainland, where the trip ends at Vancouver International Airport. Please schedule flights after 2:00 pm.

# **Tour Director**

With Cosmos, there's no better way to get to know your destination than through the eyes of your Tour Director. Averaging over a decade... we'd like you to meet a Tour Director, who is representative of the type of expert that will be with you on your vacation.

## SERENA CAMPBELL

#### Escorting tours for more than 15 years

" As a small child I was fascinated when hearing my grandparents' travel adventures. I would listen to their stories for hours! Here I am, years later, taking passengers around, sharing stories and showcasing my beautiful country! Combining my love for working with people and traveling is a perfect fit. Seeing the fascination in passengers' eyes as they witness Western Canada's stunning and ever changing scenery is the part I love best. Bringing the world alive through stories is a privilege."



## ALMA BERNASCONI

Escorting tours for more than 20 years

" Born and raised in Switzerland, I love my home in Western Canada. I have a zest for life, am always eager to share information and experiences, and enjoy creating lasting memories for travelers. As an avid hobby photographer, I revel in capturing the breathtaking beauty of the Canadian Rockies, the surprise appearance of the elusive grizzly bear, a majestic eagle soaring high above endless forests, and so much more."



#### JENNIFER ROBERTS

" Hi, I am Jennifer Roberts. I was born and raised near Vancouver, BC, and I am a traveler, adventurer, and lifelong learner. While backpacking around the world, I fell in love with wild places, new experiences, and fresh perspectives. I have spent years guiding guests through Canada, South America, and Antarctica. I have been a Tour Director with the Globus family since 2013, and I have traveled independently to over 75 countries on 7 continents. I am thrilled to share my love of the natural world with guests from all over the globe and looking forward to helping make your travel dreams come true!"



# Accommodation

#### VANCOUVER

#### SANDMAN SUITES ON DAVIE

Hotel as shown or similar

**First-Class** 

Free Wifi

#### **RAMADA BY WYNDHAM KELOWNA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE**

Hotel as shown or similar

**First-Class** 

Free Wifi

#### **BANFF NATIONAL PARK**

#### **BANFF INN**

Hotel as shown or similar

Superior Tourist-Class

Free Wifi

## **JASPER NATIONAL PARK**

#### LOBSTICK LODGE

Hotel as shown or similar

**First-Class** 

Free Wifi

#### SUN PEAKS LODGE

Hotel as shown or similar

Moderate First-Class

Free Wifi

#### WHISTLER

#### LISTEL WHISTLER HOTEL

Hotel as shown or similar

Superior First-Class

Free Wifi

#### VICTORIA

#### **ROYAL SCOT HOTEL & SUITES**

Hotel as shown or similar

**First-Class** 

Free Wifi

# **Optional Excursions**

Contact your Travel Consultant for more information. Price Ranges \$ (\$50 USD and under) \$\$ (\$51 - \$100 USD) \$\$\$ (\$101 - \$150 USD) \$\$\$\$ (Over \$150)

\* The "Starting at" or listed price is based on the lowest price available to book. Price is per passenger based on double occupancy and does not include airfare; additional fees/charges are not included. If a price is crossed out, the new price includes a limited time promotional offer(s) – please review current promotions or deals for additional information. Some tours require intra-vacation flights (and in some cases intra-vacation segments must be purchased from Cosmos).

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