

Canadian Rockies Tour with Austin Jenkins

June 19-26, 2022



<u>Day 1 – Sunday, June 19, 2022 – Arrive in</u> <u>Calgary</u>

Welcome to Calgary, the largest city in the western Canadian province of Alberta.
Our tour guide will meet you at the airport and transport you to the Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre this afternoon.
We will enjoy a Welcome Dinner this evening with your fellow ETV
Endowment Travelers, Austin Jenkins and our Tour Director, Sally Lane.
Meals included: Dinner



Day 2 - Monday, June 20, 2022 - Calgary - Lake Louise

We depart the hotel this morning to visit Big Rock, or Okotoks. Comprised of 16,500 tons of quartzite, this erratic is the largest known glacial erratic on the planet. The Blackfoot Tribe developed many legends and myths, which date back thousands of years, to explain this rock's peculiar location. Continuing south, we travel through the Cowboy Trail, passing through Kananaskis Country and one of the largest populations of Grizzly Bears in the Rockies. We travel through the Turner Valley, known for cattle ranching, and stop at the famous Bar U Ranch for a tour and hearty lunch.

Next, we head north to enjoy a tour of the Yamnuska Wolfdog Sanctuary, which provides an up close and intimate look at wolves and wolf dogs. During our visit, we will gain a better understanding about wild wolves and their importance in the natural environment while also seeing first hand wolf behavior through the wolf dogs at the sanctuary. We will have plenty of photo opportunities and ample time to speak with the sanctuary guardian who will answer all our questions. Finally, we continue on to Lake Louise and check in to the Elk + Avenue Hotel for one night. Experience exceptional comfort and warm hospitality at this hotel located in downtown



Banff, in the heart of Banff National Park. Enjoy all the comforts of a modern hotel, including flat screen televisions, indoor whirlpool and dry cedar sauna. Just a short stroll from boutique shopping, this mountain town is begging to be explored.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

<u>Day 3 – Tuesday, June 21, 2022 – Lake Louise – Banff National Park</u>

This morning, we rise early to make the most of our adventure into the Canadian Rockies as we head towards Banff, Canada's first National Park. On the way, we will visit the spectacular Moraine Lake and view the incredible Valley of the Ten Peaks. We will take a short walk along some of the lake trails before heading into Banff National Park. We will make a picture stop at Castle Mountain and then head into Banff Townsite to visit the Buffalo Nations Museum. No trip into the Canadian Rockies and Alberta is complete without learning about the heritage of the First Nations people who inhabited the area for thousands of years. An elder will provide interpretation and guide our visit. Our final activity of the day is a drive along the Vermillion Lakes. This series of shallow

lakes form an expansive montane wetland that supports 238 species of birds, including Bald Eagles, Ospreys and the American Bittern. We will check into the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise hotel for two nights. Surrounded by soaring mountain peaks, the majestic Victoria Glacier and a glistening emerald lake, the iconic Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise hotel is located in Alberta's Banff National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Meals included: Breakfast and Dinner

Day 4 - Wednesday, June 22, 2022 - Yoho National Park We begin our day with a hearty breakfast at the top of Lake Louise's 6,700 ft. mountain! We will travel to the top in an open chair or a fully enclosed gondola, which will provide an incredible

panorama view of the mountains and valleys that surround Lake Louise.

After breakfast, we drive along the famous Bow Valley Parkway, where wildlife sightings of caribou and deer are common. We might even see bears so keep your cameras handy! We stop at Johnston Canyon for a walk through the deep rugged canyon with several waterfalls and then cross the Continental Divide to the western slopes of the Rocky Mountain range into Yoho National Park in British Columbia. Here we will see the aweinspiring Emerald Lake, filled with glacial run-off water that makes it glisten with the blue-green hue of an emerald. Dinner is on your own this evening. Meals included: Breakfast and Lunch

Day 5 - Thursday, June 23, 2022 - Banff - Jasper

Today we journey to Jasper National Park. Along the way, we will stop at the Columbia Icefields. Our adventure begins with a ride onto the Athabasca Glacier in an all-terrain Ice Explorer – a massive vehicle specially designed for glacier travel. On this thrilling trip, an experienced driver-guide will share a wealth of fascinating information about glaciers and their impact on our environment. We will stop, step onto the glacier and let the moment take hold. Though apparently tranquil, the Columbia Icefield is a powerful and dynamic force, shaping the regional landscape and climate. Its glaciers endlessly advance and retreat in an ancient elemental dance and in a place where time is measured in millennia.

We arrive in Jasper National Park where we check in to the Jasper Inn and Suites for a two-night stay. With hospitality and comfort in the rugged beauty of the Canadian Rockies, Jasper Inn is known as one of the most welcoming hotels in Jasper with friendly, knowledgeable staff, on-site dining and an indoor pool. The tastefully furnished rooms provide guests with the comfort and conveniences to ensure a relaxing and stress-free stay. Jasper National Park is well known for its abundant wildlife, and the evening is an ideal time for viewing that wildlife. Tonight, we will go on a 3-hour vehicle-based tour that will take us to seasonal locations selected by our local guide. This allows the best opportunity to spot various animals such as elk, bear, moose, sheep and deer. We will discover valuable insights into the challenges of managing and protecting wildlife within the national park as our guide passionately brings the stories of the animals to life.

Meals included: Breakfast and Lunch





Day 6 - Friday, June 24, 2022 - Jasper - Maligne Valley

Today's journey takes us through 28 miles of the most spectacular scenery anywhere in the Canadian Rockies. The Maligne Valley is home to a wide range of flora and fauna and has geological features unique to anywhere in the world. Our journey will include searching for the abundant wildlife while learning the history and natural wonders to be explored. A stop at Maligne Canyon allows us time to explore the two bridges, offering fantastic views of the cascading waterfall and continuing erosion of the ancient limestone. As we continue into the valley, we will travel into the sub-alpine forests and view the expanding ranges of limestone rising out of Medicine Lake. This mysterious, disappearing lake changes seasonally as the flow rates of melt waters fill and empty this basin. We will stop to photograph this natural wonder, and our guide will trace its history. From Medicine Lake, we continue up through forest that is prime habitat for moose and bears. Sightings are common but not guaranteed as we are viewing these animals in their natural habitat.

At world-famous Maligne Lake, we will be led on a two-mile interpretive nature walk to experience beautiful lakeshore vistas before following the easy-grade trail loop back into the forested surrounds. Along the way, our guide will share interesting ecological facts,

and we may even spot some resident wildlife.

Meals included: Breakfast and Lunch

<u>Day 7 – Saturday, June 25, 2022 – Jasper – Edmonton</u>

Today we depart Jasper and head east towards Edmonton. Just 35 minutes east of Edmonton lies the natural wonderland

of Elk Island National Park. Follow the footprints of a bison and learn how this magnificent animal was saved from near extinction. In addition to being an important refuge for bison, elk and more than 250 bird species, Elk Island National Park is an oasis of calm for day picnickers and overnight campers alike. We will continue on to Edmonton where we will check in to our hotel, the Coast Nisku Inn. The inn has an expansive atrium oasis featuring restaurants, a lounge, bar, indoor swimming pool, hot tub and 24-hour fitness center. Our evening will conclude with our Farewell Dinner.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

<u>Day 8 – Sunday, June 26, 2022 – Depart Edmonton</u>

Today our adventure comes to an end as we transfer to the Edmonton International Airport for our departure.

Meals included: Breakfast



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Double Room Price per Person: \$5,839

Single Supplement \$1,390

Price Includes:

- •\$750 tax-deductible contribution to the ETV Endowment
- •Deluxe private coach transportation
- Professional tour guide and tour director
- Seven nights' hotel accommodations
- •Seven breakfasts, five lunches and four dinners, including a Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner
- •All trip activities as listed in the itinerary
- •Baggage handling for one piece of luggage per person
- •Bottled water and snacks on the coach
- •All applicable taxes
- •Guide and driver gratuities
- •Group airport transfer Calgary/Edmonton

Not Included:

- •Airfare to Calgary and return from Edmonton
- •Items of a personal nature
- Alcoholic beverages
- Activities not offered as part of the tour
- •Tips for hotel maids
- Personal and travel insurance

Please do not make flight arrangements until the ETV Endowment notifies you to do so.