

CULTURAL WALKING ADVENTURE

Canadian Rockies Banff & Jasper National Parks

CLASSIC JOURNEYS
THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



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*Classic Journeys
provides unbeatable
access to experiences
around the globe.”*

TRAVEL + LEISURE

Glorious Wilderness & Wildlife

Here is the secret most visitors to the Canadian Rockies never understand: You don't have to go on a trek or sleep in a tent to experience the solitude of this awesome country away from the crowds. On this glorious Classic Journey, you get to enter into the heart of this remarkable landscape without ever giving up the creature comforts. Certainly, you'll see the essential sights like calendar-perfect Lake Louise. But we'll take you into whisper-quiet groves of lodgepole pines...arrange a guided walk onto the azure ice of an awesome glacier...and put you in view of moose, elk or bighorn sheep. When we walk, we gravitate to gentle or moderate trails. For your comfort, we've arranged accommodations in gracious historic lodges and feasts on local specialties. The Cree used the word "Yoho"—an expression of awe—to describe this land. When you see it our way, we know you'll agree.

The Classic Journeys Difference

- ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- PREMIERE HOTELS
- FOODIE FOCUSED
- HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- MORE IS INCLUDED

What's Included

- All breakfasts, 5 lunches and 4 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

→ PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

→ INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

Terrain

Easy to moderate along the mountain, forest and glacier trails on generally well-maintained paths. Elevation ranges from about 7425 feet in Jasper and about 6950 feet in Lake Louise. Plan on 3-4 hours of continuous walking each day.

CLASSIC JOURNEYS ITINERARIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO SLIGHT CHANGES, HOTEL SUBSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER MODIFICATIONS.

DAY 1 »

Banff / Jasper National Park

Today you embark on your longest drive of the week, to Jasper National Park, the largest national park in the Canadian Rockies and part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. This drive along the Icefields Parkway is known as one of the top 10 most scenic drives in the world. Towering above us hang the Crowfoot Glacier as well as the Bow Glacier to the West. You'll stretch your legs on a short walk, perhaps at Mistaya Canyon – one of the least visited areas in the park. As the waters surge through deep sinuous limestone channels, you get a wonderful sense of solitude. An alternative walk is Athabasca Falls – a series of short and easy pathways along impressive cascades. There are many footpaths to choose from. Based on the weather, your guide will select the perfect route.

Later, you'll arrive in Jasper National Park, home to many healthy populations of wildlife. Over the next couple of days, you have the chance to see grizzly bears, moose, caribou, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats and wolves that inhabit this mountain wilderness area.

This evening relax at your historic alpine-like lodge. Nestled on the shores of emerald-green Lac Beauvert and surrounded by majestic snow-capped mountains, Jasper Park Lodge was built by the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1922. Today it consists of a village of cedar chalets and log cabins connected by picturesque paths. After dinner on local specialties, you may want to head back out into the night. You're in the world's largest accessible Dark Sky Preserve – an amazing opportunity to look up and rediscover the wonders of the star-filled night.

MEALS: L, D

OVERNIGHT: JASPER NATIONAL PARK

DAY 2 »

Maligne Valley

Refueled from breakfast of local specialties, Jasper SkyTram whisks you up Whistler's Mountain to an elevation of over 7400 feet, showing you stunning vistas over mountain ranges stretching up to over forty miles. On a clear day, you can even see the white pyramid of Mount Robson in nearby British Columbia. Interpretive exhibits explain the high alpine environment, and a hiking trail leads you to the summit of the mountain. Be prepared to be amazed as you gain a brand new perspective of Jasper's stunning National Park. *Please note: Jasper SkyTram will be weather permitting.*

Afterward, you'll walk through the town of Jasper where you'll eat lunch on your own. Later, we'll drive up the Maligne Valley. At the top, there's impressive Maligne Canyon, carved deep into the stone, but so narrow that in some spots you can touch both walls. Footbridges span the 180-foot-deep canyon. The trails are well maintained and the views will have you reaching for your camera again and again.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: JASPER NATIONAL PARK

DAY 3 »

Columbia Icefields

After an appetizing breakfast at the lodge, we journey to Lake Louise. Your drive follows the Icefields Parkway, one of the most stunning mountain roads in the world. The journey would not be complete without a stop at the Columbia Icefields, a sheet of ice spanning more than 125 square miles. Here, your local glacier guide leads you on a walk on the Athabasca Glacier for an up-close view of the glacier and its icy crevasses.

Later this afternoon you'll arrive in the village of Lake Louise, nestled in a picturesque valley on the shores of the lake and named after one of Queen Victoria's daughters. Known as Canada's "Diamond in the Wilderness," Lake Louise is a thriving ski resort in the winter as well as a summer wilderness retreat.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: LAKE LOUISE

DAY 4 »

Lake Louise

This morning's walk takes a path that rises 1,400 feet – and it's well worth the effort. You begin on the shores of Lake Louise. It's a gorgeous sight as the sunlight refracts off the vivid green water, a result of the minerals that fill the lake from the hanging glaciers above us. As you ascend above the tree line, the grassy slopes and alpine meadows open wide and you occasionally have a long-distance spotting of a grizzly bear foraging for berries. Your walk ascends along a trail that offers breathtaking views of the lake as well as Mount Victoria and the Victoria Glacier.

If you prefer a morning with a more relaxing pace, you have the option of going for an easy canoe paddle, exploring the shops and grounds of Chateau Lake Louise, or going for a horseback ride.

This afternoon, we all come back together for a short drive to Moraine Lake. Once featured on the back of the Canadian twenty-dollar bill, this tiny sapphire-blue lake sits amid the mountains that form the Valley of the Ten Peaks. Here you'll enjoy a relaxing walk with incredible views.

MEALS: B, L OVERNIGHT: LAKE LOUISE

DAY 5 »

Emerald Lake

You spend the day in nearby Yoho National Park. Yoho is a Cree expression of awe and wonder. As we cross the Continental Divide, we drive over Kicking Horse Pass, named for the explorer who was knocked unconscious by his horse while searching for a suitable route through the Rockies in 1858.

In fact, finding routes through the Rockies – especially for the crucial train lines – led to some astonishing engineering feats. You'll see one of them, the Spiral Tunnels that ingeniously loop and loop to tame the high elevations. Local roads solve the same problem with intense switchbacks, and we'll drive one of them up to Takakkaw Falls, the second highest waterfall in Canada. These falls give credence to their name, which means "magnificent" in Cree. You follow a short trail to the base of these majestic falls, which plunge over 1000 feet into the Kicking Horse River.

This afternoon you have the option of going for an easy canoe paddling on Emerald Lake, one of the most beautiful lakes in the Canadian Rockies, or join your guide for a scenic walk around the lake.

MEALS: B, L, D OVERNIGHT: LAKE LOUISE

DAY 6 »

Banff

After a farewell breakfast at the hotel, you venture into Banff National Park. A short walk brings you to perfect spots to enjoy in the shade of the Aspen trees, lodgepole pines and Douglas fir trees that make up this magnificent forest. This morning, you take a walk above the tree line to Sunshine Meadows, regarded by many as the most stunning alpine setting in the Canadian Rockies. The meadows straddle the Continental Divide and are surrounded by some of the Rockies' highest peaks. *Please note: Sunshine Meadows hike is weather permitting. Your guide may opt for an alternate hike in the area.*

Back to the town of Banff, located in the heart of Banff National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Canada's oldest national park. With your guide, you start with a visit to the Cave and Basin hot springs that spurred the creation of the park after three Canadian Pacific Railway workers stumbled upon the site in 1888.

You part company in Banff with many wonderful memories of your week.

MEALS: B, L

Tour Hotels



[Jasper Park Lodge](#)

Built by the Canadian Pacific Railway in the 1920's, this historic lodge is on the shores of Lac Beauvert. Picturesque paths connect the cedar chalets and heritage log cabins that house each of the charming guestrooms, decorated with country décor.

NIGHTS: 2 nights



[Post Hotel & Spa](#)

This family-owned chalet-style lodge was voted #1 resort in Canada by Travel + Leisure. It offers stunning views, award-winning cuisine and a 23,000-bottle wine cellar—one of the country's largest.

NIGHTS: 3 nights

Arrival & Departure

→ ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: **Banff Park Lodge**

START CITY: **Banff**

START TIME: **8:00 AM**

→ DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: **Downtown Banff**

END CITY: **Banff**

END TIME: **4:00 PM**