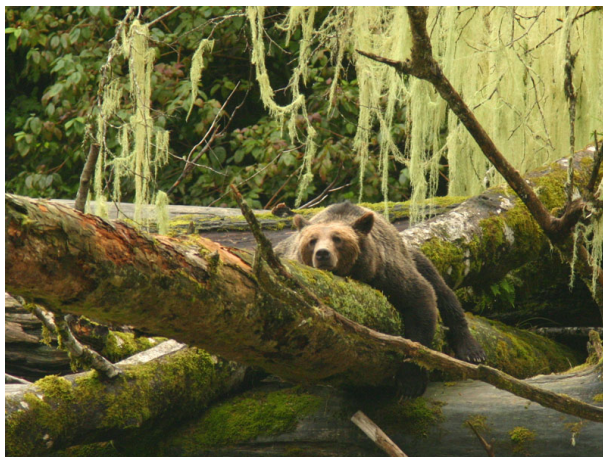


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Grizzly Bears & the Canadian Rockies Rail Vacation

2026

Canadian Rockies One-Way Itinerary

12 Days / 11 Nights Vancouver to Calgary
Not yet on sale

INTRODUCTION

Wanting a Canadian Rockies Rail Vacation and see Grizzly Bears in the wild? On this 12 day tour from Vancouver to Calgary, you'll explore Vancouver and Victoria before flying to a remote lodge in the wild to see bears in their natural habitat. Spend a night in a private cabin on VIA Rail as you head into the Canadian Rockies, then spend the next 4 days in Jasper, Lake Louise and Banff before ending in Calgary.

Itinerary at a Glance

| | |
|--------------|---|
| DAY 1 | Vancouver Arrival |
| DAY 2 | Vancouver Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 3 Excursions Option 1. Vancouver City Highlights & Capilano Suspension Bridge Option 2. Granville Island Market Tour Option 3. Grand E-bike Tour of Stanley Park, Granville Island & Vancouver |
| DAY 3 | Vancouver to Campbell River Flight |
| DAY 4 | Campbell River to Knight Inlet Lodge Floatplane Flight Grizzly Bear Viewing |
| DAY 5 | Knight Inlet Lodge to Vancouver Grizzly Bear Viewing Flight |
| DAY 6 | Vancouver to Jasper VIA Rail |
| DAY 7 | Arrive Jasper VIA Rail |
| DAY 8 | Jasper Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions |

CANADA BY DESIGN

Start planning your vacation in Canada by contacting our Canada specialists

Call 1 800 217 0973 Monday - Friday: 8am - 5pm PST Saturday: 8am - 4:30pm PST Sunday: 11am - 5pm PST

Email sales@canadabydesign.com Web www.canadabydesign.com

Suite 1200, 675 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 1N2, Canada

Option 1. Morning Maligne Valley with Medicine Lake Tour

Option 2. Evening Discover Jasper & its Wildlife

Option 3. Gentle Raft Float on the Athabasca River

Option 4. Maligne Canyon Hiking Tour

Option 5. Jasper Personalised Tailor-made Excursion

DAY 9 Jasper to Lake Louise Tour | with picnic lunch

Includes Ice Explorer Ride onto the Athabasca Glacier + Glacier Skywalk

DAY 10 Lake Louise to Banff Transfer | Coach

DAY 11 Banff | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions

Option 1. Discover Banff & Its Wildlife Tour + Banff Gondola

Option 2. Banff National Park Explorer Moraine Lake & Lake Louise | Small Group Tour with Picnic Lunch

Option 3. Rockies Hidden Gems Yoho & Kootenay National Parks | Small Group Tour with Picnic Lunch

Option 4. Cowboy Horseback Cookout BBQ Lunch or Dinner

Option 5. Banff Personalised Tailor-made Excursion

DAY 12 Banff to Calgary Transfer | Coach



MAP



DETAILED ITINERARY

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The below itinerary reflects our recommendations for this specific trip. We also offer tailored private excursions, allowing you to personalize the itinerary to match your custom preferences. This itinerary is also available in the reverse direction.

Day 1 Vancouver | Arrival

Upon arrival in Vancouver transfer (own cost) to your hotel, the rest of the day is at leisure to enjoy the sights.

Day 2 Vancouver | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 3 Excursions

Today you can personalize your day by choosing one of these excursions

Option 1. Vancouver City Highlights & Capilano Suspension Bridge

This tour is the perfect blend of city and nature. Explore downtown Vancouver's urban elements and immerse yourself in the rugged North Shore wilderness. Highlights include Capilano Suspension Bridge, Chinatown, Gastown, Stanley Park, Granville Island, and Vancouver Lookout Tower.

Option 2. Granville Island Market Tour

Discover Granville Island, Canada's second most-visited destination. Enjoy a vibrant tour through Vancouver's renowned Public Market, savoring delicious bites while uncovering the captivating stories, culture, and history behind each creation. Experience the hidden gems that even locals miss!

Option 3. Grand E-bike Tour of Stanley Park, Granville Island & Vancouver

Explore Vancouver's highlights on this all-encompassing tour! Visit Stanley Park, ride the Seawall, discover hidden forest trails, cross to Granville Island, see False Creek's stunning views, and explore Olympic Village, Science World, Chinatown, and historic Gastown. Enjoy a 45-minute lunch break at Granville Island Public Market.

Day 3 Vancouver to Campbell River | Flight

Most of the day is yours to explore Vancouver before departing on a late afternoon flight to Campbell River. Upon arrival, transfer (included) to your overnight accommodation.

Day 4 Campbell River to Knight Inlet Lodge | Floatplane Flight | Grizzly Bear Viewing

An early departure by floatplane this morning to Knight Inlet, a remote fjord and natural habitat of the grizzly bear feeding on sedge grasses during the spring and summer and in the fall on the salmon in the local river. After a short safety briefing join your guide in search of the bears that frequent the area.

Day 5 Knight Inlet Lodge to Vancouver | Grizzly Bear Viewing | Flight

Early morning visit to the bear viewing platforms in search of wildlife before returning to Campbell River by floatplane. On arrival, transfer (included) to the local airport for your return flight to Vancouver.

Day 6 Vancouver to Jasper | VIA Rail

This afternoon, board VIA Rail's 'Canadian' train for the famous rail journey to the majestic Canadian Rockies. Pass through the rich fields of the Fraser Valley and the towering peaks of the Coastal Mountains before entering the Fraser Canyon. Follow the Thompson River through spectacular landscapes as you enjoy dinner (included), then retreat to your private quarters that have been converted into a bedroom.

Day 7 Arrive Jasper | VIA 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. (breakfast included today onboard VIA Rail)

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Day 8 Jasper | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions

Today you can personalize your day by choosing one of these excursions

Option 1. Morning Maligne Valley with Medicine Lake Tour

Experience the most incredible sights in Jasper National Park's Maligne Valley during this guided excursion to the region's most scenic lakes & majestic canyons, enjoy a gentle guided walk along the shores of this pristine lake.

Option 2. Evening Discover Jasper & its Wildlife

Admire diverse animal life in the Canadian wilderness on this evening wildlife tour. Delve into Jasper National Park with your guide. Travel through the mighty Athabasca Valley and marvel at the park's beautiful landscapes by twilight.

Option 3. Gentle Raft Float on the Athabasca River

Experience Jasper National Park's natural beauty with a small group float trip on the Athabasca River. Cover several miles on Class II rapids, offering mild excitement with a few splashes. Enjoy your guide's engaging storytelling about local history and wildlife throughout this gentle adventure.

Option 4. Maligne Canyon Hiking Tour

Embark on a stunning hike in Jasper National Park, exploring the deepest accessible canyon in the Canadian Rockies. Learn about the Maligne Valley, Karst topography, and the mysterious disappearing Medicine Lake. Enjoy breathtaking views of rushing rapids and waterfalls along the canyon's five bridges. An added bonus is the shuttle service back to the top, saving you from a steep uphill hike.

Option 5. Personalised Tailor-made Excursion

Talk with one of our local specialists to tailor your day in Jasper to your preferences. Choose from a variety of experiences, including a Maligne Valley tour & lake cruise, an exhilarating Harley Davidson motorcycle sidecar tour of Jasper National Park, a Jasper food tour to experience the local cuisine, hiking and cooking tour in the backcountry, or a selection of private tours of the region. Alternatively, you can spend the day relaxing and enjoying the fresh mountain air, and we'll credit the cost of your excursion.

Day 9 Jasper to Lake Louise Tour | Glacier Adventure, Skywalk & picnic lunch

Your sightseeing tour today will encompass the ultimate glacier exploration as you travel along the spectacular Icefields Parkway. From walking on ancient ice with the Ice Explorer ride (included), to standing on a glass platform almost one thousand feet in the air at the Glacier Skywalk (included), today's experiences will leave you with a special appreciation for this treasured region of the Rockies. (Picnic lunch included today)

Day 10 Lake Louise to Banff Transfer | Coach

Start your day with a leisurely morning exploring the stunning beauty of Lake Louise. With either a mid or late afternoon transfer to Banff, you have the flexibility to canoe on the lake, hike to the Glacier Teahouse, or indulge in afternoon tea at the iconic Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise before departing for the 45-minute journey along the breathtaking Bow Valley Parkway. Whether you choose the scheduled transfer (included) or a private transfer, both options allow you to customize your time between these two stunning destinations.

Day 11 Banff | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions

Today you can personalize your day by choosing one of these excursions.

Option 1. Discover Banff & Its Wildlife Tour + Banff Gondola

Discover Banff's natural wonders on this half-day, small-group tour. Marvel at sights like Bow Falls, Hoodoos rock formation, and Lake Minnewanka. Conclude your exploration with a relaxing gondola ride to Sulphur Mountain's peak, maximizing your views of Banff National Park effortlessly. Enjoy the enchanting beauty of these landmarks with minimum exertion.

Option 2. Banff National Park Explorer Moraine Lake & Lake Louise | Small Group Tour with Picnic Lunch

Join this small group tour for a curated experience of Banff National Park's highlights, with the added chance to spot wildlife through expert local guidance. Enjoy unhindered access to Moraine Lake & Lake Louise, spending over 11/2 hours at each, discovering hidden gems and serene trails. The final phase of the tour is tailor-made in Banff by your guide, considering recent wildlife sightings and your interests, ensuring the day concludes on a high note.

Option 3. Rockies Hidden Gems Yoho & Kootenay National Parks | Small Group Tour with Picnic Lunch

Avoid the crowds with this full-day adventure in the Kootenay and Yoho National Parks, featuring picturesque waterfalls and Canadian Rockies views. Start with a relaxing stroll in Kootenay National Park's Marble Canyon, marveling at turquoise glacial waters and striking canyon walls. Enjoy Emerald Lake's neon blue waters, where optional canoe rentals, hiking trails, and lakeside picnics are available. The day concludes with a visit to Canada's 2nd tallest waterfall, Takakkaw Falls, accessible through backroads offering mountain vistas and wildlife sightings.

Option 4. Cowboy Horseback Cookout BBQ Lunch or Dinner

Saddle up for a ride along the Bow River in Banff and a Western style cookout. Choose from riding on horseback or in a covered wagon through the beautiful Rocky Mountain terrain.

Option 5. Personalised Tailor-made Excursion

Talk with one of our local Canada specialists to tailor your day in Banff to your preferences. Choose from a variety of experiences, including guided hikes, evening wildlife e-bike tours, river explorer canoe tours, a foodie tour at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, or upgrade to a selection of private tours of the region. Alternatively, you can spend the day relaxing and enjoying the fresh mountain air, and we'll credit the cost of your excursion.

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Day 12 Banff to Calgary Transfer | Coach

Today you will leave behind the fresh mountain air and colourful sights of the Rockies. We will schedule a transfer to bring you to downtown Calgary, or to the Calgary Airport to connect with your flight home.



INCLUDED

Package Includes:

- Sleeping berth onboard VIA Rail Sleeper Touring service for 1 night
- Knight Inlet Lodge Inclusions | 1 Night:
- Interpretive guided bear viewing tours
- Knight Inlet sightseeing cruise (weather permitting, no substitute)
- Use of kayaks on organized estuary tours
- All meals and snacks while at the lodge
- Complimentary house wine with dinner
- Rain gear if required: rubber boots, coats, pants
- 3 nights accommodation in Vancouver
- 1 night accommodation in Campbell River
- 2 nights accommodation in Jasper
- 1 night accommodation in Lake Louise
- 2 nights accommodation in Banff
- Vancouver | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 3 Excursions
- Vancouver City Highlights & Capilano Suspension Bridge
- Granville Island Market Tour
- Grand E-bike Tour of Stanley Park, Granville Island & Vancouver
- Return flight from Vancouver | Campbell River | Knight Inlet Lodge
- Return transfer Campbell River Airport to Hotel and seaplane terminal
- VIA Rail Train Vancouver to Jasper with overnight accommodation
- Transfer between rail depot and hotel in Jasper
- Jasper | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions
- Morning Maligne Valley with Medicine Lake Tour
- Evening Discover Jasper & its Wildlife
- Gentle Raft Float on the Athabasca River
- Maligne Canyon Hiking Tour

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- Personalised Tailor-made Excursion
- Full day tour between Jasper and Lake Louise with picnic lunch included
- Ice Explorer ride onto Athabasca Glacier + Glacier Skywalk
- Scheduled transfer between Lake Louise and Banff
- Banff | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions
- Discover Banff & Its Wildlife Tour + Banff Gondola
- Banff National Park Explorer Moraine Lake & Lake Louise | Small Group Tour with Picnic Lunch
- Rockies Hidden Gems Yoho & Kootenay National Parks | Small Group Tour with Picnic Lunch
- Cowboy Horseback Cookout BBQ Lunch or Dinner
- Personalised Tailor-made Excursion
- Scheduled coach transfer between Banff and Calgary
- Meals as per itinerary
- National Park fees

Hotel & Rail Information | Superior Grade

- Vancouver – Sutton Place Hotel | Sutton Room
- VIA Rail | Cabin
- Jasper - Forest Park Hotel | Woodland Balcony or Alpine Room
- Lake Louise - Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise | Fairmont Room
- Banff - Banff Caribou Lodge | Superior Room

Hotel & Rail Information | Deluxe Grade

- Vancouver – Fairmont Hotel Vancouver | Fairmont Room
- VIA Rail | Cabin
- Jasper - Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge | Deluxe Room
- Lake Louise - Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise | Deluxe Mount Temple
- Banff - Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel | Deluxe Room

Hotel & Rail Information | Deluxe Plus Grade

- Vancouver – Fairmont Hotel Vancouver | Deluxe City View Room
- VIA Rail | Cabin
- Jasper - Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge | Premier Deluxe Room
- Lake Louise - Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise | Deluxe Mount Temple
- Banff - Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel | Deluxe Mountain View Room

Campbell River & Glendale Cove | Moderate Hotel all Grades

- Campbell River – Moderate Hotel | Standard Room
- Glendale Cove – Knight Inlet Lodge | Standard Room

Not Included

- Gratuities
- Activities other than specified
- Meals other than specified
- Portage fees

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