

Canada & Alaska Autumn in the Canadian Rockies

& Alaska Inside Passage Cruise 09 Sep - 01 Oct 2024



Mon 09 Sep. Depart Australia. Arrive Vancouver. We will take an orientation tour of Vancouver before arriving at our hotel.

Tues 10 Sep Vancouver. Today we will visit the Capilano National Park and Grouse Mountain, with an opportunity of a close up view of grizzly bears. (B)

Wed 11 Sep. Vancouver - Kelowna. Our journey begins in British Columbia's fertile valleys and continues through rich mountain forests to Okanagan Lake. (B)

Thurs 12 Sep. 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 5,421 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. (B)

Fri 13 Sep. Banff National Park. Banff is one of Canada's favourite year-round resorts, and home to 53 species of mammals. The most commonly seen are deer and big horn sheep. If the timing is right, you may spot black bears, grizzlies, or wolves. Your Tour Director will also have suggestions for an optional helicopter ride over the Canadian Rockies. (B)

Sat 14 Sep. Banff National Park - Lake Louise - Columbia Icefield - Jasper National Park. First, to Lake Louise, its turquoise waters a perfect natural mirror that reflects the mountains and glaciers. Precipitous gorges, snow capped 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 that travels on ice measuring 750 feet thick. This afternoon, join our optional float trip down the Athabasca River. Enjoy an orientation tour of Jasper townsite upon arrival. (B)

Sun 15 Sep. Jasper National Park. Today, join our optional excursion to Maligne Lake and Spirit Island, and embark on a narrated cruise. The balance of the day is free to enjoy everything Jasper has to offer- from quaint shops to meandering wildlife. (B)

Mon 16 Sep. 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 at the Sun Peaks mountain resort. (B)

Tues 17 Sep. 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.

Wed 18 Sep. 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. You may decide to join one of many optional excursions, including a flightseeing excursion by floatplane over the glaciated peaks, or a gondola ride between Whistler and Blackcomb mountains- the perfect bear-spotting vantage point.

Thurs 19 Sep. 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. (B)

Fri 20 Sep. 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. Perhaps join the optional wildlife and whale-watching trip cruising the beautiful waters of the San Juan and Gulf Islands, looking for whales, porpoises, seals, and eagles. (B)

Sat 21 Sep. Victoria - Ferry Crossing - Vancouver. A scenic ferry crossing to the mainland, where we will then be transferred to Seattle for an overnight stay before we board our NCL cruise to Alaska.

Sun 22 Sep. Seattle - Board NCL Cruise Ship. Morning free in Seattle. Transfer to your NCL cruise. Depart Seattle 5:00pm. (B, L, D)

Mon 23 Sep. Day at sea. Explore the ship and be in awe of the views from our 180-degree observation lounges. (B, L, D)

Tues 24 Sep. Juneau. Arrive 2:30pm, depart 11:00pm. Juneau has been called "Alaska's peak experience," certainly due in part to its unparalleled glacier viewing from such places as Tracy Arm Fjord, the Juneau Icefields and Glacier Bay National Park. (B, L, D)

Wed 25 Sep. Skagway. Arrive 7:00am, depart 8:15pm. In a single year from 1896 to 1897, this remote town along the Inside Passage grew from a few tents to a city of 20,000 gold seekers. Experience yesteryear along Skagway's charming boardwalk lined with buildings that replicate those Gold Rush days. (B, L, D)

Thurs 26 Sep. Cruise Glacier Bay. Sail to Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, a United Nations World Heritage Site. It is home to magnificent glaciers, snow-capped mountains and abundant birds and wildlife. (B, L, D)

Fri 27 Sep. Ketchikan. Arrive 7:00am, depart 1:15pm. Thanks to its abundant rainfall, Ketchikan is surrounded by some of the world's most lush wilderness. Its Tlingit Indian name, Kach Khanna, means "spread wings of the eagle." Chances are you'll see one of these magnificent birds perched atop a Sitka tree during your Alaska cruise to Ketchikan (Ward Cove). (B, L, D)

Sat 28 Sep. Victoria. Arrive 8:00pm, depart 11:59pm. Roam the spacious lawns of stunning Butchart Gardens with its exotic flora, unusual topiary and exquisite fountains. Explore historic Bastion Square, the treasures of Chinatown and the many sights and sounds to be found along the boardwalk of the Inner Harbour. (B, L, D)

Sun 29 Sep. Seattle. Arrive 6:00am, disembark. Return flights to Australia. (B)

Mon 30 Sep. In transit.

Tues 01 Oct. Arrive Australia.



From

\$ 8,675

Per person twin share

Includes economy airfares, transfers, cruise, accommodation, breakfast & some dinners.

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