



Are We There Yet?, LLC

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Canadian Rockies by Rail

Sept 14-24, 2024

Since 1990, Rocky Mountaineer has elevated rail travel to match the grandeur of western Canada's most majestic landscapes. You do not overnight on the Rocky Mountaineer train, ensuring you don't miss a moment of the breathtaking scenery you will be travelling through the next two days. Take in the scenery through the oversized windows of the custom-designed, single level glass dome coaches while you enjoy delicious, hot entrée options and gourmet snacks served at your seat along with complimentary beverages, including wine, beer, spirits and non-alcoholic drinks served throughout our journey. We have ridden the train before, but we are offering a different itinerary to include all our favorite experiences. Our choice of September is due to the fires that we have experienced when traveling in the summer months. Our hope is that we will not encounter the smoke and ash during the fall season. No guarantees, but we will try. We want you to feel as though you have lived in each province if even for a day. And those of you who live in rural areas will appreciate our fun stop at a Canadian Tire, Canada's Tractor Supply/Rural King equivalent. It may also have to do with Dea growing up in a Firestone store!

Day 1: Sept 14, 2024: On our way to Canada!



Meet Dea and Declan at St. Louis Lambert Airport. We board our flight to Vancouver and begin our international adventure to visit our neighbors to the north. Upon arrival, we will board our private motorcoach, make a stop for lunch on own and head to our home in Vancouver, the Pinnacle Hotel Vancouver Harbourfront. Located just steps from the best of

downtown Vancouver, the hotel also has stunning views of the city and the water. Relax and unwind from a busy day of travel.

Day 2: Sept 15, 2024: Victoria Highlights!

Enjoy your breakfast at the hotel before we meet our motorcoach and head to the charming **Victoria**, the capital of British Columbia perched upon the southern end of Vancouver Island. We explore the city from land and sea, with scenic sailing along the Gulf Islands and the charming Inner Harbour with great views of downtown. And no visit to Victoria would be complete without going to **Butchart**

Gardens, one of the top botanical gardens in the world! We will enjoy a bit of free time downtown before heading to the Gardens and enjoying a buffet lunch together. **(B,L)**

Day 3: Sept 16, 2024: High Elevation Highlights!

Enjoy your breakfast at the hotel before we meet our motorcoach and enjoy a full day of **Vancouver area sightseeing**, from the city to the wilderness. We enjoy a city highlights tour as we learn about this amazing city, one of the fastest growing in the world.

Then make sure your camera is charged as we head to **Capilano Canyon**, with its famous 450 feet long suspension bridge that has amazing views! Then we walk atop the forest along the **Treetops Adventure**, a series of seven suspension bridges nestled through the massive evergreens. We then head to **Grouse Mountain**, where adventure awaits on the **Red Super Skyride**, North America's largest aerial tramway system! We soar high above towering Douglas firs, enjoying breathtaking views of the city of Vancouver, sparkling Pacific Ocean, Gulf Islands, and snowy peaks as we journey up the mountainside. We then return to the hotel, where the evening is yours to explore the city! **(B)**



Day 4: Sept 17, 2024: All Aboard the Rocky Mountaineer!



Today we begin our rail journey through the Rockies, boarding the **Rocky Mountaineer** train at the Vancouver Station at 7:30am. Our destination is Kamloops, located in the heart of British Columbia's interior. After our **welcome drink**, we enjoy unparalleled views from our single-level dome coach with panoramic views through oversized windows. During the day, we will be served regionally inspired meals created by award-winning chefs, gourmet snacks, and complimentary alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, all right at our seats, so sit back and enjoy the ride!

Today's journey will see the scenery change dramatically, from the lush green fields of the **Fraser Valley**, through forests and winding river canyons surrounded by the peaks of the coast and **Cascade Mountains**, to the desert-like environment of the BC interior. Highlights include the rushing waters of **Hell's Gate** in the Fraser Canyon and the steep slopes and rock sheds along the **Thompson River**. Our day concludes as the Rocky Mountaineer travels along the shores of Kamloops Lake into Kamloops.

Upon arrival at the Kamloops Station, we will be transferred by motorcoach to our overnight accommodation, and your luggage will be brought to your room. Our journey continues tomorrow, as the train only runs during the day so you don't miss a thing! **(B,L,D)**

Day 5: Sept 18, 2024: Up in the Rocky Mountains

Today our journey continues north and east to the mighty Canadian Rockies and the province of Alberta. Once again you will be surrounded by dramatic scenery as you follow the banks of the North Thompson River through the **Monashee and Cariboo Mountains**, climbing ever nearer to the high peaks of the Continental Divide. Today's highlights include **Mount Robson**, at 3,954 meters (12,972 feet) the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, Pyramid Falls, and the climb over the Yellowhead Pass into Jasper National Park. Breakfast and lunch will be served onboard. Your rail journey ends this evening between 6:45 PM and 8:45 PM and on arrival in the resort town of **Jasper**. **(B,L,D)**



Day 6: Sept 19, 2024: Free Day in Jasper, Alberta

Enjoy a free day to enjoy the best of the Rockies, with free time to explore the city or book additional adventures! This evening, we have a group dinner. Rest well, because tomorrow we go out on the Ice Fields! **(B,D)**

Day 7: Sept 20, 2024: The Columbia Icefields!

Depart by motorcoach for our full-day tour along the Icefields Parkways, one of the top scenic drives in the world. The highlight of our day is the visit to the Columbia Icefield, with an Ice Explorer ride on the Athabasca Glacier! This giant 6-wheeled vehicle is like a motorcoach with monster truck tires, perfect for heading across the ice. Dress warm for our walk on the icefield! We'll also visit the Glacier Skywalk, a 400 meter (1,640 feet) interpretive boardwalk and a glass-floored observation platform extending 30 meters (98 feet) out over the Sunwapta Valley. Glacier Skywalk takes spectacular scenery and a rare view of nature to unbelievable heights. The award-winning architecture of the Skywalk is a feat of contemporary design! After lunch at the icefield, we head toward **Banff**, AB, where we stay in the heart of the National Park at the Elk + Avenue Hotel. **Notes:** Warm layers are recommended for the Columbia Icefield Adventure, as temperatures on the glacier can be significantly cooler. Also wear shoes with traction for walking on the glacier. Sunglasses are also recommended for the Columbia Icefield Adventure to reduce the glare of the sun off the glacier. **(B,L)**



Day 8: Sept 21, 2024: Free Day in Banff



After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a day of leisure in Banff, one of the most enjoyable cities in which to relax and play, you will feel as though you are in a Swiss village and time has stopped but you will enjoy all the modern conveniences. Our hotel is in the heart of the town and you will enjoy plenty to do. You will also have the option of booking tours with the in-house Pursuit Office off the lobby. Banff

National Park is the oldest national park in Canada, established in 1885. It is perhaps most famous for **Lake Louise**, a glacial lake that owes its spectacular coloring to "rock flour," when the pulverized rock particles from glacial erosion are carried by the melting

ice into the lake, giving it a natural turquoise color. Enjoy the day with free time to relax or book activities at your leisure. Banff has activities for all, from taking the gondola to the top of Sulphur Mountain, relaxing in the Banff hot springs, exploring the bustling town, to outdoor wildlife adventures. We recommend booking activities well in advance to ensure you get your preferred time. **(B)**

Day 9: Sept 22, 2024: Banff and Calgary

After breakfast this morning, we begin our day of touring through Banff on our way to Calgary. Our first stop is the Banff Gondola, an eight-minute gondola ride to the top of Sulphur Mountain with unrivaled views of Banff and the surrounding mountains and forests. After lunch we continue our scenic drive through Banff National Park, arriving at our hotel in Calgary this evening. **(B)**



Day 10: Sept 23, 2024: Take a Step Back in Time!

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before we spend the day at the Heritage Park Historical Village, Calgary's top attraction. Located on 127 acres of parkland on the banks of the Glenmore Reservoir, The Heritage Park Historical Village is one of the oldest living museums in Canada, demonstrating how Canadians lived in the West, from the 1860s to the 1950s. Many of the buildings are authentic, moved to the park rather than be demolished. See the Hudson Bay Company Fur Trading Fort, an early Settlement Village, a Railroad town, and the midcentury Heritage Plaza. We'll even get the chance to enjoy lunch inside one of the historic buildings! Visit heritagepark.ca for full details. Note: Train and Paddlewheeler are not available during the week. But there is plenty more to see! We then return to the hotel for free time to explore. **(B,L)**



Day 11: Sept 24, 2024: Farewell to Canada

Board our private motorcoach as we are transferred to the Calgary International Airport for our return flight home to St. Louis. Thank you for traveling with us! **(B)**

Tour Includes:

- Airfare from St Louis to Vancouver and from Calgary back to St Louis
- Tour Vancouver and surrounding areas, including Capilano Canyon
- Additional day in Vancouver and Calgary
- 2 days riding on the Rocky Mountaineer train, with a panorama glass dome car!
- 18 Meals: 10 Breakfast, 5 Lunches, 3 Dinners
- Complimentary beverages plus gourmet meals and snacks while on the train
- 10 nights' hotel accommodation – no sleeping on the train!
- All breakfasts at the hotels, plus ALL MEALS when on the Rocky Mountaineer
- All sightseeing as outlined
- All gratuities to driver, guides, train staff, and servers at included meals
- Luggage handling at all hotels – no need to bring your large bag up!

\$7,108 per person, double occupancy

\$8,963 per person, single occupancy

*Note: Due to riding the Rocky Mountaineer Train, single occupancies are limited.
Contact us so we can check availability.

Save 3% on this tour! See the breathtaking beauty of the Canadian Rockies for just \$6,895 pp dbl occ* when you pay with check, cash or money order!

\$6,895 per person, double occupancy

\$8,694 per person, single occupancy

*Note: Due to riding the Rocky Mountaineer Train, single occupancies are limited.
Contact us so we can check availability.

All pricing is based on currency exchange rate of \$1 us = \$.75 cd

In addition, airfare is based on current tax rate and fuel surcharges. If there is an increase in either, a supplement will be assessed.

A **deposit of \$1,500** per person is due when signing up for this tour and it is non-refundable due to purchasing the train tickets. Final Payment is due April 5, 2024.

We are currently holding 34 double occupancy seats. We have over 60 people requesting this tour. If you want to go, please call our office and you can also email you want to go. We wil allow 7 days for your check to arrive or you can pay with credit card at the above rate. Other tour operators are looking for more seats. If we are able to grab more once we will these, we sure will. We do not want to turn anyone away if we do not have to.

We encourage trip interruption and cancellation insurance. You will want to send that with your deposit so as to cover pre-existing conditions.

Insurance premium on a double occupancy is \$516 per person. Insurance Premium on Single occupancy is \$675. Maggie will confirm this with you as well.

Call us at 314-304-3508 or email us at info@arewethereyetdea.com to reserve your space.