Snow capped mountains, lush green valleys, sparkling rivers and endless forests... the Canadian Rockies are known world wide for their spectacular scenery and pristine wilderness. Since 1885 Canadian Pacific Railway has been bringing visitors from all over the world to experience this exceptional destination.

In timeless tradition, Royal Canadian Pacific continues to share the experience of the Canadian Rockies with our guests in the spirit of our Royal Canadian Rockies Experience. Recognized as a “Tour of a Lifetime” by National Geographic Traveler in 2008, this luxury rail excursion is truly a testament to the beauty and heritage of the Rocky Mountains. Travel through inaccessible, spectacular terrain in the comfort of the Royal Canadian Pacific’s fully restored vintage rail cars. Your experience is enhanced by our select off-train activities designed to highlight the heritage, ecology and culture of the areas through which we travel.

"If we can’t export the scenery, we’ll import the tourists."

W.C. Van Horne, 1886

Royal Canadian Rockies Experience

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Guests joining the Royal Canadian Rockies Experience can look forward to the following excursion highlights:

Calgary, Alberta

Known as the “Heart of the New West”, the frontier spirit of this city is still alive and well amidst the thriving energy sector that has entrenched Calgary as a corporate powerhouse. Calgary has many attractions that we invite you to explore either before or following your Royal Canadian Rockies Experience: Fort Calgary, the Glenbow Museum, the Calgary Zoo, Calgary Tower, Canada Olympic Park, Drumheller – site of the world’s largest dinosaur fossil discovery is only a short drive from the city. The Canadian Pacific Railway Pavilion, located in the center of Calgary’s downtown core, serves as the train station for all Royal Canadian Pacific excursions.

Head-Smashed-In-Buffalo-Jump

Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Head-Smashed-In-Buffalo-Jump shares the story of area First Nations people in the context of a traditional buffalo jump site.

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park

A union of Waterton National Park in Canada and Glacier National Park in the United States, Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is symbolic of the peace and friendship between the two nations and has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Both parks are also recognized as biosphere reserves by UNESCO as they demonstrate and promote ecological diversity and balance. The rare wild flowers, unusual geology, and pure beauty of this mountain park will leave you awestruck. A lake cruise of the serene Waterton Lakes, traveling by boat from Waterton, Canada to Goat Haunt, Montana, U.S.A. and back is sure to be the most exclusive border crossing you will ever experience.

Crowsnest Pass

One of three mountain passes through the Canadian Rockies, Crowsnest Pass is alive with history. The CP rail line was built through Crowsnest in 1897 to transport massive amounts of coal from the large deposits discovered nearby. Tales of tragedy abound – mine explosions and collapses, forest fires, train robberies and shootouts. You will travel across the debris of the massive 1903 rock slide caused when a piece of Turtle Mountain broke off and thundered down on top of the small mining town of Frank – the landscape is as desolate today as it was over a century ago.
Canadian Museum of Rail Travel

Telling the story of rail travel in Canada from the vantage point of its historical rail cars, this museum focuses on the changes in décor, finish, and service over the years since Canadian Pacific Railway was first established in Canada. Of particular interest is the restoration process that will demonstrate how aged business cars are restored to the condition that you are experiencing on your journey aboard the vintage cars that comprise the Royal Canadian Pacific luxury train.

Kicking Horse Gondola

Travel aboard the Eagle's Eye Express to an elevation of 7,700 feet and spectacular 360 degree panoramic mountain views of the Purcell and Rocky Mountains as you alight at the summit of CPR Ridge. This is one of the original survey areas for the Swiss Guides in planning the Canadian Pacific rail line which you will see tracking to the south through the Columbia Valley. Keep your eyes open for “Boo”, the Kicking Horse Resort resident grizzly.

Yoho National Park and the Spiral Tunnels

The name “Yoho” comes from an native American Cree word meaning amazement. From your unique vantage point aboard the Royal Canadian Pacific, the “rockwalls and waterfalls” of this beautiful park in the Western Rocky Mountain range are sure to be a highlight and the object of many spectacular photographs. Enjoy the views from an open air vestibule as the train climbs through Kicking Horse Pass. This pass was the biggest challenges to the building of the transcontinental railroad, now demonstrating the ingenious engineering feat known as the “Spiral Tunnels” which have allowed safe rail movement through the pass since 1909.

Banff National Park

One of the world’s most popular destinations, Banff is renowned for its beauty, scenery, and wildlife. Originally set aside as a 10 square mile reserve around the hot springs discovered at Sulphur Mountain in 1883, Banff National Park has grown to over 2,500 square miles of protected wilderness. Amongst the many towering peaks you will see as you travel through the park are the classically stunning mountains Victoria, Temple, Castle, Rundle and Cascade as well as incomparable sights such as the emerald green Lake Louise, Banff Springs Hotel – “Castle of the Rockies”. Local interpreters will share with you the stories behind the scenery, affirming the significance of these spectacular landscapes in historical, cultural and ecological contexts. *On the final day of your luxury rail cruise, add to your Rocky Mountain experience with a helicopter sightseeing tour for unparalleled views of the mountains.

*Optional – fee required

Select photos courtesy of: Travel Alberta and McPhee – Kicking Horse
2011 Royal Canadian Rockies Experience

Dates:
July 24 – 30, 2011
August 10 – 16, 2011

Package Price: $8,200 CAD per person plus applicable taxes
(no single supplements)

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Tour Map
Overnights – Calgary, Cowley, Summit, Golden, Lake Louise, Calgary