Canadian Rockies by Rail

Land of Peaks and Glaciers

August 10 to 17, 2012

a program of the stanford alumni association
In the late 1800s, the Canadian Pacific railway built a series of resort hotels near its rail lines amid some of the most striking scenery in North America in order to lure European tourists out West. More than a century later the rugged beauty of Western Canada continues to inspire awe among its visitors. In the company of Canadian historian Barry Lane and geologist Scott Burns, experience the best that this region has to offer—from its glacier-sheared cliffs and sapphire lakes in Jasper and Banff National Parks and the famous Icefields Parkway to our two-day trip through the very heart of the Canadian Rockies aboard the luxurious Rocky Mountaineer train.

MARVEL at a passing parade of wildlife—bears, elk, bighorn sheep, and more—with commentary provided by naturalist Peter Duck. SPEND two days aboard the Rocky Mountaineer train, famous for its gourmet dining and two-story domed cars that offer 360° views of the stunning scenery. BE AMAZED by the vivid blue hues of glacial lakes tucked amid stunning snow-capped mountains.

Highlights

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

U.S. / EDMONTON, CANADA
Fly on independent flights from home to Edmonton and gather with fellow travelers for a welcome reception and dinner in our hotel.
FAIRMONT HOTEL MACDONALD (D)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

EDMONTON / JASPER NATIONAL PARK
Travel to Jasper this morning, stopping in Hinton for lunch en route. Upon arrival in Jasper in the mid-afternoon, transfer to our deluxe lodge, one of Canada’s premier resort hotels built by the Canadian National Railway in 1922 and set on the edge of beautiful Beauvert Lake. Take advantage of some free time to relax or explore the area independently.
FAIRMONT JASPER PARK LODGE (B, L, D)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

JASPER NATIONAL PARK / MALIGNE LAKE
Spend the morning with Peter Duck, one of Canada’s great Rocky Mountain naturalists, during a leisurely boat ride on Maligne Lake, one of the most beautiful spots in the Canadian Rockies. Following an independent lunch, the remainder of the afternoon is free to enjoy the picturesque grounds of the Jasper Park Lodge.
FAIRMONT JASPER PARK LODGE (B, D)

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

ICEFIELD PARKWAY / LAKE LOUISE / BANFF
Depart this morning with Peter Duck to travel along the famous Icefields Parkway, which offers some of the finest mountain scenery in North America. Travel along the Athabaska Ice Fields, stopping at Peyto Lake, Athabaska Falls and the Bow Valley. Also take a few minutes to relax at Lake Louise, known as Canada’s “diamond in the wilderness.”

August is a prime time to look for wildlife and wildflowers in the Rockies. On our drive keep an eye out for elk, as well as grizzlies and black bears, who come close to the roads to feed on the berry bushes to prepare for winter hibernation. We may also spot mountain goats and sheep, who come down to lick the salt in the road left from winter plowing operations. Arrive in Banff late this afternoon and enjoy dinner in our historic hotel.
FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL (B, L, D)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

BANFF
Learn about the history of the legendary Banff Springs Hotel on a private morning tour. Depart for the Whyte Museum, internationally renowned for its dedication to the history and culture of the region. On our guided tour of the Museum, view a large number of...
native artifacts and many fine oil paintings inspired by the beauty of the Canadian Rockies. The afternoon is free to relax in the famous resort town of Banff or to go for a hike in the scenic surroundings.

FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL (B,D)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15
BANFF / ABOARD THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEER / KAMLOOPS

This morning embark the Rocky Mountaineer train and continue our journey westward through the fantastic terrain of the Rockies. Lounging in one of the train’s dome cars, enjoy a gourmet breakfast and lunch and 360-degree panoramic views as we traverse Kicking Horse pass and the famous Spiral Tunnels and wind through the remote Selkirk Mountains. Enjoy more opportunities to spot wildlife—from the train watch for mountain goats, osprey, bald eagles and, if we’re lucky, salmon swimming upriver to spawn. Later this afternoon arrive in the railroad town of Kamloops.

HOTEL TBA (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16
ROCKY MOUNTAINEER / VANCOUVER

This morning re-board the Rocky Mountaineer and continue toward Vancouver. Enjoy breakfast and lunch onboard as we head through the picturesque ranch lands of the Thompson River Valley and the chasm of Fraser River Canyon. Late this afternoon arrive in Vancouver and transfer to our historic downtown hotel for a farewell reception and dinner.

FAIRMONT HOTEL VANCOUVER (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17
VANCOUVER / U.S.

Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for independent flights home.

(B)

ABOUT THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEER

From Banff we spend two days aboard the Rocky Mountaineer en route to Vancouver, with overnight accommodations at a modest hotel in Kamloops. Our GoldLeaf Service tickets on the train offer assigned seating in the bi-level Dome Coach, with panoramic views of the surrounding scenery.
Information

D A T E S
August 10 to 17, 2012 (8 days)

S I Z E
Limited to 45 participants

C O S T *
$8,895 per person, double occupancy
$10,695 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $200 per person

I N C L U D E D
7 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
  ▪ 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 7 dinners
  ▪ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions
  ▪ Bottled water on excursions
  ▪ Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and train crew for all group activities
  ▪ All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
  ▪ Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
  ▪ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
  ▪ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
  ▪ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

N O T I N C L U D E D
International and U.S. domestic airfare
▪ Passport and visa fees
▪ Immunization costs
▪ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
▪ Independent and private transfers
▪ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
▪ Excess-baggage charges
▪ Personal items such as email, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

A I R A R R A N G E M E N T S
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines from San Francisco to Edmonton with return from Vancouver is approximately $675 as of October 2011 and is subject to change without notice.

W H A T T O E X P E C T
This trip offers the opportunity to experience the amazing scenery of the Canadian Rockies at a gentle pace. Excursions may involve up to one mile of walking (longer optional hikes are available), sometimes over uneven terrain and up or down gentle hills. Participants must be physically fit and in good health and should feel comfortable walking in a rocking rail car. Participants must be able to climb up and down a flight of stairs to board the Rocky Mountaineer and tour buses. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000 deposit is required to hold space for this program. Complete and return the attached reservation form or place your deposit online. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply. We recommend trip-cancellation insurance; applications will be sent to you.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. We strongly recommend that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation about one week after we receive your deposit. The product offered in this brochure includes a special Waiver of Pre-Existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency and Terrorist Acts if you postmark your insurance payment within 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. Parents and their children under 21 may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in October 2011 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

Terms & Conditions
I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them.

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with:

OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for _____ space(s)

☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR

☐ Charge my deposit to my:

☑ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?rockies2012.

Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.

Scott Burns, BS ’69, MS ’70, is a professor of geology at Portland State University and has taught geology and ecology at the university level for over 40 years. He is the recipient of numerous awards for excellence in teaching and has led 23 previous Travel/Study programs. During our trip, his lectures will cover the adaptation of plants and animals to the mountain ecology of southern British Columbia and the geologic origin and glacial history of the Rocky Mountains.

Barry Lane, a native of Saskatchewan, studied history at the Royal Military College of Canada. His interest in North America’s European roots, and how they have evolved differently in Canada and the U.S., led to a passion for educational travel and a desire to provide visitors to Canada with a unique perspective on his country’s history and cultures. During our program, Barry will discuss Canadian history, ecological and development issues within the National Parks and the legacy of Canadian Pacific’s transportation empire. Travel/Study is pleased to welcome Barry on his 14th Stanford program.
“Canada is a lot more complicated, more beautiful, more intriguing than I ever imagined. The lectures, geography and naturalists made it a wonderful experience.”

SANDY LAMB, TRANS-CANADA RAIL EXPEDITION, 2010