Canadian Rockies

Land of Peaks and Glaciers

July 28 to August 3, 2016

A program of the Stanford Alumni Association
In the late 1800s, the Canadian Pacific Railroad 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 and the resorts are world-class. Our 2016 summer sojourn incorporates the best that this region has to offer—from snow-capped peaks and sapphire lakes to high-country wildlife, glaciers and evergreen forests—and is further enhanced by the company of geologist Scott Burns, BS ’69, MS ’70. Grab a pair of binoculars, a camera and some telephoto lenses and join us!

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

Highlights

**MARVEL** at a parade of wildlife—elk, bighorn sheep, marmots and maybe even a bear or two!

**BREATHE** in fresh mountain air while taking in the view of sparkling Lake Louise from its famed namesake mountain chateau.

**RIDE** in a specially designed Ice Explorer onto the Columbia Icefield for the chance to walk on and photograph the ice.

COVER: LAKE LOUISE
SCOTT BURNS, BS ’69, MS ’70, is a professor emeritus of geology at Portland State University and has taught geology and ecology at the university level for more than 45 years. His passion for mountain ecology began when he visited a small village in Switzerland in 1970 to teach a new course called alpine ecology. Since then he has become well-versed on the unique natural forces that shape mountain environments in addition to the plants and animals that inhabit them. His knowledge of geology, local history and botany is broad and his enthusiasm contagious. He is the recipient of numerous awards for excellence in teaching and has led 24 previous Travel/Study programs. During our trip, he will help unravel for us such stories as 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.

— President, International Association of Engineering Geologists and the Environment, 2014–2018
— Associate dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Portland State University, 1997–1999
— BS and MS, Stanford University; PhD, University of Colorado, Boulder

“Scott Burns is the most enthusiastic lecturer I have met. One could not help but be interested in what he was explaining, either in a lecture or any time during the trip.”

MICHÉLLE MELLEN, CANADIAN ROCKIES BY RAIL, 2012

Faculty Leader

STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093

YOHO NATIONAL PARK
THURSDAY, JULY 28
U.S. / CALGARY, CANADA
Fly on independent flights from home to Calgary and gather with fellow travelers for a welcome reception in our hotel this evening. WESTIN CALGARY

FRIDAY, JULY 29
CALGARY / LAKE LOUISE
This morning, take a guided tour of the highlights of Calgary, nicknamed the “Stampede City” for its annual rodeo festival, before heading into the mountains. Make a special foray to the glacially fed Moraine Lake for some beautiful views en route to Lake Louise, known as Canada’s “diamond in the wilderness.” The sight of the lake’s vivid emerald water surrounded by soaring mountain peaks with the majestic Victoria Glacier in the distance is breathtaking and one of many reasons why Banff National Park has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. After lunch on our own, reconvene for a tour of the village and learn about the history of the iconic Chateau Lake Louise. Check in to our rooms at the hotel and enjoy some time to relax or take a stroll along the lake before dinner. FAIRMONT CHATEAU LAKE LOUISE (B,D)

SATURDAY, JULY 30
LAKE LOUISE / ICEFIELDS PARKWAY / JASPER
Journey north this morning along the famous Icefields Parkway, which offers some of the finest mountain scenery in North America. Admire stunning vistas of alpine meadows, waterfalls and glacier fields. Stop at Peyto Lake and learn how glaciers are formed. Hear more about the geological features of glaciers on a memorable ride atop Columbia Icefield in the safety and comfort of an Ice Explorer. Step out onto ice that has been forming for hundreds of years and feeds into the Triple Continental Divide. Continue our drive to Jasper National Park, the largest national park in the Canadian Rockies, and keep an eye out for elk and bighorn sheep, as well as grizzlies and black bears, who come close to the roads to feed on the berry bushes in preparation for winter hibernation. Check in 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. FAIRMONT JASPER PARK LODGE (B,D)

SUNDAY, JULY 31
JASPER / MALIGNE LAKE
After breakfast, enjoy a fully narrated cruise on Maligne Lake. Stop at Spirit Island for an incredible photo opportunity of the dramatic ridges that surround the lake’s glacier-fed blue waters. Return to Jasper for an afternoon to explore the town and its specialty stores at leisure. Sign up for an optional guided raft trip on the Athabasca River or a nature walk to Mount Edith Cavell to view glacier formations, icebergs and waterfalls. Alternatively, simply stroll around the picturesque grounds and delight in the luxurious amenities of Jasper Park Lodge. FAIRMONT JASPER PARK LODGE (B)

MONDAY, AUGUST 1
JASPER / YOHO NATIONAL PARK / BANFF
Visit thundering Athabasca Falls this morning before making our way back south to Banff via Yoho National Park. “Yoho” is a
Cree Native American word that expresses awe and wonder. It’s easy to understand the inspiration for the park’s name after we see the magnificent scenery here. View one of Yoho’s most interesting features, the Natural Bridge spanning the Kicking Horse River near Emerald Lake. Sculpted by the erosive rushing water of the river, the bridge is an impressive demonstration of the forces of nature. Arrive in Banff late this afternoon and enjoy an evening at leisure.

**FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL (B)**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**

**BANFF**

Take a ride up Sulphur Mountain on the Banff Gondola and marvel at the six mountain ranges that can be viewed from the top. Keep cameras close at hand during a scenic drive around Tunnel Mountain and watch for elk and deer as well as the unique landscape features of the Hoodoos rock formations and the Bow River. The afternoon is free for independent exploration. Take an optional helicopter flightseeing trip for dramatic aerial views of the Rocky Mountains or fish for trout on Lake Minnewanka. Or perhaps stroll the colorful streets of Banff or relax at our historic hotel. Gather this evening with fellow travelers for a special farewell reception and dinner. **FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL (B,D)**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3**

**BANFF / CALGARY / U.S.**

Following breakfast, transfer to the Calgary Airport for independent flights home. **(B)**

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**Post-trip Extension**

**BANFF TO VANCOUVER ABOARD THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEER**

**AUGUST 3 TO 6 (3 NIGHTS)**

Board the Rocky Mountaineer in Banff and spend two days traveling west to Vancouver through the fantastic terrain of the Rockies with overnight accommodations at a modest yet comfortable hotel in Kamloops. Our GoldLeaf Service train tickets provide assigned seating in a bi-level Dome Coach with panoramic views of the surrounding scenery. Enjoy a full day to explore Vancouver before returning home.

Additional details and rates will be sent to confirmed participants.
**Trip Information**

**DATES:**
July 28 to August 3, 2016 (7 days)

**SIZE**
40 participants (single accommodations limited—please call for availability)

**COST**
$6,995 per person, double occupancy
$8,990 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

**INCLUDED**
6 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations  ▪
6 breakfasts, 3 dinners  ▪
Welcome and farewell receptions  ▪
Gratuities to guides, drivers and porters, housekeeping and wait staff for all group activities ▪
All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary ▪
Group 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

**NOT INCLUDED**
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 internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS**
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on Delta Air Lines between San Francisco and Calgary, Canada, is approximately $500 as of January 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**
This trip offers the opportunity to experience the amazing scenery of the Canadian Rockies at a relatively gentle pace. The majority of the program’s activities will take place outdoors on varying terrain. Many of the parks have dirt paths, though they are usually fairly smooth for walking, and some even have paved pathways and boardwalks. Excursions may involve up to one mile of walking (longer optional hikes are available). Our journey requires daily travel by motorcoach, the longest drives being up to 8 hours (including rest stops and opportunities for sightseeing). Participants must be able to climb up and down a flight of stairs to board the motorcoach and be sure-footed on frozen or ice-covered terrain. Those participants going on the post-tour extension should also be comfortable walking in a rocking rail car. We will encounter varying altitudes, with the highest being 7,700 feet above sea level. Participants should be physically fit and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. An additional $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold space for the optional post-trip extension. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?rockies2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. 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 for the main program are 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. The same policy applies to deposits and payments for the extension.

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. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a paid guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford/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 January 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
"Outstanding scenery, outstanding guides, outstanding lectures—truly a North American treasure to see and experience."

NEWTON DUNCAN, ’74, CANADIAN ROCKIES BY RAIL, 2012