The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20220518191908/https://canadiantrainvacations.com/explore/national-parks-train-tours
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NATIONAL PARK TRAIN TOURS

Admire untamed natural beauty from your comfortable seat

Thundering waterfalls. Dramatic limestone cliffs. Rain-soaked old-growth forests. Canada boasts more than 40 national parks and reserves - huge tracts of wilderness that are protected from development and untouched by civilization.

In Banff and Jasper National Parks, the train will stop right in the heart of the park where you can explore at your own pace. You'll also get to travel through other parks (without stopping) such as Yoho National Park, so that you can admire the spectacular scenery from the train window.

Contact us about adding on side-trips to other national parks as part of your Canadian rail vacation. Our friendly Canadian Insiders are local experts and they will help you put together a nature-lover's dream trip.

Planning a train trip to Canada and WANT TO MAKE IT BETTER?


maple leaf icon

Plan your trip with a Canadian Insider

You know that friendly character you met in the local café who told you to visit that well-kept regional secret which turned out to


service icon

Have everything organized for you

By this stage, you're already having dreams about mountains, moose and maple trees. We combine your personal preferences with our insider knowledge to save

be the best part of your holiday? That's us.

you hours of pointless internet trawling.

Icons Handsh

Get help when you need it

We're here to make sure you get the inside scoop before you even leave home. And you can relax on your vacation because you know that we're a phone call away if you have any questions while you're in Canada.

Like more information?

Order our 2022 brochure to discover Canada by train.

Visual of a the cover of a brochure called Canada by Train, with a train and mountains on the front

GET YOUR BROCHURE

Have a question?

We can answer any questions or make suggestions.

Cartoon polar bear speaking on the phone

SCHEDULE A CALL

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Quick facts about National Parks

- The first park in Canada was Banff Hot Springs, discovered by CPR surveyors and made public property in 1885. This began the movement in Canada towards setting land aside as national parks.

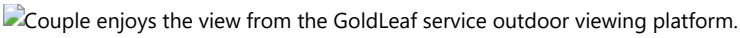
An aerial view of the Jasper Park Lodge in summer, featuring the aqua-blue colours of Lac Beauvert.

A couple enjoys a picnic on the dock over Lake Louise

- There are 39 national parks and 8 national park reserves in Canada, covering a total of approximately 328,198 square kilometres (126,718 square miles).
- When the exploring the Mountain Parks, your entire journey will take place in daylight, which means you won't miss a moment of the spectacular scenery. You'll spend the night in towns or cities along the route.

Train EXPERIENCES

These are some suggested train experiences for your Canadian adventure

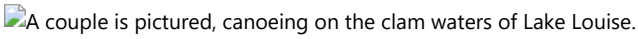

Couple enjoys the view from the GoldLeaf service outdoor viewing platform.

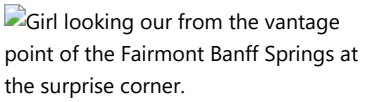
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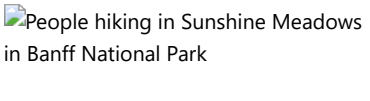
Rocky Mountaineer

Daylight Train

The Rocky Mountaineer connects British Columbia and Alberta, with stops in Jasper, Lake Louise, Banff, Vancouver, Whistler, Quesnel and Kamloops. The train runs from mid-April until mid-October. The Rocky Mountaineer is a daylight only train designed so that passengers can experience the most spectacular views and optimal photo opportunities.


A couple is pictured, canoeing on the clam waters of Lake Louise.


Girl looking our from the vantage point of the Fairmont Banff Springs at the surprise corner.


People hiking in Sunshine Meadows in Banff National Park

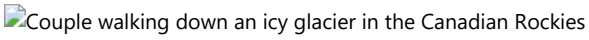

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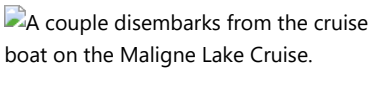
Banff National Park

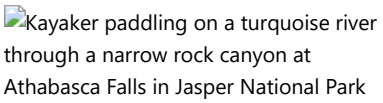
Where mountaintops scrape the sky

It's only fitting to travel to the spectacular mountain vistas of Banff National Park by train, as the railway had such an integral role in this park's development (it was even named by CPR director Lord Steven in 1884, after his birthplace of Banffshire, Scotland).

The train weaves its way into Banff National Park, hugging the steep cliff sides and following the banks of the Bow River. As you travel to the heart of this mountain landscape, with the towering peaks leaning in on all sides around you, you'll get the same sense of awe the early railway pioneers must have felt when they first set eyes on the spectacular Rockies.


Couple walking down an icy glacier in the Canadian Rockies


A couple disembarks from the cruise boat on the Maligne Lake Cruise.


Kayaker paddling on a turquoise river through a narrow rock canyon at Athabasca Falls in Jasper National Park


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Jasper National Park

Where rivers carve through rock

The train enters Jasper National Park via the historic Athabasca and Yellowhead passes, which were first braved two hundred years ago by explorer David Thompson on his journey to reach the Pacific Ocean.

You'll arrive at the heritage Arts and Crafts railway station in Jasper - which is served by VIA Rail's The Canadian Train and The Rocky Mountaineer and is the eastern terminus of The Skeena Train.

As the train passes through alpine meadows, keep your eyes peeled for black bears dining on berries or the majestic silhouette of an elk's antlers. You can even take a driving detour to the Icefields Parkway - a route that carves through a larger-than-life landscape of rocky peaks, expansive valleys and glittering glaciers.

Discover NATIONAL PARKS

These are examples of the National Parks you can visit on a train journey through Canada.


Hikers in the autumn trees in Larch Valley at Sentinel Pass in Banff National Park

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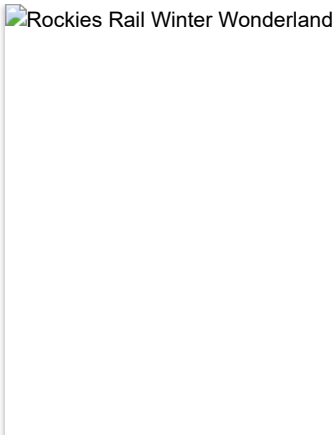
Banff National Park

Alberta

The first national park in Canada, Banff continues to dazzle visitors with its jewel-like lakes, abundant wildlife and craggy mountain peaks.


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RECOMMENDED TRAIN TOURS

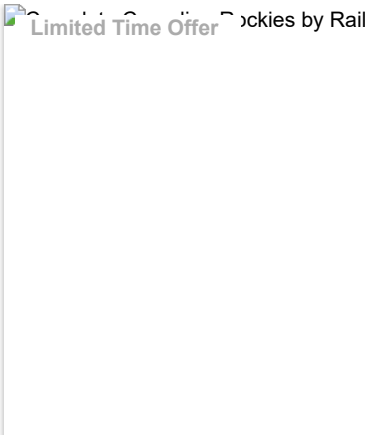


Rockies Rail Winter Wonderland

Vancouver, Jasper, Icefields Parkway, Lake Louise, Banff, Calgary

9 days from **Loading... pp**

VIEW DETAILS

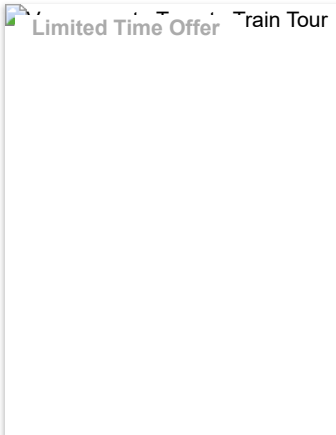


Complete Canadian Rockies by Rail

Vancouver, Kamloops, Jasper, Lake Louise, Banff, Calgary

8 days from **Loading... pp**

VIEW DETAILS



Vancouver to Toronto Train Tour

Vancouver, Kamloops, Banff, Icefields Parkway, Jasper, Toronto

11 days from **Loading... pp**

VIEW DETAILS

Logo for Fresh Tracks Canada

Ready to start planning your Canadian journey?

Here at Fresh Tracks Canada, we have gourmet globetrotters, tranquil train-travellers, bold backpackers, and nature lovers. But what ties us together is that we're all passionate travellers. When we're not helping people plan vacations to Canada, we're getting together to plan our own adventures.











Discuss your dream trip with a local insider

SCHEDULE A CALL

START A LIVE CHAT

SEND US A MESSAGE

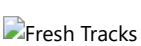
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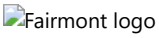
Rocky Mountaineer
Via Rail
Sleeper trains
Luxury train trips
Cruise & train trips

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