



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

W.C. Van Horne, 1886

Royal Pacific Express

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.

Travel through inaccessible, spectacular terrain from Calgary to Vancouver on a luxurious rail excursion specially scheduled to coincide with the 125th anniversary of the first Transcontinental train to arrive at the Pacific on July 4, 1886. Experience the history of Canada first-hand from the comfort of a true Canadian treasure, the Royal Canadian Pacific luxury train. Tread in the footsteps of the first tourists to travel the nation by train as you experience the amazing scenery and unique heritage of the original rail route through the Canadian Rocky Mountains.



Guests joining the Royal Pacific Express 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 before your rail excursion: Fort Calgary, the Glenbow Museum, the Calgary Zoo, Calgary Tower, Canada Olympic Park or take a short drive outside the city and visit Drumheller – the site of the world's largest dinosaur fossil discovery. 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.

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 by railway workers 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 of Cascade, Rundle, Castle, Temple and Victoria as well as incomparable sights such as the emerald green Lake Louise.

Yoho National Park and the Spiral Tunnels

The name "Yoho" comes from a 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 descends through Kicking Horse Pass. This pass was one of 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.



Photo courtesy of: Travel Alberta



Craigellachie and Roger's Pass

In 1881, Major A.B. Rogers was hired by CPR to locate a route through the rugged Selkirk mountains that would facilitate the advancing railroad's passage west to the Pacific. Although now the major route through the Rockies for both rail and car, the terrain continues to be a challenge for avalanche control and road/rail maintenance crews. The geography of the area is stunning with soaring peaks, deep valleys and the possibility of snow year-round. A short distance west of Roger's Pass is one of the most significant locations in Canadian Pacific history. Marked only by a small monument, it was at Craigellachie on November 7, 1885, that the last spike was driven into the track, completing the transcontinental railroad linking east and west coasts.

Thompson Valley and Fraser Canyon

West from the interior city of Kamloops, the train will follow the path of the Thompson River into Fraser Canyon and on to the Pacific. Fraser Canyon was considered a considerable obstacle to the building of the rail requiring many bridges and trestles to make it passable. From the train, you will have a hill-top view of the awesome Hell's Gate – a natural gorge of rock walls that forces the mighty Fraser River through a 110 foot wide throat of granite.

Vancouver

Descending from the mountains onto the fertile flats of the Lower Mainland, your train journey will end at Port Coquitlam. A short motor coach transfer to the center of Vancouver will put you in the center of the action with easy access to shopping, entertainment and city sights. A vibrant cultural community with many sightseeing attractions and easy access to Vancouver Island, Whistler and the northern States, Vancouver is a world-class city that ranked #1 for the Economist's "Most Liveable Cities" in 2009. This important seaport is the western terminus of Canadian Pacific and host to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.



Photos courtesy of: McPhee - Kicking Horse



2011 Royal Pacific Express

Dates: July 1 – 5, 2011

Package Price: \$5,800 CAD per person plus applicable taxes
(no single supplements)

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Tour Map

Overnights – Calgary, Lake Louise, Revelstoke, Kamloops, Vancouver

