

Banff to Lake Louise – Distance: 40 km

Starting your drive in Banff, you'll want to take in all this world-renowned alpine town has to offer, from memorable hotels and restaurants to art galleries, museums and active outdoor pursuits of every kind.

Leaving Banff, you'll drive a 54-kilometre stretch of the Trans-Canada Highway that takes in the mighty Castle Mountain, pristine Vermillion Lakes and a variety of peaks, lakes, waterfalls and glaciers. Still traveling in sub-alpine terrain, you'll arrive at one of the world's most treasured sights: Lake Louise and the historic chateau that shoulders the lake, framed perfectly by mountains, glaciers and forests.



Points of Interest



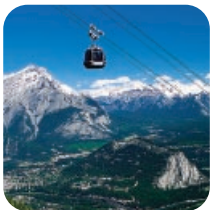
1. Town of Banff

A town rich in history, with world-class art galleries and museums, and an internationally renowned performance art centre. Banff welcomes nearly 4 million visitors a year, with activities ranging from hiking to golf in the summer and from skiing to dog sledding in the winter. Main street buzzes year-round with shops, restaurants and a lively social scene.



2. Fairmont Banff Springs

The legendary "Castle in the Wilderness" and the most visited landmark in Banff. The shining jewel in a chain of luxurious resort hotels on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, the Banff Springs, which opened in 1888, is part French chateau and part Scottish baronial castle. Over the years, its guest list has been filled with royalty, dignitaries and Hollywood celebrities.



3. Banff Gondola

Only 5 minutes from the town of Banff, the gondola rises to an elevation of 2,281 metres (7,486 feet) in just 8 minutes on the shoulder of Sulphur Mountain. At the top, you get a sweeping 360-degree view from the upper gondola terminal, with a summit restaurant providing a rooftop observation area. View decks and a summit ridge interpretive boardwalk give you one of the most unforgettable views in all of Canada, with short hikes to the Cosmic Ray Station National Historic Site, and the famous Sanson's Peak Meteorological Station.



4. Tunnel Mountain Campground

Just 2.4 kilometres (1.5 miles) from downtown Banff, this large campground offers a wide-angle view of the valley and hoodoos. With more than 1,000 sites, Tunnel Mountain includes 188 year-round sites with power as well as 321 full-service seasonal sites for trailers and motorhomes.



5. Vermillion Lakes

One of the oldest known sites of human occupation in Canada (radiocarbon dated to 10,800 years). One of the best and most popular photo opportunities in the Rockies features Mount Rundle reflected in the waters of Vermillion Lakes.



6. Castle Mountain

Named by James Hector in 1858, from his expedition notes that described "a most remarkable mountain, which looks exactly like a giant castle." Castle Mountain stretches along a ridge for nearly 16 kilometres.

Parkway Features

Designed for leisurely sightseeing, the highway parallels the Main Ranges of the Canadian Rockies within Banff and Jasper national parks. Visitors literally ride the backbone of the continent. A stunning panorama of peaks greets travelers around every corner, many over 3,300 metres or 11,000 feet.

Lake Louise to Peyto Lake - Distance: 40 km

Just 2 kilometres beyond Lake Louise, you'll turn off the Trans-Canada Highway and begin your driving ascent up, climbing from sub-alpine forests to alpine meadows.

As you wind upwards along the parkway, you'll pass outstanding viewpoints at Herbert Lake and Hector Lake, the first of seven parkway hostels at Mosquito Creek, and the spectacular toe of ice known as Crowfoot Glacier. Bow Lake, with Num-ti-jah Lodge on its north shore, is another don't-miss stop, along with Bow Summit – the highest point on the parkway. The stage finishes with the awe-inspiring view of Peyto Lake, its robin's egg blue waters reflecting the alpine beauty of the Mistaya Valley.



Points of Interest



1. Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise

One of the most visited and photographed lakes in the world, Lake Louise is home to the world-renowned Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise. First called Emerald Lake, the lake's name was later changed to Lake Louise after Princess Caroline Alberta Louise, daughter of Queen Victoria and wife of Canada's Governor General.



2. Moraine Lake

Known for its unbelievable aquamarine blue water and famed for its portrayal on past Canadian currency, Moraine Lake, which shines like a gem on sunny days, is best viewed from vantage points along the hike that leads from a well-marked parking lot.



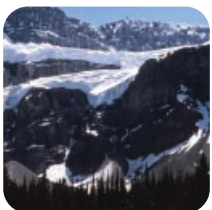
3. Mount Victoria Glacier

Named in 1897 to honor Queen Victoria, this stunning glacier forms the beautiful backdrop of Lake Louise. The glacier, lying on the eastern slopes facing the lake, is known for its summer avalanches, which cascade into the narrow gorge below.



4. Hector Lake

The largest natural lake in Banff National Park, about 30 kilometres north of Lake Louise. Hector Lake is framed by Pulpit Peak and Crowfoot Mountain, both part of the Waputik Range. It gets its beautiful colour from the rock flour suspended in the water.



5. Crowfoot Glacier

Named because in the early 1900s it had three "toes" resembling the foot of a crow. In the 1930s, the lower "toe" broke off and has since melted away. Crowfoot Glacier is on the south end of Bow Lake, nestled into Crowfoot Mountain.

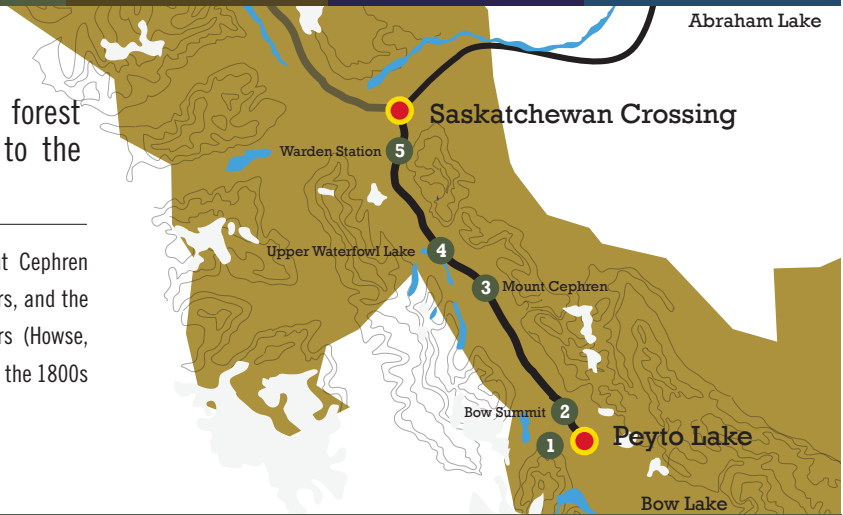
Parkway Features

Glimpse mountain wildlife in their natural setting, including bighorn sheep and mountain goat, black bear, elk and moose. If you're lucky, you might even see a grizzly bear, gray wolf, or the elusive woodland caribou.

Peyto Lake to Saskatchewan Crossing - Distance: 73 km

Dropping down from Bow Summit to the sub-alpine forest along the Mistaya River, you continue descending to the basin of the Saskatchewan River.

Highlights include Snowbird Glacier, Waterfowl Lakes, the massive Mount Cephren (known as "The Black Pyramid"), frequent sightings of moose and black bears, and the historic Saskatchewan Crossing. A meeting place of three important rivers (Howse, Mistaya and Saskatchewan), the crossing is where explorers and fur traders of the 1800s crossed the Rockies into British Columbia.



Points of Interest



1. Peyto Lake

A breathtaking lake and one of the highlights of the Canadian Rockies. The lake was named for an early outfitter, "Wild Bill" Peyto. Located just over the Bow Summit at a high point along the Icefields Parkway, the beautiful lake is set far below in a deep glacial valley. This view is easy to reach along a paved trail. An extension trail, that almost no one seems to take, leads further round the mountain for views of the glacier that feeds the lake.



3. Mount Cephren

Classic horned peak once called the White Pyramid. It was renamed in 1918 by J. Monroe Thorington, after the son of Cheops, builder of one of Egypt's great pyramids. The mountain is one of several in the Rockies that resemble a pyramid.

5. Warden Station

Open on a seasonal basis from May through October, the warden station at Saskatchewan Crossing is an excellent first stop if you are planning hiking adventures in the area. Route information, climbing conditions, weather reports, logbook entries and voluntary check-in and check-out are among the services offered here. Park wardens, who are usually outdoor adventurers themselves, are excellent sources for information and advice.

2. Bow Summit

At 2,088 metres (6,800 feet) above sea level, the highest point on the drive from Banff to Jasper, and the highest elevation crossed by a public road in Canada.



4. Waterfowl Lake

The picturesque end of a steep downward incline into the Mistaya Valley. From the lakeside viewpoint, you can take in the awe-inspiring mountains of the Continental Divide, including Howse Peak and Mount Cephren.

Parkway Features

Stretch your legs on a mountain trail. Follow the short paths to Peyto Lake Viewpoint or the Toe of the Athabasca Glacier. Hardier souls will enjoy the alpine trail up Parker Ridge for a glimpse of the magnificent Saskatchewan Glacier. Enduring memories, worth every step.

Saskatchewan Crossing to Columbia Icefields - Distance: 50 km

The mighty North Saskatchewan River meets with two other rivers, the Howse and the Mistaya, at Saskatchewan River Crossing. The North Saskatchewan is one of Canada's outstanding heritage rivers.

Rising in the Rockies and emptying into Lake Winnipeg, its extensive corridor provided a major east-west link across Canada, facilitating exploration, trade, and settlement for more than 100 years from the time explorers and fur traders first travelled through the area in 1807.



Points of Interest



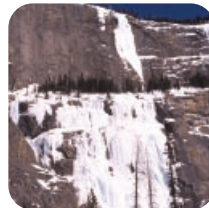
1. Saskatchewan River Crossing

The mighty North Saskatchewan River meets with two other rivers, the Howse and the Mistaya, at Saskatchewan River Crossing. The North Saskatchewan is one of Canada's outstanding heritage rivers. Rising in the Rockies and emptying into Lake Winnipeg, its extensive corridor provided a major east-west link across Canada, facilitating exploration, trade, and settlement for more than 100 years from the time explorers and fur traders first travelled through the area in 1807.



3. Big Bend & Big Hill

Cyclists along the parkway are all-too familiar with the steep climb known simply as Big Hill, and the famous hairpin turn called the Big Bend. Near the entrance to Jasper National Park, these two "big" landmarks are also the jumping-off point for several hiking trails, all offering majestic vistas at the end of steep and often challenging climbs.



2. Weeping Wall

Famous waterfall resembling a mountain crying a river of tears. Located on Cirrus Mountain, the Weeping Wall tumbles more than 100 metres (330 feet) in a series of waterfalls whose main fall is called Teardrop.



4. Parkers Ridge

Almost at the midpoint of the Icefields Parkway, this trail is 5.9 kilometres (3.7 miles) long – a 2-hour hike rising 250 metres (820 feet). It is a popular hike, so the best timing is early or late in the day. Somewhat lackluster at the start, the trail is all about destination. Once you crest the ridge, you're treated to spectacular mountain and valley scenery, dominated by the Saskatchewan Glacier, the largest of the Columbia Icefield's six main glaciers. Glacier and ice-clad peaks surround you – Athabasca, Andromeda, Castleguard just to name a few.

Parkway Features

Stretch your legs on a mountain trail. Follow the short paths to Peyto Lake Viewpoint or the Toe of the Athabasca Glacier. Hardier souls will enjoy the alpine trail up Parker Ridge for a glimpse of the magnificent Saskatchewan Glacier. Enduring memories, worth every step.

Columbia Icefields

Few of the world's travel destinations can compare with the Columbia Icefields, where you can step onto ice formed millennia ago.

For safety reasons, you do not want to venture onto a glacier alone, which is why a variety of tour choices await you at these magnificent icefields. Creep over the snow of the Athabasca Glacier in a Snobus, or arrange a helicopter tour and take in the full vastness and splendor of the many glaciers that make up the Columbia Icefields.



Points of Interest



1. Columbia Icefield Centre

Open from mid-April to mid-October, this is the best place to begin your exploration of the area. Distinguished by its green peaked roof, the centre houses an exhibit hall called the Glacier Gallery, which features a giant glacier model, interactive exhibits and audio visual programs.



2. Athabasca Glacier

The most accessible glacier in North America, it comes within walking distance of the parkway, and visitors can tour the glacier on giant 6-wheeled Ice Explorers carrying 56 people at a time. Although the Athabasca Glacier is retreating at a rate of 5 metres (16 feet) per year, it is still massive at 6 kilometres long and 1 kilometre wide.



3. Columbia Icefield Glacier Experience

For an unforgettable experience, sign up for the 90-minute Ice Age Adventure. Journey back in time aboard a 6-wheeled Ice Explorer, a giant all-terrain vehicle capable of carrying 56 passengers over the icefield. Specially designed for glacier travel, the coaches run from mid-April to mid-October, leaving every 15-30 minutes in the busy summer months. No reservations required.

4. Wilcox Creek Campground

Located just 3 kilometres (2 miles) south of the Icefield Centre, this campground acts as the trailhead to Wilcox Pass. A trail once used by northbound outfitters 100 years ago, it climbs from the campground through a stunted forest to a ridge with panoramic views over the valley, the icefield and surrounding peaks. It's a moderate 90-minute hike with almost unbeatable views of the Columbia Icefield, making the campground a popular stopover. Open June 10 through September 20, there are 46 sites at \$13 per night.

Parkway Features

Touch a glacier. Wander through an alpine meadow. Come upon a mountain lake that's truly robin's egg blue. The parkway offers an A-list of outdoor adventures, from cycle touring and camping under the stars, to the best of Rocky Mountain hiking, climbing and whitewater rafting. Once the snow flies, there's cross-country and backcountry skiing, ice climbing, and for the most intrepid adventurer, winter camping.

Columbia Icefield to Jasper – Distance: 54 km

Mountain goats, bighorn sheep, elk, mountain caribou and other large mammals are among the highlights of this stage, your final leg of a truly unforgettable journey.

Along the way, you'll pass the cascading Tangle Falls, Sunwapta Falls and Athabasca Falls, the towering pinnacle of Mt. Kitchener, the fascinating Kerkeslin Goat Lick, bubbling springs, crystal clear lakes and rivers, and countless more photo-worthy sights. Finally, returning to below the treeline, you'll arrive in Jasper, the tranquil mountain town where more travel adventure awaits.



Points of Interest

1. Beauty Creek Hostel

For centuries, natives and explorers camped alongside the placid waters of Beauty Creek where it flows into the Sunwapta River. Only 17 kilometres north of the Columbia Icefield, the hostel provides access to excellent hiking trails, including one with views of eight waterfalls. This is a rustic hostel (no running water, no flush toilets) but there is purified water for cooking, a propane refrigerator, stoves and lights. As a special treat, the hostel serves guests daily pancake breakfasts with genuine Quebec maple syrup. Open from May 15 to September 30, Beauty Creek is a Hostelling International hostel, so a valid HI membership card is required to stay.



3. Kerkeslin Goat Lick

A viewpoint at kilometer 192 along the Icefields Parkway, the Kerkeslin Goat Lick offers an excellent view across the Athabasca River to Mt. Christie, Mt. Brusses and Mt. Fryatt. The lick itself is an exposed salty mineral deposit, which attracts mountain goats down from their lofty perches for an irresistible treat.



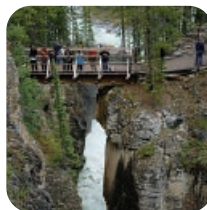
5. Jasper Tramway

The longest and highest guided aerial tramway in Canada. Along the 7-minute ride up, the tram rises more than 3,000 feet and take in views of six mountain ranges, glacier-fed lakes and the Athabasca river. Arriving at the top 2,277 metres (7,500 feet) above sea level, visitors can see ptarmigan, pikas and the occasional bighorn sheep.



2. Maligne Lake

The largest natural lake in the Canadian Rockies. Located in the majestic Maligne Valley, this exquisite lake stretches 22 kilometres (14 miles). A one-and-a-half hour boat cruise will take you past glacier-studded mountains peaks to world-famous Spirit Island. Located 48 kilometres (30 miles) from the Jasper townsite, Maligne Lake is the oldest attraction in Jasper National Park.



4. Athabasca Falls

The Athabasca carries the most water of any Rocky Mountain river, and the 23-metre (75-foot) falls present a spectacle of roaring water, spray, and mist. Although the falls are not very high by Canadian Rockies standards, the size of the river puts them among of the most powerful falls to be found in the mountain national parks.



6. Parks Canada Information Centre

A national historic site, this Jasper community landmark was built in 1913 and is one of the finest examples of rustic design in Canada's national parks. The cobblestone building is a popular meeting place, as well as an important information hub for visitors.



7. Town of Jasper

A quieter mountain town, Jasper is a peaceful residential community where you can choose to enjoy the delights of town or stay in the rustic charm of the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge. With a prestigious place on the Conde Nast Gold List and a golf resort ranked #1 by SCOREGolf, this four-season luxury resort is a treasure from another era.

The Icefields Parkway: – Wildlife Watching in the Canadian Rockies –

The Icefields Parkway offers you a rare opportunity to glimpse mountain wildlife in their natural setting. This is a place where gray wolves and grizzly bear still roam valley to valley, over huge distances. Where black bear and elk feed quietly by the roadside. A place where bighorn sheep and mountain goat may vie for your attention, sometimes from the middle of the parkway. Here, you can still see moose wander down to the Waterfowl Lakes or Rampart Pond for an evening drink, sometimes with a calf in tow. And if you're lucky, you may catch a glimpse of the elusive woodland caribou as they travel from the river flats to the highcountry in search of tree lichens and solitude.

The season you visit will determine what wildlife you're most likely to see, as many animals migrate from the montane valley bottoms to high alpine and back again, in a predictable, yearly round. Keep these tips in mind as you explore the parkway wildlands:

- **Be particularly alert in the early morning and evening**, when many animals are most active and visibility may be reduced.
- **Scan the parkway and slopes for animal movement** or shining eyes at night. And remember, when you see one animal, others are probably close by.
- **Be sure to drive within the speed limit, so you don't miss a sighting.** Always be ready to slow down with little warning. Pull over on the road shoulder only if it's safe to do so.
- **Animals are less likely to run out of view if you stay in your vehicle.** Keep your binoculars and telephoto lens handy – they're the safest way to get a closer look.
- **If you see a bear, consider *not* stopping.** It's safer for the animals, and helps prevent a serious "animal jam" – the Rockies version of a traffic jam caused by motorists all stopping at once to observe wildlife.

Mountain Goat or Bighorn sheep: Who's who?

- Mountain goat and bighorn sheep are often spotted in spring and summer on the high cliffs and meadows near Saskatchewan River Crossing, Sunwapta Canyon, and Mt. Kerkeslin in the Athabasca Valley. Fortunately, both species make regular forays down from their alpine haunts to lick mineral rich soil on either side of the parkway – where visitors often confuse the two.
- Here's what to look for: mountain goats have shaggy, white coats, beards, and short, black horns. Bighorns are sandy brown – not white like a goat – with a creamy coloured rump patch. Bighorn rams, best seen in fall and winter in the valleys, carry massive curled horns they keep for life, growing a new ring each year. Female ewes and their lambs have short, slender horns.

Black Bear or Grizzly: Getting your bears straight...

- Your chances of seeing these magnificent creatures are best in early spring, and again in late summer. Black bears are often seen foraging in the valley bottoms between Hector Lake and Bow Lake, and in the lower Athabasca Valley near the town of Jasper. In spring, be sure to scan Bow Pass, Sunwapta Pass, and avalanche slopes along the route, as these are prime grizzly habitat offering early spring bulbs, fresh greens – and some of the best wildlife watching in Banff and Jasper national parks. Although grizzlies spend their summers in the alpine, they will rejoin black bears in the valley when the buffalo berries ripen in late August.
- It's easy to mistake a black bear for a grizzly, and you can't go by colour since black bears aren't always black – they can be cinnamon or brown as well, often with a white chest patch. Grizzly bears are larger than black bears, with a distinctive hump of muscle above their shoulders, and brown fur with blonde tips giving a grizzled or silver-tipped look. A grizzly's face is slightly concave or dished in profile, whereas a black bear has a straight, tan muzzle.

Woodland Caribou: Grey Ghosts of the Forest

- Jasper is the last fully protected range in the Rocky Mountains for woodland caribou, a long time symbol of Canadian wilderness, now considered to be a species at risk. Your best bet to see the elusive caribou is in winter and early spring, feeding near the Sunwapta River flats between Beauty Creek and Jonas Creek.
- Caribou are smaller than an elk, and have a brown coat with creamy coloured patches on their neck, rump and belly. While both males and females carry antlers, the large, swooping rack of the bull caribou is truly regal and distinctive. If you're not quite sure how to recognize a caribou, have a quick look at the Canadian 25-cent coin. The woodland caribou has been featured on the quarter for more than 65 years.

For more information wildlife:

- JNP and BNP, website links to wildlife

The Icefields Parkway: High Peaks and Ice Age Glaciers

“There it lay, for the time being all ours, those miles of peaks rising above us, one after the other, each more beautiful than the last.”

– Mary Schaffer, early traveler to the Athabasca Valley, 1908

The Icefields Parkway is one of the great scenic wonders of North America, a dramatic landscape of magnificent peaks, ancient glaciers, and lakes of liquid jade. Here, travelers enter a silent, vertical world, home to some of the highest and most striking mountains in the Canadian Rockies. Blessed with a natural beauty that inspires and rejuvenates, the Icefields Parkway is a journey well worth making.

- **Ride the backbone of the continent** – the crest of the Rocky Mountains – where rivers come to a parting of their ways, flowing west to the Pacific, or east to the Atlantic.
- **Designed for leisurely sightseeing, the parkway parallels the main ranges of the Canadian Rockies within Banff and Jasper national parks.** A stunning panorama of peaks greets travelers around every corner, many over 3,300 metres or 11,000 feet.
- **Glimpse Mt. Columbia – the highest summit in Alberta**, the second highest in the Rockies – and **Mt. Forbes**, the tallest tower that lies within Banff National Park. Uplifted over millions of years, the rugged peaks of the parkway hold the Earth’s history within their rocky layers.
- **View the spectacular collection of glacier-clad peaks that encircle the Columbia Icefields**, including **Mt. Athabasca**, **North Twin**, **Mt. Andromeda**, and **Mt. Kitchener**. Be sure to take in the **Stutfield Glacier Viewpoint**, where a leading edge of the icefield spills over a cliff on **Stutfield Peak** in a dramatic pair of icefalls. Each of these bastions is a natural wonder; all are renowned in climbing circles.
- **Explore the Mistaya, Saskatchewan and Athabasca Valleys**, where classic main range mountains stand shoulder to shoulder as far as the eye can see, a palette of purplish slate, shale, and quartzite in pinks and reds. Marvel at the chiseled pyramid of **Mt. Cephren**, looming in all its majesty over Lower Waterfowl Lake. Witness the dramatic synclines of **Cirrus Mountain** and **Mt. Kerkeslin**, and the castle-like towers of **Mt. Hector**, **Bow Peak** and **Mt. Saskatchewan**.

- **Escape to a mountain world studded with massive icefields and over 100 alpine glaciers, from which the parkway takes its name.** Easily viewed from the road, these masses of pale blue ice are living remnants from the last Ice Age – master carvers that continue to chisel the peaks that inspire us today.
- Keep an eye out for the **Waputik Icefield** at the head of Hector Lake, and the **Wapta Icefield** above Bow Lake. What you see from the road is the just the edge of the icefields. Popular with ski mountaineers, these immense blankets of ice extend unseen for many kilometres, into Yoho National Park in British Columbia.
- **Experience the Columbia Icefield**, the largest reservoir of ice and snow in the Rocky Mountains, its meltwater feeding three of the continent's major river systems. At 200 square kilometres, it's about the size of our national capital – the city of Ottawa – and roughly the same area as Washington D.C. Researchers say that at its deepest point this massive sea of moving ice would easily cover the Eiffel Tower, or all 102 – stories of the Empire State Building.

Straddling the Great Divide, and extending into Alberta and British Columbia, the icefield is nourished by 8 metres or 26 feet of snow per year. Winter after winter, more snow piles up than can possibly melt during the short summer season. Over many years, the snow compacts into ice, until it's thick enough to creep downhill under its own weight. It's not an icefield, or a glacier, until it *moves* – albeit slower than a snail's pace.

- **Most of the Columbia Icefield is hidden beyond the mountains, visible only to mountain climbers or those with a birds-eye view.** The core icefield feeds six outlet glaciers that spill out from between the mountains like the arms of an octopus. Of these, three can be seen from the parkway: the **Dome Glacier**, **Stutfield Glacier**, and the **Athabasca**.
- **Discover the Athabasca Glacier up close**, as it comes within walking distance of the parkway. This alone has earned it a reputation as the most accessible, most famous, and most studied glacier in North America. Visitors have the opportunity to venture safely onto the middle of the Athabasca during Brewster's unforgettable **Ice Age Adventure**, a 90 - minute guided journey on all-terrain vehicles specially designed for glacier travel.

For more information...

- [Links to BNP / JNP website pages](#)

**Famous Rockies Resorts Motorcoach
Calgary-Banff-Jasper-lake Louise
7 days/6 nights**

Experience timeless beauty in pristine wilderness. Few hotels in the world can rival the majesty, hospitality and scenery of Fairmont Hotels & Resorts. Their unique blend of opulence and seclusion has been a symbol of Rocky Mountain magnificence for more than a century. Championship golf course, world-class skiing, classic cuisine, and European-style spas make for a truly luxurious vacation.

VACATION FEATURES: 6 nights accommodation between Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge, and Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Brewster Luxury Motorcoach with driver/guide, Lake Minnewanka Tour & Cruise, Mountain Lakes & Waterfalls, Columbia Icefield Glacier Experience, Discover Jasper Excursion, Banff Gondola, Maligne Lake Tour, Banff Whyte Museum Admission, Cave & Basin National Historic Site Admission, Lake Louise to Calgary Transfer, hotel portorage and national park fees.

DAY 1 Banff

A morning departure from Calgary for your guided excursion to Banff includes stops at the Cave and Basin National Historic Site and a ride on Banff Gondola to the summit of Sulphur Mountain.

DAY 2 Banff

This morning, take a cruise on Lake Minnewanka (May 15 - October 3), highlighted by jagged peaks, hoodoo clusters and Devil's Gap. In the afternoon, visit the Whyte Museum.

DAY 3 Jasper

Today, enjoy a full day excursion to the unique alpine townsite of Jasper. En route, view countless glaciers and some of the Rockies' highest peaks. At the Columbia Icefield you will have the opportunity to take an interpretive Ice Explorer tour onto the Athabasca Glacier.

DAY 4 Jasper

A morning excursion of Jasper and area is highlighted by Medicine Lake, Patricia Lake and Maligne Canyon, you will learn about the history and culture of Jasper National Park during this luxury motorcoach excursion. Continue on to Maligne Lake for your stunning 90 minute cruise with an opportunity to photograph the famous Spirit Island*. Return to Jasper where the remainder of your day is at leisure.

DAY 5 Lake Louise

After a free morning, board the Brewster Express coach for Lake Louise via the Icefields Parkway. Arrive at the Chateau Lake Louise in the early evening.

DAY 6 Lake Louise

The morning is free to enjoy Lake Louise's magical setting. Mt. Victoria and the Victoria Glacier provide the perfect backdrop for the stunning green lake. In the afternoon, you will tour to Emerald Lake and Yoho Valley (June 15 - October 4) to view thundering Takakkaw Falls and the Natural Bridge formation over the raging Kickinghorse River.

DAY 7 Calgary

Choose an afternoon or evening transfer to Calgary city centre or the International Airport to conclude your vacation.

This vacation is also available in moderate accommodation.

Mountain Pathways Self-Drive Calgary-Banff-Jasper-Lake Louise 6 days/5 nights

The Rockies are one huge natural high. This is a region so full of beauty and wonder, of spectacular waterfalls and tiny wildflowers, of charming towns and friendly people. There are endless opportunities for recreation, contemplation and discovery. Explore historic sites, relax in steaming mineral pools, ride a horse and walk on a glacier. All that and more in the magnificent Canadian Rockies!

VACATION FEATURES: 5 nights hotel accommodation, mid-size vehicle, Banff Gondola, Banff Upper Hot Springs, Lake Minnewanka cruise, Columbia Icefield Glacier Experience, Jasper Skytram, Brewster Documentation Package and National Park vehicle entrance fee.

DAY 1 Banff

Upon arrival into Calgary, pick up your rental vehicle, then take some time to explore the city before you make the short (2-hour) drive from Calgary to Banff on either the Trans-Canada Highway or the more scenic 1A Highway.

DAY 2 Banff

A full day to explore Banff and area. In town you'll find lots of excitement - shopping, cafes, nightlife, museums. Take a cruise on Lake Minnewanka, take a ride up Sulphur Mountain on the Banff Gondola that will lift you high over Banff for an incredible panoramic view and then take a dip in the hot mineral pools at the newly-renovated Upper Hot Springs.

DAY 3 Jasper

Another great day in the Rockies - Banff to Jasper along the amazing Icefields Parkway. You're sure to be enthralled by the scenery, wildlife, incredible blue lakes and sparkling waterfalls en route. Stop for a self-guided interpretive walk at Peyto Lake. Don't miss the Columbia Icefield Visitor Centre and a ride onto the Athabasca Glacier on board a Brewster Ice Explorer before continuing your journey.

DAY 4 Jasper

Explore Jasper, a charming mountain village close to many terrific scenic highlights. Take a tram ride up Whistlers mountain, take a boat cruise on Maligne Lake*, soak in the pools at Miette Hot Springs, watch the sunset over Pyramid and Patricia lakes.

DAY 5 Lake Louise

Return along the Icefield Parkway from Jasper to Lake Louise. There are plenty of outdoor activities here - rent a canoe, take a lakeside stroll or a longer hike, horseback riding - or simply relax and contemplate the lake's remarkable colour!

DAY 6 Calgary

Return to Calgary to drop off your rental vehicle and complete your Rockies vacation.

**High Country Motorcoach Vacation
Calgary-Banff-Lake Louise-Jasper
5 days/4 nights**

We'll take you to the high country of Alberta's rocky mountains in the luxury of a motorcoach. Getaway to unspoiled lakes, admire majestic towering peaks, and stay in the popular resorts of Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper. The highlight of this vacation is the Icefields Parkway, one of the most spectacular mountain highways in the world. Follow over 100 glaciers and watch for mountain wildlife.

VACATION FEATURES: 4 nights accommodation, Brewster Luxury Motorcoach with driver/guide, Jasper Tramway or Discover Jasper Excursion, Columbia Icefield Glacier Excursion, Discover Banff Excursion, Lake Minnewanka Tour & Cruise, Cave & Basin National Historic Site Admission, Banff Gondola Admission, Lake Louise to Calgary transfer and hotel portorage.

DAY 1 Banff

A morning departure from Calgary for your guided excursion to Banff includes stops at the Cave and Basin National Historic Site and a ride up Banff Gondola.

DAY 2 Banff

Today, take a short tour to Lake Minnewanka for a 90 minute boat cruise. The rest of day is at leisure.

DAY 3 Jasper

Tour the most scenic mountain highway in the world - the Icefields Parkway on your way to Jasper National Park. Included is a ride on Brewster's all-terrain Ice Explorer on the Athabasca Glacier at the Columbia Icefields. (April 15 to October 15). From the Icefield is a short but spectacular drive to Jasper - arriving late afternoon.

DAY 4 Lake Louise

Enjoy a morning at the Jasper Tramway or take an excursion to Maligne Canyon. In the afternoon, retrace your route along the Icefield Parkway to Lake Louise.

DAY 5 Calgary

Choose a morning, afternoon or evening coach transfer to Calgary city centre or the International Airport to complete your High Country Vacation.