

Rocky Mountaineer: Grand Rail Circle

<https://www.irtsociety.com/journey/rocky-mountaineer-grand-rail-circle/>



Overview

The Highlights

- 5 days onboard the Rocky Mountaineer
- 12 nights hotel accommodation
- Superb meals on Rocky Mountaineer: 1 afternoon snack, 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches
- Whistler Sea to Sky climb
- North Vancouver, Banff and Jasper tours
- Ice fields Parkway including Ice Explorer, Banff Gondola, Yoho Park tours
- Station and hotel transfers + complimentary Virtuoso private sedan airport transfer

The Tour

An epic trip of three rail routes fuses the sigh-triggering sights of the Rockies with one fun-filled night in Whistler, Canada's fab resort town. Along the way, take overnights and sightseeing in Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper.

Ride the Banff Gondola, experience the Athabasca Glacier of the Columbia Icefield, one of the largest accumulations of ice and snow south of the Arctic Circle, and enjoy four luxurious and exciting days on the all-daylight *Rocky Mountaineer*. All told, visit seven cities in British Columbia and Alberta.

Society of IRT Added Value: Get a free, one-way private sedan transfer (U.S. dollar value +\$100) to/from Vancouver airport when you book any Rocky Mountaineer trip on our website. Get free private sedan transfers both ways when you book the Grand Rail Circle tour.)

Latest News: View [Track 25](#), our blog, for the latest news on the Rocky Mountaineer and other of our World's Top 25 Trains™.

Itinerary

Day 1: Vancouver

Arrive Vancouver and spend the rest of the day exploring on your own. Overnight

Vancouver.Virtuoso IRT amenity: Complimentary private sedan airport-hotel transfer.

Day 2: Vancouver to Kamloops

Travel onboard Rocky Mountaineer from the coastal city of Vancouver to Kamloops. You will see dramatic changes in scenery, from the lush green fields of the Fraser Valley, through forests and winding river canyons surrounded by the peaks of the Coast and Cascade Mountains, to the desert-like environment of the BC Interior. Highlights include the rushing waters of Hell's Gate in the Fraser Canyon and the steep slopes and rock sheds along the Thompson River. Overnight in Kamloops. (B, L)

Day 3: Kamloops to Banff

Your journey continues east to the mighty Canadian Rockies and the province of Alberta. Travel across ranchlands, along rocky lakeshores, over high mountain passes and through the remarkable tunnels that form part of the rich rail history of the Canadian Rockies. Today's highlights include Craigellachie, where the last spike of the Canadian Pacific Railway was driven, the climb over Rogers Pass, Kicking Horse Canyon, the Spiral Tunnels, and the glaciers and snow-capped peaks of the Canadian Rockies. Your rail journey ends this evening in the resort town of Banff. Overnight in Banff. (B, L)

Day 4: Banff

This morning explore Banff on your own. After lunch, enjoy a half-day sightseeing tour of Banff and Banff National Park including Bow Falls, the Banff Gondola (admission included), Lake Minnewanka, Surprise Corner and the Hoodoos. Overnight in Banff.

Day 5: Banff

Explore Banff National Park on your own. Optional activities include the mineral pools at Upper Hot Springs, a nature walk on nearby mountain trails, historic museums, Lake Minnewanka or golf at The Fairmont Banff Springs. Overnight in Banff.

Day 6: Banff to Lake Louise

A half-day tour takes you into Yoho National Park to view some of its natural wonders, including the Spiral Tunnels, Emerald Lake, and a natural rock bridge that spans the Kicking Horse River. The tour ends in Lake Louise where the remainder of the afternoon is at your leisure. Overnight in Lake Louise.

Day 7: Lake Louise

Enjoy a free day in Lake Louise. Local activities include canoeing, hiking in the mountains, or simply relaxing and taking in the magnificent views. Overnight in Lake Louise.

Day 8: Lake Louise to Jasper

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Banff and Jasper National Parks via the Icefields Parkway. Highlights include Bow Lake, the Columbia Icefield, and Athabasca Falls. At the Columbia Icefield, ride on an Ice Explorer to the middle of the Athabasca Glacier. Arrive in Jasper late this afternoon. Overnight in Jasper.

Day 9: Jasper

Jasper National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Canadian Rockies' largest national park. Enjoy a scenic half-day tour of some of the park's natural attractions and rugged peaks. The remainder of the day is free to explore Jasper on your own. Overnight in Jasper.

Day 10: Jasper to Quesnel

Travel onboard Rocky Mountaineer to Quesnel. Highlights include the Rocky Mountain Trench, Mount Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, Yellowhead Pass, Moose Lake and the Fraser River. Overnight in Quesnel. (B, L)

Day 11: Quesnel to Whistler

Your journey continues south to Whistler. Highlights include sweeping views of the Fraser Canyon, the crossing of Deep Creek Bridge, one of the highest railway bridges in the world, and the shorelines of glacial-fed Seton Lake and Anderson Lake. Overnight in Whistler. (B, L)

Day 12: Whistler to Vancouver

This afternoon return to Vancouver on Rocky Mountaineer. Highlights include the Cheakamus Canyon, Mount Garibaldi, Howe Sound and the Coast Mountains. On arrival, you will be transferred to your accommodation in downtown Vancouver.

Day 13: Vancouver

Your vacation ends with checkout from your Vancouver hotel.

Dates & Prices

More

Tour priced in U.S. dollars. Prices are per person, double occupancy and do not include GST (5%) or fuel surcharge. Prices for singles or triples are available on request.

View an explanation of the [accommodation levels](#).

Check out this video to get a sense of what life is like on board Rocky Mountaineer.