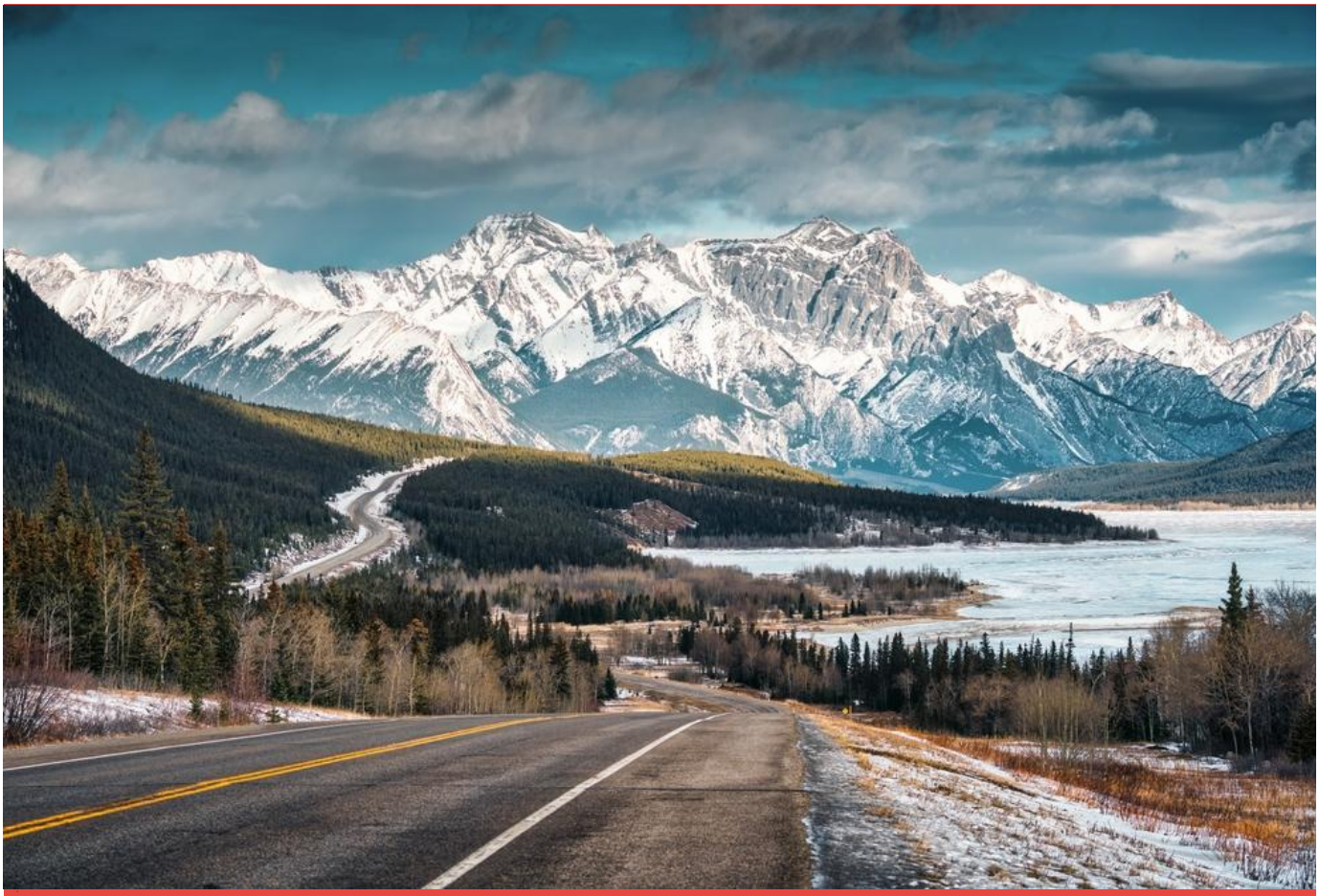


WINTER TREASURES OF THE ROCKIES

Classic Flex Tour | 10 Days | Physical Level 1

Banff (3N) – Jasper (3N) – Calgary (1N)

Discover the magic of the Canadian Rockies in winter! Blanketed in shimmering snow, the grand mountain, lake and valley landscapes of Banff and Jasper National Parks are more magnificent than ever, offering unique opportunities to take part in outdoor pursuits, gaze into dark skies, and experience some of Canada's most beautiful scenery - all in a true winter wonderland.

- Ride in a horse-drawn sleigh in Banff
- Relax in Banff Hot Springs
- Admire the frozen beauty of Lake Louise
- Journey along the Icefields Parkway
- Enjoy lunch at the Fairmont Chateau by Lake Louise
- Stay at the iconic Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge

TOUR MAP - WINTER TREASURES OF THE ROCKIES



WINTER TREASURES OF THE ROCKIES TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Most meals
- Most sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escorts
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

CLASSIC FLEX TOURS:

Classic Flex tours let you see the iconic sites and signature experiences of each destination on an excellent-value, fully escorted group tour, with a little more freedom to do things your own way. Your international flights, accommodation, transportation, touring and most meals are all arranged, so you can travel with complete peace of mind. Where it works best for the destination, personal time is woven into the itinerary, giving you the chance to explore independently, seek out a local restaurant, or simply relax at your own pace. Throughout, your National Escort's unparalleled knowledge will bring each destination to life and turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

Our tours come with a physical rating to guide you in selecting a holiday that suits your comfort level. Joining any of our tours involves independent mobility and the ability to stay active throughout the day, which is essential for fully enjoying the unique landscapes and attractions of Canada.

'Winter Treasures of the Rockies' falls under a Physical Level 1 category. This indicates a level of fitness that allows you to comfortably remain on your feet with occasional rests. Expect to effortlessly navigate boarding and disembarking from various modes of transport, including coaches, trains, and boats. You'll be walking around remarkable sites and ascending steps to capture those awe-inspiring views!

Please consider:

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods in Banff & Jasper.
- Some excursions involve walking on uneven or unpaved surfaces, particularly at Sulphur Mountain, Lake Louise, and Pleckaitis Canyon.
- You will need to get on and off coaches independently, sometimes using steps.
- Some days involve longer coach journeys between destinations, with stops along the way to visit sights and attractions.

Our National Escort is dedicated to providing a high level of service and support throughout your journey. However, their primary role is to manage the daily aspects of the tour and they are unable to offer extensive personal physical assistance. We kindly ask our travelers to be prepared for the physical aspects of the tour to ensure a comfortable and enjoyable experience for everyone.

JOINING YOUR TOUR:

The tour is 10 days in duration including international flights.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour, or when booking pre and post night accommodation with Wendy Wu Tours.

Join the tour on Day 1 in Calgary and end the tour on Day 8 in Calgary. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

It's our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we'll make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Fly to Calgary Meals: D



On arrival in Calgary International Airport, you will be met in the arrival hall by your National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours, or a representative. Together with all other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will be transferred across Alberta to Banff.

An informal Welcome Dinner will be held tonight.

Early check-in is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our reservations team to book.

Destination Information

Calgary – Set against the foothills of the Canadian Rockies, Calgary is Alberta's largest city and a major centre for the energy and agricultural industries. Founded in 1875, it grew from a North West Mounted Police post into a modern city of more than 1.6 million people. Calgary hosted the 1988 Winter Olympics and is known for its annual Calgary Stampede, while the Bow River and surrounding prairies provide a scenic setting.

Day 2: Explore Banff Meals: B, L, D



Take an orientation tour of Banff, with time to admire the town's setting in the heart of dramatic mountain peaks and glacial valleys, all blanketed in snow. Later, set out deeper into Banff National Park in a horse-drawn sleigh, gliding through the Bow River Valley and taking in the winter wonderland scenery as you go.

Destination Information

Banff – Set within Banff National Park, Canada's oldest national park, Banff is surrounded by the peaks of the Canadian Rockies. The town sits in the Bow Valley and is known for its mountain scenery, alpine lakes and access to a wide range of outdoor activities.

Bow River Valley – Stretching through the Canadian Rockies and into Alberta's foothills, the Bow River Valley follows a route shaped by glaciers and flowing water. The valley passes through Banff and Canmore before reaching Calgary, with the river winding past forested slopes, mountain peaks and open grasslands.

Day 3: Banff Gondola Meals: B

This morning, enjoy Flex time to discover the town at your own pace. This afternoon, soar up to the summit of Sulphur Mountain on the Banff Gondola for magnificent 360-degree views before warming up with a scenic soak in the mineral-rich waters of Banff Hot Springs, admiring the jagged peaks of Mount Rundle and Cascade Mountain.



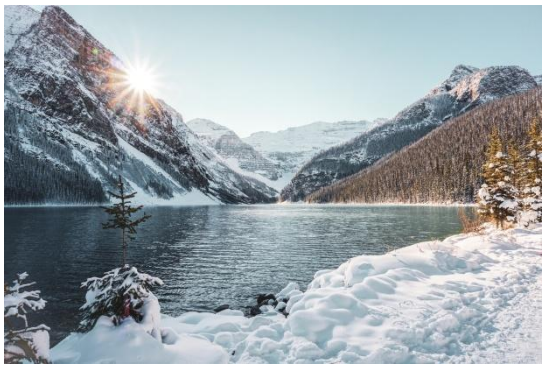
Destination Information

Banff Gondola – Ride the gondola to the summit of Sulphur Mountain, rising to 2,281 metres above sea level. From the upper station, a boardwalk leads along the ridge to panoramic viewpoints overlooking Banff, the Bow Valley and surrounding Rocky Mountain peaks.

Banff Hot Springs - Located on the slopes of Sulphur Mountain in Banff National Park, these natural mineral hot springs have attracted visitors since the late 19th century. The outdoor pool is fed by geothermally heated water rising from deep underground, with temperatures varying seasonally and views across the surrounding Rocky Mountains.

Day 4: Lake Louise & Icelands Parkway Meals: B, L, D

Travel deeper into the Canadian Rockies to the celebrated Lake Louise, approximately 1 hour from Banff. Enjoy lunch at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, overlooking the lake before following the Icefields Parkway towards Jasper, a journey of around 3 hours 30 minutes, passing mountain valleys, glaciers and forested slopes along the way. On arrival, check into the Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge before taking an orientation tour of the town. Later, take part in an immersive Indigenous cultural experience with a fireside chat hosted by Warrior Women, learning about Indigenous traditions and perspectives.



Destination Information

Lake Louise – Set at an elevation of 1,600 metres in Banff National Park, Lake Louise is renowned for its turquoise water, coloured by fine rock flour carried down from Victoria Glacier. The lake is framed by forested slopes and towering Rocky Mountain peaks, with the historic Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise standing on its eastern shore.

Icefields Parkway – Stretching 232 kilometres between Lake Louise and Jasper, this mountain highway crosses the heart of the Canadian Rockies, passing turquoise lakes, towering peaks and ancient glaciers. Highlights include the Columbia Icefield, Athabasca Falls and Peyto Lake, whose distinctive shape and vivid blue water can be viewed from a lookout above the valley.

Day 5: Jasper National Park Meals: B



Enjoy a relaxing morning at the hotel before venturing out to explore Pleckaitis Canyon. Make your way between towering rock walls and into a serene, otherworldly setting, winding through this striking canyon and learning about its history and geology as you go. Continue on to the town of Jasper where you will stay for the next three nights. This evening, visit the Jasper Planetarium for an adventure through the stars featuring indoor dome shows and outdoor telescopes.

Destination Information

Jasper - Established as a railway settlement in 1911, Jasper grew around the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway and later became an important stop on Canada's transcontinental rail network. The town takes its name from Jasper Hawes, who operated a fur-trading post in the area in the early 19th century, and became a gateway to Jasper National Park when it was established in 1907.

Pleckaitis Canyon – Hidden in Jasper National Park's Maligne Valley, Pleckaitis Canyon is a narrow gorge with towering rock walls, winding passages and frozen waterfalls in winter. Guided ice walks lead visitors along the canyon floor, where they can discover its geological features and learn about the surrounding landscape.

Jasper Planetarium – Located at Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge, the Jasper Planetarium offers a guided introduction to the night sky above Jasper National Park, one of the world's largest dark sky preserves. Explore the constellations and learn about the Northern Lights in a domed theatre, with combined experiences offering outdoor telescope viewing of planets, stars and distant galaxies.

Day 6: Jasper Foodie tour Meals: B, D



Today has been left free for independent exploration of Jasper and the surrounding winter landscapes, with the freedom to choose how you spend your time at Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge.

From your hotel, you may wish to:

- Make use of the Winter Activity Centre's complimentary equipment to snowshoe along woodland trails and explore the grounds on foot.
- Head out onto Mildred Lake to enjoy ice skating, or try cross-country skiing and tobogganing.
- Enjoy a more relaxing day at the lodge, making use of its heated outdoor pool, hot tubs and fitness centre.

Your National Escort is available to help you plan your explorations and is always happy to point you towards activities that capture your interests, whether that's an outdoor adventure or a more relaxing day at the lodge.

Enjoy a Downtown Jasper Foodie tour tonight for dinner.

Day 7: Return to Calgary Meals: B, L, D

Leave the Rocky Mountains behind as you return to Calgary, stopping en route for lunch. After an orientation tour to get acquainted with the city, spend the afternoon exploring at leisure. Perhaps ascend the Calgary Tower for sweeping panoramas, stroll along historic Stephen Avenue or relax in the tranquil surroundings of Prince's Island Park. This evening, come together for a farewell dinner.



Days 8 - 10: Depart Calgary Meals: B

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to Calgary International Airport, according to the departure time of your international flight.

Arrive back in Australia 2 days later due to crossing the International Date Line.

Late check-out is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.

VISAS:

Australian passport holders will need to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorisation, known as an ETA, before travel. *Wendy Wu Tours are unable to apply for an ETA on your behalf, therefore you will need to arrange and pay for this directly*. Your passport must be valid for the length of your planned stay in Canada. Canadian border officials may also ask to see proof of onward or return travel and evidence that you have sufficient funds for your stay.

Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back into Australia.

Please note, the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate, Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa. Wendy Wu Tours does not accept responsibility for lost or undelivered items.

All information with regards to visas will be updated regularly on our website as we find visa processes are changing on regular basis. For the latest information on visa procedures, processing times and requirements, please kindly refer to our website https://www.wendywutours.com.au/help-and-advice/passports-and-visas/

GROUP SIZE:

Most of our groups consist of 16 travellers or more and will be accompanied by both a National Escort and local guides. On Classic Flex Tours, will be no more than 28 travellers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu our groups while you are travelling.

EATING IN CANADA:

Canadian cuisine reflects the country's varied landscapes and cultural influences, from fresh seafood on the Atlantic coast to salmon and Pacific seafood in British Columbia. Across the country, you may also encounter regional favourites such as poutine, maple syrup, smoked meats and locally produced cheeses, while dishes often draw influence from French, British and Indigenous traditions.

Breakfasts are generally served buffet-style at hotels, with a choice of cooked and continental options. Lunches may be served at restaurants, cafés or as packed lunches when travelling through more remote areas or on longer touring days. Evening meals are typically served in local restaurants or hotels, with menus offering a mixture of Canadian and international dishes.

Canada is well equipped for a wide range of dietary requirements, although choices can become more limited when travelling through remote areas. If you have specific dietary needs, please let us know when booking so these can be communicated to our local partners in advance.

ACCOMMODATION:

Your accommodation in Canada is carefully selected for its location, comfort and character, with a mixture of well-established hotels, locally owned properties and larger city hotels possibly used throughout your journey.

Accommodation will generally be of a good three- to four-star standard, with some five-star hotels included too. Standards are comparable with those you would expect in Australia, although individual properties may vary in style, facilities and size.

All group tour hotels have private Western-style bathroom facilities, air conditioning or heating, a TV and Wi-Fi. In some smaller towns or more remote areas, hotel facilities may be simpler than those found in the major cities, but all properties are selected to provide a comfortable base from which to explore the destination.

If you experience any difficulty during your stay, please speak to your National Escort or Local Guide. All hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly reviewed by our staff and local partners to ensure they meet our standards.

TRANSPORT:

Coaches: Air-conditioned coaches are used for sightseeing, excursions and longer journeys throughout Canada. Coaches generally have comfortable reclining seats and an onboard toilet, although facilities vary between vehicles. Canada is a vast country and some journeys involve several hours of driving, particularly when travelling between provinces and cities. Journey times are approximate and may be affected by traffic, road conditions, weather and scheduled stops.

TIPPING POLICY:

Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and Canada is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time.
In order to avoid any inconvenience, Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your National Escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed to local guides and drivers throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the National Escort.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy but we do recognise that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

INSURANCE:

It is a condition of your booking that you are insured for the duration of your trip. We recommend comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, medical requirements, luggage, repatriations and additional expenses. At a minimum, the policy is required to cover medical requirements including medical evacuations / repatriations. The choice of insurer is yours.

We strongly suggest you purchase insurance at the time you pay your deposit. This is because cancellation fees and charges are payable from that time. We may request you to provide evidence that you have taken out and paid for a policy to comply with this condition. If you fail to provide a certificate of currency of insurance within a reasonable time after our request, then this will be deemed a cancellation by you and standard cancellation fees will apply.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

Wendy Wu does not give specific health advice. We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive an email with your confirmation invoice, along with a link to our website where you can find your visa information (if applicable) and other important information. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

Updated November 2026