

# COAST TO COAST BY TRAIN

May 27, 2018 - 15 Days



## a world to experience



### Fares Per Person:

**\$7395** double/twin

**\$8265** single

**\$7155** triple

> Please add 5% GST.

> **Early Bookers:** \$300 discount on first 12 seats; \$150 on next 8

> **Experience Points:** Earn 166 points from this tour.

Redeem **166 points** if you book by **March 7**.



### Includes

- Coach transportation to Vancouver
- Coach transportation for 9 days in Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax
- 9 nights hotel accommodation & taxes
- 5 nights bedroom accommodation on VIA Rail
- VIA Rail's *The Canadian* from Vancouver to Toronto with disembark in Winnipeg, Sleeper Plus Class
- Locally-guided tour of Winnipeg
- Manitoba Museum
- Mennonite Heritage Village
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- The Forks
- Cultural evening of Folklorama
- Locally-guided tour of Toronto
- Theatre production in Toronto (show TBA)
- Hornblower cruise to bottom of Niagara Falls
- Locally-guided tour of Niagara Falls
- Skylon Tower & dinner in revolving restaurant
- Business Class VIA train from Toronto to Montréal with lounge access in Toronto
- Locally-guided tour of Montreal
- St. Lawrence River cruise at Montreal
- Le Festin du Gouverneur dinner theatre
- Montréal's Biodome and Botanical Gardens
- VIA Rail's *The Ocean* from Montréal to Halifax, Sleeper Plus Class
- Locally-guided tour of Halifax
- Halifax Citadel National Historic Site
- Maritime Museum of the Atlantic
- Alexander Keith's Brewery Tour
- Grafton Street Dinner Theatre
- Peggy's Cove
- Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic
- Westjet flight from Halifax to Kelowna
- Current air transport tax & security fees
- Airline fee for one suitcase
- Transfer from Kelowna Airport to pickup point
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels and trains
- **27 meals:** 9 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 9 dinners

Kamloops > 250-374-0831

Kelowna > 250-762-3435

[www.wellsgraytours.com](http://www.wellsgraytours.com)

Penticton > 250-493-1255

Vernon > 250-545-9197

**Toll Free > 800-667-9552**



## Experience history as you cross Canada by rail!

The railway in Canada is an integral and essential foundation for the country. When the last spike was driven in the cross-country rail line on November 7, 1885 at Craigellachie, something truly magnificent had been accomplished: Canada had been united. The railway was written into the agreement of Confederation on that historic day when the Dominion of Canada was formed in 1867. The railway was a condition of entry into Confederation by British Columbia and it was the common thread that linked the vast spaces and diverse cultures of the grand new nation. Experience Canada's national railway on this epic journey from Vancouver on the Pacific coast to Halifax on the Atlantic coast. From the towering giants of the Rocky Mountains to the sea of grass in the vast prairies; from the unique mix of cultures in Winnipeg and Montréal to the Scottish influence in the Maritimes; from the awesome view at the CN Tower to the spectacle of Niagara Falls — all aboard for the adventure of a lifetime!

## Train & Tour Notes

**VANCOUVER TO TORONTO** – Space is booked in Sleeper Plus Class on *The Canadian* with all meals included. Sleeping accommodation is in private bedrooms, either double with upper and lower berths or single with lower berth only. Amenities include couch-style seats that convert to beds at night, electrical outlet, toilet, sink, and mirror. Shower facilities are located nearby. Exclusive access to the dome car with its excellent views and Bullet Lounge is included. You also have access to the dining car and the Skyline Car which has books, games, lectures on local topics, and refreshments.

**TORONTO TO MONTRÉAL** – Enjoy the luxury of Business Class on this 5½ hour fast train with large comfortable seats, wi-fi, and a three-course gourmet lunch with wine. Travel at speeds up to 160 kph.


**MONTRÉAL TO HALIFAX** — Space is booked in Sleeper Plus Class on *The Ocean* with dinner, breakfast and lunch included. Sleeping accommodation is in private cabins, either double with upper and lower berths or single with lower berth only. Amenities include toilet, handbasin, and couch(es) that convert into bed(s). Exclusive access to the dome car is included.

**TIMING** – Rail travel is subject to unexpected delays, and Wells Gray Tours cannot be held responsible for missed attractions due to a late train. Listed times are from VIA Rail's published schedule.

**LUGGAGE** – While on the train, your suitcase is stored in the baggage car. You may bring your suitcase to your private room for overnight stays, but it is highly recommended that you bring a more compact bag with just your needs for those few days while on board.

**GRATUITIES** – The customary gratuities for train attendants are not included in your tour fare due to the challenges of distribution on board. Please budget \$10 per person per day. Gratuities are covered for all included meals off the train, local guides and drivers. Gratuities to the Wells Gray tour director and BC coach driver are not included and are left to your discretion.

**EARLY BOOKING** is recommended as this tour is limited to 40 travellers and it goes full every year.

 **ACTIVITY LEVEL** — Moderate activity including walking medium distances over uneven surfaces and steps. On the train, you may have to walk through up to 5 train cars to access the dining car. If booking a single bedroom, be aware that at night you may need to go down the hall to a toilet. Double bedrooms have upper and lower berths, so one person must be able to get into the upper berth. Steps on and off the train may be awkward for those with mobility challenges. There can be longer walks in Halifax and Toronto airports while flying home; request a cart or wheelchair in advance if this could be an issue for you. If you are not able to participate in Activity Level 2, Wells Gray Tours recommends that you bring a companion to assist you. The tour director and drivers have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

## Itinerary

### Sunday, May 27:

Meals: L,D

Departures are from Kamloops, Salmon Arm and the Okanagan Valley, and we travel by coach to Vancouver. At 8:30 pm, we begin our epic journey aboard VIA Rail's *The Canadian*, touring Canada's most breathtaking expanses across five provinces. Relax in the luxury and comfort of Sleeper Plus Class with superbly refurbished Art-Deco rail cars from the 1950s. From your armchair or the

dome car, admire the views as we travel through the fertile Fraser Valley and the magnificent Coast Mountains. Wander over to the Skyline Car and meet some fellow travellers. After boarding, your steward converts your private sitting area from armchairs to bunks for your sleeping pleasure. During the night, we travel through the Fraser Canyon and Thompson Canyon to reach Kamloops about 6 am Monday.

**Monday, May 28:***Meals: B,L,D*

All meals are included in the elegant dining car with freshly-prepared dishes served on china with silverware and linen. We follow the North Thompson Valley and turn east at Tete Jaune Cache, passing soaring **Mount Robson**, highest in the Canadian Rockies. Savour afternoon tea as we cross Yellowhead Pass and enter **Jasper National Park**. After a stop in Jasper, enjoy a sumptuous dinner while following the Athabasca River into the foothills. We stop in Edmonton at midnight.

**Tuesday, May 29:***Meals: B,L,D*

At dawn, the train is travelling in **Saskatchewan** with the sight of the wheat swaying in the wind on the broad prairie. We stop briefly in Saskatoon, then enter Manitoba in early afternoon. We arrive in Winnipeg at 8:45 pm and say a temporary farewell to our train. **Winnipeg** is one of the most culturally diverse cities in Canada where you can hear some 100 languages as you tour the city. The next two nights are at the Delta Hotel which has an excellent downtown location.

**Wednesday, May 30:***Meals: B,L*

This morning's tour of Manitoba's capital includes St. Boniface and its cathedral, the Legislative Building, Leo Mol Sculpture Garden, and the fine homes along Wellington Crescent. Lunch is in the French Quarter of St. Boniface overlooking the Red River. This afternoon, we visit the **Manitoba Museum** to discover the fascinating landscape and history of Manitoba.

**Thursday, May 31:***Meals: L,D*

We drive to Steinbach to visit an authentic **Mennonite Heritage Village** which has 20 preserved buildings and brings to life the Mennonite way of life from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the present. A lunch of traditional Russian cuisine is served in the livery barn. Next is the **Canadian Museum for Human Rights**, an imposing spectacle of architecture. Opened in 2014, it is Canada's first new national museum since 1967 and cost \$300 million to build. There is free time at **The Forks** where the Assiniboine River meets the Red River. The Forks Market consists of dozens of charming shops with unique wares. This evening, we attend a cultural presentation by **Winnipeg Folklorama** including dinner and entertainment. Afterwards, we re-board **The Canadian** and the train leaves Winnipeg at 10:30 pm.

**Friday, June 1:***Meals: B,L,D*

Enjoy another full day on the train crossing northern Ontario. Admire the rugged Canadian Shield, the immense forests, and many sparkling lakes.

**Saturday, June 2:***Meals: B*

In early morning, the train is east of Georgian Bay and headed into the urban sprawl of Toronto. After arrival about 10 am, we take a city tour of **Toronto** with a local guide. We pass landmarks such as the CN Tower, Skydome, Eaton Centre, Queen's Park, City Hall, Yonge Street, and the Lake Ontario waterfront. Our accommodation for two nights is at the renowned Fairmont Royal York Hotel which opened in 1929. Tonight, we attend a live theatre performance (show will be announced in early 2018).

**Sunday, June 3:***Meals: L,D*

We spend the day at **Niagara Falls**, one of the world's mightiest cataracts, measured by its great width of nearly 1 km, its water volume of about 3 million litres per second, and its height of 50 metres. First we cruise to the bottom of the falls with Hornblower (replaced Maid of the Mist) for an awesome view of the Horseshoe and American Falls from the river. Lunch is included at Table Rock, then a sightseeing tour of the Niagara area is conducted by a local guide and visits several impressive viewpoints. One of the landmarks of Niagara is the **Skylon Tower** which soars 160 metres above the falls, and dinner is included in the revolving restaurant with a terrific view. We return to Toronto in the evening.

**Monday, June 4:***Meals: L*

We relax in the exclusive Panorama Lounge while waiting for our train departure. We are whisked from **Toronto to Montréal** at up to 160 kph while enjoying the luxury of Business Class with large seats, a delicious three-course lunch with wine, and many amenities. Arrival is at 5 pm, and we stay two nights at the Delta Hotel.

**Tuesday, June 5:***Meals: D*

The city of **Montréal** awaits! Explore this vibrant centre of French Canadian traditions with a locally guided tour that includes Mount Royal, Ile Sainte-Hélène, downtown landmarks, and Olympic Park. The tour ends in **Old Montréal**, where there is free time for lunch and maybe a visit to the imposing Notre Dame Basilica. This afternoon, we see Montréal's landmarks from a different vantage point during a cruise on the St. Lawrence River. Tonight, we enjoy revelry and entertainment at **Le Festin du Gouverneur** dinner theatre.

**Wednesday, June 6:***Meals: D*

The morning is free time for you to explore Montréal on your own. During the afternoon, we visit the **Montréal Biodome**, an oasis in the city that recreates some unique ecosystems in North Amer-

ica. Adjacent is the **Botanical Garden** which has 30 theme gardens, 10 exhibition greenhouses and 22,000 species. Both are located in Olympic Park and the huge 1976 Olympic Stadium and Tower dominates the site. At 7 pm, **The Ocean**, the last of our VIA Rail trains, pulls out of Montréal headed to Halifax. When Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia joined in Confederation to form the Dominion of Canada in 1867, a railway to connect Halifax with the St. Lawrence River was promised. During the night, the train follows the south shore of the St. Lawrence and crosses the neck of the Gaspé Peninsula. Our Sleeper Plus Class of service includes exclusive access to the dome car.

**Thursday, June 7:** *Meals: B,L*

In the morning, we travel along Chaleur Bay, then through New Brunswick to **Moncton**. In the afternoon, the train skirts the Bay of Fundy to Truro, and arrives in Halifax about 6 pm. Having crossed our great nation by rail, we celebrate the sight of the **Atlantic Ocean**. We stay three nights at Cambridge Suites Hotel in the centre of Halifax.

**Friday, June 8:** *Meals: B,D*

The day starts with a locally-guided tour of historic **Halifax** including the waterfront, St. Paul's Church, the universities, shopping and residential areas. **Halifax Citadel National Historic Site** is included, a fortress perched on the hill overlooking the city. Nova Scotia's naval heritage comes alive during a visit to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, and we celebrate a maritime tradition during the fun and flavourful Alexander Keith's Brewery Tour. Tonight, get set for musical comedy, fun and frivolity at **Grafton Street Dinner Theatre**.

**Saturday, June 9:** *Meals: B*

We head to **Peggy's Cove**, one of the most picturesque fishing villages along the Eastern seaboard. There is time to stroll the waterfront and take pictures of its famous lighthouse before continuing along the delightful coastal drive to **Lunenburg**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic highlights the ship building industry and the fisheries of Nova Scotia.

**Sunday, June 10:** *Meals: B*

We fly on Westjet from Halifax via Toronto to Kelowna. Transfers are provided to home cities.

## Tour Policies

**Payments:** A deposit of \$800 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due March 7, 2018.

**Cancellation Policy:** Up to January 31, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From February 1 to March 7, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From March 8 to April 3, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. From April 4 to April 20, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After April 20, there is no refund.

**Fare Changes:** Changes to taxes and surcharges from trains, airline and other tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

**Travel Insurance:** A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

**Photo Credit:** VIA Rail (at Mount Robson)

**E-points:** This tour earns 166 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until March 7.

**Consumer Protection BC Licences:** Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924