

SURPRISING SASKATCHEWAN

Featuring Regina, Moose Jaw, Manitou Springs & Saskatoon
June 3, 2019 - 7 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person:

\$2395 double/twin

\$2795 single

\$2295 triple



> Please add 5% GST.

> **Early Bookers:** \$100 discount on first 15 seats; \$50 on next 10

> **Experience Points:** Earn 54 points from this tour.

Redeem **54 points** if you book by **March 1**.

Includes

- Coach transportation for 7 days
- 6 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Transfers to/from Victoria Airport
- Flight from Victoria to Regina on Westjet
- Royal Saskatchewan Museum
- Locally-guided tour of Regina
- RCMP Heritage Centre with trolley tour, chapel visit, and Sergeant Major's Parade
- Government House and Gardens
- Ticket to *Beauty & the Beast* at Globe Theatre
- Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw
- Tunnels of Moose Jaw
- Guided walking tour of Moose Jaw murals
- Temple Gardens Hot Springs
- Danceland
- Manitou Springs hot pools
- Western Development Museum in Saskatoon
- Locally-guided tour of Saskatoon
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park with dancing demo
- Remai Modern Art Gallery with guide
- Dinner cruise on South Saskatchewan River
- Solar Gardens
- Flight from Saskatoon to Victoria on Westjet
- Gratuities for local guides
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **13 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners

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A Surprising Prairie Province

Saskatchewan is sometimes viewed as a prairie province with few attractions if you don't enjoy wide open spaces and big skies. The reality is far different as 30 travellers discovered on our Mystery Tour in June 2015. By the end of that tour, many people declared that they had no idea there was so much to see in Saskatchewan, even people who had lived and worked there and retired to British Columbia. In short, it was a "surprising" province. That itinerary has been duplicated for this tour, four years later.

This tour features three cities and one village, and you will enjoy a variety of unique experiences, not found elsewhere in Canada. Tour the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina where police officers are rigorously trained and watch the Sergeant Major's Parade. Visit two provincial museums, one dedicated to prairie transportation and the other which re-creates a 1910 Saskatchewan boomtown with streets and shops, all indoors. Go underground in the Tunnels of Moose Jaw where rum running and gambling were rampant 100 years ago. Soak in the therapeutic mineralized waters of Temple Gardens and Manitou Springs. Stay at the historic Bessborough Hotel, built by the CNR in grand chateau fashion in 1928. Learn about First Nations history at Wanuskewin Heritage Park and watch traditional dancing. Admire incredible pieces of art at the newly opened Remai Modern gallery. Cruise the South Saskatchewan River on a paddlewheeler. Speak to a succulent plants expert at his Solar Gardens greenhouse.

So much and more to see and experience during this fascinating tour of Regina, Moose Jaw, Manitou Beach, and Saskatoon. You will never think of "Surprising Saskatchewan" the same way again.

Itinerary

Monday, June 3:

Meals: D

A transfer is provided from Greater Victoria points to Victoria airport. We fly on Westjet to **Regina**, and our coach and driver meet us at the airport. First, we go to the **Royal Saskatchewan Museum** which exhibits detailed dioramas of the province's landscapes with typical animals and plants. We stay two nights at the Delta Regina Hotel. A welcome dinner is at one of the city's top restaurants.

Tuesday, June 4:

Meals: B,L

A local guide takes us for a short drive around Regina featuring the Legislative Buildings and Wascona Park. Next we go to the **RCMP Heritage Centre** where new police officers are trained. An orientation movie, a tour by trolley around the training facilities, a visit to the Chapel, and a viewing of the Sergeant Major's Parade are all included. Afterwards, we tour **Government House** which was built in 1891 as the residence of the Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest Territories, and we take a stroll through the colourful adjoining gardens. Tonight, we go to the Globe Theatre to see the classic musical, **Beauty and the Beast**. If you have seen this show before, you can opt out with a \$55 reduction and have a free evening.

Wednesday, June 5:

Meals: B,L

Leaving Regina, it is only an hour's drive west to **Moose Jaw**. We go first to the Western Development Museum, one of four in Saskatchewan. This one focuses on transportation with an amazing collection of cars, trains, boats, and airplanes. Next we take a tour through the **Tunnels of Moose Jaw**, built in 1908 to connect downtown buildings. They were used for rum running, prostitution, and gambling to avoid interference by the corrupt police chief. Moose Jaw is also known for its murals and a local guide shows us some of the most unique. We stay overnight at Temple Gardens Hotel. Relax in the soothing **hot springs pools** fed by geothermal mineral water.

Thursday, June 6:

Meals: L,D

We drive north to **Manitou Beach**, a resort community on the shore of Little Manitou Lake. The highly mineralized waters have a salinity about 10 times that of regular lake water, making it easy for you to float. Slip on your dancing shoes (or enjoy watching others) because this afternoon we go to **Danceland** which opened in 1928 and boasts a 5,000 square foot dance floor built on horse hair. We stay overnight at **Manitou Springs Resort**. Enjoy the indoor hot pools filled with therapeutic mineralized water pumped from the nearby lake.

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

It is a short drive into Saskatoon where we visit another **Western Development Museum**. This one is themed around Saskatchewan a century ago and features a remarkable re-creation of a 1910 city street with exhibits inside each of the buildings, all under one roof. A local guide meets us this afternoon to show us around **Saskatoon** including its beautiful parks, the South Saskatchewan River, and the University of Saskatchewan. We stay two nights at the Delta Bessborough Hotel which was built by the Canadian National Railway in 1928 and is a historic waterfront landmark for Saskatoon.

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

First, we go to **Wanuskewin Heritage Park** which showcases 6,000 years of aboriginal history including 19 archeological sites and a buffalo jump. A demonstration of traditional First Nations dances is

featured. The afternoon is devoted to the **Remai Modern**, a spectacular art gallery which opened in late 2017. Local philanthropist Ellen Remai donated \$30 million towards construction and also donated her \$20 million collection of Picasso linocuts to the gallery's permanent collection. Tonight, we board the **Prairie Lily sternwheeler** for a dinner cruise on the South Saskatchewan River, viewing landmarks and passing under several bridges.

Sunday, June 9:*Meals: B,L*

This morning, we visit Solar Gardens which has an amazing collection of **succulent plants**. Our tour includes a guide through the greenhouses and oil tasting. After lunch we go to Saskatoon Airport for a late afternoon flight to Victoria on Westjet. A transfer is provided to your pickup point.

Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$200 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due March 1, 2019. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$100 discount on first 15 seats and \$50 on next 10 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after March 1.

Cancellation Policy: Up to February 1, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From February 2 to March 1, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person (your deposit). From March 2 to April 1, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From April 2 to May 1, the cancellation charge is 70% of the tour fare. After May 1, there is no refund.

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, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Home pickups and dropoffs may be offered in Greater Victoria, depending on the number of people booked and the size of the chartered vehicle. Decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan (RCMP Heritage Centre)

Activity Level: Moderate activity including short distances to walk and some steps. The Tunnels of Moose Jaw are well-lighted, but there are uneven floors and stairs. You can opt out of the walking tour of Moose Jaw murals. There can be longer walks in the airports; request a cart or wheelchair at check-in if this could be an issue for you. The coaches cannot carry a scooter. If you think you may have difficulty participating in Activity Level 2, Wells Gray Tours recommends that you bring a companion to assist you. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense.

E-points: This tour earns 54 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 1.

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