

SURPRISING SASKATCHEWAN

Regina, Moose Jaw, Manitou Springs, Saskatoon & Prince Albert
June 8, 2020 - 8 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person:

\$2915 double/twin

\$3395 single

\$2795 triple



> Please add 5% GST.

> **Early Bookers:** \$150 discount on first 15 seats; \$75 on next 10

> **Experience Points:** Earn 66 points from this tour.

Redeem **66 points** if you book by **March 5**.

Includes

- Transfers to/from Victoria Airport
- Flight from Victoria to Regina on Westjet
- Coach transportation for 8 days
- 7 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- 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 *Billy Elliot* at Globe Theatre
- Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw
- Tunnels of Moose Jaw
- Guided walking tour of Moose Jaw murals
- Temple Gardens Hot Springs
- Watrous Anglican Church
- Danceland
- Manitou Springs hot pools
- Western Development Museum in Saskatoon
- Locally-guided tour of Saskatoon
- Wanuskewin Heritage Park with dance demo
- Choice of Remai Modern Art Gallery OR Solar Gardens, both with guide
- Dinner cruise on South Saskatchewan River
- Excursion on Wheatland Express train
- Walking and driving tour of historic Prince Albert
- John Diefenbaker House & Museum
- Batoche National Historic Site
- Flight from Saskatoon to Victoria on Westjet
- Gratuities for local guides
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels and airline
- **15 meals:** 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 3 dinners

102 - 736 Broughton Street
Victoria, BC V8W 1E1
www.wellsgraytours.com

victoria@wellsgraytours.com
Toll Free > 888-595-7889
Phone: > 250-590-7889



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 2015 and 48 more in 2019. By the end of those tours, 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. Those itineraries were almost identical, but for 2020 we have added one more day to take a train excursion and stay in Prince Albert.

This tour features four 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. Cruise the South Saskatchewan River on a paddlewheeler. Ride the Wheatland Express train for a different look at the prairies. Tour the Prince Albert home of former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker.

You can choose an option in Saskatoon — Admire incredible pieces of art at the new Remai Modern gallery or speak to a succulent plants expert at his Solar Gardens greenhouses.

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

Itinerary

Monday, June 8:

Meals: D

A transfer is provided from Greater Victoria points to Victoria airport. We fly on Westjet via Calgary 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 9:

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 walk to the nearby Globe Theatre to see the popular musical, **Billy Elliot**. Winner of 10 Tony Awards in 2009 including Best Musical, the story follows young Billy as he stumbles out of the boxing ring and into a ballet class, discovering a surprising talent that inspires his family and his whole community, and changes his life forever.

Wednesday, June 10:

Meals: B

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 ones. We stay overnight at Temple Gardens Hotel. Relax in the soothing **hot springs pools** fed by geothermal mineral water.

Thursday, June 11:

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 12:*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 indoors 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 13:*Meals: B,L,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. You can choose one of two activities this afternoon, depending on whether you love art or gardens.

1. **Remai Modern** is 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. Transportation is provided to the gallery and you walk back to the hotel when finished, about 2 blocks.

2. **Solar Gardens** has an amazing collection of succulent plants. Our tour includes a guide through the greenhouses and oil tasting. Transportation is provided to and from the gardens. 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 14:*Meals: B,L*

We board the **Wheatland Express train** in Cudworth for a 2½ hour excursion to Wakaw and back. With entertainment during the trip, the train celebrates Saskatchewan's prairie culture, the talents of its people, the rich agricultural heritage, and the beautiful, wide-open prairie countryside. Afterwards, we drive north into **Prince Albert**. A local guide shows us some historical sights, highlighted by **John Diefenbaker's house** where the 13th Prime Minister lived from 1947 to 1975. We stay overnight at the Best Western Marquis Inn.

Monday, June 15:*Meals: B,L*

We stop at **Batoche National Historic Site** where the Battle of Batoche occurred during the Northwest Rebellion of 1885. This resulted in the defeat of Louis Riel and his Métis forces. After lunch we go to Saskatoon Airport for a late afternoon flight via Calgary to Victoria on Westjet. A transfer is provided to your pickup point.

Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$300 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due March 5, 2020. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$150 discount on first 15 seats and \$75 on next 10 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after March 5.

Cancellation Policy: Up to February 5, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From February 6 to March 5, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person. From March 6 to April 3, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From April 4 to May 5, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After May 5, 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 may be offered in Greater Victoria, depending on the number of people booked and coach size. 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 stairs. 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; travel insurance will probably not cover you.

e-points: This tour earns 66 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 5.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842