



Sunset in Saskatchewan



RCMP Parade

SURPRISING SASKATCHEWAN

June 21, 2021 – 8 Days

*Regina, Moose Jaw, Manitou Springs,
Saskatoon & Prince Albert*

You will never think of Saskatchewan the same way again. There are so many highlights on this tour! Visit three major museums, one dedicated to dioramas of flora and fauna, one about prairie transportation, and one that re-creates a 1910 prairie boomtown. Tour the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina, go underground in the Tunnels of Moose Jaw, cruise the South Saskatchewan River on a paddle-wheeler, learn about First Nations culture at Wanuskewin Heritage Park and the Northwest Rebellion at Batoche, and ride the Wheatland Express train for a different look at the prairies. Some unique hotels are featured: Temple Gardens and Manitou Springs where you can soak in therapeutic, mineralized waters, and the Bessborough Hotel which has been Saskatoon's waterfront landmark for nearly a century.

Activity Level: 2



15 Meals Included:

6 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 3 dinners

Fares per person:

\$2,895 double/twin; \$3,375 single; \$2,775 triple

Please add 5% GST

Early Bookers:

\$150 discount on first 15 seats; \$75 on next 10

Experience Points:

Earn 66 points on this tour

Redeem 66 points if you book by March 18, 2021.



Temple Gardens hot pool

ITINERARY

Day 1: Monday, June 21

We fly on WestJet from Vancouver 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 in downtown Regina.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: Delta Regina Hotel

Day 2: Tuesday, June 22

A local guide takes us for a drive around Regina featuring the Legislative Buildings and Wascana 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 for a performance. The show will be announced in early 2021, after the theatre reopens.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Delta Regina Hotel

Day 3: Wednesday, June 23

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 explore 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. At Temple Gardens Hotel, relax in the soothing **hot springs pools** fed by geothermal mineral water.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Temple Gardens Hotel

Day 4: Thursday, June 24

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** where you are sure to enjoy the indoor hot pools filled with therapeutic mineralized water pumped from the nearby lake.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Manitou Springs Resort



Day 5: Friday, June 25

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.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Delta Bessborough Hotel



Bessborough Hotel

Day 6: Saturday, June 26

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 admire art or Ukrainian culture. Transportation is provided to each location and you walk back to the hotel at your leisure via the riverfront walkway, about 700 metres.

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.

2. **Ukrainian Museum of Canada** offers a diverse collection of Ukrainian artifacts including linens, tools, books, photographs, documents, and other treasures collected from the first, second and third waves of Ukrainian immigrants to Canada. The museum houses one of the largest collections of ethnic textiles in North America.

Tonight, we board the **Prairie Lily sternwheeler** for a dinner cruise on the South Saskatchewan River, viewing landmarks and passing under several bridges.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Delta Bessborough Hotel

Day 7: Sunday, June 27

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. Back on our coach, we drive north to **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.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Best Western Marquis Inn



Wheatland Express

Day 8: Monday, June 28

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 Vancouver on WestJet.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

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 2021 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 can experience a variety of unique sights, 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. Explore three provincial museums, one dedicated to dioramas of flora and fauna, one about prairie transportation, and one that re-creates a 1910 prairie village 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 château 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 Rемаi Modern gallery or North America's finest collection of ethnic textiles at the Ukrainian Museum. There is 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.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Flight from Vancouver to Regina on WestJet
- Air transportation taxes and security fees
- Airline luggage fees for 1 suitcase per person
- Coach transportation for 8 days
- 7 nights 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 a show at Regina's 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 dance demo
- Choice of Rемаi Modern Art Gallery OR Ukrainian Museum of Canada
- Dinner cruise on South Saskatchewan River
- Excursion on Wheatland Express train
- Walking and driving tour of Prince Albert
- John Diefenbaker House & Museum
- Batoche National Historic Site
- WestJet flight from Saskatoon to Vancouver
- Gratuities for local guides
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **15 meals:** 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 3 dinners



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 are a few steps on and off the train. There can be longer walks in the airports; request a cart or wheelchair in advance or 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.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$300 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due March 18, 2021. 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 18.

Cancellation Policy: Up to February 18, 2021, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From February 19 to March 18, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person. From March 19 to April 16, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From April 17 to May 18, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After May 18, 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 are available within Greater Vancouver for an additional charge of \$40 per person round trip. Please request no later than at final payment.

Photo Credits: Adobe Stock (sunset, RCMP), Temple Gardens Hotel, Tourism Saskatchewan (Danceland), Roland Neave (Bessborough Hotel), Tourism Saskatoon (train)

Experience 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 18, 2021.

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

KAMLOOPS	KELOWNA	VERNON	PENTICTON	VICTORIA
(Head Office)	2575 Richter St.	3206 35th St.	159 Wade Ave E	102-736 Broughton St.
250 Lansdowne St.	Kelowna, BC V1Y 2R1	Vernon, BC V1T 6B7	Penticton, BC V2A 8B6	Victoria, BC V8W 1E1
Kamloops, BC V2C 1X7	250-762-3435	250-545-9197	250-493-1255	250-590-7889
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