



Private guest pool at Fairmont Hot Springs



Ainsworth Hot Springs

KOOTENAYS HOT SPRINGS

February 8, 2021 – 5 Days

Relax in the soothing waters of Fairmont, Radium and Ainsworth Hot Springs

The Kootenays region is known for many incredible wonders, one of which is the great variety of hot springs. February is a beautiful time to admire the winter wonderland of this area. Soaking up the snowy mountain scenery from the warmth of a steaming outdoor pool is nothing short of magical. This tour visits three hot springs: Fairmont, Radium, and Ainsworth. Accommodation is right next to the hot pools at Fairmont for two nights and Ainsworth for two nights. Just bring your swim suit and be prepared to relax.

Activity Level: 1



TOUR
30

11 Meals Included:

4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

Fares per person:

\$1,395 double/twin; \$1,735 single; \$1,295 triple
Please add 5% GST.

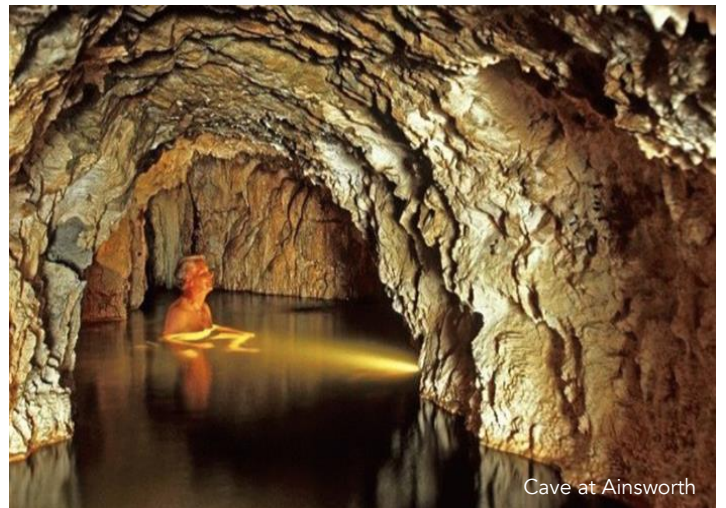
Early Bookers:

\$80 discount on first 10 seats; \$40 on next 6

Experience Points:

Earn 32 points on this tour

Redeem 32 points if you book by December 9, 2020.



Cave at Ainsworth

ITINERARY

Day 1: Monday, February 8

We travel east across **Rogers Pass** through Glacier National Park, admiring a winter wonderland of snowy peaks and frozen rivers. From Golden, we drive along the broad Rocky Mountain Trench to **Fairmont Hot Springs Resort**. As a hotel guest, you can enjoy a private hot pool close to your room, or use the larger public pool. The water temperature ranges from 40 to 43° C (104-110° F) and about 1.4 million gallons of odourless, mineral-rich water flows through the pools daily.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Day 2: Tuesday, February 9

The morning is free time at Fairmont Hot Springs, an excellent opportunity to enjoy an optional spa treatment. In the afternoon, we drive a half-hour north to **Radium Hot Springs** in Kootenay National Park. Sir George Simpson of the Hudson's Bay Company made the first recorded visit in 1841, bathing in a one-person sized pool dug out of the gravel. The present Aquacourt was built in 1951 and is now Canada's largest hot springs facility with a temperature of 39.5° C or 103° F.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Day 3: Wednesday, February 10

We travel south along Columbia Lake and the Kootenay River to Cranbrook. From Creston, we follow the east shore of **Kootenay Lake** and ride the 'longest free ferry in the world' over to Balfour. Our destination is **Ainsworth Hot Springs** where we stay for two nights at the resort beside the hot pools overlooking Kootenay Lake. During your stay, there is unlimited access to the pools. The horseshoe-shaped cave is the hottest at

45.5° C or 114° F and the main lounging pool averages 35.5° C or 96° F. For the brave, there is also a cold plunge pool.

Note: Some rooms at this hotel have lake views and some face the mountainside with no view; the earliest bookers are assigned lake view rooms.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort

Day 4: Thursday, February 11

We drive into nearby **Nelson** and there are some interesting stores to browse along Baker Street. Nelson's famous **Hume Hotel** is a historical landmark which opened in 1898. We have lunch there and a long-time resident gives a presentation about the city's fascinating history and architecture where buildings less than a century old are considered "modern".

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort



Day 5: Friday, February 12

We drive through Castlegar and across Bonanza Pass over the Monashee Mountains. After lunch in **Grand Forks**, we follow Highway #33 to the Okanagan Valley.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Coach transportation for 5 days
- 4 nights of accommodation & hotel taxes
- Fairmont Hot Springs
- Radium Hot Springs admission & towel rental
- Kootenay Lake ferry
- Ainsworth Hot Springs (unlimited use)
- Presentation by Nelson historian
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **11 meals:** 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

TOUR NOTES

Tip: Luggage handling may take an hour after the coach arrival at Fairmont and Ainsworth. If you want to get into the hot pools quickly, we suggest you pack your bathing suit in your carry-on bag.



Activity Level 1: Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs. The coach cannot carry a scooter. If you think you may have difficulty participating in Activity Level 1, 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.



TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due December 9, 2020. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Discounts: Early bookers receive \$80 discount on first 10 seats and \$40 on next 6 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after December 9, 2020. Early bookers are also assigned lake view rooms at Ainsworth, subject to availability.

Cancellation Policy: Up to November 25, 2020, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From November 26 to December 9, the cancellation charge is \$150 per person (your deposit). From December 10, 2020 to January 15, 2021, the cancellation charge is 60% of the tour fare. After January 15, there is no refund.

Fare changes: Changes to taxes and surcharges from 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 until 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, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Photo credits: Rhonda Diaper (Fairmont), Ainsworth Hot Springs, Hume Hotel, Parks Canada.

Experience Points: This tour earns 32 Experience 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 December 9, 2020.

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

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