

KOOTENAYS HOT SPRINGS

February 2026



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. Late 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 bathing suit and be prepared to relax.



CANADIAN



ACTIVITY LEVEL

▶ Departure from:

① **BC Interior:** February 23, 2026 - 5 days

▶ Fares per person

① **\$1,895** double/twin, **\$2,375** single*

*Further pricing details provided on page 2.

▶ Early Booking Bonus

\$100 discount on first 12 seats; **\$50** on next 8.

▶ Earn 44 Experience Points



DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Your departure point will be discussed at the time of booking

- I BC Interior:** We depart on Monday, February 23 and drive to Fairmont Hot Springs. We drive home from Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort on Friday, February 27. Transportation is provided from your pickup location on the day of departure and back when we return.

FARES PER PERSON

| Departure Point | Fares per Person | Notes |
|----------------------|--|--|
| I BC Interior | \$1,895 double/twin \$2,375 single \$1,765 triple | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please add 5% GST.• Single seats are limited. Please book early if you prefer to travel single. |

Ainsworth Hot Springs

WHAT'S INCLUDED

▶ Meals

- **11 total:** 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinner

▶ Transportation

- Coach transportation for 5 days

▶ Accommodation

- 4 nights of hotel accommodation & taxes
- Luggage handling at hotels

▶ Highlights

- Fairmont Hot Springs
- Radium Hot Springs & towel rental
- Kootenay Lake ferry
- Ainsworth Hot Springs (unlimited use)
- Nelson Museum with guide

Attractions are subject to change. Please see Tour Policies for more information.

▶ Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director

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Activity Level 1

Light Activity: You are a traveller who prefers to see places without a lot of physical activity. You can climb a flight of stairs, board a coach, stand for short periods and walk at a leisurely pace with breaks for up to 30 minutes without difficulty or assistance. You may bring a walker or cane to support your mobility. Please let us know when you book if you will be bringing a walker on this tour. The coach cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.



Tour Size 40

This tour can accommodate 40 participants.



Mountains near Fairmont Hot Springs

ITINERARY

Monday, February 23

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

Tuesday, February 24

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

Wednesday, February 25

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

Thursday, February 26

We drive into nearby **Nelson** and visit the museum with a guide. Nelson's famous **Hume Hotel** is a heritage landmark which opened in 1898. We have lunch there, then there is time to browse some interesting stores along Baker Street. We plan to be back at Ainsworth by mid-afternoon, so there is lots more time to laze in the hot pool.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort

Friday, February 27

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

TOUR NOTES & POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$150 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due January 8, 2026. By paying the deposit, you agree to the [Terms & Conditions](#), Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard.

Early Booking Bonus: Receive a \$100 discount on the first 12 seats and \$50 on the next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after January 8, 2026. Early bookers are also assigned lake view rooms at Ainsworth, subject to availability.

Cancellation Policy: Up to December 8, 2025, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From December 9, 2025 to January 8, 2026, the cancellation charge is \$150 per person (your deposit). From January 9 to January 22, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. After January 22, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Our many suppliers may notify us about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges and changes to taxes or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

Luggage handling may take an hour after the coach arrives 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.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to some remote places where restaurants may not be able to satisfy all food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

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. This tour stays in British Columbia. While your BC Services Card may cover you for a medical issue that arises during the tour, you will probably benefit from trip cancellation and trip interruption coverage in case of illness or a mishap before or during the tour. Many other benefits such as luggage insurance are included. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for cancellation, interruption, and luggage.

Photo credits: Kootenay Rockies Tourism & Mitch Winston (Ainsworth Hot Springs page 1), Destination BC & Kari Medig (Fairmont Hot Springs), Ainsworth Hot Springs (page 2), and tour director Marion (Mountains near Fairmont Hot Springs).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 44 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until January 8, 2026.

WE PLAN.
YOU PACK.
NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com

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Offices are open weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm. Book an appointment or walk-in and visit us. _____

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