



## CANADA

# THE COASTAL WAY SELF-DRIVE (TOUR CODE: 11679)

### STARTS AND ENDS

Vancouver to  
Calgary

### TRAVEL PERIODS

28 May 24 - 25 Sep 24

### EXPERIENCE

Self-Drive

### TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Travelling from the lush coastlines of southern British Columbia through to the Canadian Rockies, make for an ideal road trip.

## Highlights

- Embark on a full day of cruising the sheltered waters of Canada's Inside Passage
- Head out on a Whale Watching & Wildlife Safari Cruise in Campbell River
- Travel through the spine of the Canadian Rockies along the amazing Icefields Parkway
- Cross the Georgia Strait through the beautiful Gulf Islands to Victoria
- Explore the fishing community of Port Hardy
- Enjoy Freedom of Choice days in Victoria, Jasper and Banff

Depart from one of the most beautiful cities in the world, Vancouver. Pick up your rental car and drive to Victoria. Cruise across Georgia Strait through the beautiful Gulf Islands with BC Ferries to Vancouver Island to explore Butchart Gardens.

Travelling north on the Island Highway, pass through Duncan, the "City of Totems" to Campbell River where you'll enjoy some of the best Whale Watching and Wildlife Safari Cruise.

Embark on a full day of cruising the sheltered waters of Canada's Inside Passage. Along the passage, you'll encounter a wonderful array of snow-capped mountains combined with rich forests, which provides a background for a series of dramatic landscapes.

Follow the Yellowhead Highway, hugging the Skeena River, passing through the mining town of Terrace and into Smithers. Follow mountain passes and raging rivers as you wind your way to an overnight stop in Jasper. Discover the picturesque alpine town of Jasper on a Maligne Lake Cruise, Jasper River Float or Guided Nature Walk. Embrace the spectacular scenery including glacier-fed lakes, lush forests, and mighty rivers.

Experience the thrill of the amazing Icefields Parkway and enjoy the ultimate glacier exploration. Take in stunning aerial views on the Glacier

Skywalk, standing on a glass platform almost 300 meters in the air.

Explore the charming resort town of Banff with a wide choice of excursions. Take in the views of Banff National Park on a scenic Gondola or marvel at the Canadian Rockies by boat cruising across Lake Minnewanka. Navigate the waters of Banff National Park on a River Explorer Canoe Tour or saddle up for a guided horseback adventure through the National Park. Take in the last glimpses of the Rockies before heading to Calgary where this incredible journey ends.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

# INCLUSIONS

- 1 night in Victoria at Inn at Laurel Point
- 2 nights in Campbell River at the Coast Discovery Inn
- 1 night in Port Hardy at the Quarterdeck Inn
- 1 night in Prince Rupert at Prestige Hotel
- 1 night in Smithers at Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge
- 1 night in Prince George at Sandman Signature Hotel
- 2 nights in Jasper at Forest Park Hotel
- 2 nights in in Banff at Banff Caribou Lodge
- 12 days intermediate size car rental including GPS
- BC Ferry between Vancouver and Vancouver Island
- BC Ferry between Port Hardy and Prince Rupert
- Whale Watching & Wildlife Safari Cruise
- Ice Explorer ride onto Athabasca Glacier
- Glacier Skywalk Admission

Freedom of Choice Days

## Freedom of Choice



Our Freedom of Choice program offers flexibility, by allowing you to choose from different options on pre-selected days.

Our per person price includes one tour on each Freedom of Choice day, as follows:

- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 1
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 9
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 11

Expand the itinerary below for more details.

Please note, if more than one room is selected during the booking process, our team will contact you afterwards to discuss options.

# ITINERARY

Day

1

## Vancouver   Victoria

Depart Vancouver this morning to Victoria. Cruise across Georgia Strait through the beautiful Gulf Islands with BC Ferries to Vancouver Island. Time to explore Victoria, with its turn-of-the-century architecture, and British traditions such as high tea and shops full of woolens and china. Today you can personalize your day by pre-selecting one of three **Freedom of Choice** excursions below.

Overnight in Victoria at **Inn at Laurel Point**

### Freedom of Choice Options

- **Butchart Gardens Admission:**

On its 100th birthday in 2004, the Butchart Gardens was named a National Historic Site of Canada. Explore 22 hectares/55 acres of breathtaking gardens on the 53 hectare/130 acre estate.

OR

- **Eat like a Canadian Food Tour:**

Not many people can define exactly what Canadian food is. From local ingredients to historic dishes, this tour is the best way to experience Canadian culinary culture. Sip and savour local cuisine, explore the iconic Inner Harbour, and meet the chefs and owners that make Victoria such an exciting culinary hot spot.

OR

- **Whale Watch Cruise:**

Get up close with the killer whales on the Salish Sea with this guided, 3.5-hour whale-watching cruise from Victoria. Climb aboard a covered or open boat equipped with hydrophones to hear the whales and bring the underwater experience to light.



Day **2**

## Victoria Campbell River

Travelling north on the Island Highway, pass through Duncan, the “City of Totems”. If time permits visit the Quw’utsun’ Heritage Village which provides you with an insight into the lives of the North West Coast People (seasonal hours - admission not included).

Further north is the artist community of Chemainus, where you can admire giant murals which adorn the exterior walls throughout the town. By late afternoon arrive in Campbell River.

Overnight in Campbell River at **Coast Discovery Inn**





Day **3**

## Campbell River

The diversity of wildlife and awe inspiring scenery that exists so close to Campbell River is unparalleled! The area has quickly become the most predictable place in the world to see the Bigg's or Transient, mammal-eating Orca! Pacific White-Sided Dolphins are common and can often be seen in large groups. Eagles and several varieties of seabirds are all sighted regularly.

Overnight in Campbell River at **Coast Discovery Inn**



Day **4**

## Campbell River Port Hardy

Today, continue your journey north. Near Port McNeil you may wish to take an optional Orca watching cruise into the waters of Johnstone Strait. Your day ends in the fishing community of Port Hardy.

Overnight in Port Hardy at **Quarterdeck Inn**



PORT HARDY WATERFRONT | CREDIT: TOURISM VANCOUVER ISLAND

## Day 5 Port Hardy Prince Rupert

Embark on a full day of cruising the sheltered waters of Canada's Inside Passage with BC Ferries . During the length of the 15-hour crossing, a wonderful array of snow-capped mountains combined with rich forests provides a background for a series of dramatic fjords.

Overnight in Prince Rupert at **Prestige Prince Rupert Hotel**



COW BAY HARBOUR PRINCE RUPERT | CREDIT: DESTINATION BC

## Day 6 Prince Rupert Smithers

Today, follow the Yellowhead Highway, hugging the Skeena River for most of the way. Pass through the mining town of Terrace and into Smithers.

Overnight in Smithers at **Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge**





TERRACE | CREDIT: DESTINATION BC

Day **7**

## Smithers Prince George

Depart Smithers today, continuing along the Yellowhead Highway. Pass through Houston - known as the Steelhead Capital and home to the world's biggest fly rod - over 18 metres in length! Next you will travel through Burns Lake and Vanderhoof into Prince George.

Overnight in Prince George at **Sandman Signature Hotel & Suites**



SMITHERS

Day **8**

## Prince George Jasper

Today is another unforgettable day of scenery. Follow mountain passes and raging rivers as you wind your way to an overnight stop in Jasper.

Overnight in Jasper at **Forest Park Hotel**



Day **9**

## Jasper

Time to explore all that Jasper has to offer! Today you can personalise your day by pre-selecting one of three **Freedom of Choice** excursions below.

Overnight in Jasper at **Forest Park Hotel**

### **Freedom of Choice Options**

- **Maligne Lake Cruise:**

Cruise Maligne Lake, where you can marvel at the magnificent shoreline and Spirit Island.

**OR**

- **Jasper River Float:**

Enjoy a gentle rafting tour on the Athabasca River for a unique perspective of Jasper National Park.

**OR**

- **Jasper Nature Walk:**

A guided nature walk featuring a spectacular array of rolling hills, jagged peaks, forests, meadows, marshes, streams, and stunning glacial lakes.





MALIGNE LAKE | CREDIT: PURSUIT MIKE SEEHAGEL

## Day 10 Jasper Banff

Today, travel through the spine of the Canadian Rockies along the amazing Icefields Parkway and encompass the ultimate glacier exploration. From walking on ancient ice with the **Ice Explorer Ride**, to standing on a glass platform almost one thousand feet in the air at the **Glacier Skywalk**, today's experiences will leave you with a special appreciation for this treasured region of the Rockies.

Overnight in Banff at **Banff Caribou Lodge**



GLACIER SKYWALK | CREDIT: PURSUIT

## Day 11 Banff

With easy access to pristine wilderness and endless outdoor adventures, in Banff National Park you feel truly immersed in nature. Today you can personalize your day by pre-selecting one of four **Freedom of Choice** excursions below.

Overnight in Banff at **Banff Caribou Lodge**

### Freedom of Choice Options

- **Banff Gondola:**

Maximize your views of Banff National Park with minimal exertion on a round-trip gondola ride to the top of Sulphur Mountain.

OR

- **Lake Minnewanka Cruise:**

Admire views of the Canadian Rockies by boat as you cruise across the turquoise-hued Lake Minnewanka and over to Devil's Gap.

OR

- **River Explorer Canoe Tour:**

Enjoy the serenity of the Bow River and marvel at the surroundings. A fun and interactive way with your guide to explore the waterways of Banff National Park. Perfect for families. No paddling experience necessary.

OR

- **Bow River Horseback Adventure:**

Saddle up for a journey through the celebrated landscape of Banff National Park on this guided horseback riding adventure.



LAKE MINNEWANKA | CREDIT: PAUL ZIZKA

## Day 12 Banff Calgary

Today you will leave behind the fresh mountain air and colourful sights of the Rockies. Drop off your rental car at Calgary airport and start your journey home.

## ACCOMMODATION

Inn at Laurel Point

## Victoria

Overlooking Laurel Point Park, this waterfront hotel is a 5-minute walk from the Black Ball Ferry Line and a 10-minute walk from the Royal BC Museum. Featuring private balconies with water views, the airy rooms include flat-screen TVs and free Wi-Fi, plus minifridges, and tea and coffeemaking equipment. There's a heated indoor pool, an exercise room and a Japanese garden, plus a Pacific Rim-inspired restaurant with a patio and harbour views.



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## Quarter Deck Inn

### Port Hardy

The Quarterdeck Inn & Marina Resort offers full-service comfort and hospitality to ensure a relaxing stay. Surrounded by nature just a short walk from downtown Port Hardy, each room offers beautiful ocean views and are equipped free Wi-Fi, flat-screen televisions with cable and mini fridges.



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## Prestige Prince Rupert Hotel

### Prince Rupert

The Prestige Hotel is conveniently located in the heart of historic Prince Rupert, close to shopping and a variety of great local restaurants. The hotel is only a short stroll to Prince Rupert's Inner Harbour where you can enjoy local attractions, events and entertainment, as well as local artists' specialty shops and so much more.



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## Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge

### Smithers

Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge is located minutes from downtown shops and restaurants, historic walking tours, picturesque hiking trails, outstanding mountain biking, scenic golfing and all the amazing attractions of the Bulkley Valley. Be sure to visit our two on-site restaurants, Noir



Kitchen and Bar and Don Cherry's Sports Grill. Guests are encouraged to borrow complimentary bikes, sporting equipment, board games and beach toys for added enjoyment.



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## Sandman Signature

### Prince George

An 8-minute walk from Prince George Golf & Curling Club, this modern lodging is 15 minutes' walk from the banks of Fraser River. Forests for the World, a park with lakes and hiking trails, is 10 km away. Streamlined rooms have modern decor and muted tones. They offer free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs and sitting areas.



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## Forest Park Hotel

### Jasper

Set amidst the breathtaking Canadian Rockies, the Forest Park Hotel (formerly the Sawridge Inn) is a resort style hotel that offers the rustic charm you'd expect in Jasper National Park. Beautiful guest rooms, on-site spa, decadent dining and heated pool with jacuzzi and steam room add to the luxury you want in your mountain getaway.



# Banff Caribou Lodge & Spa

## Banff

Located in Banff National Park, the Banff Caribou Lodge & Spa offers a mountain lodge hotel, a great steakhouse restaurant and a full service spa, all in one outstanding location. This ideal vacation spot is located on Banff Avenue, the main street in the town of Banff. Surrounded by mountains, there are plenty of activities to keep you busy.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

<b>OFFICIAL LANGUAGE</b> French & English	<b>LOCAL CURRENCY</b> Canadian Dollars
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### Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.)
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package
- One-way car rental fees (if applicable). If any one-way surcharges apply, this will be advised at the time of booking and is payable locally upon collection of the vehicle.
- Car rental rates exclude optional coverage such as Personal Accident Insurance Plus (PAI Plus) and Personal Effects Protection (PEP).