

Toronto to Vancouver by Rail

A Nostalgic Journey Aboard VIA Rail's
The Canadian in Premium Class



CASE
WESTERN
RESERVE
UNIVERSITY



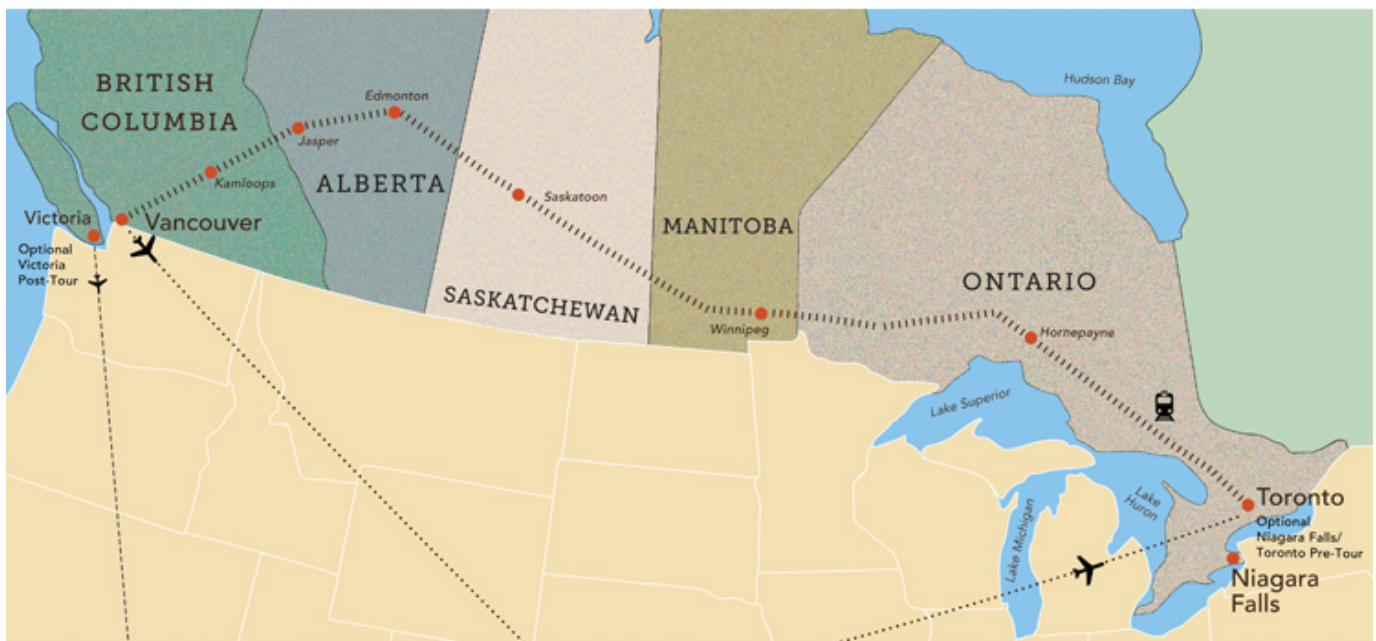
THE LAURA & ALVIN SIEGAL
LIFELONG LEARNING
PROGRAM

TORONTO TO VANCOUVER BY RAIL

Discover the majestic beauty of Canada on a nostalgic rail journey that brings back the golden age of train travel.



Please note: The information contained in this document is current as of 3/10/2021



PROGRAM RATES

Prestige Class: \$5,995

To Reserve, call

866-639-0079

Program Highlights:

- Enjoy the serenity of travel by rail as you spend four days unplugged from the outside world, with the beauty of the Canadian wilderness unfolding before you.
- Relax at leisure within your private Prestige Class stateroom—providing 50% more living space than other class cabins—featuring a picture window that's 60% larger than standard cabin windows, a leather couch by day that transforms into a comfortable double bed with luxury linens by night, heated floors and walls, private en suite bathroom with shower, flat-screen TV, and turndown service.
- Prestige Class amenities also include a small travel group size (26 guests max), dedicated concierge service, priority seating in the dining car, and complimentary snacks and beverages in the Park Car 24-hours a day.
- Awake each day to majestic, panoramic views outside your cabin's picture window. Inside *The Canadian*, many amenities await you among the first-class, art deco style cars, with abundant leisure time to enjoy them all.
- From your stateroom, or from the Prestige Park car's lounge and dome seating, admire the vastness and diversity of Canada—starting at the shores of Lake Ontario, traversing across five provinces—including expansive prairies and the Canadian Rockies—and ending in Vancouver.
- Savor the best in Canadian cuisine with a selection of local and regional specialties prepared by onboard chefs and served on the dining car's elegant china. Three-course lunches and five-course dinners include specialties like Veal Chop with Cajun Spices, Canadian Lake Trout, and Pan-Seared Duck, served with complimentary beer or wine.
- Learn about the landscape, history, and people of Canada's provinces through onboard lectures and presentations.
- Set out on a guided panoramic city tour of Vancouver.

What's Included: 2 nights luxury hotel accommodations; 4 nights accommodations in Prestige Class onboard VIA Rail's *The Canadian*; 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 4 dinners (snacks and bar orders are included while aboard the train); special welcome and farewell receptions; full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director; gratuities for Orbridge Travel Director, onboard guides, drivers, porters, housekeeping staff, VIA Rail attendants, and wait staff for included meals; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

Itinerary:

VIA Rail Canada, like other passenger railways in North America, operates on tracks owned by freight companies. While VIA Rail strives for on-time departures and arrivals, increased freight traffic on the railway will often cause delays. These delays could result in delayed departure from Toronto, delayed arrival in to Vancouver, and shortened / limited time off of the train. Onboard services are guaranteed and any changes to the schedule will be communicated and updated as the journey continues.

Day 1: Arrive in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Welcome to Canada! After arrival, transfer to the Fairmont Royal York—a beautiful, historic property ideally situated steps away from Union Station and minutes from Toronto's main attractions.

This evening, relax and mingle with fellow travelers during a special welcome reception.

Overnight: Fairmont Royal York (R)

Day 2: Toronto / Board VIA Rail's *The Canadian* / Hornepayne

This morning, transfer to Toronto Union Station to embark upon the journey on rails. Delight in a special mimosa brunch to celebrate the departure and an exciting week ahead.

While *The Canadian* travels across Ontario, venture into the Prestige Park car to embrace the constantly changing scenery and capture endless photo opportunities from the upper-level dome. Combine the passing views with equally outstanding cuisine in the train's dining car, prepared by onboard chefs using specially sourced, local ingredients of the regions you will pass through.

This evening, fall asleep to the steady sound of the rails, and open your blinds to greet the morning's lovely panoramic views.

Overnight: The Canadian (B,L,D)

Day 3: Winnipeg, Manitoba

Today offers scenes of boundless prairies as the train continues to Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. Look forward to daily informative discussions by the travel director and concierge staff, and take advantage of chances to spot wildlife including black bears, wolves, and eagles. During the stop in Winnipeg, if time allows, guests can walk and explore the sights including an outside visit to Forks Market.

Overnight: The Canadian (B,L,D)

Day 4: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan / Edmonton, Alberta

Then it's all aboard for Saskatoon. Visit one of the beautiful observation cars to witness the passing landscape, stop into the Prestige Park Car to taste some of Canada's top-tier varietals with freshly made hors d'œuvres, or perhaps grab a pal and a window seat for a friendly game of cards.

Overnight: The Canadian (B,L,D)

Day 5: Jasper / Kamloops, British Columbia

Today is your final full day aboard the train, with brief stops in Jasper and Kamloops. Admire the dramatic and ever-changing landscape as the train navigates the Canadian Rockies and unveils a world of raw and rugged beauty. Marvel at the scenery along the Fraser River and the incredible obstacles overcome to build a railway here.

One of today's highlights will include Hell's Gate, the most slender part of the Fraser River. It is aptly named for its narrow cliff walls that create a funneling effect for hundreds of millions of liters of water rushing through every minute. For perspective, consider the volume of Niagara Falls—Hell's Gate is double that. Capture the soaring cliffs and churning waters of the mighty river with your camera during this memorable experience.

Overnight: The Canadian (B,L,D)

Day 6: Vancouver

This morning, breakfast will be onboard the train before disembarking in Vancouver, followed by a guided city tour. This tour includes the world famous Stanley Park and totem poles, the interesting Chinatown and Gastown, and free time for souvenir shopping in artists' stalls at Granville Island.

Afterward, enjoy free time to capture the sights and sounds of this bustling metropolis. Or perhaps indulge in the luxurious amenities at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver.

This evening, dinner is at leisure. Choose from dozens of restaurant options conveniently located near the hotel. Then rejoin fellow travelers for a special farewell wine and dessert reception to toast to a grand finale of this wonderful journey.

Overnight: Fairmont Hotel Vancouver (B,R)

Day 7: Vancouver / Depart for U.S.

After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times take the complimentary transfer to Vancouver International Airport for flights home. Guests continuing on the optional post-tour will transfer to Victoria. (B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, R = Reception

Activity Level:

Easy

Guests should be comfortable boarding and disembarking trains without assistance, walking and moving between cars while the train is in motion, and navigating steep, narrow stairs to the upper level of the observation car. All hallways are narrow and have handrails, but train travel can be unpredictable and some unexpected movement may occur. Guests who enjoy the relaxed pace of train travel will delight in spending much of the program's time on the railway. At brief train stop locations, ground may be uneven and covered in loose gravel, with no sidewalks.

What's Included:

- 1 night at Fairmont Royal York in Toronto and 1 night at Fairmont Hotel Vancouver, both famous, luxury Canadian Railway hotels
- 4 nights accommodations in Prestige Class onboard VIA Rail's *The Canadian*, where you'll relax while traveling through ever-changing scenery of prairies, the Canadian Rockies, and the Pacific Northwest
- 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 4 dinners (snacks and bar orders are included while aboard *The Canadian*)
- Special welcome and farewell receptions
- Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director as well as expert onboard guides
- Admission to all activities and tours as described in the 7-day itinerary
- Private motor coach transportation for the sightseeing tour
- Gratuities for Orbridge Travel Director, onboard guides, drivers, porters, housekeeping staff, VIA Rail attendants, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

Optional Pre-Tour:

NIAGARA FALLS & TORONTO



Kick off this Canadian adventure with the country's must-do signature attraction—Niagara Falls! With the guidance of a skilled captain, get up-close and personal with Canadian Horseshoe Falls and breathtaking Great Gorge. Hear the thundering roar and feel the mighty power and unbelievable mist that come along with these natural wonders. In addition, enjoy a guided city tour through Toronto to explore a majestic castle, a vibrant farmers market, and spectacular views in all directions high from the CN Tower.

Itinerary:

Day +1: Arrive in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Welcome to Toronto, the fourth largest city in North America! This exciting, multicultural destination welcomes you to revel in leisure time for discovery. With the included CityPASS, choose between a variety of activities, including seeing incredible animals, inspiring culture, and fascinating science by visiting Ripley's Aquarium of Canada, the Royal Ontario Museum, and your choice of the Toronto Zoo or the Ontario Science Centre. Additional options included with your CityPASS are the castle *Casa Loma* and CN Tower.

Overnight: Fairmont Royal York

Day +2: Toronto / Niagara Falls

Today embark upon what many consider to be Canada's most memorable experience: the majestic Niagara Falls. Awaken your senses and witness the power of Mother Nature on a thrilling, guided Hornblower boat tour led by passionate guides who entertain with legendary stories, history, and fascinating facts about the Niagara region. Niagara Falls started forming around 12,000 years ago from glacier activity and consists of three waterfalls—the Canadian Horseshoe Falls, American Falls and Bridal Veil Falls. Did you know about 700,000 gallons of water travel down Niagara Falls every second? Learn how the combined power of the cataract falls results in a mind-boggling flow-rate that provides hydroelectric power to the entire area. In fact, it produces around one-fourth of the electricity for Ontario and the state of New York. Listen to the roar and feel the exhilarating force of the mist and wind the falls create. Don the provided poncho for a don't miss, wet and wild, fun experience!

Next, enjoy lunch overlooking the Falls followed by leisure time in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This picturesque town epitomizes old charm with clapboard houses, tree-lined streets, and lovely gardens—some dating from the early nineteenth century. Delight in Niagara-on-the-Lake's character and history by strolling around and viewing landmarks such as the Memorial Clock Tower, Niagara District Court House and St. Vincent de Paul Church. There is much to see on quaint and unhurried Main Street, with its unique shops, beautiful flower beds, and historical buildings. Satisfy your sweet tooth by sampling locally produced "chimney cakes," ice cream, gelato, jams, and marmalades. If it's wine you're in the mood for, you're in luck, as Trip Advisor once voted Niagara-on-the-Lake as Canada's "#1 Food and Wine Destination." Over 20 wineries here have built a community crafting some of the best wines in the world.

Overnight: Fairmont Royal York (B,L)

Day +3: Toronto / Main Program Begins

Today, immerse your senses during a guided tour of Toronto. Step back in time and marvel at the grandeur and elegance of a bygone era as you explore the exterior and grounds of Casa Loma, a historic castle built atop Davenport Hill overlooking downtown Toronto. Once the residence of Sir Henry Pellatt, a wealthy and eccentric Canadian financier, this grand mansion required 300 men, three years, and \$3.5 million to build. If interested, discover more of Casa Loma's fascinating past along with fabulous and fanciful gothic architecture by taking a closer look with your included CityPASS.

Bring your comfortable shoes and a hearty appetite for navigating the next stop! Food mecca St. Lawrence Market has been hailed by *National Geographic* magazine as one of the top food markets in the world.

Next, visit the CN Tower. This recognizable and celebrated icon of Toronto's skyline at more than 1,815 feet is the tallest freestanding structure in the Americas and is listed as one of the "Seven Modern Wonders of the World." Soar to the sky in one of the glass elevators to 1,122 feet for the outdoor observation deck to feel the breeze. On a clear day, gaze at astounding views of the city and lake, Niagara Falls off in the distance, and sometimes, even helicopters flying *below* you. A revolving restaurant at the top of the tower is home to the world's highest wine cellar, which can hold up to 9,000 bottles of wine.

This evening, join fellow travelers to begin the main program. (*B*)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch

This pre-tour is not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Space is limited, so it's recommended to reserve early for best availability.

(Itinerary subject to change.)

Activity Level:

Moderate

It is our expectation that guests on this program are able to walk a mile at a moderate pace (sometimes on steep or slippery surfaces), get in and out of a motor coach, board a water vessel, and walk up a flight of stairs without assistance.

Accommodations:

Fairmont Royal York—Toronto



Built by the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1929, it was the tallest building in Canada at the time—and featured magnificent architecture and luxury, including more than 1,000 en suite guest rooms, a glass-enclosed roof garden, and a concert hall with a 50-ton pipe organ. It has recently undergone a five-year, multimillion-dollar renovation to combine stunning, redesigned guest rooms with carefully preserved historic elements.

Located directly across from VIA Rail's Union Station, this elegant downtown property is minutes away from the city's best attractions and features five restaurants, four lounges, an indoor pool, gym, spa, and business center. Underneath the hotel begins a 19-mile underground network of shopping and malls, featuring more than 1,200 stores, accessible by the direct entrance from the hotel lobby.

Room amenities: Individual climate control, pillow top bed, flat screen HDTV, Wi-Fi (additional fee), coffee and tea maker, minibar, and en suite bathroom with hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

What's Included:

- 2 nights accommodations at the Fairmont Royal York or similar, with breakfast each morning
- A Toronto CityPASS with access to Ripley's Aquarium of Canada, Casa Loma, the Royal Ontario Museum, and choice of the Toronto Zoo or the Ontario Science Centre
- Private transportation to/from Niagara Falls
- Niagara Falls boat tour, including lunch featuring spectacular views
- A guided city tour of Toronto
- Gratuities to local guide and driver

VICTORIA



Enjoy two nights in delightful Victoria—British Columbia’s picture-perfect capital. This colorful pedestrian-friendly city is an ideal spot for whale watching, biking, shopping, and sampling from the wide variety of cafés and restaurants that line bustling Government Street.

Savor the island’s relaxing pace by exploring its lush gardens, and admire the historical architecture while embracing Victoria’s friendly ambiance. During free time, visit one of Victoria’s landmark castles or churches or enjoy a stroll along the quaint inner harbor.

Itinerary:

Day 7: Vancouver / Victoria

This morning, take an included transfer to the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal. Aboard a BC Ferry, cruise the Strait of Georgia from Vancouver to Victoria—a passage providing unlimited scenery with a likelihood of spotting various marine wildlife. Upon arrival, explore world-famous Butchart Gardens and enjoy lunch on your own. Butchart Gardens is a national historic site of Canada. Enter and be enveloped by lush greens and colorful blooms. Blossoming for over 100 years, 55 acres of gardens with 900 bedding plant varieties, 26 greenhouses, and 50 full-time gardeners create a wonderland of beauty everywhere you look.

Afterward, join your local guide for a panoramic tour of Victoria through Chinatown, past the Parliament buildings, along Dallas Road, and through Beacon Hill.

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The remainder of the afternoon and evening is at your leisure. Explore some of Victoria's most beautiful downtown sites, including Christ Church Cathedral, with its gothic stone architecture, magnificent stained glass windows and Helmuth Wolff organ; Craigdarroch Castle, a stunning Victorian mansion; Bastion Square, site of the original Fort Victoria, with its spectacular views of the local harbor; or the renowned Royal British Columbia and other museums that can be found in the area.

Overnight: Fairmont Empress (B)

Day 8: Victoria

Time at leisure provides additional opportunity to explore more of this charming city. Enjoy a walking tour of the downtown to appreciate its history and culture or a whale-watching cruise to see the wildlife-filled waters off the coast. Take time for a carriage ride, English-style high tea or a stroll through some of Beacon Hill Park's 200 acres. There is an endless array of ways to fill your day. You may even choose to end the day with a renowned haunted Victoria tour or a visit to one of the many craft breweries in town. Your local guide or hotel concierge can help set up a day perfect for you.

Overnight: Fairmont Empress (B)

Day 9: Depart Victoria

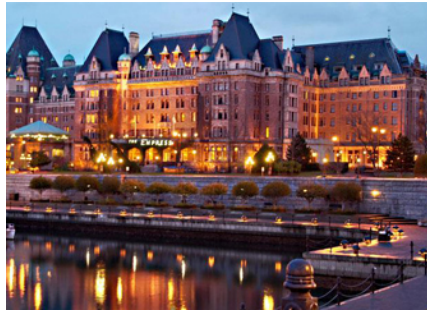
After breakfast, guests departing during the suggested times take a complimentary transfer to Victoria International Airport for flights home. *(B)*

B = Breakfast

This post-tour is not escorted by an Orbridge Travel Director. Included sightseeing is accompanied by a local guide. Space is limited, so it's recommended to reserve early for best availability.

Accommodations:

Fairmont Empress



Located on Victoria's Inner Harbour, this luxury hotel offers unparalleled hospitality and comfort. The Fairmont Empress has been named a *Condé Nast* Readers' Choice and Gold List hotel and honored by *Travel+Leisure* as a top Canadian hotel. Guests can enjoy the various on-site amenities, including a full spa, fully equipped gym, and indoor heated pool. Or perhaps experience Tea at the Empress—a daily tradition since 1908.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, luxurious linens and down-filled duvets, cable TV, high-speed internet and Wi-Fi (additional fee), coffee and tea maker, bathrobes, safe, and en suite bathroom with hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

What's Included:

- A 1.5 hour ferry cruise from Vancouver to Victoria across the Strait of Georgia
- 2 nights accommodations at the Fairmont Empress (or similar) with breakfast each morning
- A guided panoramic city tour
- Admission to Butchart Gardens
- Gratuities to local guide
- Airport transfer for guests departing during the suggested times