

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763 Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 952 894 308



# DISCOVERY TOUR OF THE CANADIAN ROCKIES

**JULY 18-26, 2022** 

#### **ABOUT THIS TOUR**

Join us on a unique exploration of Canada's most pristine nature organized by Kathy Didier &



led by Matt Butler, a former National Park Ranger. We focus on Canada's most infamous National Parks in the Rocky Mountains, taking in breathtaking vistas every step of the way. The pace of travel is relaxing and our lodgings are center based in three wonderful mountain villages – plus a night in Canada's western cowboy city, Calgary! The opportunities to experience Canada's big game such as bear, elk, moose, mountain goat, big horn sheep, beavers, eagles and more will be explored in an environmentally sound way and Matt will introduce you to all aspects of the region's flora, fauna and culture. As an introduction to Canada's most inspiring nature and for real insights of this pioneering culture, this trip has it all!



#### WHAT TO EXPECT

Our days will be filled with pleasant visits to wonderful natural landmarks. You can choose between light strolls and/or short informative hikes with Matt and some special guests. This is not classified as a hiking tour however we will be active throughout the day – taking in plenty of fresh air and a wide range of stimulating visits! The general pace however will be easy going.

The *National Geographic* rates the Canadian Rockies one of the ten "must see" wilderness destinations in the world. Towering snow-capped peaks, enormous glaciers, serene glacial lakes, dramatic waterfalls and flowering alpine meadows provide breathtaking views and memorable experiences every day of this excursion.

We'll stay in 3 and 4 star hotel & family run Inns in colorful mountain towns where creative artisan folk — inspired by mountain culture, share their culture and passion for the outdoors with us. Join us on this one-off unique journey of a



lifetime and reconnect with nature in one of the world's most natural and pristine landscapes.



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#### **ITINERARY**



DAY 1 July 18, 2022 - ARRIVAL CALGARY, ALBERTA Welcome to Calgary, Canada's celebrated gateway to the Rockies and home of the 1988 Winter Olympics and a unique cowboy culture second to none! No activities planned today and you can relax in our 4 star city center hotel after your day of travel or explore some of the city's cultural delights! Tonight meet your leaders, Matt and Kathy as we celebrate our journey ahead with a Welcome Dinner included. Hotel Sandman Signature

(Downtown Calgary) 4 Stars <a href="https://www.sandmanhotels.com/signature-calgary-downtown">https://www.sandmanhotels.com/signature-calgary-downtown</a>

#### DAY 2 July 19, 2022 - CALGARY CITY HIGHLIGHTS & JOURNEY TO THE ROCKIES

This morning we'll visit Calgary's principal highlights both on foot and by coach — offering a panoramic of this thriving Canadian city's diversity and unique contributions on a global scale. From its origins as a western frontier to its success as one of Canada's wealthiest cities, Calgary has never lost its devotion to being a green city and one known for welcoming the world and standing for *all-things* Canadian! From Calgary we'll travel just over an hour to reach the Rocky Mountains and our base camp for 3 nights in Banff — the jewel of the Rockies. Hotel Irwin's Mountain Inn, 3 stars <a href="https://www.irwinsmountaininn.com/">https://www.irwinsmountaininn.com/</a>, Banff Center. **Breakfast and Dinner included.** 



## Today we'll discover both on foot and using local transport, Banff's wonderful natural and cultural highlights. We'll visit the town center, it's heritage

**EXPLORATION DAY** 

DAY 3 July 20, 2022 - BANFF HIGHLIGHTS

museums and National Park Interpretive Center and some inspiring natural corridors. A highlight today is our gondola journey up Sulphur Mountain (7,400 feet), for incredible views of Banff National Park and

opportunities for both a light stroll or longer interpretive hike with Matt where wildflowers should be in abundance. Accommodation in same lodgings as previous night.

Breakfast and Dinner included today. Reasonable and varied lunch options can be acquired in one of the many cafes on Banff Avenue before our Gondola Journey.





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## DAY 4 July 21, 2022 - LAKE LOUISE & JOHNSTON CANYON (INCLUDING A BANFF NATIONAL PARK SCENIC DRIVE)

A wonderful day as we hop on our private coach to visit Canada's monumental Lake Louise where we can stroll the flat lake trail or hike further with Matt into the glacial moraine – admiring the incredible vistas from every angle! You can treat yourself to a beverage or snack in the famous Chateau Lake Louise, oozing with British Colonial charm or lose yourself on the lawns gazing at

Mount Victoria – the backdrop to the lake itself. On our return journey we'll stop at Johnston Canyon to revel in this geological wonder and quite possibly see some of Canada's larger mammals in their natural habitat. Accommodation in same lodgings as last night. **Breakfast and a Packed Lunch included today**. Tonight's dinner in Banff can be acquired at a number of the town's famous bistros.



## DAY 5 July 22, 2022 – JASPER & THE ICEFIELDS PARKWAY

Where Banff has stunning scenery, abundant wildlife and a history of pioneers, Jasper National Park has even more — with less people and more extreme wilderness! Jasper is delightful and the best way to experience the park is to drive the *Icefields Parkway*, one of the most attractive highways on the planet. Today we visit the Columbia Icefield and Athabasca Glacier and make a number of scenic stops on route to maximize our

experience in this incredible biosphere. At the Icefield's Center, *options* are available to tour the surface of the Athabasca Glacier by 'Snow Coach' or Matt will lead an interpretive hike to the toe of the glacier itself on foot for free. Expect a full day out, have your camera ready and comfy shoes on for a number of short, interpretive strolls throughout the day! Accommodation: 3 Star Jasper Inn & Suites <a href="https://www.jasperinn.com/">https://www.jasperinn.com/</a>. Breakfast and Dinner included.





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### DAY 6 July 23, 2022 JASPER FREE DISCOVERY / REST DAY

Jasper, Alberta is the perfect place to relax, self-explore or choose from a number of optional day trips and nature excursions operated by local specialists. Matt will lead a short, interpretive nature hike in the morning as a free option — leaving you free for the rest of the day to discover Jasper on your own! Optional visits might include: Guided excursion to Jasper Tramway, Mt. Robson or Mt. Edith Cavell; Float trip down the Athabasca River; Ebike ride in the Athabasca Valley; Horse Riding at Pyramid Lake; Golf the famous Fairmont Jasper Lodge Course; visit the artisan galleries and try some truly local Canadian gastronomy and craft beers! Accommodation: Same as previous night. Breakfast only included today.



## DAY 7 July 24, 2022 JASPER NATIONAL PARK PANORMAIC DRIVE & MALIGNE LAKE

Maligne Lake, like Lake Louise is a treasure to behold and fortunately it escapes the mass numbers of tourists and remains a wonderful, natural place to visit. We'll spend time savoring the beauty of this picture perfect lake as well as visiting the jaw dropping Maligne Canyon where short, easy hikes bring us to exceptional viewpoints. Time permitting you can take an *optional* canoe paddle or boat trip on Maligne lake

and / or enjoy a light stroll through 'moose' habitat with Matt! Be sure to have your camera ready – the drive down brings us through Grizzly country! Accommodation: Same as previous night. Breakfast, a Packed lunch and Dinner included today.



Canmore Inn & Suites <a href="https://www.canmoreinn.com/">https://www.canmoreinn.com/</a>. Breakfast & Farewell Dinner included.

#### DAY 8 July 25, 2022 YOHO NATIONAL PARK

This morning we depart Jasper and return south on the Icefield Parkway (a journey you'll NEVER grow tired of). Our destination today is Yoho National Park, one of Canada's 4 great Rocky Mountain Parks and located in the province of British Colombia. We'll visit Panther Falls, walking a gentle boardwalk trail in pristine nature and time permitting make a visit to Emerald Lake — a name that speaks for itself! Today's adventure ends with a final transfer to Canmore, Alberta, the gateway to the Rockies where we have our final stay. Accommodation 3 Star



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## DAY 9 July 26, 2022 – DEPARTURE DAY & TRANSFER TO CALGARY AIRPORT

This morning you'll awake one last time in the heart of the glorious Rockies, witnessing the 3 Sisters Peaks in the morning sunrise perhaps! After breakfast a transfer takes you direct to Calgary Airport (1.5 hour drive). Transfers will be 2 person minimum in private car or van. We recommend you book your departure flights late morning at earliest if you don't want to start too early! Time permitting, Matt will lead an early morning stroll down Canmore's charming main

street to the Bow River to capture some sunrise the beauty of the Rockies for the last time. Breakfast only included today.

#### **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

8 Nights accommodation: 1 night in Calgary, 3 nights in Banff, 3 nights in Jasper, 1 night in Canmore 9 Days tour guided program

Meals as indicated on itinerary above (Beverages not included with exception of water & at times soft drinks) Group Transfers via PRIVATE COACH as per itinerary

Return airport transfer from Canmore (final night), to Calgary International Airport (minimum 2 per transfer) National Park visitor permits and authorizations

Attractions and entrance fees as per itinerary description

Guiding services of Matt Butler from Adventurebug throughout

Tips for transfers and all provided meals & All local taxes

#### **NOT INCLUDED**

Airfare to/from Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Beverages at meals other than water (\*some group dinners have juice or soft drinks)

Meals not in itinerary

Baggage Handling (not included or available at all hotels)

Personal Trip Health and Cancellation Insurances (please strongly consider Covid cancellation insurance)
Additional transfers / shuttles apart from group transfers in the itinerary (Final airport transfer included)
Optional activities such as Glacier tour, rafting, canoeing, horse riding, etc on free day or during tour days
Entrance fees (where not included in itinerary), museum visits and other attractions

Any COVID19 related personal expenses (ie. Tests, quarantines, cancellations no related to Adventurebug).



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#### **Accommodations**

We will be staying in comfortable, modern hotels of 3 and 4 star categories. All lodgings are 'town based' allowing you easy access to explore the local highlights easily and independently when need be.

#### Meals

All breakfast are included and will be either continental or buffet style. Some Packed Lunches are included and where not, can be purchased locally. The included dinners are normally at either the hotel or within the communities where we are staying. Drinks (besides water and at times soft drinks or juice), are not normally included.

#### **Meet Your Local GUIDE**

Matt Butler was born and raised in Canada. He was a former competitive cross country skier, competing at the National and International level and a as non-competitive forerunner for the Canadian Olympic Team in Calgary 1988. During his University years and beyond, he worked 9 seasons with Canada's Provincial & National Park service's – the last 5 postings were at the Columbia Icefield Center in Jasper National Park where he designed and led interpretive guide programs. He also worked in Public Safety Operations for Parks Canada and contributed to Educational programs and Park conservation efforts in relation to glaciology. He later lived in Australia and then worked as a school teacher in Canada, Malawi, China, Great Britain and Spain before retiring from the profession and returning to his roots - guiding and outdoor pursuits leadership & training. Matt is the co-founder of **Adventurebug Worldwide** – an active holiday and training company as well as co-founder for **Rifcom**, a non-profit charity that works with disadvantaged communities in rural Morocco. He has published a hiking guide book for Spain and when not on projects, shares his home in Andalucia, Spain with his English wife Jules and their 3 children, Alejandro, Willow and Finley.

#### **WEATHER & SAFETY CONCERNS**

This trip is rated as easy to moderate physical output. The maximum altitude will be 7,600 feet but most days we are between 2 to 4,000 feet. July is a wonderful time in the Rockies with average highs around 70 F although some nights may reach freezing. Rarely we may experience light snow on some days at higher altitude and of course summer showers, but generally it's a summer trip much like the US Rockies climate but be prepared for 3 seasons! Aside from any personal medical problems, participants should be aware of the possibilities of low risk variables such as hypothermia, hyperthermia, insect bites, mild to moderate altitude sickness, dehydration, sun burn and other hot and cold related problems. You should regularly use sun screen and insect repellant, wear long sleeves and pants, take care to be adequately hydrated and bring water on all day trips as well as wind/rain gear, warm hat and gloves when at higher altitudes.

**COVID19 Concerns**: At time of print (November 2021), Canada is dealing with Covid like most western nations – with a higher proportion of vaccinated people and a growing understanding how to manage life during a pandemic. For summer 2022, we remain uncertain what the entry requirements will be however a vaccination certificate is likely a necessity for both entrance and access to most public places. A negative PCR or Rapid Flow Test may also be a requirement to enter (and exit), so expectations around this will need to be managed.



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Please carefully read and sign (if you haven't done so yet), the *ADVENTUREBUG Participant Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risks and Release and Indemnity Agreement* and contact us if you have any questions. Participants' understanding of these risks and adherence to our policies and procedures can contribute to making this experience rewarding.

#### \*COVID CONCERNS / DISCLAIMER

- COVID19 DISCLAIMER, due to the unpredictable nature of dealing with the worldwide Pandemic:
  - We are unable to cover any costs associated with the Covid19 / Pandemic that may hinder your travel, cause delays or added expense such as additional quarantine stays, demand for testing, rerouting, medical expenses, etc. Please be certain you are insured and/or prepared to travel in the event of uncertainties surrounding a Pandemic.
  - Additional expenses imposed by the Canadian Government that may increase the tour cost such as (and not limited to), a change in transport policy that requires the need for more vehicles (for social distancing); ie. imposing a Covid PCR Test; and/or imposed quarantine; or requirements to have additional guide(s) or transport services to space the group accordingly, etc.



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#### **HOTEL LISTING (Confirmed)**

The following Hotels are confirmed for your Canadian Tour

JULY 18, 2022 CALGARY, Alberta

Hotel Sandman Singature (Calgary Downtown) - https://www.sandmanhotels.com/signature-calgary-downtown

Address: 888 7 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3J3, Canada

Phone: +1 403-237-8626

JULY 19, 20, 21, 2022 BANFF, Alberta

Hotel Irwin's Mountain - https://irwinsmountaininn.com/Inn 3 stars/

Address: 429 Banff Ave, Banff, AB T1L 1B2, Canada

**Phone:** +1 403-762-4566

JULY 22, 23, 24, 2022 JASPER, Alberta

Jasper Inn & Suites - https://www.jasperinn.com/ Address: 98 Geikie St, Jasper, AB TOE 1E0, Canada

Phone: +1 780-852-4461

JULY 25, 2022 CANMORE, Alberta

Canmore Inn & Suites - https://www.canmoreinn.com/

Address: 1402 Bow Valley Trail, Canmore, AB T1W 1N5, Canada

Phone: +1 403-609-4656

#### **Jasper Free Day (Options)**

On your free day in the lovely mountain town of Jasper, the following excursions are available:

- A. Visit the Sky Tram for amazing panoramic views https://www.jasper.travel/things-to-do/skytram/
- B. Morning "Sun Jammer" open air tour of Jasper <a href="https://www.sundogtours.com/package/1939-historic-jammer-tours-morning/">https://www.sundogtours.com/package/1939-historic-jammer-tours-morning/</a>
- C. Sunburst Canoe Adventure on Pyramid Lake https://www.sundogtours.com/package/canoe-adventures/
- D. Spa and Well Being at Fairmont Springs Lodge https://www.jasper.travel/things-to-do/spa-wellness/
- E. Experience Jasper's culture, arts & science <a href="https://www.jasper.travel/things-to-do/arts-culture-planetarium/">https://www.jasper.travel/things-to-do/arts-culture-planetarium/</a>
- F. Golf Canada's Number 1 course! <a href="https://www.jasper.travel/things-to-do/golfing/">https://www.jasper.travel/things-to-do/golfing/</a>
- G. Horseback Ride Jasper's beautiful terrain <a href="https://www.jasper.travel/experiences/jasper-stables-trail-rides/">https://www.jasper.travel/experiences/jasper-stables-trail-rides/</a>
- H. Jasper National Park & Heritage Programs for visits & workshops will be announced in the spring.
- H. More insights to Jasper's potential https://www.jasper.travel/summer/