



GIPPSLAND  
**TRAVEL**

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# GRAND TOUR OF CANADA AND ALASKA

## 10 July to 2 August 2026 – 22 nights

*Personally Escorted by Jacquey Turner*



Canada and Alaska are a must do on everyone's travel list and this tour has been a firm favourite over the years. With Jacquey escorting you all the way, you will travel through the heart of the Canadian Rockies on the famous **Rocky Mountaineer** with expansive views of spectacular mountains, emerald lakes, charming mountain towns and unique wildlife from the gold class panoramic windows.

Bordered by mountains and sea, **Vancouver** combines the best of cosmopolitan city where the ocean, forest and mountains meet. Wander the downtown with its British colonial architecture to shop, sightsee, admire heritage buildings and visit stunning gardens.

**Victoria** on beautiful Vancouver Island is one of the Canada's most picturesque cities, with the surrounding area home to dramatic mountain and ocean vistas boasting colourful gardens, and a stunning harbour.

We top off this spectacular tour of Canada's West Coast with an **Alaskan cruise** through the awe-inspiring Inside Passage! Total relaxation as your cruise offers an abundance of magnificent scenery, towns with fascinating historic and cultural insights and wildlife sightings from whales to brown bears.



**FRI 10 JULY****MELBOURNE – VANCOUVER****(D)**

We have a morning departure from Gippsland to Melbourne Airport for our flight to Vancouver via Auckland. On arrival, we will meet up with our Tour Director, Gordie West. After checking into the **PAN PACIFIC**, or *similar*, for the next three nights, there will be time to take a walk or just relax. Tonight, enjoy your Welcome Dinner hosted by Jacquey.

**SAT 11 & SUN 12 JULY****VANCOUVER SIGHTSEEING****(B D B)**

Over the next two days we discover the delights of Vancouver's spectacular inner harbour, Gastown, carriage ride through Stanley Park, the majestic North Shore Mountains, one of Vancouver's oldest attractions, the Capilano Suspension Bridge with its treetop walk, and enjoy the wonderful views from Grouse Mountain. We shall experience FlyOver Canada. Included is a visit to Granville Island and enjoy watching the sights of Vancouver and Lions Gate Bridge at dusk during our dinner cruise. The other evening will be at leisure and there are many restaurants and cafes close to the hotel.







## OUR ROCKY MOUNTAINEER RAIL JOURNEY BEGINS

### **MON 13 JULY**

### **VANCOUVER TO KAMLOOPS**

**(B L)**

Today we board the luxurious *GoldLeaf* Section of the famous **ROCKY MOUNTAINEER** to experience one of the world's great rail journeys. For the next two days the train takes us from Vancouver to Banff via Kamloops.

The train's amazing two-storey glass roofed railcars allow you to enjoy the magnificent scenery. The meals on board are superb, with a great menu selection. On arrival at Kamloops, we will be transferred to our comfortable hotel arranged by the Rocky Mountaineer.

### **TUES 14 JULY**

### **KAMLOOPS TO BANFF**

**(B L)**

This morning, we transfer back to Kamloops station and continue our journey eastward into the spectacular Rocky Mountains. Marvel at the glaciers and snow-capped mountains of Rogers Pass and Kicking Horse Pass. In the late afternoon we arrive in Banff and transfer to the **MOOSE HOTEL & SUITES**, or *similar*, where we spend the next three nights. Our hotel is located a 1-minute walk from the heart of downtown Banff.

### **WED 15 & THUR 16 JULY**

### **BANFF & LAKE LOUISE SIGHTSEEING**

**(B B L L)**

Over the next couple of days, we will explore Banff and travel to the top of Sulphur Mountain for incredible views of Bow Valley. We shall also see the amazing sandstone formations called 'Hoodoos'. There will be time on your own to enjoy shopping or explore this quaint town further.

On our drive look out for some of Banff's well-known inhabitants, such as bighorn sheep and elk. We follow the Bow River Valley to spectacular Lake Louise, where we cross the valley to take the ski lift at the Lake Louise Ski Resort for a bird's eye view of the lake and its surrounding mountains. There will be time for a guided walk along the path beside Lake Louise and we have the chance to meet a 'Mountie'.

Lunches are included while in Banff at the famous *Chateau Lake Louise* and luxurious *Fairmont Banff Springs*.

**FRI 17 JULY****BANFF TO JASPER****(B D)**

This morning, we drive north, along the spine of the Rockies on one of the world's most spectacular drives, the famous Icefields Parkway, with its towering peaks, glaciers and tumbling alpine waterfalls. Watch out for black bear or Rocky Mountain goats, just some of the wildlife found in these parts.

We top off the day by riding the "Ice Explorer", an all-terrain vehicle, onto the enormous Athabasca Glacier in Jasper National Park – definitely a 'once in a lifetime' experience.

We shall then enjoy a gentle float down the Athabasca River before arriving in Jasper for our two-night stay at **CRIMSON HOTEL**, or similar. Tonight, we shall have dinner at a local restaurant.

**SAT 18 JULY****JASPER SIGHTSEEING & AT LEISURE****(B D)**

Today we follow the spectacular Maligne Canyon to Maligne Lake, the largest and most photogenic lake in the Canadian Rockies. We shall be hoping for good weather as we enjoy a cruise to Spirit Island on Maligne Lake. Leaving Maligne Lake, we pass by Medicine Lake, known for its amazing seasonal water level changes.

This afternoon, why not window-shop in Jasper's quaint stores or enjoy our resort hotel? You may wish to take a ride on the famous Jasper Tramway to view Whistler Mountain. This evening, we dine at a local restaurant.

**SUN 19 JULY****JASPER TO SUN PEAKS****(B L D)**

Leaving Jasper, we soon stand at the base of the awesome Mount Robson. On our way we will join the Blue River Safari, a guided boat tour into the Canadian wilderness for bear viewing. We then continue into the Cariboo Mountains region and follow the Thompson River to the quaint ski resort of Sun Peaks where we will stay at the **SUN PEAKS GRAND RESORT**, or similar. Dinner is at the hotel this evening.

**MON 20 JULY****SUN PEAKS TO WHISTLER****(B L)**

Today we travel along the scenic Duffy Lake Road, which take us takes us along gorgeous winding paths to Lillooet. We then continue along the road lined with thick forest through to the historic farming village of Pemberton. Wildlife we might see along the way includes black bears, hoary marmots, mule deer and big horn sheep. We then stop at the Hot Creek Ranch to enjoy lunch.

On our arrival in the charming alpine resort of Whistler, we shall check into the **NITA LAKE LODGE**, or similar, for the next two nights.



**TUES 21 JULY****WHISTLER SIGHTSEEING****(B D)**

Sightseeing in Whistler will include the Peak 2 Peak Gondola and the Squamish Lil'Wat Cultural Centre plus a 4WD Jeep Tour through Whistler's back country. There will also be plenty of time to explore the village's cobbled pathways and plazas.

The Village is the central neighborhood of the town of Whistler, located at the base of both Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains. It is divided into several areas - the Village, Village North and Upper Village. All the areas are connected by the paved, pedestrian-only Village Stroll.



***OUR HOLLAND AMERICA ALASKA CRUISE STARTS 22 JULY...***

Please note that all shore excursions in the ports of call operated by Holland America Line are at an additional cost.



**WED 22 JULY****WHISTLER TO VANCOUVER****(B D)**

Today we depart Whistler and drive to Vancouver to the cruise ship terminal to board our Holland America Cruise Ship the *'Zaandam'*. Along with your *Ocean View Stateroom*, the *Holland America* ship offers swimming pools, brilliant dining options, sports facilities and more.

Ports of call include Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay and Ketchikan. Our Holland America cruise departs and ends in Vancouver.

**THUR 23 JULY****ALASKA CRUISE****(B L D)**

Today we are at sea on one of the world's great cruise routes to Alaska. Relax and enjoy this scenic cruising as the ship sails through emerald islets, stunning headlands and the beautiful waters of the Inside Passage.

**FRI 24 JULY****ALASKA CRUISE****PORT OF CALL-JUNEAU****(B L D)**

This morning, we continue cruising. After lunch, we will arrive in Juneau, Alaska's state capital. It is not only famous for gold, but also for its breathtaking glaciers and stunning views of sea and mountains, the 'ultimate' port for optional excursions!

The afternoon and evening are at leisure to explore at your own pace or take an optional excursion. Hopefully there will be time for a drink at the Red Dog Saloon.

**SAT 25 JULY****ALASKA CRUISE****PORT OF CALL-SKAGWAY****(B L D)**

Sailing north through the Inside Passage, we reach the old 'gold rush' town of Skagway. After breakfast, you will have time to explore this frontier town, which was known to thousands of hopeful prospectors as the gateway to the gold fields and boasted the shortest route to the Klondike.

Today, Skagway retains the flavour of the 'gold rush' era, especially on Broadway, with its false-front buildings and the "Trail of 98" Museum, with its outstanding collection of memorabilia. It's also home of the renowned White Pass and Yukon Route Railroad.

**SUN 26 JULY****ALASKA CRUISE****PORT OF CALL-GLACIER BAY****(B L D)**

Our real highlight today will be cruising the spectacular *Glacier Bay National Park*. Watch in wonder as icebergs are created before your eyes and spectacular chunks of ice can be seen breaking off the glacier's face and crashing into the sea! Learn about the geological wonders of the area from the on-board rangers.



### **MON 27 JULY                      ALASKA CRUISE                      PORT OF CALL-KETCHIKAN                      (B L D)**

Today we visit the picturesque fishing village of Ketchikan, known as the salmon capital of the world. The beautiful harbour is a delight to explore, with an abundance of cultural and sightseeing opportunities.

Perhaps take an optional tour to explore more of its culture or simply enjoy the local scenery?

### **TUES 28 JULY                      ALASKA CRUISE                      INSIDE PASSAGE                      (B L D)**

We cruise southwards today through the famed Inside Passage. Enjoy the superb facilities of your cruise ship or relax and enjoy the sights. Plenty of time for picture opportunities.

### **WED 29 JULY                      VICTORIA                      (B D)**

After we disembark this morning, we shall take the ferry across the Strait of Georgia to Vancouver Island where we see the classic coastal scenery of the Pacific Northwest. The ferry meanders among the rustic Gulf Islands before arriving at Swartz Bay, our disembarkation point for the short drive to the capital of British Columbia, Victoria.

Our hotel for the next two nights is the **HOTEL GRAND PACIFIC**, or *similar*, where our rooms will have harbour views. After check-in, time to relax before dinner and perhaps enjoy an evening drink whilst admiring the stunning sunset!

### **THUR 30 JULY                      VICTORIA                      (B High-Tea)**

This morning, we will enjoy breakfast followed by a visit of the majestic Butchart Gardens, a National Historic Site of Canada.

On returning to Victoria, we shall take a Tally Ho horse and carriage sightseeing ride before we rendezvous for High Tea at the Empress Hotel. There will be time to explore the city at your leisure and our evening is free.

### **FRI 31 JULY                      VICTORIA – VANCOUVER - MELBOURNE                      (B)**

The morning is at leisure for packing and last-minute souvenir shopping. There will be time to visit the Royal BC Museum before heading to the airport for our return flight via Vancouver.



**SAT 1 AUGUST****CROSS INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE****SUN 2 AUGUST****ARRIVE BACK IN AUSTRALIA**

We shall arrive back in Melbourne in the morning and be met and transferred back to Gippsland by coach.

## GRAND TOUR OF CANADA AND ALASKA 2026

**TOUR COST:**      \$25,999 per person on a twin share basis  
                          \$ 6,842 single supplement

- ◆ Upgrade to Verandah A Cabin – \$2280 per person (twin/double share)
- ◆ Upgrade to Verandah A Cabin – \$4560 per person (single)
- ◆ Upgrade to Business Class on all flights except Victoria/Vancouver    POA
- ◆ Upgrade to Premium Economy (Melbourne/Vancouver/Melbourne    POA

\*\*Should you wish to extend your travel arrangements after the tour, please contact me to discuss further options.

\*\*Should you select to travel on flights other than the included group flights, or upgrade to business/first class, payment for the air fares will be required at the time of booking the flights

### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Deposit	due by 30 May 2025 to secure your place on this tour	\$3000 pp
Second deposit	due by 31 December 2025	\$2000 pp
Balance of payment	due by 25 March 2026	

### EXCLUSIONS

- Travel Insurance. Please note that it is a condition of our tour that all participants have comprehensive travel insurance. All details are available from our office.
- US Visa Waiver-current cost approx. US\$21 per person
- Canadian e-Visa- current cost approx. CAD\$7 per person
- Holland America Cruises shore excursions
- Any meals not included in the itinerary
- Telephone calls, laundry and any expenses of a personal nature

### CANCELLATION FEES

**Cancellation fees** cannot be credited to another booking.

Notice of cancellation must be made in writing to Gippsland Travel Centre.

Date prior to tour departure	Cancellation fee
31 May 2025 onwards	\$3000 deposit non-refundable
1 January 2026	\$5000 non-refundable
26 March 2026 onwards	100% of tour cost



## INCLUSIONS

- **Maximum group size will be 22 participants**
- Personally escorted throughout the entire tour – 22 days of Canada & Alaska adventures
- Economy airfares & taxes – Melbourne/Auckland/Vancouver and Victoria/Vancouver/Auckland/Melbourne
- Coach transfers from Gippsland to Melbourne Airport and return
- 4 & 5 star hotel accommodation in twin or double bedded rooms with private facilities
- 2 day **Gold Leaf Class** on **Rocky Mountaineer Railway**
- 7 nights on a premium **Holland America** cruise ship, **Zaandam** in outside **Ocean View Cabin**
- Cruise the Inside Passage one of the world's most spectacular waterways
- **Signature Have It All Package** which includes WIFI on board, US\$100pp shore excursion credit, Signature Beverage Package & Pinnacle Grill Specialty Dinner.
- **Guided orientation walks** in every port
- All port charges & taxes while on the cruise
- Private luxury air-conditioned full sized coach travel with reclining seats and rest rooms
- Travel along the scenic Icefields Parkway
- See Canada like never before at Vancouver's must-see attraction – FlyOver Canada
- Ski lift to top of Lake Louise Ski Resort.
- Board the Ice Explorer and climb onto the Athabasca Glacier
- Float down the World Heritage Athabasca River
- Ascend Sulphur Mountain in a gondola for spectacular views over Banff
- Meet a Mountie
- Explore Banff and Jasper National Parks
- Blue River Safari , a guided boat tour into the Canadian wilderness for bear viewing
- Take a guided tour of Vancouver's highlights including Capilano Suspension Bridge Park
- Cruise by ferry across the Georgia Strait
- Visit the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre in Whistler
- Peak 2 Peak Gondola - 360-degree views of Whistler Village, mountains, lakes, glaciers and forests
- Explore Butchart Gardens before the crowds arrive and enjoy breakfast
- Tour Victoria and see Parliament Buildings, Bastion Square, Thunderbird Park and downtown harbour
- Experience the splendour of Alaska's number one glacier viewing attraction, Glacier Bay
- Explore Juneau, the colourful Alaskan capital
- Visit Ketchikan, the salmon capital of the world
- Visit Royal BC Museum
- **48 Meals** as per itinerary: 21 Breakfasts (B), 12 Lunches (L), 14 Dinners (D), 1 (High Tea)
- **High Tea** at the famous Empress Hotel in Victoria
- Lunches at the famous Chateau Lake Louise and Fairmont Banff Springs
- Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary
- Entrance fees to sites mentioned in itinerary
- **Porterage** (one suitcase per person)
- **Tipping** of the Tour Director, coach drivers and restaurant staff at included meals
- **Tipping** of cruise staff



### **YOUR TOUR ESCORT**

Jacquey Turner is a highly experienced travel agent and tour escort with more than 36 years' industry experience.

Jacquey's attention to detail and personal care ensure that everyone travelling in her group will have a most enjoyable Canada and Alaska holiday experience.

**TOUR DIRECTOR**, Gordie was raised on a ranch near Acme, Alberta and began playing music at the local dance halls in his early teens. He spent his early years touring Alberta as a lead vocalist for a country band. He has released five albums in Britain covering a varied repertoire of country, rock, easy listening, ballads and sing-a-long music.

Gordie lives in Alberta with his wife, Shirley. When he is not "playing and singing" he is passionate about showing visitors the wonders of his country. Gordie will be with us until we board our cruise ship

## **GIPPSLAND TRAVEL ESCORTED TOURS - TERMS & CONDITIONS**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

This contract is governed by Gippsland Travel Centre Pty Ltd and all members of the travelling parties as listed on your itinerary.

Gippsland Travel Centre acts as the agent selling and coordinating products on behalf of a third-party travel supplier/s. A separate contract with the supplier/s will apply and will be governed by the supplier's Terms and Conditions. Gippsland Travel cannot guarantee the performance of any third-party supplier/s. Gippsland Travel may receive fees, commissions, gifts or financial incentives from third party supplier/s under this contract.

### **LATE BOOKINGS**

Higher deposit payments are required for late bookings. A guarantee of full payment is required at the time of booking for all bookings received within 4 weeks of departure.



## PASSPORT and VISA

A valid passport is required for all international travel.

If you do not hold an Australian passport, you may require a resident return visa. Some countries require a visa to be issued before you depart Australia. Gippsland Travel will advise you of all passport and visa requirements for this tour.

The Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regularly updates travel advice on various destinations. We recommend that you refer to [www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au) for the latest updates before choosing to travel and prior to departure.

## HEALTH & FITNESS

A minimum level of fitness is required to be able to participate on a Gippsland Travel Tour, you are required to at least:

- Be able to walk at least 1 hour on uneven surfaces without the use of any walking aid (walking stick for stability is acceptable)
- Walk up flights of stairs and short, steep hills
- Stand for 20 minutes without needing to sit down, often in hot/humid climates
- Carry your own hand luggage / handle your own suitcase when portage is not supplied eg. at airports.
- Get on and off various modes of transport without assistance, including small boats. Assistance will be offered where necessary.

Passengers must inform us of any medical conditions which may affect your ability to participate in the tour.

At our discretion we can exclude you from a tour or any activity if we consider that you are unable to safely participate in that tour or activity or we consider your participation may place the safety of other guests at risk.

You will be requested to supply a letter from your doctor indicating your prescription medication and your reason for taking it, which shall be carried in the event of an emergency. This information will remain confidential and can be supplied in a sealed envelope.

## BOOKINGS SOLD ON A SHARE BASIS

Bookings may be accepted on a share room basis on the proviso that the person requesting the share reservation agrees that while every effort will be made to match suitability of the passengers there is no guarantee that a share room can be provided. If a share room is not available at the time of final payment, either the single room supplement will apply, or the cancellation conditions detailed in your itinerary will apply.

## UNUSED COMPONENTS OF THIS TOUR

We regret refunds will not be given for any unused component of this tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation or transfers.

## ITINERARY CHANGES and ITINERARY VARIATIONS

Gippsland Travel reserves the right to amend the hotels, itinerary and excursions if deemed advisable or necessary due to adverse weather conditions, road conditions or other unforeseen circumstances. Any necessary alternative arrangements will be made to a similar standard.

Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of Gippsland Travel make it necessary to change airlines, hotels or amendments to daily activities. We will inform you of any changes as soon as they occur.

## GENERAL CONDUCT

Gippsland Travel reserves the right to remove a traveller from a tour if they are acting in a way that interferes with the general operation of the tour or compromises the general enjoyment of the tour by other travellers in any way

## FLIGHT SCHEDULES

Airlines schedules are subject to change without notice. Voluntary date changes will incur fees. Gippsland Travel is not liable for delays or disruption of air travel.

**FORCE MAJEURE:**

Force Majeure means the occurrence of an event that is beyond Gippsland Travel's reasonable control and which could not have been reasonably prevented by Gippsland Travel. Force majeure includes, but is not limited to: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crisis, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, natural catastrophes and natural disasters (including but not limited to flooding, fire, earthquake, landslide), adverse weather conditions, high or low water levels; government directed travel restrictions or omissions, changes in laws or regulations, national strikes, explosion, generalised lack of availability of raw materials or energy, nuclear or other industrial accident causing environmental pollution or contamination; change in law, meaning, enactment, amendment (including repeal) in the law or administration of any law in Australia or any jurisdiction or territory relevant to the booking contract, which includes changes in statute, regulation, determination, by-law, declaration, licence and the common law as applicable from time to time.

For the avoidance of doubt, Force Majeure shall not include (a) financial distress nor inability of either party to make a profit or avoid a financial loss, (b) changes in market prices or conditions, or (c) a party's financial inability to perform its obligations hereunder.

In the event that a Force Majeure is declared, the customer will be bound by the third-party supplier/s Terms and Conditions, if applicable.

**TERMINATION OF BOOKING CONTRACT OR CHANGE OF TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS DUE TO FORCE MAJEURE**

If Gippsland Travel, in its reasonable opinion, considers that any Force Majeure event prevents Gippsland Travel (whether directly or through its employees, contractors, subcontractors and agents) from lawfully or safely providing any products or services subject of the booking contract with you, Gippsland Travel may immediately by written notice; (a) terminate the booking contract (in whole or part of); or (b) change your travel arrangements as reasonably practicable to ensure your safety and invoice for any additional costs.

If you are eligible for a refund once a booking has been cancelled, the balance less any non-refundable amounts will be forwarded to you once received by Gippsland Travel from the third-party supplier/s.

Gippsland Travel is not responsible for any delays of refunds from the third-party supplier/s. Refunds from third party supplier/s can take in excess of 6 weeks. Refunds will be processed as per original form of payment.

Travel insurance policies may provide cover for cancellation fees subject to their terms and conditions.

**LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:**

Subject to Australian Consumer Law, Gippsland Travel does not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused by a third-party supplier/s over who we have no direct control. Gippsland Travel is not liable for Force Majeure or any other event which is beyond our control or which is not preventable by us.

**GOVERNING LAW**

These booking conditions are governed by the law in force in Victoria, Australia.