ENTIRE TRAVEL GROUP

VIEW PACKAGE


Terrace Northern BC | Credit: Tourism BC / Andrew Strain





CANADA

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

STARTS AND ENDS	TRAVEL PERIODS	EXPERIENCE	TRAVEL STYLE
Vancouver to Calgary	May - September	Indigenous Wildlife Self-Drive	Independent Holiday Packages

Explore the stunning coast and forests of Vancouver Island, cruise past fjords and coastal wilderness, then drive through Northern BC's rugged landscapes all the way to the majestic Canadian Rockies.

Highlights

- Embark on a full day of cruising the sheltered waters of Canada's Inside Passage
- 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, Campbell River, Jasper and Banff

Entire Bonus

Peace of Mind, Every Step of the Way

This holiday package is carefully designed by our team to give you complete Peace of Mind, with access to trusted local partners and expert support at your destination.

Leading Industry-Accredited Canada Specialist

Canada Travel is a leading, industry-accredited Canada specialist, combining genuine destination expertise with the strength and stability of an established travel group – so you can book with total confidence.

Embark on an unforgettable self-drive journey through some of Canada's most breathtaking landscapes and vibrant communities. Begin your adventure with a scenic ferry crossing from Vancouver to Vancouver Island, where you'll explore the charming city of Victoria and its stunning

surrounds. Enjoy the freedom to personalise your day with a choice of excursions — from the world-renowned Butchart Gardens and authentic Canadian food tours to whale watching and a classic high tea at the historic Fairmont Empress Hotel.

Next, journey north along Vancouver Island's rugged coastline, passing through cultural hubs like Duncan and Chemainus, before arriving in Campbell River. Here, you can immerse yourself in marine wildlife experiences, with a choice of whale watching or a seasonal bald eagle feeding tour. Witness hundreds of bald eagles gathering along the coast during this spectacular seasonal experience.

Continue your drive to the fishing village of Port Hardy, with optional orca-watching cruises available near Port McNeill, before boarding a full-day ferry cruise through Canada's iconic Inside Passage. This spectacular 15-hour voyage reveals snow-capped mountains, deep fjords, and dense coastal rainforests — a paradise for nature lovers and photographers alike.

After disembarking in Prince Rupert, your route follows the Yellowhead Highway through Northern BC's rugged interior. Trace the Skeena River through dramatic mountain scenery before continuing through the Bulkley Valley towards Smithers and onward to Prince George.

In Jasper National Park, choose from a variety of outdoor experiences such as a Maligne Lake cruise, gentle river rafting, or guided nature walks to soak in the spectacular scenery and wildlife.

The journey continues along the Icefields Parkway, one of the world's most scenic drives, featuring glacier explorations on the Ice Explorer and breathtaking views from the Glacier Skywalk.

Conclude your adventure in Banff with further options to customise your experience, from soaring gondola rides and serene lake cruises to canoe tours, horseback riding and an e-bike tour through the Banff townsite.



INCLUSIONS

- 2 nights in Victoria at Inn at Laurel Point
- 2 nights in Campbell River at Coast Discovery Inn
- 1 night in Port Hardy at Quarterdeck Inn
- 1 night in Prince Rupert at Prestige Oceanview Hotel
- 1 night in Smithers at Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge
- 1 night in Prince George at Sandman Signature Prince George Hotel
- 2 nights in Jasper at Forest Park Hotel
- 2 nights in Banff at Moose Hotel & Suites
- 13 days intermediate size car rental
- BC Ferry between Vancouver and Vancouver Island
- BC Ferry between Port Hardy and Prince Rupert
- 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 2
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 4
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 10
- One "Freedom of Choice" tour on day 12

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 and travel south to Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal for the scenic 90-minute BC Ferries crossing to Swartz Bay on Vancouver Island. As you sail through the Strait of Georgia, take in views of the Gulf Islands, forested shorelines and distant mountain peaks. Upon arrival, continue south to Victoria, British Columbia's elegant capital city, set beside the sparkling Inner Harbour and known for its gardens, coastal scenery and historic charm.

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



VANCOUVER | CREDIT: ALBERT NORMANDIN

Day 2 Victoria

Today, you can personalise your day by pre-selecting one of four **Freedom of Choice** excursions below.

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

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Butchart Gardens Admission:**

  Explore the world-famous Butchart Gardens, a National Historic Site of Canada and one of the most beautiful garden estates in the country. Wander through 22 hectares/55 acres of floral displays, landscaped pathways, sunken gardens and peaceful viewpoints spread across the 53-hectare/130-acre estate.

OR

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

  Discover Victoria through its flavours on a guided culinary walking tour. Sample local ingredients, historic dishes and modern Canadian favourites while exploring the Inner Harbour and nearby neighbourhoods. Along the way, meet the chefs, makers and local food experts who help make Victoria one of Canada's most enjoyable small-city dining destinations.

OR

- **High Tea at the Fairmont Empress Hotel:**

  Enjoy the timeless tradition of Afternoon Tea at the Fairmont Empress, one of Victoria's most iconic landmarks. Settle into an elegant setting overlooking the Inner Harbour and savour fine tea, delicate finger sandwiches, pastries and freshly baked scones in a setting that reflects the city's historic charm.

OR

- **Whale Watch Cruise:**

  Head out onto the Salish Sea for a thrilling 3.5-hour whale watching cruise from Victoria. Travel aboard a covered or open vessel in search of orcas, humpback whales, sea lions, porpoises and seabirds. Hydrophones may be used to bring the underwater world to life, adding another dimension to this remarkable marine experience.



CREDIT: BUTCHART GARDENS

Day 3 Victoria Campbell River

Leave Victoria and travel north along Vancouver Island's scenic east coast, passing through rolling forests, rural communities and coastal landscapes as you make your way up the Island Highway. En route, stop in Duncan, the "City of Totems," where carved poles reflect the stories and artistry of the region's Indigenous cultures. If time permits, visit the Quw'utsun' Heritage Village for insight into the traditions and history of the northwest coast people. Continue to Chemainus, an artist community known for its large outdoor murals, then stop in Coombs at the Old Country Market, famous for the goats that graze on its grass-covered roof during the warmer months. By late afternoon, arrive in Campbell River, historically known as the "Salmon Capital of the World" and set against the dramatic backdrop of Discovery Passage, Strathcona Provincial Park and the Coast Mountains.

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



CAMPBELL RIVER

Day 4 Campbell River

The diversity of wildlife and awe inspiring scenery that exists so close to Campbell River is unparalleled! Today, you can personalise your day by pre-selecting one of two **Freedom of Choice** excursions below.

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

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Whale Watching Cruise:**

  Set out on a 4-hour marine wildlife adventure from Campbell River through the Salish Sea, Discovery Passage and the scenic Discovery Islands. Travelling with an experienced naturalist captain, choose between a comfortable covered boat or an open-air Zodiac as you search for humpback whales, orcas, dolphins, porpoises, seals, sea lions, bald eagles and other coastal wildlife in their natural habitat.

OR

- **Bald Eagle Feeding Frenzy Tour | 27 May - 31 Jul:**

  Witness one of Vancouver Island's most dramatic seasonal wildlife spectacles on a 4-hour Zodiac excursion from Campbell River. Timed around powerful spring and early summer tidal currents near the Discovery Islands, this tour takes you safely within view of hundreds of bald eagles as they dive for hake at the ocean's surface, with seals, sea lions and coastal seabirds often joining the feeding frenzy.



CAMPBELL RIVER | CREDIT: DESTINATION BC BOOMER JERRITT

Day 5 Campbell River Port Hardy

Leave Campbell River and continue north along Vancouver Island's rugged coastline, where dense coastal rainforest presses close to the road and glimpses of the ocean appear between rocky shores and quiet inlets. The journey winds through small communities and stretches of untouched wilderness, with towering evergreens and misty coastal views defining the landscape. Near Port McNeill, you may wish to join an optional orca watching cruise into Johnstone Strait, where calm waters are framed by forested islands and distant mountain silhouettes. Continue to Port Hardy, set against a backdrop of windswept shoreline, forested hills and open ocean horizons.

Overnight in Port Hardy at **Quarterdeck Inn**



PORT HARDY WATERFRONT | CREDIT: TOURISM VANCOUVER ISLAND

Day 6 Port Hardy Prince Rupert

Embark on a full day of cruising through the sheltered waters of Canada's Inside Passage with BC Ferries. This remarkable 15-hour journey weaves between remote islands, narrow channels and steep-sided fjords, where dense forests spill down to the water's edge and waterfalls cascade from hidden valleys. Reserved seating in the Aurora Lounge is included, providing a comfortable place to relax throughout the voyage. Snow-capped peaks rise in the distance as the ferry glides through calm, reflective waters, offering ever-changing views of one of British Columbia's most pristine coastal wilderness regions before arriving in Prince Rupert.

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



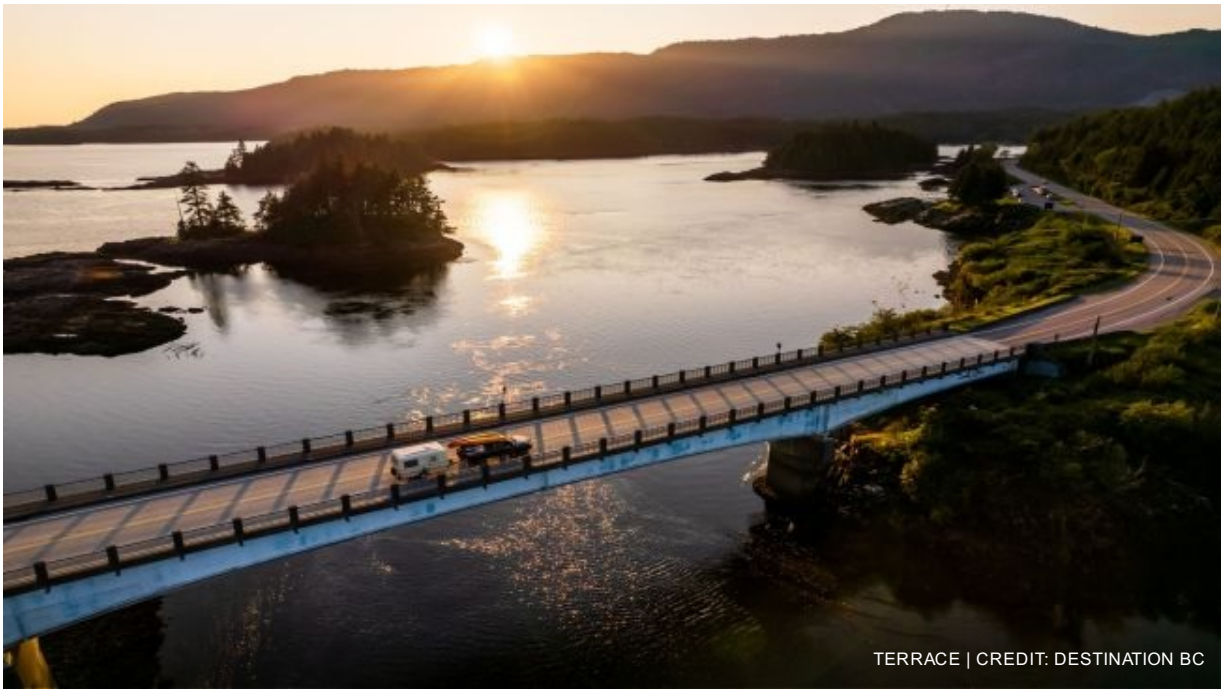
COW BAY HARBOUR PRINCE RUPERT | CREDIT: DESTINATION BC

Day 7 Prince Rupert Smithers

Depart Prince Rupert and follow the Yellowhead Highway east, tracing the Skeena River as it carves through a dramatic landscape of towering mountains and deep, forested valleys. The road follows the river's winding course, with sheer rock faces, rushing water and dense stands of spruce and cedar creating a striking backdrop. As you travel inland, the scenery

gradually opens into the broad Bulkley Valley, where rolling hills and distant peaks lead you to Smithers, set beneath the impressive slopes of Hudson Bay Mountain.

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



TERRACE | CREDIT: DESTINATION BC

Day 8 Smithers Prince George

Leave Smithers and continue east along the Yellowhead Highway through expansive northern landscapes, where wide valleys stretch between low mountain ranges and forests of pine and spruce extend to the horizon. Lakes and rivers appear alongside the road, reflecting the sky and surrounding wilderness. Pass through Houston, known as the Steelhead Capital, before continuing through Burns Lake and Vanderhoof, where open farmland begins to mix with forest. Arrive in Prince George, where rivers converge amid a landscape of rolling hills and northern forest.

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



SMITHERS

Day 9 Prince George Jasper

Depart Prince George and travel east through increasingly dramatic terrain as the foothills rise toward the Canadian Rockies. The route follows winding rivers and forested valleys, with distant peaks gradually growing larger on the horizon. As you approach Mount Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, its towering, glacier-clad summit dominates the skyline. Continue into Jasper National Park, where alpine forests, turquoise lakes and rugged mountain scenery create a striking introduction to one of Canada's most iconic wilderness regions.

Overnight in Jasper at **Forest Park Hotel**


JASPER NATIONAL PARK

Day 10 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 across Maligne Lake, one of Jasper National Park's most photographed settings. Surrounded by mountain peaks, forested shoreline and brilliant alpine water, the journey includes views toward Spirit Island, one of the Canadian Rockies' most iconic natural landmarks.(*Operating season is weather dependent)*

OR

- **Jasper River Float:**

  Enjoy a gentle rafting experience on the Athabasca River, offering a relaxed and scenic perspective of Jasper National Park. Drift through a wide mountain valley with views of forests, peaks and wildlife habitat while your guide shares stories of the area's natural and human history.

OR

- **Jasper Nature Walk:**

  Explore Jasper National Park on a guided nature walk through a landscape of rolling hills, jagged peaks, forests, meadows, marshes, streams and glacial lakes. Along the way, learn more about the plants, wildlife and mountain ecology that make this region so remarkable.



MALIGNE LAKE | CREDIT: PURSUIT MIKE SEEHAGEL

Day 11 Jasper Banff

Today, travel south along the Icefields Parkway, one of the most spectacular mountain drives in the world. This remarkable route follows the spine of the Canadian Rockies, passing glacier-fed lakes, sweeping valleys, waterfalls and towering peaks. At the Columbia Icefield, step aboard the Ice Explorer for a journey onto ancient glacier ice, then continue to the Glacier Skywalk, where a glass-floored platform extends high above the Sunwapta Valley. These included experiences offer a powerful perspective on the scale, beauty and geology of this treasured region before you continue to Banff.

Overnight in Banff at **Moose Hotel & Suites**



GLACIER SKYWALK | CREDIT: PURSUIT

Day 12 Banff

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

Overnight in Banff at **Moose Hotel & Suites**

Freedom of Choice Options

- **Banff Gondola:**

  Ride the Banff Gondola to the summit of Sulphur Mountain for sweeping views over Banff, the Bow Valley and the surrounding peaks of Banff National Park. At the top, enjoy viewing platforms, interpretive exhibits and time to take in one of the most impressive panoramas in the Canadian Rockies.

OR

- **Lake Minnewanka Cruise:**

  Cruise across the turquoise waters of Lake Minnewanka, surrounded by mountain peaks, forested shoreline and open alpine scenery. As you travel toward Devil's Gap, enjoy a relaxed and scenic perspective of one of Banff National Park's most beautiful glacier-fed lakes.

OR

- **River Explorer Canoe Tour:**

  Enjoy a gentle guided canoe tour along the Bow River, where calm waters, mountain views and riverside scenery create a peaceful way to experience Banff National Park. This fun and interactive excursion is ideal for families, with no paddling experience necessary.

OR

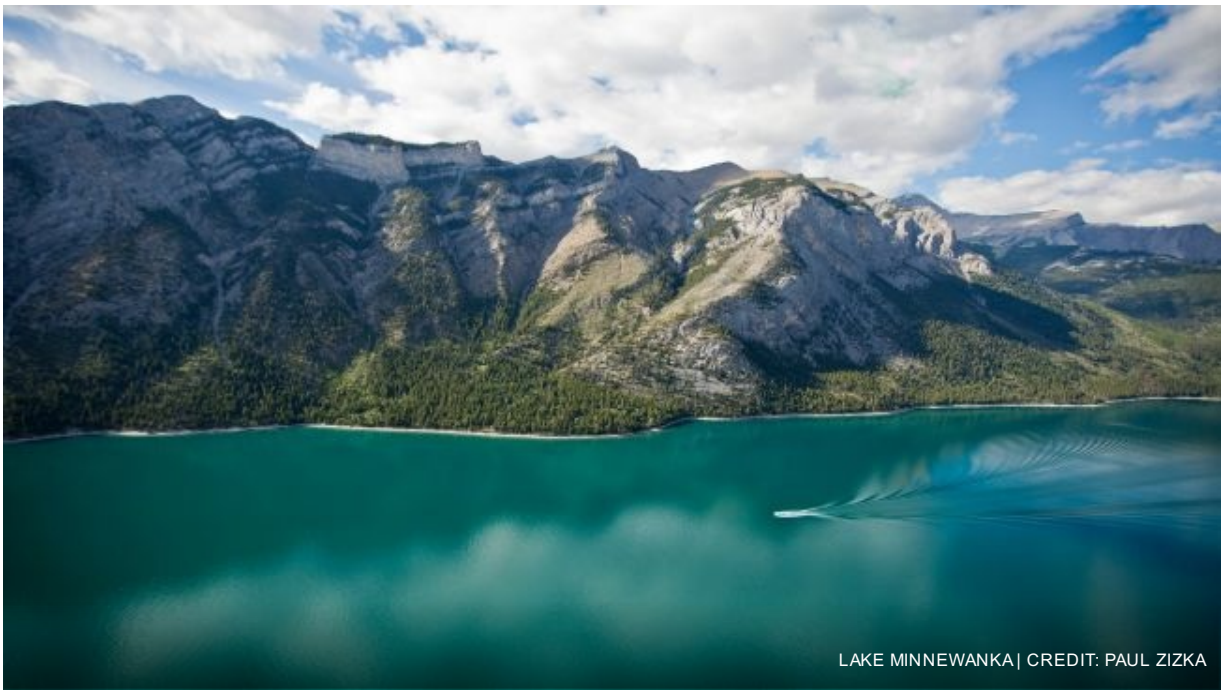
- **Bow River Horseback Adventure:**

  Saddle up for a guided horseback ride through the celebrated landscapes of Banff National Park. Follow scenic riverside trails, take in mountain views and experience the Rockies in a classic western style.

OR

- **Banff Townsite E-Bike Tour:**

  Explore Banff on a relaxed guided e-bike ride to some of the town's most scenic highlights, including Bow Falls, Surprise Corner, downtown Banff and the Cave and Basin National Historic Site. Enjoy mountain views, local history and an easy-paced ride suitable for beginners and families.



LAKE MINNEWANKA | CREDIT: PAUL ZIZKA

Day 13 Banff Calgary

Say goodbye to the fresh mountain air and majestic scenery of the Rockies as you leave Banff National Park and follow the

Trans-Canada Highway east. Along the way, the dramatic peaks, forested slopes and glacier carved valleys gradually soften into rolling foothills and wide-open prairie landscapes. If time permits, consider a scenic detour to Cochrane, a western foothills town set above the Bow River, where ranching heritage, river pathways and wide views back toward the Rockies make a relaxed final stop before Calgary. 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 mini-fridges, and tea- and coffee-making 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.



Coast Discovery Inn

Campbell River

Located right across the street from the ocean, Coast Discovery Inn is a storied landmark within the downtown Campbell River cityscape. The hotel is affectionately referred to as “the D.I.” by locals. Unwind in clean, comfy rooms and suites offering free wi-fi, flat-screen TVs and triple-sheeted beds – or splurge on a suite with a jetted tub for the ultimate in relaxation. Pets are welcome here, too!



Quarterdeck Inn

Port Hardy

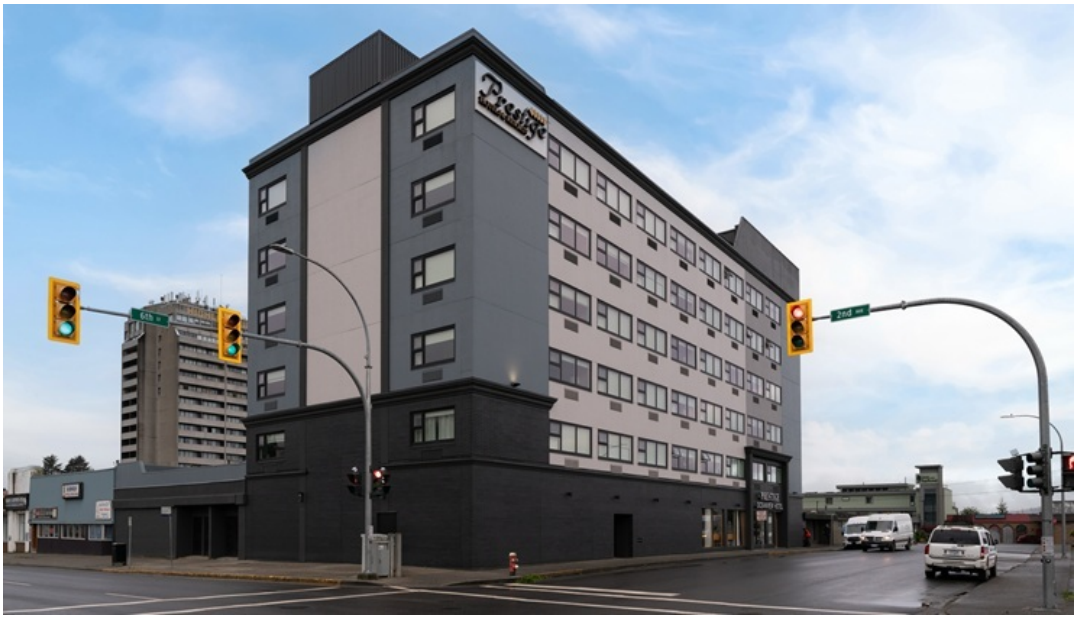
The Quarterdeck Inn & Marina Resort offers full-service comfort and hospitality to ensure a relaxing stay. Surrounded by nature and just a short walk from downtown Port Hardy, each room offers beautiful ocean views and is equipped with free Wi-Fi, flat-screen televisions with cable, and mini fridges.



Prestige Oceanview Hotel Prince Rupert

Prince Rupert

Located within easy walking distance of Prince Rupert's scenic Inner Harbour, Prestige Oceanview Hotel Prince Rupert is a comfortable base for exploring the town and its coastal surroundings. Guests can enjoy convenient access to local attractions, seasonal events, live entertainment and boutique shops showcasing unique works from local artists, making it a great choice for both adventure and relaxation.



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.



Sandman Signature Prince George Hotel

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.



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.



Moose Hotel & Suites

Banff

The Moose Hotel & Suites offers mountain elegance in warm, rich and natural materials. Located a 1 minute walk from the heart of downtown Banff, the Moose Hotel & Suites features 174 air conditioned guests rooms, with a combination of One and Two Bedroom Suites and hotel rooms. Amenities include the Meadow Spa & Pools with 10 treatment rooms and private outdoor hot pool, a bright indoor swimming pool, exercise room on the 3rd floor and 2 spectacular rooftop hot pools with views of the Canadian Rockies. Dining is available at Pacini Italian Restaurant, featuring gourmet Italian food with authentic flavours and friendly service.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE	LOCAL CURRENCY
French & English	Canadian Dollars

FROM price reflects the lowest available price within the advertised travel period (e.g. April to October). Pricing varies depending on travel dates, availability and demand, and may not be available on all departures. Higher pricing applies during peak and shoulder periods. Final pricing is confirmed at the time of enquiry or booking. Please refer to **Pricing & Price Conditions** for full details, including inclusions, exclusions and other conditions.

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