

The Great Plains by Two Name Trains

A unique chance to travel on two great "name" trains to visit the centre of the North American Continent from the comfort of your private sleeping compartments, dining cars, lounges and scenic domes. Enjoy the Canadian Rockies and the vast Prairies to Winnipeg then America's Northern States to the Pacific Coast

**Departures from Vancouver Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays
for 6 + Days**

Detailed Itinerary for 2010 (Unescorted)

*Meals included in package are shown thus: B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = Dinner
(All other meals are on your own)*

Day 1:

Make your way to Vancouver's Pacific Central Station and check in by 7:00 PM to get your accommodation assignments and baggage checked. Join fellow travellers in the departure lounge and station platform terrace as you are entertained with a drink to some traveling music. Board the famous train at 8:00 PM and settle in for an 8:30 PM departure. Your train winds its way through Vancouver's eastern suburbs and lower Fraser Valley as you settle into your private room. By nightfall you are well into the Coastal Mountains and the Fraser Canyon. Retire for the night in your choice of sleeping accommodation.

Meals: none

Day 2:

After breakfast in the dining car you are in the heart of the Rockies enjoying the fantastic scenery which lasts until well after dinner. By 4:00 PM a stop is made in Jasper allowing for a break off the train. Reboard the train when called and go to your dining car for dinner. By 7:00 PM you are on your way out of the mountains and into Alberta's verdant foothills. At 11:00 PM arrive in Edmonton, Alberta's capital city of over a million people. By now you should be in bed on your way east across the prairies into Saskatchewan

Meals: B, L, D

Day 3:

By breakfast time you are at Saskatoon for a brief stop then are well into Manitoba by dinner time. Arrival in Winnipeg is planned for 8:30 PM. After the short walk to the beautiful old railway hotel you have the rest of the evening free. An extra day or two in Winnipeg may be required to connect with coach service to the U.S.A. (see note below).

Hotel: The Fort Garry

Meals: B, L, D

Remaining Days: Important note: The 12.5 hour motorcoach service to Minneapolis/St.Paul Amtrak in the USA runs only on Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays so plan your itinerary accordingly to take this into account.

Day 4 (or 5):

Breakfast is available in the dining room of your hotel at 6:30 AM. Check out at 7:00 AM and take a taxi for the 30 minute ride to the Greyhound depot at Winnipeg Airport. Here you board a modern motorcoach for a 9:15 AM departure to Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A. We suggest taking lunch or snacks with you as there are no dining services en route. This leisurely trip takes you south to Emerson on the U.S.A. border and then on to Fargo, North Dakota for a one hour stop. A passport is required to enter the United States. By late afternoon you will be in Minnesota and arrive in Minneapolis at about 8:45 PM. You transfer by taxi for the 20 minute ride to the Amtrak station across the mighty Mississippi River to neighbouring St. Paul. Here you relax before the arrival of *The Empire Builder* at 11:00 PM. Once aboard you settle into your sleeping room for the start of your westbound journey and a comfortable sleep.

Meals: B

Day 5 (or 6):

Breakfast is available in the dining car as your train heads west across sparsely populated North Dakota. You are in Montana by noon and by dinnertime are skirting the Rockies' famous Glacier National Park. By bedtime you are crossing into Idaho and in Washington State by midnight.

Meals: B, L, D

Day 6 (or 7):

Over breakfast you will find yourself in the heart of Washington's North Cascade Range and can expect arrival in Seattle by about 10:30 AM. You can connect directly to a motorcoach for transfer to Vancouver or if you wish you should have some time to walk around downtown Seattle and do some shopping before an alternate Amtrak connecting Thruway motorcoach leaves at 1:15 PM for Surrey, Richmond and Vancouver. It arrives back at Pacific Central Station at 5:00 PM, your starting point. Alternatively take the evening Cascades service to Vancouver leaving Seattle at 6:50 PM arriving in Vancouver 4 hours later. This ends a great circle tour of outstanding geography and great experiences.

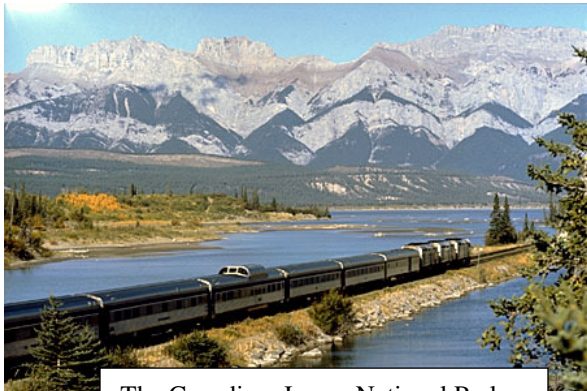
Meals: B.

FARE: The 6-Day Tour, based on shared accommodation. From only Cdn\$1295 per person sharing accommodation. Single fares start at Cdn\$1495. Final confirmed fare depends on age of guests, number traveling together, type of sleeping accommodation on the trains (upper or lower berths, single, double or triple bedrooms), date of booking, date of travel, and US\$ exchange rate. **NOTE: You can't beat our prices doing this on your own.** As agents for all services we have access to best rates and pass good savings on to you.

Included in the price: Train fares, sleeping accommodation, motorcoach transfers, hotel, meals as noted, complete documentation with route guides, tickets & detailed itinerary. Short taxi transfers are not included. GST on Canadian portion only is added.

Add a night in Seattle and take the morning Amtrak "Cascades" train service to Vancouver for an extra \$99 per person including your hotel.

Vancouver Island residents may wish to take the high speed ferry "Victoria Clipper" home to the Island from Seattle's Pier 69.



The Canadian, Jasper National Park



The Empire Builder, Cutbank MT

All services are booked direct to your personal credit card and are therefore subject to the terms and conditions of each carrier or service provider booked on your behalf.

Make all bookings direct to:

West Coast Rail Tours

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