



Alberta Hike: Banff to Jasper Adventure



Trip Summary

Soaring, snow-clad peaks, crystalline glacial lakes, alpine meadows and countless species of wildlife set the perfect stage for your six-day adventure vacation in the Canadian Rockies. In the sunshine, hike wildflower meadows and national park trails – even trek across a glacier. Bike serene forested paths around turquoise lakes, raft the playful rapids of the Kananaskis River and spend a morning horseback riding along pristine mountain trails. In the evening, savor a well-earned meal, take a soak in a whirlpool and curl up with a book by a wood-burning fireplace...the perfect finishing touches to a day of family fun in Canada's beautiful backcountry.

The toughest part is going home.SM



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Detailed Itinerary

Day 1: Calgary | Kootenay National Park | Banff National Park | Lake Louise

Calgary Arrival: Welcome to Calgary, Alberta! Your guides will pick you up in the morning from your pre-trip hotel.

Transfer Time: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Kootenay National Park: This hundred-year-old national park was originally established for accessing the Rockies via a new road. Explore the layered, contrasting landscape that offers stunning views of the mountains. This park is just another reason to visit the Canadian Rockies, where discovery is around every bend in the trail and between the trees.

Marble Canyon Hike: Take a scenic walk, through Marble Canyon, making your way to an impressive waterfall. This nearly two-mile out-and-back trek will lead you over several bridges over a deep ravine. You may also have the chance to soak your feet in blue glacier water at the “beach” near the first bridge if time allows.

Banff National Park: Did you know Banff is Canada’s oldest national park? This jaw-dropping location will have you in awe of the pure, rocky wilderness that awaits your visit, offering miles of trails and plenty of famous spots for landscape photography. Banff gets its name from the Scottish town Banffshire, where two of the Canadian Pacific Railway’s original directors were born.

Lake Louise Scenic Stop: Stop off at one of Banff’s most famous sites: Lake Louise. This lake, named after Princess Louise Caroline Alberta, is famous for brilliantly blue lakes, Victoria Glacier, and sweeping views of jagged mountains. Make sure to take pictures of this fantastic site that’s graced many photographers’ viewfinders.

Accommodation: *Baker Creek Chalets (L,D)*



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Day 2: Sentinel Pass

Sentinel Pass Hike: This all-day hike gives adventurers a bit more of a challenge. Begin with a series of 12 switchbacks that will take you up the trail overlooking views of Moraine Lake. You'll trek seven miles total, with the option of summiting Sentinel Pass.

Accommodation: Baker Creek Chalets (B,L,D)

Day 3: Jasper National Park | Athabasca Glacier

Transfer Time: 2 Hours

Jasper National Park: A sprawling, true wilderness brimming with wondrously magnificent mountains and clear lakes, this national park is certainly one to write home about. Jasper claims its title as the largest national park in the Rockies. Get a feel for true ruggedness in this Canadian landscape.

Athabasca Glacier Icewalk: Here's your chance to try out crampons and walking sticks on glaciers! Crampons are spiked attachments for your footwear to trek across ice. Arrive at Athabasca Glacier on the edge of Jasper National Park, where you're outfitted in crampons and walking sticks. Spend the day hiking the glacier alongside a professional glacier guide, learning about its formation and the powerful way it shapes the land.

Transfer Time: 2 Hours

Accommodation: Baker Creek Chalets (B,L,D)



Day 4: Yoho National Park | Emerald Lake

Yoho National Park: This park certainly lives up to its Cree name, an expression which stands for "awe and wonder". Jagged mountain peaks layer into this magnificent landscape west of Banff National Park. Over 318,000 acres of impressive land filled with fossils has proven to be an adventurer's delight.

Emerald Lake Hike: This all-day hike will lead you along Emerald Lake Lakeshore Trail where you're guaranteed sleek views of avalanche paths, alpine vistas, aquamarine lakes, glaciers and glacier-fed creeks. Hike three miles to the lakeshore, then another six miles to either Emerald Basin or Yoho Pass. You'll be trekking through grizzly bear and mountain goat territory -- keep an eye out!

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Transfer Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Night On Your Own: Enjoy a night on your own this evening for dinner. Your guides will give you restaurant options to choose from in the area and will provide ideas on things to do on your own time. Alternatively, feel free to just relax tonight after a wonderful activity-filled day!

Accommodation: *Royal Canadian Lodge (B,L)*

Day 5: Sunshine Meadows

Sunshine Meadows Hike: Spend an entire day hiking one of the most stunning alpine settings in the Canadian Rockies, where you'll learn about the land and plant life around you. Begin the day with a gondola ride up to Sunshine Meadows to gain elevation, then trek through an incredible landscape surrounded by some of the Rockies' highest peaks. Take in unobstructed, panoramic views as our high alpine trail winds its way past waterfalls, lakes and flower-gorged meadows

Accommodation: *Royal Canadian Lodge (B,L,D)*

Day 6: Banff Townsite | Calgary Departure

Johnson Lake Hike: Get out for a two-mile loop hike around Johnson Lake, where the water is perfectly framed by rolling mountaintops. This lake is at a lower level of elevation and the trail welcomes hikers of all levels. Circle around the lake clockwise and watch Cascade Mountain in the background.

Transfer Time: 2 Hours

Calgary Departure: Your guides will shuttle you back to Calgary to get ready for your departure home.

Accommodation: *(B)*

**Trip itineraries are subject to change without notice due to road, weather and other factors outside of our control, for the safety and enjoyment of our guests, as deemed necessary and appropriate by Austin Adventures.*



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Distinctive Accommodation

Baker Creek Chalets - 3 night(s)

Nestled in a peaceful wooded setting beside Baker Creek, this lodge and cabins blend magically into their surroundings, far from the bustle of Lake Louise. Baker Creek is an intimate casual mountain resort consisting of log chalets, lodge suites, Bistro restaurant and a Heritage Executive Conference Centre. It is family owned and operated year-round. Baker Creek is the perfect central location to explore mountain lakes, drive, hike, bike, snowshoe, cross-country ski, downhill ski or just relax surrounded by some of the most famous scenery in the world.



Royal Canadian Lodge - 2 night(s)

Located in the heart of the mountain town, Royal Canadian Lodge is the quintessential Canadian lodge, with a distinctive Rundle Rock fireplace and walls covered in Canadian artwork. The rooms are elegantly appointed with custom-made Canadian furnishings and Canadian artwork. The oversized bathrooms have an Alberta granite topped vanity and full bathtub and shower. Considered one of Canada's premiere national parks, Banff National Park has been designated a World Heritage Site, renowned for its majestic mountain ranges, and pristine mountain lakes and forests. The Town of Banff is a sophisticated mountain resort featuring excellent shopping opportunities, diverse dining, and fun nightlife spots.



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Activities Featured on This Trip



Hiking: Most hikes on this adventure are considered easy to moderate (2 to 4 miles with up to 400 feet of elevation gain). Oftentimes, we'll do several shorter hikes over the course of one day. If a more difficult hike is listed on this itinerary, its mileage and elevation gain will be listed in the day's activity description within the detailed itinerary.

What's Included?

Included in Trip Price:

- Double occupancy rooms with private baths
- All meals as listed in itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Fully trained, first-aid certified professional guides and knowledgeable local partners
- Any necessary equipment - all safe and well-maintained
- Vehicle support and land transportation during the trip
- Austin Adventures T-shirt, water bottle, luggage tags and luggage service
- Access to a guest portal with trip planner materials
- Incidental expenses such as taxes, dining and housekeeping gratuities, local partner and expert gratuities, and national park entrance and permit fees

Not Included in Trip Price:

- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides
- Alcoholic beverages and related gratuities
- One dinner during the trip
- Pre- and post-trip accommodations and associated expenses
- Air and land transportation to/from host cities
- All types of travel insurance
- Personal expenses

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