

# CANADIAN ROCKIES & COLORADO

**INCLUDES Banff, Glacier National Park & Pikes Peak**



July 27– August 12, 2020

17 Days/16 Nights - Tour includes 31 Meals!

\$3970 PP Double / \$3590 PP Triple

\$3220 Quad / \$5495 Single

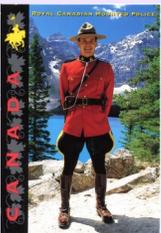
**Day 1:** Join Ionosphere Tours as we begin our exciting tour to the **Canadian Rockies and Colorado**. During the next **17 days** we will explore some of North America's most beautiful scenery. Today we leave the South behind and travel through Georgia, Tennessee and Kentucky enroute to **Ohio** and our overnight accommodations in the **Cincinnati** area. **Lunch will be included** today. (L)



**Day 2:** Today we find ourselves heading for **Illinois**, The Land of Lincoln. We will make a stop in downtown **Chicago** and visit the **Willis Tower**. Following an **included lunch** today, we'll take an elevator into the sky to the 103<sup>rd</sup> floor of the world's tallest building, for a spectacular view. By mid-afternoon we bid a fond farewell to Chicago and make our way into America's Dairyland, **Wisconsin**, where we have accommodations in **Madison** tonight. (B,L)

**Day 3:** Following breakfast we continue our journey north, and we notice the dairy farms along Wisconsin's highways. This afternoon we cross into **Minnesota**. We'll make a stop at the **Minnesota State Capitol, in St. Paul**. The awesome building has one of the largest marble domes in the world. Our overnight accommodations are in **Bloomington**, just outside Minneapolis/St. Paul. This evening we will be free to explore the world's premier retail entertainment complex—**Mall of America**. It has hundreds of shops, a theme park, a two-level miniature golf course, and dozens of restaurants. (B)

**Day 4:** Today we catch the spirit of the real outdoors as we experience the beauty of Minnesota, the "land of ten thousand lakes." Later today we enter **North Dakota**, a land named for its people. Dakota means "friend" in the Sioux Indian language. This was the land of the great Sioux Nation and today is a land of remarkable scenery; superb sunsets and expansive horizons. About an hour north of Grand Forks, ND, we cross into the **Canadian Province of Manitoba**. Our destination is **Winnipeg**, where we will have an **included dinner** and accommodations for tonight. (B,D)



**Day 5:** We get an early start and our travels west, entering the province of **Saskatchewan**. We can just imagine the buffalo that once roamed freely. This is also the area where the mounted police brought peace to the west. Our destination is **Regina**, "Home of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and capital of the province. We are in for a treat as we visit the **Royal Canadian Mounted Police Museum** located at the Headquarters of the original Mounted Police. This museum recounts its history of more than a century of service. We'll spend the night in Regina and **dinner will be included** in the area of our hotel. (B,D)

**Day 6:** Following breakfast it's time to continue our journey westward traveling through the Canadian cities of Moose Jaw, Swift Current, and Medicine Hat on our way to **Calgary**, in the province of **Alberta**. Calgary is the second largest city in Alberta and home of the world famous "Calgary Stampede". We'll check into our hotel in Calgary before we depart for an **included dinner** high atop the **Calgary Tower** in the revolving restaurant. From here we'll have a spectacular view of Calgary and the Canadian Rockies. (B,D)

**Day 7:** This morning's journey carries us into the even more spectacular scenery as the highway winds and climbs toward **Banff**. We'll be in **Banff National Park**, which surrounds the year round resort of Banff. **Lunch** will be included at the magnificent **Banff Springs Hotel**. We'll also take the 8-minute ride on the **Sulphur Mountain Gondola** for a spectacular view of the surrounding mountains.



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We'll have free time later today to do some shopping and browsing in the quaint and scenic downtown area, where we just might see an elk grazing in a front yard! We will spend the next two nights in Banff. **(B,L)**



**Day 8:** Our journey continues this morning through Magnificent Banff National Park to beautiful **Lake Louise**. This is one of the most photographed spots in Canada, with majestic Victoria Glacier towering in the background. Continuing north, great mountain ranges are on both sides of the road as we climb to elevations above 7,000 feet. Snow-capped peaks rise to more than 11,000 feet above us. Our highlight of the day is sure to be our **snowcoach ride** onto the **Athabasca Glacier**, 2,000-foot thick extensions of the **Columbia Icefield**. We will return to our overnight accommodations again tonight, where we will enjoy an **included dinner** tonight. **(B,D)**

**Day 9:** Following breakfast, we depart Banff this morning and head south. Not long after lunch on our own in the Ft. Macleod, Alberta area, we bid farewell to Canada as we enter **Montana**, "The Big Sky Country". Our destination is in the **Browning** area, where we have accommodations for the next two nights. **Dinner will be included** tonight at the hotel or in the area. **(B,D)**

**Day 10:** Following breakfast we'll take a short drive to Lake Mary Visitor Center in **Glacier National Park**. We'll step aboard our special touring vehicles for an Eastern Alpine excursion that travels the **"Going to The Sun" highway**, one of the most outstanding scenic roadways in the world. It's a veritable fairyland of snowfrosted peaks and sparking ice caps. We start the tour on the unique and rugged eastern side of Glacier. Along the way, visit the stunning St. Mary Lake area and historic Rising Sun Motor Inn. Then, we travel to the Continental Divide and Logan Pass. We'll take in the infinite splendors and majestic scenery before returning to the Lake Mary Visitor Center. We'll have an **included dinner** in the area, where we can enjoy magnificent views of the glaciers, mountains and lakes. **(B,D)**



**Day 11:** We depart this morning and continue to explore **Montana**. We'll make a stop in **Great Falls**, to visit the **C.M. Russell Museum**. This unique museum displays watercolors, sculptures and oil paintings of the cowboy artist Charles Russell. We will overnight in **Billings**, in the heart of Yellowstone Valley. We'll have an **included dinner** in the area. **(B,D)**



**Day 12:** We'll enjoy breakfast at our hotel this morning before we head south through **Montana** and into **Wyoming**. As we head for **Cheyenne**, we will travel on I-25 south along side the Medicine Bow National Forest. Tonight we will have an included authentic **Western Bar-B-B-Que Buffet** at the **Terry Bison Ranch** in Cheyenne. This historic working bison ranch has more than 3,000 bison. Our fun evening will include a wagon tour of the bison herd. **(B,D)**

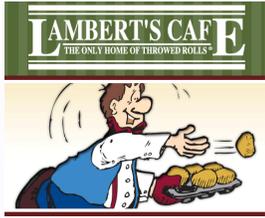
**Day 13:** Leaving Wyoming's largest city this morning, we cross into **Colorado** and head for the mile-high city of **Denver**. We will welcome our **local guide** onboard for a tour of this magnificent city cradled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains and weaned on gold and silver wealth that once flowed from nearby mines. Included will be a stop at **Red Rocks Park**, near Morrison, Colorado, west of Denver. Located there is an open-air amphitheater built into a rock structure. There is a large, tilted, disc-shaped rock behind the stage, a huge vertical rock angled outwards from stage right, several large outcrops angled outwards from stage left and a seating area for up to 9,525 people in between. Following lunch on our own, we'll visit the beautiful **State Capitol**, a 1908 Corinthian structure of Colorado granite. The 18<sup>th</sup> step on the building's west entrance measures exactly 1 mile above sea level. By late afternoon we will make the short drive to **Colorado Springs**, where we have accommodations for the next two nights. **Dinner will be included** tonight. **(B,D)**

**Day 14:** Following breakfast this morning we will make our way to the Gray Line Depot, where we hop on their motorcoach for a trip to the 14,100 feet summit of **Pike's Peak**. Following lunch on our own in the area, we will drive through the **Garden of the Gods**, a 1300-acre park with massive red sandstone formations. Among them are the Kissing Camel and Balanced Rock. The sun accentuates the color of the stone. We will also visit the **U.S. Air Force Academy**. Grounds include a B-52 bomber display, scenic overlooks, a chapel, planetarium and Falcon Stadium. Overnight will again be in Colorado Springs. **Lunch will be included** today **(B,L)**



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**Day 15:** It's time to bid farewell to Colorado as we head east this morning. We'll be on I-70 all day today as we travel into **Kansas**. We'll drive by the boyhood home of **President Dwight David Eisenhower** in **Abilene**. We'll also view the **Place of Meditation**, the final resting place of Dwight D. and Mamie Doud Eisenhower. We'll include dinner in the Abilene area before we continue on to **Topeka**, where we will spend the night. **(B,D)**



**Day 16:** Today, our journey takes us into Missouri. This afternoon we marvel at the Gateway Arch on the Mississippi River. We follow the mighty Mississippi to **Sikeston, MO**, where an unforgettable meal awaits us at the world famous **Lambert's Thrown Roll Café**. Eat all the rolls you can catch, along with heaping helpings of home-cooked vegetables and mouth-watering meats. We cross the Mississippi where it joins the Ohio River, as we make way for **Paducah, Kentucky**, where we have accommodations for tonight. **(B,D)**

**Day 17:** We'll spend our last day of this tour traveling through the beautiful mountains of Tennessee as we turn our thoughts toward home. It's been an unforgettable tour. We'll never forget our experiences and our fellowship with our friends. **(B)**

## Deposit/Payment Requirements:

**\$500.00 Deposit Per Person due with reservation**

Plus cost of travel protection, if desired

(travel protection offers insurance benefits & non-insurance services)

cost per person is: *\$290 Double - \$290 Triple - \$233 Quad - \$424 Single*

## Final Payment Due by June 12, 2020



Passport required



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