



Banff & Jasper Family Vacation ★ 4.88 56 Reviews

Banff & Jasper Family Vacation

6 Days

18 People Max



Discover the breathtaking panoramas of snowy peaks, crystalline glacial lakes, and countless wildlife on this epic Canadian Rockies family vacation.

Adventure abounds with glacier hikes, river rafting, horseback riding, and backcountry biking through Banff, Jasper, and Lake Louise. At the end of these fun-filled days, relax in one of our cozy lodges before indulging in some of Western Canada's tastiest gourmet cuisine. Kick back with the family and recount how many elk, bear, and eagles you spied and laugh over the new lifelong memories you created. We can guarantee you'll never forget your time exploring the pristine wilderness of "Wild Rose Country" on this stress-free, all-inclusive Alberta family vacation.

Trip Highlights

Hiking - Marble Canyon's waterfall

Hiking - Sentinel Pass

Hiking - The Athabasca Glacier

Biking - Bill Milne Path

Biking - Banff to Bow Falls

Plus ... - Raft Kananaskis River

Plus ... - Lake Louise

Plus ... - Horseriding

Our Active Adventures Assurance

We value loyalty, and appreciate that it goes both ways. So when you book with us we'll make a few assurances to you so you can book with complete confidence, no matter what's happening in your life (or the world).



COVID-Ready Certified: Safe Travel for our Guests Travelling Overseas

Active Adventures has received the World Travel and Tourism Council's Safe Travels stamp, which guarantees you that we'll follow all ATTA and WTTC health and safety guidelines on all our trips. See how our small group, off-the-beaten-track adventures are perfect to start exploring again.

Banff & Jasper Family Vacation ~ Itinerary

DAY 1

Horseback riding, hiking through K-Country

After morning pickups, it's time to saddle up and discover your inner cowboy at Rafter Six Ranch! During this two-hour trail ride, you'll ride through beautiful forest and breathtaking scenery with experienced guides who know the lands well. Our afternoon takes us to The Candian Mount Everest trail, but don't worry this easy-going trail only has about 300 feet of elevation change and takes us to lookout overlooking Elk Pass and the Upper and Lower Kananaskis Lakes. It is truly some impressive far-reaching views of massive mountain ranges, some with snowcapped peaks. After our hike, we head to your home for the next two nights, Kananaskis Mountain Lodge, to settle in and enjoy dinner with your travel companions. A comfortable and contemporary retreat nestled against the Canadian Rockies, the Kananaskis Mountain Lodge is equal parts rustic mountain retreat and elegant hotel. Rest, relax, and rejuvenate as you take in beautiful views and surrounded with every comfort.

Kananaskis Mountain Lodge (Lunch, Dinner)

Horse-back Riding: 2 hours

Hiking: 2 miles (3 kilometers)

DAY 2

Bill Milne Bike Trail, rafting on the Kananaskis River

This morning, we head out on a bike ride through Kananaskis Country, or as it's known by the locals, "K-Country." K-Country is a cluster of provincial parks, ecological reserves, recreation areas, and natural areas that are fantastic for exploring the outdoors without big crowds. After a hearty lunch, you'll load into rafts and paddle the exciting class II and III rapids of the Kananaskis River. This thrilling adventure will have you catching waves and river runs with views of the mountaintops in the background. You're guaranteed to get splashed on this ride! This evening you'll have some time to relax and enjoy the lodge and another great dinner with your family and fellow travelers.

Kananaskis Mountain Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Biking: 7 miles (11.2 kilometers)

Rafting: 3 hours

DAY 3

Hiking Sentinel Pass

Embark on a full-day hike over Sentinel Pass, rated one of the top hikes in Banff. Ascend from the turquoise waters of Moraine Lake past larch trees and alpine meadows. Take in spectacular vistas of Paradise Valley from nearly 8,900 feet atop the pass as you enjoy your lunch. Relax over a delicious dinner before beholding the splendor of Lake Louise.

Royal Canadian Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Hiking: 7 miles (11.2 kilometers)

DAY 4

Lake Louise and Marble Canyon

Start your day off with a visit to the iconic Lake Louise and some time to take in the breath-taking views. After a picnic lunch we head to Kootenay National Park for a scenic walk through Marble Canyon. 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. Tonight discover local favorites, as you explore Banff on your own.

Royal Canadian Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch)

Hiking: 2 miles (3 kilometers)

DAY 5

Glacier hike on Athabasca Glacier

Wake up early today for a scenic morning drive along the Icefield Parkway past numerous ice fields and glaciers. Arrive at Athabasca Glacier on the edge of Jasper National Park, where you’ll be outfitted with crampons and walking sticks. Spend the afternoon hiking the glacier alongside a mountain guide, learning about its formation and the powerful way it shapes the land. Shuttle back to Banff for some time to relax before our farewell dinner.

Royal Canadian Lodge (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Hiking: Athabasca Glacier: 3 hours

DAY 6

Bike to Bow Falls, farewell!

Bike through Banff to Bow Falls, a sprawling, stout waterfall about a mile from town. Take a spin around the golf course in search of wildlife ending at picturesque Cascade Ponds. Shuttle back to Calgary to be dropped off at the airport or your hotel for your departure home.

No Accommodation (Breakfast)

Biking: 10 miles (16 kilometers)

Useful Info

Where does the trip start?

On the first morning of the trip, our two pick-up locations are [Hotel 11 by Sonesta](#) at 8:00am or the [Sheraton Suites Calgary Eau Claire](#) at 8:30am. You are welcome to book your pre-trip stay at either of these hotels directly or any other hotel in Calgary, though you must make your own way to one of the two pick-up points at the pre-designated times.

Where does the trip end?

Your trip ends with a drop-off at either the Calgary Airport at 1pm in time for flights below or at a hotel of your choice in Calgary around 1:30pm.

What flights would you recommend?

Arrival: We recommend arriving in Calgary at least the day before your trip starts. Many guests like to arrive a day or two early to accommodate potential flight delays and/or explore the city prior to your trip start.

Departure: Flying out on the last day of the trip, we recommend departing from Calgary after 3pm. Earlier flight times will require a separate transfer booked at your own expense.

Will I have contact with my guides before the trip starts?

Your guides will call your cell phone the night before your trip begins to touch base on the first day's plan. If they don't get through to you, they will leave a voicemail on your cell phone with all the details you need to plan for your first morning.

What should I bring with me on the first day?

When you speak with your guides the night before your trip, they will give you a detailed description of what to bring with you on Day 1. Typically, this includes a day pack with your rain jacket, sunglasses, hat, camera, etc. Anything you want easy access to during the day should go in your day pack as the rest of your luggage will go in the locked cargo trailer pulled behind the van. Your guides will provide you with a water bottle on the first morning of your trip and will always have water available for refills. There will be snacks available at all times in the van. Your guides will also have bug spray and sunscreen accessible for you to use.

What are your recommended guide gratuity guidelines?

You will have 2-3 guides on your Austin Adventure (depending on group size). We recommend USD\$20 per day, per guest, per guide. Typically, gratuities are offered by check or cash in local currency on the final morning of the trip and can either be given to each guide individually or to one guide to be equally distributed. Most of our guides these days also accept gratuities via Venmo (please note this app does not work in Canada). All dining, housekeeping and activity tips are included in your trip price.

How do rooming arrangements work?

Trip prices are based on shared arrangements (typically two guests per room), unless otherwise stated. For solo travelers, we'll pair you with another person of the same gender to share rooms and if there's no one suitable to share with, there's no forced single supplement. However, if you specifically request your own rooms, you can opt to pay the single supplement. Solo travelers who book within 90 days of departure, where there are no other solo travelers willing to share, will be required to pay the single supplement.

For Family Vacation bookings, families consisting of four guests traveling with children aged 17 and under will be automatically assigned one shared room. However, the following alternative rooming allocations are available:

Families consisting of four guests with all children aged 13 and above are welcome to opt for additional rooms as per advertised double occupancy adult rates.

Families consisting of four guests with at least one child aged 12 and under are automatically assigned a shared room. However, families can opt to pay the adult rates for all guests in their family to have an additional room.

The same principles apply for families consisting of more than four guests.

Rooming preferences are subject to availability and must be communicated in writing at time of booking. Automatic assignments as per this policy will be applied in the absence of any specification provided by guests. Any request for additional rooms during trips will be at guests' own expense and subject to rates made available by the accommodation provider at the time. All minors (guests aged 17 and under) must be accompanied by at least one adult.

Trip direction & alternative itineraries

Some departures for this trip run in the reverse direction, which means the stated itinerary will simply operate in reverse. Some departures for this trip also feature a hiking-focused itinerary, which differs from the one advertised. Contact us, or check your Travel Wallet once booked, to get the specific itinerary for your trip.

What is not included?

Flights to and from trip start/end points

Pre/Post Accommodation

Optional extra activities

Travel insurance

Gratuities for your guides

General Trip Information

You can find details on recommended flights and fitness, as well as trip start and end in the 'Useful Information' section above.

Excluded

- Transportation (air and land) to and from start/end points
- Travel insurance
- Alcoholic beverages
- Gratuities to Austin Adventures guides

Outdoor Experience

Our trips allow you to make the most of the backcountry, whether you're relatively new to hiking or a seasoned trekker. Our highly trained and experienced guides will be at your side, safely guiding you to magnificent places you wouldn't get to on your own. The challenges are there, if you're looking for them. All we ask is that you're energetic and in reasonable shape and we guarantee you'll have an incredible time. You don't need experience kayaking to enjoy paddling on the water and you don't need to be a serious biker to enjoy the rides we do. In fact, we have so many options available you don't need to paddle or ride at all if you'd rather hike or just laze around!

Itinerary Updates

We update our itineraries regularly, so please check our website for the most up-to-date itineraries and pricing. We make every effort to ensure itineraries are updated as necessary, though changes may occur without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances

Accommodation

You'll love the interesting places we've discovered over the years. You'll visit really spectacular and off-the-beaten track locations and stay in comfortable bed and breakfasts, lodges, apartments and hotels for the most part. Keep in mind the most remote locations have limited accommodation options, but 5-star scenery!

Included

- Our own highly experienced guides, with you from start to finish
- Industry-leading Guest-to-Guide ratio (averaging 6:1)
- Your own 'Travel Wallet', an online space with everything required for your trip
- Our knowledgeable Customer Service Team to answer your queries - just a phone call, email or chat away
- Customer Service pre-trip phone calls to ensure you're 'trip ready'
- All accommodations for the duration of your trip
- All meals except where indicated in the itinerary
- Unlimited snacks to keep you fueled
- Special 'Wow!' moments you'll never forget
- All activities outlined in the itinerary
- All necessary equipment (well-maintained and safe) for activities
- All gratuities for hotels, restaurants, and activities
- All park and other entry fees
- Transportation in our air-conditioned vans - safe, clean, modern, and comfortable!