

Eastern Explorer

12 Day Guided Tour – 3-4V

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

•Toronto • Montreal • Quebec City • Ottawa • Midland • Niagara Falls •

ITINERARY

Day 1: UK– Toronto

Fly from the UK to Toronto. Arrive at Toronto International Airport where you will transfer independently to your centrally located hotel. Once you're all checked-in and settled, your Jonview Tour Director will meet you this afternoon. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Toronto.**

Day 2: Toronto

We get better acquainted with our travelling companions at breakfast before exploring Toronto on a morning city tour. Experience the sights and sounds of this cosmopolitan city as you explore the downtown area and residential areas. Highlights include the Eaton Centre, old and new City Halls, Casa Loma, Yorkville and the University of Toronto. You will pass by the Rogers Centre and the CN Tower and drive along the harbourfront for a complete impression of this city. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration.

Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Toronto. Canadian Breakfast included.

Day 3: Toronto to Montreal

Departing early, we enjoy a pleasant drive east. Following the north shore of Lake Ontario, we pass endless miles of rolling farmland. Our first destination is the beautiful Thousand Islands resort region, where we embark upon a relaxing cruise. After taking in the sights and sounds of this river playground, we re-board our tour coach for the drive to Montreal. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Montreal. Canadian Breakfast included.**

Day 4: Montreal

This morning, we will tour the second-largest French-speaking city in the world. The dynamic city of Montreal encapsulates the two founding cultures of Canada and boasts a curious blend of history and modernity. Touring the downtown area we view the Olympic Complex, charming Old Montreal, McGill University, the residential streets of Mount Royal and the bustling shopping streets. Afternoon is at leisure. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Montreal. Canadian Breakfast Included.**

Day 5: Montreal to Quebec City

This morning, we prepare to depart from Montreal's cosmopolitan atmosphere and follow the route of Canada's first carriageway, the Chemin du Roy deep into French Canada. Winding our way through typical French-Canadian villages and towns, we experience true immersion in French culture. Upon arrival in Quebec City, we tour within the walls of the old city and view Lower Town, the Citadel, Battlefields Park and the ornate city gates. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Quebec City. Canadian Breakfast Included.**

Day 6: Quebec City

The day is at your leisure to further explore the sights of this charming World Heritage Site. You can enjoy an optional full day excursion to Tadoussac including a 3-hour whale watching* tour on the St. Lawrence River at the mouth of the Saguenay River. Step aboard a regular boat and go in search of the world's largest mammals. You will also visit the spectacular Montmorency Falls that are 30 metres higher than the world-famous Niagara Falls. The rest of the day is at your leisure to explore this historic French-Canadian city with narrow streets and unique boutiques. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Quebec City. Canadian Breakfast Included.**

Day 7: Quebec City to Ottawa

Following the shore of the St. Lawrence, this morning we travel west past Montreal, across the Ontario border, and on to Ottawa — the nation's capital. We stop for lunch along the way at the Sucrerie de la Montagne — an authentic sugar shack and pioneer-style restaurant. Upon arrival to Ottawa we take a tour of Ottawa. We view the Parliament Buildings, residences of the Prime Minister and the Governor General, the Rideau Canal (designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site), and much more. The remainder of the day is at leisure. **Accommodation stay- 1 night in Ottawa. Continental Breakfast and lunch included.**

Day 8: Ottawa

This morning, we enjoy the Turtle Island aboriginal experience breakfast on Victoria Island. The afternoon is free for independent exploration of Ottawa's many museums and fine galleries, shopping at the Sparks Street Mall or perhaps a boat cruise on one of the city's many waterways. **Accommodation stay- 1 night in Ottawa .Breakfast included.**

Day 9: Ottawa to Midland

Our journey west from Ottawa features sparkling lakes, rushing streams, deep forests and characteristic northern towns. The trip will be highlighted by a visit to Algonquin Provincial Park where we will take a walk along the scenic trails. This immense wildlife and forest preserve is a favourite destination for camping expeditions during the summer months, and your walk will give you the opportunity to experience a little of it for yourself. Soon, we enter the Muskoka resort region, our destination for the night. **Accommodation stay – 1 night in Midland. Canadian Breakfast Included.**

Day 10: Midland to Niagara Falls

This morning, upon arrival to Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, we have breakfast. This fascinating three-acre historic site is a detailed reconstruction of the first inland European community in Canada. Next, we are driving south past Toronto and then through the orchards and vineyards of the Niagara Peninsula with a final destination of Niagara Falls. A thrilling boat ride on the Hornblower Niagara Cruises – Voyage to the Falls brings us to the foot of the thundering waterfalls for an unforgettable experience. We will take a ride to the top of the Skylon Tower providing a spectacular view of the falls and the surrounding district of Niagara. Afterwards, you can enjoy an optional Niagara Helicopter Tour* or Niagara Skywheel* that gives you a breathtaking view of Niagara Falls region. The evening is free for exploring North America's "honeymoon capital". **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Niagara Falls. Canadian Breakfast included.**

Day 11: Niagara Falls to Toronto

We leave Niagara Falls this morning. Our drive follows the scenic Niagara Parkway through the historic village of Niagara-on-the-Lake, home of the Shaw Festival. Here we see a small but thriving community, proud to display a carefully-preserved nineteenth-century atmosphere. This afternoon completes the tour with a short drive back to Toronto. The evening features our special "Farewell to Canada" dinner at the CN Tower. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Toronto. Canadian Breakfast and Dinner included.**

Days 12 : Toronto

The time has come for some last-minute shopping as your tour comes to an end. Individual transfer to Toronto's Pearson International Airport in time to check in for your return flight back to the UK or continue to your next destination. **Canadian Breakfast Included.**

***Denotes local charge** – Optional trips and excursions listed on the itinerary are bookable and payable locally. Passengers must pay by Visa or MasterCard credit card only. Cash or other methods of payment cannot be processed by our Tour Directors

This is a set tour itinerary, if you have booked any pre/post or optional tour arrangements please refer to your separate vouchers and final documents.

TOUR NOTES

For current departure dates and prices please check our website

Pre/Post Tour information

If you would like to extend your trip or make the tour part of a longer holiday, we can easily add on a pre or post night stays for you. Our Sales Team will work with you to arrange the best connecting flights and book any additional hotel stays. Simply tell us what you'd like and we can arrange it.

Time difference

GMT -5 hours Eastern Canada
GMT -8 hours Western Canada

Tour inclusions

- International flight in economy class, including all UK and overseas airport taxes and applicable fuel surcharges
- Private air conditioned motorcoach transportation throughout
- Accommodation and sightseeing as listed above
- Service of an English Speaking guide.

Tour exclusions

- International flight in economy class, including all UK and overseas airport taxes and applicable fuel surcharges
- Flight upgrades and airport transfers in the UK
- Insurance
- Airport transfer upon arrival and departure.
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, tips & gratuities, video camera fees at monuments
- The required Canada Electronic Authorization (eTA)
- Anything not detailed on the itinerary.

Dining inclusions

As listed in the itinerary.

Included activities

Tours listed in the itinerary.

Accommodation

Accommodation listed on the itinerary is a mix of 3-4V graded properties. Please note some tours are up to 3 weeks in duration and there may be some nights when staying in remote locations e.g. the National Parks, when the 'V' rating may vary. Hotels are subject to change up until 30 days prior to departure, but you will be advised of any changes.

Journey times

Please note due to long distances covered on some of the tours, there will be some days when the majority of the day will be spent on the coach, so just sit back and enjoy the view.

Group size

Minimum 20 passengers, maximum approximately 50 passengers (full coach).

Language

This tour will operate as English guaranteed however Dutch passengers may join the tour therefore English and Dutch will be both spoken.

Visa requirements

Under Canada's new eTA program, British citizens WILL need to obtain an online authorization before flying to Canada. This is mandatory. Travellers will have the opportunity to go online and apply for their eTA. The earlier travellers get their eTA, the sooner they will benefit from knowing they have been pre-screened to enter Canada. A fee of \$7 is payable for processing an application for an electronic travel authorization. An application for an electronic travel authorization must be made by means of an electronic system that is made available by the Department (Citizenship and Immigration Canada) for that purpose. An electronic travel authorization is valid for a period of five years from the day on which it is issued to the applicant or until the earliest of the following days, if they occur before the end of that period:

- (a) The day on which the applicant's passport or other travel document expires,
 - (b) The day on which the electronic travel authorization is cancelled, or
 - (c) The day on which a new electronic travel authorization is issued to the applicant
- Visit: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/eta-start.asp> to arrange the eTA.

Alternatively you can apply for your eTA through our partners CIBT visas who make the process as easy as possible and will apply for the eTA on your behalf. Contact them on www.cibtvisas.co.uk/virginholidays for more information.

Currency

The official unit of currency in Canada is the Canadian dollar. Optional excursions will need to be paid locally by creditcard to the tour guide. Major credit cards and debit cards will be accepted within the Canada.

Electricity

If you bring any electrical appliance to Canada, you may need an adaptor to fit the Canadian electrical receptacles. You may also need a converter to change the voltage from 110 volts to 220 volts.

Tipping

Tipping is a big part of Canada's service economy and their taxation system, all visitors should understand that this is a part of the local culture; please see below a list of useful suggestions for tipping:

- Waiters/Waitresses: 15% - 20% for average - good service, more for exceptional service.
- Bartenders: \$1 - \$2 a round -or- 15% to 20% of the tab, with a minimum of 50 cents per soft drink, \$1 per alcoholic drink.
- Room Service: 15% - 20%
- Taxi driver: Varies depending on locality. Assume 15% will be enough; an extra \$1 to \$2 for help with bags.
- Hotel doorman: \$1 per bag for help with luggage; \$1 per person for hailing a cab.
- Tour guide: \$5 per person, per day in your party.

What to expect

We recommend you are of a reasonable fitness as touring often involves long walks and uneven surfaces; this tour is not suitable for those who require special assistance.

Recommended vaccinations

We advise you to discuss your individual requirements for Canada with your GP at least 6-8 weeks prior to travel.