

Final Itinerary - An Interlude in Canada 2011

24 September - 21 October - 28 days

<p>17 Sept To 24 Sept</p>	<p>Optional 7 day inside passage cruise ms Zuiderdam - Vancouver to Vancouver.</p> <p>17 Sept - 10.25am - Depart Sydney (SYD) AC034 77L aircraft 07.30am - Arrive Vancouver (YVR) 14hr 05 min</p> <p>You will be met at the airport and transferred to Canada Place Pier 12 noon - Board ms Zuiderdam - depart 5.00pm. Lunch is served on board in Lido restaurant</p> <p>Ports of call - Juneau Alaska, Skagway Alaska and Ketchikan Alaska. See Tracy Arm and Glacier Bay.</p> <p>24 Sept - 7am Disembark Vancouver - Meet Interlude tour director and join group</p>
<p>Day 1 24 Sept Sat</p> <p>B</p>	<p>INTERLUDE TOUR COMMENCES</p> <p>10.25am - Depart Sydney (SYD) AC034 77L aircraft 07.30am - Arrive Vancouver (YVR) 14 hr 05min</p> <p>On arrival at the Vancouver International Airport, we will be met and transferred by coach to board the B.C. Ferry departing from Tsawwassen to Swartz Bay for the 90 minute cruise through the Gulf Islands and across the Strait of Georgia to Victoria - the picture post-card walking capital of Vancouver Island.</p> <p>The Empress Hotel 2 nights</p>
<p>Day 2 25 Sept Sun</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Victoria</p> <p>Today we have a sightseeing tour of Victoria including a visit to the beautiful Butchart Gardens. With over 50 acres of gardens including the fragrant Rose Garden, the relaxing Japanese Garden, the unique Sunken Garden, the Italian Garden, the Concert Lawn, and Ross Fountain - just to name a few, a visit to Butchart Gardens is a treat for all your senses!</p> <p>The Empress Hotel</p>
<p>Day 3 26 Sept Mon</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Victoria to Vancouver - 2 nights</p> <p>We will take a different BC ferry route back to the mainland today - Nanaimo to Horseshoe Bay. On the mainland we will visit the famous historic Capilano Suspension Bridge, one of the world's longest suspension bridges - 450 feet across and 230 feet above the Capilano Canyon! As we head to Vancouver city, we will also arrive at the base of Grouse Mountain and ride the Skytram to the top and the Theatre in the Sky. High above the towering Douglas fir, breathtaking views of the city of Vancouver, sparkling Pacific Ocean, Gulf Islands and snowy peaks unfold as we journey up the mountainside.</p> <p>Lonely Planet voted Vancouver as one of the top city destinations in the 'Best in Travel' 2010 list. This city offers a combination of cosmopolitan chic with a relaxed attitude.</p> <p>The Listel Hotel Vancouver</p>

<p>Day 4 27 Sept Tues</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Vancouver Discover why Vancouver is one of Canada's most popular destinations on our sightseeing tour of Vancouver. The tour encompasses many of the attractions that make Vancouver such a special place, besides the natural beauty of its mountain backdrop and blue Pacific waters. Enter Stanley Park, with 1000 acres of majestic evergreens and 10km of scenic seawall. Experience the city's kaleidoscope of cultural heritage with visits to West Coast Native Totem Poles, British-flavoured Gastown with its unique steam clock, and colourful Chinatown, second in size only to San Francisco. Also highlighted in the day's sightseeing will be Lions Gate Bridge, Prospect Point, English Bay and the meticulously manicured Queen Elizabeth Park.</p> <p>The Listel Hotel Vancouver</p>
<p>Day 5 28 Sept Wed</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Vancouver - Whistler 1 night This morning travel onboard the Rocky Mountaineer Sea to Sky Climb route from the coastal city of Vancouver to the resort town of Whistler, renowned for outstanding skiing and year-round outdoor activities. Following our motorcoach transfer from downtown Vancouver, the Rocky Mountaineer takes us on a 3 ½ hr breathtaking rail journey through the stunning scenery of the Sea to Sky Corridor. Highlights of the trip include spectacular views of Howe Sound and the Coast Mountains, Brandywine Falls, Mount Garibaldi and the impressive Cheakamus Canyon. Transfer to hotel. The remainder of the day is at your leisure.</p> <p>Overnight Delta Whistler Village Suites</p>
<p>Day 6 29 Sept Thu</p> <p>B L</p>	<p>Whistler - Quesnel 1 night This morning we board the "Rocky Mountaineer" - Red Leaf Service - often called the "most spectacular train trip in the World to the charming rural town of Quesnel, gateway to the North Cariboo. Enjoy breathtaking and varied scenery, from the river canyons and lush farmland of the Pemberton Valley, through the desert-like conditions of the Fraser Canyon, to rolling hills and vast ranch lands of the Cariboo Plateau. Highlights include the shorelines of Anderson Lake and glacier-fed Seton Lake, sweeping views of the Fraser Canyon, and the crossing of Deep Creek Bridge, one of the highest railway bridges in the world. Your day concludes as the Rocky Mountaineer follows the banks of the Fraser River into Quesnel. Continental breakfast and lunch are included onboard.</p> <p>NOTE - You will not have access to your luggage for the duration of the two-day rail tour PLEASE HAVE AN OVERNIGHT BAG FOR YOUR OVERNIGHT STAY IN QUESNEL)</p> <p>Best Western Tower Inn</p>
<p>Day 7 30 Sept Fri</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Quesnel - Jasper 1 night Our stunning rail journey continues eastwards today to the majestic Canadian Rockies and Jasper National Park. From Quesnel, the Rocky Mountaineer follows the Fraser River north to the town of Prince George, then travels east through the forests of northern British Columbia, home to plentiful wildlife, including a large population of moose. Entering the Rocky Mountain Trench you are surrounded by the steeply rising Rocky Mountains to the north and the Cariboo Mountains to the south. Continue climbing past Mount Robson, at 3,954 metres (12,972 feet) the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies, through Yellowhead Pass into the province of Alberta. Your rail journey ends today on arrival in Jasper. Continental breakfast and lunch are included onboard</p> <p>Overnight in Chateau Jasper</p>

<p>Day 8 1 Oct Sat</p> <p>B D</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2 nights</p> <p>Coach to Banff Today we travel through the heart of the Canadian Rockies along part of the Canadian Rocky Mountains Parks World heritage UNESCO site - the Icefields Parkway that splits the Canadian provinces of BC & Alberta. You will enjoy the natural beauty of the vast wilderness of stunning peaks, mountain lakes and valleys and ancient glaciers. Our travels include a stop at Athabasca Falls before arriving at the Columbia Icefield. Upon arrival at the Icefield Centre, shuttle to the Athabasca Glacier where you will board a unique, specially designed Ice Explorer for a guided tour onto the surface of the Glacier - a true Ice Age adventure! After visiting what is considered to be one of the largest bodies of ice below the Arctic Circle, we continue south to view Peyto Lake, Bow Lake, and Crowfoot Glacier.</p> <p>Overnight and dinner at The Fairmont Banff Springs</p>
<p>Day 9 2 Oct Sun</p> <p>B D</p>	<p>Banff - A free day to completely relax and experience the stunning rugged beauty of the Rocky Mountains and glacier-fed lakes up close. Banff is a small town full of charm in a spectacular natural unspoiled setting, with parks, woods and trails. Browse charming boutiques, visit galleries showcasing local talent, or take a stroll along the historic Bow River.</p> <p>Overnight and dinner at The Fairmont Banff Springs</p>
<p>Day 10 3 Oct Mon</p> <p>B</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3 nights</p> <p>1000 - Depart Calgary (YYC) Flight AC110 1540 - Arrive Toronto 3hr 40min E90 aircraft 1700- Depart Toronto AC 832 1540 - Arrive Montreal 1 hr 10min Before we travel to Calgary (120km) we hope to take a ride up the Banff Gondola for a panoramic 360° view of the Banff area. Travelling east today takes you through a diverse landscape. Once leaving the Banff Park gates, we will pass through the Town of Canmore. As the City of Calgary comes into sight, you will notice Canada Olympic Park to your right. This site of ski-jumping, luge and bobsled competitions during the 1988 Winter Olympics is now a year round sports centre. Say goodbye to the West of Canada at Calgary Airport as you board our flight to Montreal. Montreal is French Canada's cosmopolitan city and bustling metropolis by day taking on a relaxed ambiance after dark. Montreal oozes cultural, artistic and historical heritage.</p> <p>Hotel Europa</p>
<p>Day 11 4 Oct Tue</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Montreal This morning we will have a Guided Montreal City Tour by Bus. Your afternoon is free to discover more of Montreal which has four distinct regions - Dynamic Downtown is shopper's heaven (imagine 33km underground pedestrian network crammed with boutiques, restaurants movie theatres and exhibition halls. Walk around Old Montreal with cobblestone streets, carriages, boutique hotels and gourmet restaurants, Old Port - riverside strolling and people-watching - a perfect blend of old and new. Then there is the Montreal Neighbourhoods including Little Italy where cultures converge to eat, drink and be merry, Chinatown and Mount Royal (the mountain that gave Montreal its name) & the wonderful green spaces in the heart of the city.</p> <p>Hotel Europa</p>

<p>Day 12 5 Oct Wed</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Montreal Free day. Don't miss visiting the Notre-Dame Basilica- a masterpiece of Gothic Revival architecture with its magnificent interior, paintings, sculptures and stained-glass windows and the modern Sacre-Coeur Chapel. The Basilica has an amazing 35 minute Sound & Light show at 6.30pm most nights. Admission is around \$10 but well worth it. A MUST DO - Have a smoked meat sandwich at the legendary Schwartz's Deli where the menu (& décor) hasn't changed much in 80 years. The freshly smoked meat, marinated for days in secret herbs and spices is delicious. Be prepared to queue. See if Cirque du Soleil has a show in town Hotel Europa</p>
<p>Day 13 6 Oct Thur</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Montreal to Québec City by train. 2 nights VIA rail is the perfect way to Travel between French Canada's two largest cities Montreal and the Québec City - A designated UNESCO World Heritage Site and the home of the famous Château Frontenac perched high on the bank of St Lawrence - our home for the next two nights. Château Frontenac</p>
<p>Day 14 7 Oct Fri</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Québec City - The day is yours to enjoy the charm of Quebec City, the cradle of French culture in North America. The attractions include historic sites, lively streets, cozy bistros and great restaurants. Meander the Old Québec City where the British and French influence is reflected in the architecture and distinctive culture. Admire the gables and turrets of the Château Frontenac, the outdoor cafés and Artists Alley set among more than 400 years of history. Browse shops along rue Saint-Louis, rue Saint-Jean, and le Petite Champlain, the oldest shopping street in North America. Walk the boardwalk to the Citadel where Canadian troops stage military ceremonies. Walk the Plains of Abraham, where the fate of North America was decided in 1759. Château Frontenac</p>
<p>Day 15 8 Oct Sat</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Québec City Free day. You may consider a tour through many traditional villages of rural Quebec to Montmorency Falls today - 1 ½ times higher than Niagara Falls and include a visit to the famous shrine Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré 2100 -Depart Québec City - Overnight VIA rail sleeper train - The Ocean</p>
<p>Day 16 9 Oct Sun</p> <p>B D</p>	<p>1350 Arrive Sackville N.B - Charlottetown PEI (Prince Edward Island) 2 nights Our coach will meet us at the rail station and drive over the Confederation bridge to Prince Edward island. The 13km Confederation Bridge opened to traffic in the spring of 1997, at a total construction cost of one billion dollars. It joins the eastern Canadian provinces of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, making travel throughout the Maritimes easy and convenient. The curved, bridge is the longest in the world crossing ice-covered water, and a decade after its construction it remains one of Canada's top engineering achievements of the 20th century. We will visit the Anne of Green Gables Museum where author, Lucy Maud Montgomery was married and the setting of her famous novel. Original artifacts are displayed and of course the museum gift shop has books, videos etc. You can even take you photo in the parlour at the museum wearing Anne's hat with braids! Best Western Charlottetown</p>

<p>Day 17 10 Oct Mon</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Charlottetown</p> <p>Free day. Charlottetown is the birthplace of Confederation and the Capital of PEI. Gracious homes line the leafy avenues leading to the historic city centre and waterfront. Visitors are welcome to view the historic Legislative Assembly in action from the public gallery and the Province House National historic Site of Canada.</p> <p>Best Western Charlottetown</p>
<p>Day 18 11 Oct Tue</p> <p>B D</p>	<p>Charlottetown to Baddeck - 1 night</p> <p>We depart PEI this morning by way of a 75 minute car ferry ride from Wood Island to Baddeck, Nova Scotia.</p> <p>This afternoon we will visit the fascinating Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site. This museum is a truly fitting tribute to a teacher, inventor and humanitarian and not to be missed. Artifacts, audio-visual programs and photographs tell the amazing story of Alexander Graham Bell whose achievements have touched all of us. From the grounds of this site you can see the shoreline and waters of Bras de'Or Lake.</p> <p>Trailsman Motel</p>
<p>Day 19 12 Oct Wed</p> <p>B D</p>	<p>Baddeck - Louisbourg Fortress - Ingonish 1 night</p> <p>We take a fascinating trip back to 1744 at the National Historic site -Louisbourg Fortress where the sights and sound of the 18th century come alive in what was a fortified French colonial town and France's most important stronghold and seaport in what is now Atlantic Canada.</p> <p>Keltic Lodge Resort and Spa</p>
<p>Day 20 13 Oct Thu</p> <p>B D</p>	<p>To Tatamagouche 1 night</p> <p>Today we motor through the Cape Breton Highlands National Park and the unforgettable world-famous Cabot Trail. The Park is known for its spectacular highlands and ocean scenery. Steep cliffs and deep river canyons carve into a forested plateau bordering the Atlantic Ocean. One third of the Cabot Trail runs through the national park along the coasts and over the highlands.</p> <p>Lobster dinner tonight.</p> <p>Train Station Inn</p>
<p>Day 21 14 Oct Fri</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Tatamagouche to Halifax - via Mt Uniacke 3 nights</p> <p>Visiting Uniacke Estate is like traveling back to the 1800's. Richard John Uniacke, a prosperous Irish Politician and colourful prominent citizen and Attorney General of Nova Scotia built this elegant country mansion in 1816. It is one of the grandest houses in Nova Scotia and was home to seven generations of Richard Uniacke's large family.</p> <p>Waverley Inn Halifax</p>
<p>Day 22 15 Oct Sat</p> <p>B</p>	<p>Halifax</p> <p>This morning we will have a fun-filled amphibious adventure - an interesting, educational, and informative tour of Halifax in a Harbour Hopper. Harbour Hoppers are refitted Lark V vehicles capable of traveling on land and water.</p> <p>The remainder of the day is free to explore the walking city of Halifax. Don't miss the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, the fascinating Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and the Titanic Cemeteries. The Halifax Public Garden is a stunningly beautiful example of Victorian Gardens relatively un-spoilt in the heart of the city and is a peaceful spot to people-watch.</p> <p>Waverley Inn Halifax</p>

Day 23 16 Oct Sun B D	Halifax Today we will take a day trip to Lunenburg, the charming old-world town perched on the edge of the Atlantic. Lunenburg is home to a fascinating Fisheries museum of the Atlantic and Bluenose11. We will visit the famous red-and-white lighthouse perched on a rocky outcrop at Peggy's Cove. The views of the Atlantic Ocean from here are spectacular. Waverley Inn Halifax	
Day 24 17 Oct Mon B	1050 - Depart Halifax AC2231 2 nights 1208 - Arrive Toronto 2hr 18min The best way to see the major attractions of Toronto is take the Hop-on hop-off bus with full commentary. The Hotel Royal York - Toronto	
Day 25 18 Oct Tue B	Toronto Toronto is a shopper's paradise with countless markets, boutiques, malls and galleries OR take a commented day trip tour to Niagara. Hear the thunder, feel the mist, see the wonder that is Niagara Falls. Tours offer lunch buffet overlooking the Falls, Maid of the Mist boat ride, time at the Falls, time in the gorgeous village Niagara-on-the-Lake, and scenic picture stops along the way. The Hotel Royal York	
Day 26 19 Oct Wed B	2015 - AC033 -Depart Toronto	5 night New York City Excursion 0820 - depart Toronto Maple Leaf train #64 Ref 02FC1C 2145 - arrive Penn Station New York Comfortable Day train trip through Niagara Falls, Buffalo Syracuse and Albany. Transfer to The Hotel At Times Square Night 1
Day 27 20 Oct Thur	In air	New York Night 2 Your time in NYC is totally free to explore this vibrant city and the many exciting and diverse range of attractions it offers. The list is endless. Now-days, this eclectic city is safe, clean & welcoming. The Hotel At Times Square
Day 28 21 Oct Fri	0910 - Arrive Sydney	New York Night 3 The Hop on Hop off bus is an excellent way to move around and visit NY attractions. An alternative is the New York Pass card - grants admission & fast track to many top attractions. http://www.newyorkpass.com The Hotel At Times Square
Day 29 22 Oct Sat	New York Night 4 Top things to see and do:- the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, Walk the Brooklyn Bridge, Meander or cycle Central Park, Tour Radio City Music Hall, Give your regards to Broadway - see a show (½ price tickets available at the TKTS booth in Times Square), Rockefeller Center & Times Square. NY has wonderful museums and art galleries - to name a few:- The Guggenheim, The Museum of Modern History (MoMA) and the Museum of Natural History The Hotel At Times Square	

Day 30 23 Oct Sun	<p style="text-align: right;">Night 5</p> <p>New York</p> <p>Who likes to shop? Try Bloomingdales, Century 21 Department Store, “New York's Best Kept Secret”, has more than 15 departments of sensational quality and designer merchandise at 40-70% off retail prices, Macy’s– it’s an American icon. Daffys for bargains.</p> <p>Who doesn’t like to eat? - In New York one can find nearly every nationality's cuisine represented - cooked in style and served with flair. A must is a Reuben sandwich in the famous Carnegie Deli. www.carnegiedell.com</p> <p>The Hotel At Times Square</p>
Day 31 24 Oct Mon	<p>1530 - Depart LeGuardia NY (LGA) AC716 Term B Ref MJVVPZ 17.05 - Arrive Toronto Term 1 1hr 35m</p> <p>2015 - Depart Toronto AC033 Aircraft 77L</p>
Day 32 25 Oct Tues	<p>In Air</p>
Day 33 26 Oct Wed	<p>0910 - Arrive Sydney International Airport 21 hr 55 min</p>