

CALGARY STAMPEDE & THE PEOPLE OF THE GREAT PLAINS



Calgary Stampede July 8 – 17, 2011

A full “Cowboys and Indians” experience awaits you in Calgary, Alberta’s hot spot and gateway to the Rockies. Attend the Calgary Stampede, the largest outdoor show on earth, discover First Nations of Southern Alberta through genuine encounters with people of the Blackfoot Nation renowned in the old days for being fiercely independent, and with Métis descendants of the first European settlers and their Native wives. Learn more about Calgary’s history and its amazing surrounding area.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Calgary

Arrive in Calgary. Check in at your hotel for the next 5 nights.

Day 2: Heritage Park and Stampede Rodeo

In the morning, visit beautifully presented Heritage Park where you can learn all about the history of settlement in Alberta and find out about life in the area in the old days.

In the afternoon, don your western gear and join the Stampede for the largest outdoor rodeo in the world, starting at 1.30pm: professional cowboys compete in a myriad of rodeo events, including bull riding, steer wrestling and barrel racing.

Day 3: Experience nature with a Metis guide in Kananaskis Country

Today you go to Kananaskis Valley at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, where your Metis guides take you on a nature discovery program. Discover traditional uses of plants, learn about wildlife as seen in the Metis culture, take part in forest survival activities. You will never see nature with the same eyes again.

Day 4: Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump - World Heritage Site

Drive south to Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, one of the oldest, largest and best preserved buffalo Jumps in North America. Discover how the Plains People organized the sophisticated communal buffalo hunt as a means to gather food for nearly 6000 years. On the way back to Calgary you can visit Bar U Ranch in Longview. The site commemorates the history and importance of ranching in Canada. It has 35 buildings and structures illustrating various stages of ranching development and rich cultural landscape features.

Day 5: Blackfoot Crossing Interpretative Center and Stampede Evening Show

You spend a day with the Blackfoot people, one of the main First Nations in Alberta. Visit the brand new Blackfoot Crossing Interpretation Center with its amazing architecture, exhibits and views over the Bow Valley, a little oasis in the Prairie.

You have tickets for the Calgary Stampede Evening Show, which starts at 8 pm and includes Chuckwagon Races and the Grandstand Show.

Day 6: Departure

End of your Stampede Adventure.

RATES per person based on double occupancy:

from CAN \$ 1,194 (premium seats – platinum seats for rodeo and gold seats for chuck wagon race)

from CAN \$ 1,096 (standard seats – silver seats for both events)

Included

- Stampede seats at the Rodeo Afternoon Show and at the Chuckwagon / Grandstand Evening Show ; Souvenir program for each day, gifts and Skyride as per webpage
- Entrance fees for the Heritage Park, Head Smashed In Buffalo Jump and Blackfoot Crossing Interpretive Center
- A day of activities with Metis guides in Kananaskis Country incl. lunch
- 5 nights of accommodation

Not included

- 5% GST tax
- Meals
- Gratuities for Metis guides
- Processing Fee

HOTEL DESCRIPTIONS

Luxury Type	Middle class Type	Standard Type
2 Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Enjoy Calgary's distinctive hospitality at this hotel located alongside the Bow River running path within walking distance of the Telus Convention Center. It boasts beautifully renovated guest suites and breathtaking views of the downtown core.▪ A luxury hotel 20 minutes from the airport and from downtown. Good restaurants and bars nearby including the renowned Ranchman's Saloon. Access to the Stampede grounds by C-train or car. Swimming pool, whirlpool, water slide.	2 Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A comfortable modern medium/high end hotel located in Calgary downtown at walking distance of the Stampede Park and very close to the C-train. Easy access to local attractions, entertainment and shopping venues.▪ This hotel is located only ten minutes from downtown Calgary in the southeast quadrant of the city. The spacious guest rooms offer great views of the city, mountains, or outdoor courtyard pool	1 Option: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A standard hotel located near the center of Calgary just footsteps away from the C-train, the hotel has newly renovated, value priced and well appointed guest rooms and suites, indoor swimming pool and jacuzzi.



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