

Great Western Explorer

Day	Itinerary
01	Edmonton Arrival in Edmonton. Transfer to the hotel. In the evening meet your tour guide and traveling companions for additional trip information.
02	Edmonton - Jasper National Park After a hearty breakfast we drive west into the Rocky Mountains and Jasper National Park. Not far from the town of Jasper we set up our camp for the next two days. The first short hike leads to Angle Glacier of 3363 (11098 ft) m Mount Edith Cavell and on to the Cavell Meadows at 2135 m (7046 ft), a total of three hours walking time.
03	Jasper National Park Along Maligne Canyon the river is roaring up to 50 m below you. Now a side trip to picturesque Maligne Lake where you start your 8.5 km (5.3 mi) loop into the flower covered Opal Hills at 2160 m (7130 ft).
04	Jasper National Park - Prince George At the 3954 m (13050 ft) colossus Mt. Robson you walk through cedar forests to Kinney Lake. Down the valley of the Frazer River through sleepy villages to the campground at Pruden Lake.
05	Prince George - New Hazelton Fort St. James on the shore of Stuart Lake, surrounded by mountains, stems from the times of the fur traders. Climbing Mount Pope is rewarded with a grandiose panorama view. Moricetown Falls is a narrow canyon where salmon can be seen during the summer months. Campground at Ksan, a historic Native village.
06	New Hazelton - Stewart Native guides explain totem poles and longhouses of an ancient culture. The oldest still standing totem poles can be found near Kitwanga and Kitwancool. Camping by a lake, there is time this evening for an excursion to fantastic hanging glaciers at Bear Pass.
07	Stewart - Hyder A side trip to Alaska. Only 3 km and an international border apart but what contrasts. Tidy, typical Canadian Stewart has the school and the bank, end-of-the-road Hyder is purely Alaskan and has the bears and the glacier. Black bears and grizzlies fishing for salmon are not bothered by spectators and occasionally walk through the village. Several movies were filmed here.

<p>08</p>	<p>Cassiar Highway</p> <p>Only a few hundred souls live along this rarely traveled northern route. The scenery of the high plateau, framed by rugged peaks of the Coastal and Cassiar Ranges leaves a powerfully impression. A perfect day for hiking.</p>
<p>09</p>	<p>Cassiar Highway - Watson Lake</p> <p>Still on the Cassiar Highway through absolute wilderness with roaring rivers, lonely lakes and endless forests. Watson Lake with the "sign forest" is already part of the Yukon. If you feel homesick you may add your town sign to the collection.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Watson Lake - Frances Lake</p> <p>The Campbell Highway is a true discovery route. Large coaches avoid this gravel road, here you experience old-time Yukon nature. Camping at Frances Lake and a hike this afternoon.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Frances Lake - Tatchun Lake</p> <p>Except for the Native village of Ross River and the mining town Faro you find no other settlements during today's drive. Wolves and bears call this land their home, so keep your eyes peeled. Camping at picturesque Tatchun Lake.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Tatchun Lake - Dawson City</p> <p>At Stewart Crossing you enter the Silver Trail with the historic towns of Mayo, Elsa and Keno. Silver mines operated here until a few years ago. Tonight you reach Dawson City and the campground on the banks of the Yukon River. Don't miss the town's nightlife with gambling casinos and Can-Can dance girls.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Dawson City - Tombstone Mountain</p> <p>After a side trip to Bonanza Creek, a hundred years ago site of the biggest gold rush of all times, you leave the Klondike gold fields. The infamous Dempster Highway, 730 km (455 mi) of gravel, is the only road connection to the arctic ocean. Camp at the base of the Tombstone Mountains.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Tombstone Mountain</p> <p>The program calls for a 10 km (6.3 mi) hike with 550 m (1815 ft) gain. The black basalt mountains have a moonscape appearance of but are home of caribous which can be spotted in small groups and large herds. Each season has it's own charm, like the coloration of the forests in late summer.</p>

<p>15</p>	<p>Tombstone Mountain - Lake Laberge</p> <p>You travel south via the Klondike Highway. Along the Yukon River old mail stations, rest houses and small settlements are reminders of the great gold rush. A short trail leads to the Five Finger Rapids where years ago many a paddle wheeler met it's doom. Campground at Lake Laberge.</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>Lake Laberge - Kluane National Park</p> <p>A short side trip to the Takhini Hot Springs and now the land of the superlatives: Mt. Logan (5959 m, 19665 ft), Canada's highest mountain, in Canada's largest national park with the world's largest glacier field (except at the north and south poles). Another attraction is the abundant fauna. Base camp is set up at the border to the National Park, the first excursion is a hike to pretty Kathleen Lake</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Kluane National Park</p> <p>The Auriol-Trail is a 12 km (7.5 mi) loop with amazing scenery. Walking time is app. 4 hours with 300 m (182 ft) elevation gain to a maximum height of 1159 m (3825 ft).</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Kluane National Park</p> <p>The most spectacular hike of this region: Sheep Mountain overlooking huge Kluane Lake. It calls for a five hour, 14 km (9 mi) hike with good chances to spot the elusive white dall sheep. There is also the opportunity for a white water rafting trip on the Tatshenshini River or a sightseeing flight deep into the park.</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>Kluane National Park - Whitehorse</p> <p>The Alaska Highway to the capital of the Yukon. Along the road you stop at a dog mushers place. 100 Huskies are looking forward to meet you. In Whitehorse the program calls for a visit of Miles Canyon and the world's longest fish ladder. You should also make time for the McBride- and the Beringia Museum as well as the S.S. Klondike paddle wheeler. Hotel and final get-together for tonight.</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>Whitehorse</p> <p>Breakfast in the hotel and transfer to the airport.</p>