# Western Canada and Alaska inside passage

Depart Cairns 24th June at 5.50AM arrive Brisbane 8.00AM – Virgin Depart Brisbane 24th June at 10.20AM arrive Vancouver 6.55AM – air Canada

Commence the following tour with Cosmos in Vancouver on the 24th June and ending in Calgary on the 6th July

#### 1. Vancouver Area.

Welcome to Vancouver! Your Tour Director is on hand late this afternoon to answer any questions.

## 2 Vancouver Area.

This morning, an included city tour highlights STANLEY PARK, Chinatown, the harbor and beaches, and more. The rest of the day is at leisure, and your Tour Director will have suggestions for your further exploration of the city. Maybe take a water taxi to lively Granville Island with its outdoor markets, street musicians, and waterfront cafes'. Or, visit historic Gastown with its steampowered clock, antique shops, art galleries, and street vendors.

# 3 Vancouver Area - Ferry Crossing - Victoria.

This morning, set sail across the Strait of Georgia through the spectacular Gulf Islands, an area known for its Mediterranean-like climate. Afternoon sightseeing in Victoria includes world-famous BUTCHART GARDENS, Bastion Square, and Thunderbird Park with its unusual collection of Totem Poles.

#### 4 Victoria.

Be sure to discover some of the attractions this splendid city has to offer, including the Royal British Columbia Museum, afternoon tea at the Empress Hotel, a whalewatching cruise on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and fine shopping along Government Street.

# 5 Victoria - Chemainus - Port Hardy.

An early departure from Victoria follows the eastern coastline of Vancouver Island, stopping in Chemainus, the unique village with more than 30 murals depicting pioneer settlement of the area. Then, it's through the port of Campbell River, the "Salmon Capital of the World".

# 6 Port Hardy - Inside Passage Cruise - Prince Rupert.

Early this morning, embark on one of the world's most beautiful ocean voyages. The scenery is spectacular, with towering mountains, roaring waterfalls, endless islands, and virgin rainforests. Marine life abounds, often with sightings of sea lions, eagles, and porpoises- you may even spot a killer whale! Late-evening arrival in Prince Rupert. NOTE: Cruising time through the Inside Passage is approximately 16 hours. Please come prepared with all medications, eyeglasses, and any other items you will need.

#### 7 Prince Rupert.

Enjoy an orientation tour of Prince Rupert, and visit the NORTH PACIFIC HISTORIC FISHING VILLAGE, a National Historic Site, for a guided tour of British Columbia's oldest cannery village. Learn of the canning process and what life was like in the village during peak production in the last century.

# 8 Prince Rupert - Via Rail The Skeena - Prince George.

This morning, board VIA Rail's Skeena train for the trip of a lifetime. Sit back and enjoy an all-daylight journey that winds its way through the majestic Coast Mountains, follows the mighty Skeena Riveroften referred to as the "River of Mists"-and concludes in the Pacific Coast Rainforest. You'll retrace ancient First Nations trading routes and follow the paths of the earliest fur traders. Soaring bald eagles, inquisitive black bears, browsing moose, and other wildlife may be spotted.

## 9 Prince George - Mount Robson - Jasper National Park.

As we continue onward to JASPER NATIONAL PARK, the peak elevations grow, culminating with Mount Robson, the highest of Canada's Rockies at almost 3964 metres (13,000 feet). In Jasper, an orientation tour showcases the unspoiled beauty. Overnight in Jasper National Park.

## 10 Jasper National Park.

Today, join the optional excursion to Maligne Lake and Spirit Island, where you embark on a narrated cruise of the lake. The balance of the day is free to enjoy everything Jasper has to offer, from guided hikes and quaint shops to meandering wildlife.

#### 11 Jasper National Park - Columbia Icefield - Lake Louise - Banff National Park.

Winding our way down the western fringe of Alberta, our journey takes us through some of the Canadian Rockies' most breathtaking wilderness. Our first highlight is a stop at the COLUMBIA ICEFIELD to experience the Ice Explorer, an all-terrain vehicle that travels on ice measuring 229 metre (750 feet) thick. Next, Lake Louise, its cold waters perfectly mirror the surrounding mountains and glaciers. Precipitous gorges, snowcapped mountain ranges, and lakes of exquisite blues and greens come into view as we continue the journey south to BANFF NATIONAL PARK. On arrival, enjoy an orientation tour.

#### 12 Banff National Park.

Banff is one of Canada's favorite year-round resorts, with summer activities including hiking, boating, horseback riding, and fishing. Cosmos has arranged an optional helicopter ride high over the Canadian Rockies.

13 Banff National Park - Calgary.

The final leg of your journey takes you to Calgary International Airport for those with homebound flights. Please schedule flights after 2 pm. For those wanting to extend their time in the Canadian Rockies, consider extra nights in Banff.

Depart Calgary 6th July at 9.25PM arrive Vancouver at 9.56PM – Air Canada Depart Vancouver 6th July at 11.35PM arrive Brisbane 8th July at 7.15AM – Air Canada Depart Brisbane 8th July at 9.40AM arrive Cairns 12.10PM - Qantas

Cost per person \$6343.00 and includes the following:

- Airfares
- Airport taxes
- 13 day tour including sightseeing as per itinerary