

# CARSON TOURS

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Dear Traveler:

Welcome to Carson Tours. We bring you carefree tours in Alberta's most luxurious 2008 Setra motor coach, "The Alberta Clipper", combining professional service with a personal touch.



On most tours, Mike, your guide and driver is able to show you nifty little places that will make your travel memories even more special!

With your tour family, you'll see new places, meet new faces and share new experiences. You'll return home with photos, memories, and lots of stories to share with those who will wish they'd come along.

Please note that we have updated and improved our schedules to make your vacations even more enjoyable.

## ALASKA

**Departure: June 3, 2010**

**Return: June 22, 2010**

Fares:

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>\$4,169 Cad Double</b> | <b>\$3,999 Cad Triple</b> |
| <b>\$3,879 Cad Quad</b>   | <b>\$5,399 Cad Single</b> |

Pay 90 days or more in advance and receive a 5% discount

Final payment due 45 days prior to departure

*20 Days of Fun, Excitement and Memories!*

### Carson Tours Ltd.

7 Camelot Avenue, Leduc, Alberta, Canada, T9E 4M4

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**ITINERARY:**

**Day 1:** Welcome aboard our luxurious motor coach. Relax and enjoy the grandeur of the Rocky Mountains as we proceed to Prince George, B.C. for our first night. Overnight; Prince George.



**Day 2:** Departing Prince George, we continue northwest into the Nordic town of Smithers, located at the foot of the Hudson Bay Mountain. After departing Smithers, we'll enjoy a breathtaking panorama as we drive through the Hazleton Mountains to Terrace. Enroute we pass through Moricetown, a HUUWet'sewet'en village. Here, the Bulkley River - rushes on its way to meet the mighty Skeena River at Hazleton, smashing through a narrow gorge where Wet'sewet'en fishermen strain to catch salmon up to 70 lbs. Depending on the Alaskan State Ferry Schedule, we may have time to visit a coal terminal and drive by the Rupert Grain Terminal. Prince Rupert is home to the World's largest natural ice-free, deep-sea harbour. Overnight; Prince Rupert.



**Day 3:** Proceeding through blue-green waterways and forested islands that boast magnificent scenery and picturesque communities watch for whales, sea lions and numerous varieties of sea birds. We cruise the Inside Passage towards Skagway, Alaska. Enjoy the majestic splendour on our first night in the 49th State of the Union. We'll cruise on board the Marine Vessel The M/V Matanuska which was built by Puget Sound Bridge & Dry Dock Company of Seattle and began service in 1963. In 1968 the vessel was lengthened and renovated. It now carries

500 passengers, and provides 6 four-berth, 21 three-berth, and 80 two-berth cabins. The Matanuska is 408 feet long, with capacity for 88 vehicles (20' lengths), and has a service speed of 16.5 knots. Passenger services include a cafeteria, gift shop, cocktail lounge, solarium, and forward observation lounge. Overnight: Alaska State Ferry.

**Day 4:** After arriving in Juneau we'll have a guided tour of Juneau, the State Capitol, with a population of just fewer than 31,000. We'll then head over to another Ferry for the final leg of our Ferry journey into Skagway. It's hard to



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imagine that this area once accommodated over 20,000 prospectors. Overnight: Skagway.

**Day 5:** Skagway is Alaska's first incorporated city, incorporated on June 28, 1900 and gateway to the Gold Rush of 1898. The City of Skagway is geographically the largest city in Alaska with 455 square land miles. After a guided tour of Skagway, we'll enjoy a ride onboard the famous White Pass & Yukon Route Railway known as the "Scenic Railway of the World." Built in 1898 during the Klondike Gold Rush, this narrow gauge railroad is an

International Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. Experience the breathtaking panorama of mountains, glaciers, gorges, waterfalls, tunnels, trestles and historic sites from the comfort of vintage parlor cars. The WP&YR climbs almost 3000 feet in just 20 miles and features steep grades of up to 3.9%, cliff-hanging turns of 16 degrees, two tunnels and numerous bridges and trestles. The steel cantilever bridge was the tallest of its kind in the world when it was constructed in 1901. After this breath-taking ride, you're free to tear up the town of Skagway! Overnight: Skagway.



**Day 6:** Today will be a leisurely drive into Whitehorse, the Capitol City of the Yukon. On our way into Whitehorse, we'll stop in Carcross. From the time the first prospectors came over the Chilkoot Pass, this place was known as Caribou Crossing because of the large herds of caribou that crossed the narrows between Bennett and Tagish Lakes twice a year on their annual migration. Artefacts of aboriginal people--flaked stone tools estimated to be 4,500 years old--have been found here. Following the discovery of Klondike gold in 1896, Carcross became a popular stopping off place for stampedeers in their migration to and from the gold fields of Dawson City. For a short time Carcross had the largest sawmill in the territory--owned by Mike King--who also built boats and scows for the gold rush trade from early 1897. Overnight: Whitehorse.



**Day 7:** We follow the path of the gold rush to historic Dawson City. What would it be like to be "dog dirty and hungry for gold"? We'll arrive as Cheechakos and appreciate the experience of a sourdough! Overnight: Dawson City. Lunch will be included today.

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**Day 8:** Our Dawson City tour includes a visit to Dredge No. 4, which is the largest wooden hull, bucket line dredge in North America. We'll visit ground zero on Bonanza Creek, where the first gold strike in the Yukon occurred in 1896. We'll try our luck at panning for gold before concluding our day with a fresh, mouth-watering salmon bake. Overnight: Dawson City. 3



**Day 9:** We travel right to the Top of the World on the Top of the World Highway! Breathe in the mountain air and experience the magnificent, breathtaking views. We'll cross into the United States at Poker Creek. En route into Fairbanks we visit Santa Claus's house at the North Pole (honest...) then end our day in Fairbanks, near the geographical centre of Alaska. Overnight: Fairbanks.

**Day 10:** Our city tour of Fairbanks will take us to the University of Alaska Museum. We get a close up of the Alaska Pipeline as well as many historical buildings. Another savoury salmon bake will conclude the day's activities. Overnight: Fairbanks.

**Day 11:** We experience incredible views as we travel through Denali Park, past Denali, AKA Mt. McKinley, the highest peak in North America. Measured from the 2,000-foot lowlands near Wonder Lake to its summit, this mountain is considered by many to be the highest in the world. The vertical relief of 18,000 feet, greater even than that of Mount Everest, tops out on the snowy summit at 20,320 feet. Lunch will be included today. We'll conclude our day in Anchorage, Alaska.



**Day 12:** This full day in Anchorage includes a city tour, as well as free time for shopping and exploring your own little corners of the north's largest city of over 225,000 people. Lunch will be included today. Overnight in Anchorage.

**Day 13:** Off to Valdez - the Switzerland of Alaska - a city surrounded by snow-capped peaks and overwhelming majestic scenery. Lunch will be included today. Overnight: Valdez.

**Day 14:** Prepare for another busy and memorable day. This day we will enjoy a luxurious marine cruise to view the Columbia Glacier. Descending from the Chugach Mountains into Prince William Sound near

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Valdez, the Columbia Glacier has retreated about 12 kilometres since 1982, thinning significantly in that time. We'll proceed to Tok, the trade centre for the nearby Athabaskan villages and home to many dog sled mushers. Overnight: Tok.

**Day 15:** As we drive through the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge in East Alaska, watch for wildlife, especially the splendid Bald Eagle. We continue through Haines Junction and back to Whitehorse to sleep and dream. Overnight: Whitehorse.

**Day 16:** Ready, Set, Action - keep those cameras rolling as we enjoy a dry-docked cruise on the S.S. Klondike and tour the city. Tonight, enjoy the hilarious entertainment of the Fantastic Follies. Overnight: Whitehorse.

**Day 17:** As we cross the Great Divide, we know we are on our way home. Enjoy the scenery, cherish the memories and plan to return again. This is truly unspoiled splendour. After a soothing soak in the ever so natural Liard River Hot Springs, we will proceed into Muncho Lake for a peaceful and refreshing sleep. Be prepared to fly tonight if the weather is good! Overnight: Muncho Lake.

**Day 18:** Wow! What a day! Muncho Lake is a gorgeous area! If we haven't already taken an airplane ride last night, subject to today's weather, we'll fly from Muncho Lake to view the natural beauty of the area. After lunch we'll proceed to Fort Nelson, B.C. for a well-deserved rest. Overnight: Fort Nelson.

**Day 19:** Following the Mighty Peace River, we travel the picturesque route to Ft. St. John and Dawson Creek, spending our last night in Grande Prairie, Alberta. 4

**Day 20:** Returning home to Edmonton as sourdoughs, we have fresh appreciation of what the north has to offer.



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Included in your holiday is first class transportation in Alberta's most luxurious motor coach; standard accommodation and taxes at all hotels and baggage handling (one piece per person). We hope you will decide to join us for this exciting and memorable tour of Alaska.

*We look forward to offering you luxury!*

**Questions? Please feel free to call us!**

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**Welcome Aboard, Luxury Awaits You!**

## **TRAVEL NOTES**

**To help you enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday, we remind you of the following:**

- The medical information and liability waiver must be completed to assist you in the event of an emergency. Bring this form when first boarding the coach.
- Canadian citizens require a passport to enter the United States at land and marine ports of entry as of June 1, 2009.
- See [www.pptc.gc.ca](http://www.pptc.gc.ca) for additional updated passport information.
- We clearly tag your baggage for easy handling and identification. In order to accommodate all passengers, we ask that you restrict luggage to one large suitcase (for hotel staff to handle) and one carry on bag (that is your responsibility) per person.
- In order to keep the coach clean and neat, and for your comfort, we ask that you refrain from eating and drinking (except water!) on the coach. Our frequent stops (every 2-3 hours) allow plenty of opportunity for filling our tummies.
- If you are diabetic, or have a medical condition that requires food more often, let us know. We'll be pleased to meet your needs.
- While your rooms, tours and special events are included, in order to accommodate the variety of individual tastes, meals are your responsibility. We endeavour to arrange suitable eating establishments en route – enjoy!
- If you have questions or concerns, please let us know at once. We look forward to making your holiday a memorable experience.
- Trip cancellation and medical insurance are available, call for details.
- Don't forget your camera!



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**ROUTE MAP**



This map is intended to provide a general route overview only and may not show all stops.  
Routes subject to change without notice.

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