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# Train Travel Tours and Treats

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by TAYLOR HARKER



Fresh Tracks Canada offers a variety of authentic Canadian vacation experiences, such as a rail travel tour with Rocky Mountaineer.

Touring by train offers some solid benefits to passengers, getting them to new [destinations](#), and making the process of getting there just as enjoyable as the destination itself. Here, we cover Canadian and European rail travel, with perfect packages for clients and great gifts for you.

## **They Book Early—You Save**

You save on your own purchases, we mean, when you pay with your \$25 Visa gift card—a bonus to the 10 percent commission you earn from your **Vacations by Rail** booking.

The commission and gift card come as your reward for booking 2013 rail journeys aboard the company's *Royal Canadian Pacific* luxury train. The 32-guest train travels five and seven days at a time through the Canadian Rockies, with guests riding the entire way in refurbished Canadian Pacific Railway cars. Itineraries include the 5-day [Pacific Express Train](#), with highlights including a guided tour of Lake

Louise, a visit to the Revelstoke Railway Museum and a cocktail reception as the sun sets over the Canadian Rockies (\$6,010 pp dbl); and the 7-day [\*Royal Canadian Rockies\*](#), which includes a private boat cruise of the Waterton Lakes, crossing the border from Canada to the U.S. and back, as well as a tour of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in addition to a 5-night train journey and 2-night hotel [accommodations](#) (\$8,610 pp dbl).

All *Royal Canadian Pacific* luxury rail tours include private airport transfer, welcome reception, first class hotel accommodations, luxury train accommodations in private staterooms, open bar service aboard the train, evening turndown service and select off-train activities.

Ten percent commission and bonus \$25 Visa gift cards are available specifically on *Royal Canadian Pacific* train tours booked through Vacations by Rail. For more information, call **(877) 929-7245** or visit [vacationsbyrail.com](http://vacationsbyrail.com).

### **Authentically Canadian**

**Fresh Tracks Canada** is a travel company that specializes in providing a variety of Canadian travel experiences, ranging from cruises and ski trips to wildlife safaris, self-drives and train journeys. It offers no less than 45 different sample itineraries, available for durations as short as five days and as long as 21. Of course, these itineraries are all just what they say: “sample.” Fresh Tracks Canada is dedicated to providing custom-tailored vacations to provide the Canadian vacation of your clients’ dreams.

“For 20 years we have been helping visitors to our country experience the best of Canada,” says John Parker, CEO and co-founder of Fresh Tracks Canada. “We are thrilled to work with travel agents to create a flawless experience for their clients, whether it’s finding the perfect guide for a nature tour, the best room in a cozy mountain lodge or recommending a local watering hole.”

One of the company’s most popular itineraries is the 8-day [\*Complete Canadian Rockies by Rail\*](#) package, which highlights the western Canadian cities of Vancouver, Jasper, Lake Louise and Banff, and includes a 2-day ride aboard the *Rocky Mountaineer* through the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Depending on time of year, guests may also cruise on Maligne Lake, take a nature tour through Maligne Valley, walk along a glacier in the Columbia Icefield or ride a cable car to the summit of Sulphur Mountain. Rates start at \$2,151 pp dbl.

And with the *Fall Colors* offer, rail journeys or self-drive itineraries that are six nights or longer and are booked by Aug. 31 for travel in September or October will include a complimentary tour in the Canadian Rockies, based on hotel room category:

- Guests who book *Comfort* level will enjoy a half-day tour from Lake Louise to see the golden larches framing Moraine Lake
- Guests who book *Deluxe* and *Mountain Lodge* levels will enjoy a 12-minute heli-tour of Banff to see the mountain valleys from above
- Guests who book *Deluxe Plus* level will enjoy a 30-minute heli-tour of Mount Assiniboine, called the “Matterhorn of the Canadian Rockies,” with opportunities to see glaciers and ice falls along the way

For more information, call **(800) 667-4744** or visit [freshtrackscanada.com](http://freshtrackscanada.com).

## Europe Rewards

**Rail Europe** represents more than 50 European train companies in 32 countries, each destination with a wide variety of passes available to suit any client’s travel needs. But it’s the company’s current just-for-agents **Swiss Rail** promotion that’s got our attention.

The *2 for 1 Swiss Rail Pass Fall Special* is rewarding you with a \$10 [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) gift card for every *2 for 1 Swiss Saver 4-day Pass* and *2 for 1 Swiss Saver 4-day Flexi Pass* booking you make through Nov. 20 for travel from Sept. 1-Nov. 30. To receive your gift card, just register your booking for either of the above passes online at [agent.raileurope.com](http://agent.raileurope.com) before the promotional deadline.

The *Swiss Pass* provides unlimited travel on all trains, boats and postal busses throughout the Swiss Travel System, and includes a *Swiss Museum Pass* that grants free admission to more than 400 museums. *2 for 1* passes provide rail travel to two persons for the price of one. A *2 for 1 Swiss Saver 4-day Pass* allows for travel over four consecutive days (rates starting at \$242 for second class seating or \$384 for first class seating), while *2 for 1 Swiss Saver 4-day Flexi Passes* can be used for four days of travel with a 30-day period (rates starting at \$280 for second class seating or \$446 for first class seating).

In addition to the gift cards, the agent who generates the most revenue through the promotion will earn a grand prize trip for two to Switzerland, inclusive of airfare from **Swiss International Air Lines**, 5-night hotel accommodations in a three-star or better hotel, and two *Swiss 4-Day Flexi Passes*.

For more information, call **(888) 438-RAIL** or visit [agent.raileurope.com](http://agent.raileurope.com).

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