



Visiting Fort St. James National Historic Site from the Canadian Rockies: A Recommended one or two day driving tour

ROUTE: Be sure to plan your travels involving resources from Tourism BC (www.hellobc.com) and check your driving plans by consulting www.drivesafebc.com before you go

DAY ONE:

- 8AM in Jasper National Park and depart, heading west on Trans-Canada Yellowhead Hwy 16, bound for British Columbia.
- Stop at **Yellowhead Pass National Historic Site** and wander the short Portal Lake pathway at the top of the Continental Divide. Check out the new interpretive exhibits and viewing decks at this peaceful location. Yellowhead Pass was the former route in which some fur brigades destined for Fort St. James would use in the transport of all important raw leather from the prairies. Important in making moccasins and other tools of the Fur Trade.
- NOTE: You are crossing into BC and into the Pacific Time Zone. Adjust watches accordingly.
- Visit **Mount Robson Provincial Park** and enjoy numerous views of spectacular peaks and valleys. Stop in at the **Mount Robson Visitor Centre** and take a photo of the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies (if you catch it on a clear day, you are exceedingly lucky!)
- Heading west on Hwy 16, bypass the junction with Hwy 5 South, heading towards McBride, BC
- **McBride, BC** has a quaint community museum and Art Gallery which are free of charge and worth a stop if time permits.
- Continue west towards Prince George, BC (gas up before departing McBride. No cell phone coverage or service stations for 200km!)
- Stop at the **Ancient Forest Day Use area** and view a spectacular interior rain forest of epic proportions. Huge cedars will astound visitors in any weather. The best time to see the cedars and wander the 3km pathway is on a rainy day

OVERNIGHT at:

Purden Lake Provincial Park if you are camping (beautiful lake, only 4 hr drive from Jasper, Alberta). Reservations are available through BC Parks. Cabin resort is also located nearby

Prince George, BC if you are looking for hotels and motels.





**Fort St. James
National Historic Site**
parkscanada.gc.ca

**Lieu historique national
du Fort-St. James**
parcscanada.gc.ca

DAY TWO:

Spend the morning in **Prince George, BC** and explore the **Golden Raven Heritage Attractions** in this bustling interior BC city of 80,000. Upcoming host of 2012 Canada Winter Games.

After visiting the **Prince George Railway and Forestry Museum, the Exploration Place** or **Two Rivers Gallery**, head west on Hwy 16 toward Vanderhoof, BC.

Approximately 90km west, **Vanderhoof BC** is a moderate sized community of about 5000 people. An **interesting Community Museum** and an **excellent bird sanctuary on the Nechako River** are worth exploring along the way.

