



THE SKEENA

WESTERN CANADA SCENIC EXPEDITION

Vancouver • Victoria • Vancouver Island • Inside Passage Cruise • Jasper • Banff • Calgary

Vancouver, the dynamic city where the mountains meet the sea.

Victoria, the Western hemisphere’s most “British” city, and the beautiful **Butchart Gardens**.

Rugged snow-capped mountains, trout-filled lakes, fir and cedar forests, rich farmland and clean, sandy beaches on 300-mile long **Vancouver Island**.

Inside Passage cruise on the B. C. Ferry, Northern Expedition. Cruise the spectacular scenic waterway that extends from Washington State to Alaska.

Touring Class travel on **VIA Rail Canada’s Skeena** through the rugged canyons, treacherous rapids

and towering totem poles. Traverse both the Coast Mountains and western Canadian Rockies.

The **Icefields Parkway**, North America’s most scenic highway, including a Snocoach venture onto the Athabasca Glacier.

Scenic **Lake Louise** and its majestic Chateau.

Banff sightseeing and Sulphur Mountain gondola ride. Free time to explore this picturesque village.

3600 miles of first-class travel on the **Empire Builder**, one of Amtrak’s premier trains.

A VALID PASSPORT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TOUR

Days 1-3 Chicago to Vancouver
 Days 4-5 Vancouver / Victoria
 Day 6..... Vancouver Island
 Day 7..... Inside Passage
 Day 8..... Skeena / Prince George
 Day 9..... Skeena / Jasper

Day 10..... Maligne Lake Cruise
 Day 11..... Icefields Parkway / Banff
 Day 12..... Banff
 Day 13..... Calgary / Shelby
 Days 14-15 Shelby to Chicago

TOUR DATE(S):

2017

Sun., July 9 to Sun., July 23

TOUR PRICE:

All prices are per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

\$4,995 - 15 Days

Upgrade: Bedroom + \$1,045

\$6,895 SINGLE

FLY OPTION - Fly to Seattle and return from Calgary. 11 Days

Price: \$4,095

Single: \$5,395

America by Rail will be happy to arrange your flights. Airfare not included in above price.

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by Amtrak rail. Deluxe motorcoach in Western Canada.
- Two days aboard VIA's Skeena.
- Private Roomette sleeping accommodations on the trains for three nights
- First-class hotel accommodations for 11 nights.
- 23 meals.
- Extensive sightseeing including: admissions to Butchart Gardens, Athabasca Glacier Snocoach ride, Sulphur Mountain gondola ride.
- Baggage handling, taxes & tips.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

AMERICA BY RAIL WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CONNECTING TRANSPORTATION TO CHICAGO AND BACK BY RAIL OR AIR.

WESTERN CANADA SCENIC EXPEDITION

Day 1: Depart Chicago

Western Canada Scenic Expedition tour members will board Amtrak's Empire Builder for the 2200-mile journey to Everett, Washington. Departure is scheduled for 2:15 p.m. Relax in your comfortable private Roomette or Bedroom sleeping accommodations. Go to the glass-walled Sightseer Lounge car for spectacular viewing. All tastefully prepared dining car meals are included. We will arrive in Minneapolis-St. Paul late this evening. **D**

Day 2: En Route

During the day we will roll across the remote flat lands of North Dakota and eastern Montana. Late this afternoon a dramatic panorama of Rocky Mountain peaks will begin to rise above the horizon. The scenery of Glacier National Park is striking as we wind past waterfalls, river gorges and other sights. The glass-walled lounge and dining car are excellent vantage points. **B, L & D**

Day 3: En Route / Vancouver

You may want to rise early to watch the sun come up over some spectacular scenery. This morning the Empire Builder will enter the 7.8-mile-long Cascade Tunnel.

Over the next two hours we'll wind through the scenic Cascade Mountains.

Upon arrival into the Everett, Washington, train station we'll board our motorcoach and travel to Vancouver. Vancouver is one of North

America's most prosperous cities and one of its most beautiful. Enjoy an "on-your-own" lunch at the delightful Granville Island Market.

This afternoon we'll embark on a three-and-a-half hour sightseeing tour of the city. The tour will include Gastown, Chinatown, Stanley Park, English Bay, Marine Drive, the waterfront and Queen Elizabeth Park.

After our tour, we'll check into the beautiful Blue Horizon, our home for tonight. **B**

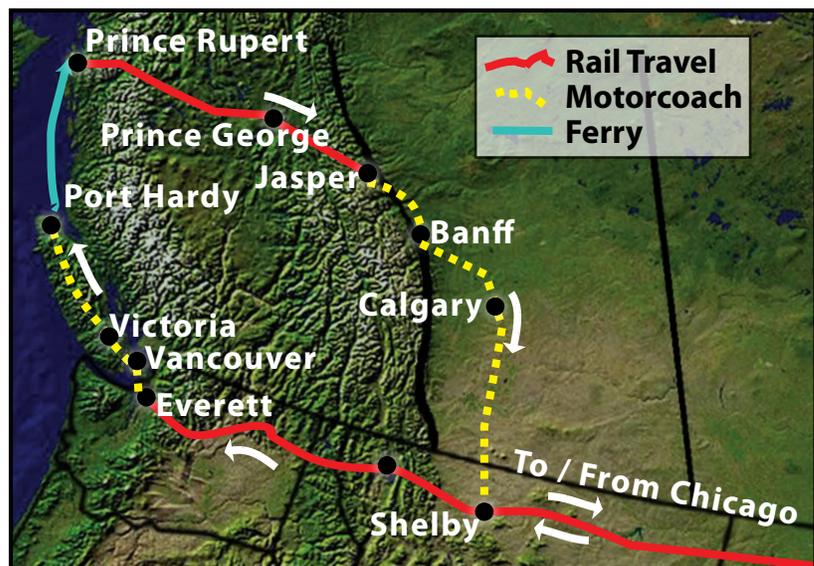
Day 4: Vancouver / Victoria

You're free until early afternoon.

At 3:00 p.m. we'll board a British Columbia ferry for the hour-and-a-half scenic crossing of the Strait of Georgia. Our journey will end in beautiful Victoria, North America's most "British" city. Late this afternoon we arrive at the attractive, centrally located Fairmont Empress where we'll spend the next two nights.

Day 5: Victoria

You're free this morning to shop and to visit major attractions. This afternoon we'll embark on an hour-and-a-half sightseeing tour of the city, including the Parliament buildings, the Provincial Museum, the University of Victoria and the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, Uplands and Oak Bay residential areas and other sites. We'll then visit the world-famous Butchart Gardens, a 35-acre tapestry of brilliant colors. The Tour Director will host dinner tonight at the Fairmont Empress' restaurant. **B & D**



CB-CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST · B-BREAKFAST · L-LUNCH · D-DINNER



VICTORIA PARLIAMENT BUILDING

Day 6: Vancouver Island / Port Hardy

This morning we'll board our motorcoach and strike out on a journey northwest to the opposite end of Vancouver Island. This wonderfully scenic route takes us through a sparsely populated wilderness previously accessible only by boat or logging road. Photo stops will be made. We'll take a mid morning break at picturesque Chemainus, the mural village.

By late afternoon we'll arrive in Port Hardy, a seaport village at the northern tip of Vancouver Island. We'll spend the night in Port Hardy. Dinner tonight is included. **B & D**

Day 7: Inside Passage

If there is a single high point of this fabulous vacation, it is today's cruise through the famed Inside Passage from Port Hardy to Prince Rupert. Our vessel is British Columbia Ferry's beautiful 508-foot "Northern Expedition."

The Inside Passage, which extends from the Puget Sound to the Alaska Panhandle, is a world-renowned scenic destination. Protected on the east side by towering, snow-capped peaks of the Coast Mountain Range and by fir tree-covered islands on our west side, it is a natural marine highway. In addition to the breathtaking scenery, you're likely to see wildlife such as whales, porpoises, sea lions, majestic bald eagles and herons. The hours of daylight are extensive due to our close proximity to the North Pole.

This spectacular 15-hour cruise will include a Day Cruise cabin with two lower berths, a shower, washstand and toilet. In addition to the all-inclusive buffet, there is a cafeteria serving hearty meals and light snacks. There is outside seating as well as comfortable lounges with relaxing, reclining seats and large picture windows. Enjoy extensive shopping in the Passages gift shop.

When we dock in Prince Rupert late this evening, we'll be just 40 miles south of the Alaskan border. We'll continue to our hotel in this picturesque port, known as the Halibut capital of the world. Our hotel for tonight is the attractive Prince Rupert Hotel.

Day 8: Skeena / Prince George

This morning at 8:00 we'll board VIA Rail Canada's famed Skeena for our rail journey to Jasper in the heart of the Canadian Rockies. We'll travel 466 miles

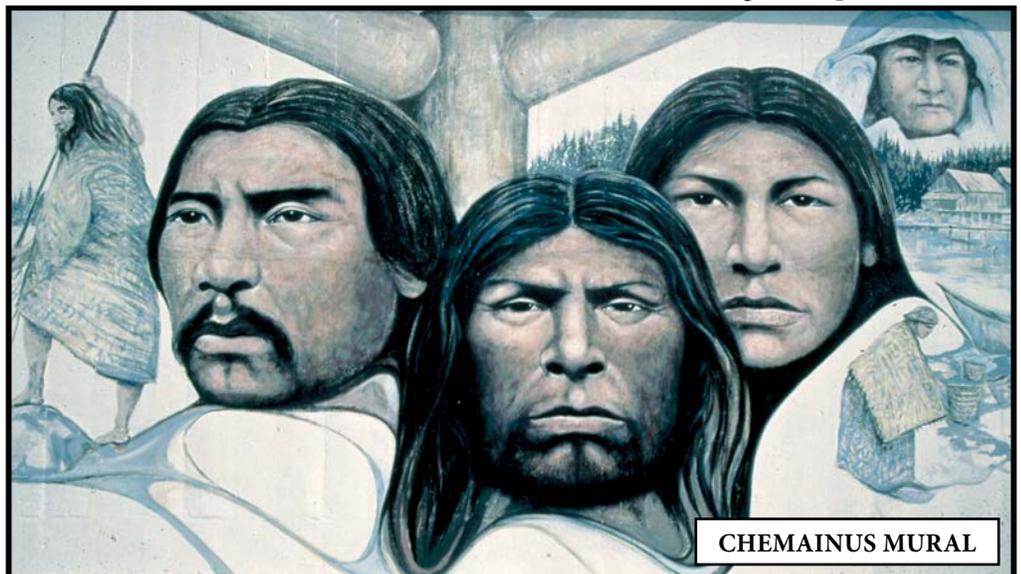
today and arrive in Prince George this evening, where we'll spend tonight. We'll conclude our trip to Jasper tomorrow. Each of the 720 spectacularly scenic miles between Prince Rupert and Jasper is experienced during daylight hours.

For the next two days you'll enjoy the Touring Class service on the train. You'll find comfortable reclining coach seats, access to the Dome Car and three meals each day.

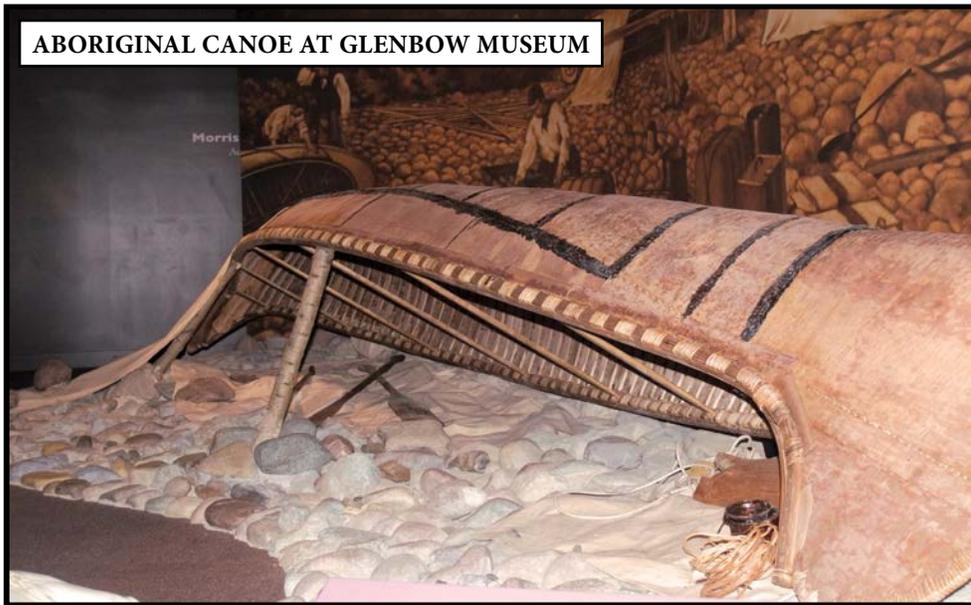
This morning we cross the Coastal Mountains of British Columbia. They rival the Canadian Rockies in beauty. Most of today we follow the Skeena River (Skeena means "river of the clouds") through rugged canyons, along rapids and beside waterfalls. The mountain views are fabulous. Along a 40-mile stretch, you'll see many tall totem poles created by local Native American artisans. When we arrive in Prince George at 8:29 this evening, we'll transfer to the Treasure Cove Hotel. **CB, L & D**

Day 9: Skeena / Jasper

We'll reboard the Skeena this morning and continue our spectacular scenic ride east 254 miles to Jasper. Continental breakfast and lunch are included. By mid-morning we'll leave the plateau country and encounter the awesome, majestic Canadian Rockies. We'll soon roll by the spectacular Mt. Robson, highest peak in the Canadian Rockies at 12,972 feet. We'll then cross the Yellowhead Pass, one of the lowest passes along the Continental Divide. We'll arrive early evening in the quaint mountain village of Jasper. Our home



CHEMAINUS MURAL



ABORIGINAL CANOE AT GLENBOW MUSEUM

Some of our tour members will conclude their tour by transferring to Amtrak trains bound for their home cities. Others will spend the night in Chicago and continue home tomorrow. **B & L**

"YOUR STAFF SELECTS SOME OF THE MOST DESIRABLE AND VERY POPULAR LOCATIONS. I RECOMMEND ABR TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY."

ANNIE B
COLUMBUS, OH

the next two nights is the Whistlers Inn. **CB & L**

Day 10: Maligne Lake Cruise

This morning we'll travel to nearby Maligne Lake and embark on a scenic cruise.

Following our cruise we will return to our hotel. You are free the rest of the day to relax or explore the town.

Day 11: Icefields Parkway / Banff

Our travelers will board a deluxe motorcoach and head for the Icefields Parkway, North America's most scenic highway, where frequent photo stops will be made. We'll visit the Columbia Icefield and Athabasca Falls. A ride out onto the Athabasca Glacier in a Snocoach will be a highlight of the tour. Another high point will be the visit to Lake Louise and its famous Chateau. The setting is one of the most picturesque in the Rockies. A box lunch will be served en route. We will arrive in Banff late afternoon. Our home for the next two nights will be the Banff Caribou Lodge. **L**

Day 12: Banff

This morning we will embark on a Discover Banff Tour. The highlight of the tour will be the gondola ride to the top of Sulphur Mountain for a spectacular view.

You're free this afternoon to rest, shop along Banff Avenue or visit the Natural History or Parks Canada Museums. **B**

Day 13: Calgary

Our travelers will depart from Banff this morning and continue about an hour-and-a-half to Canada's fourth largest city, Calgary.

The 626-foot Calgary Tower is one of the city's major attractions. We'll enjoy lunch (included) in the Tower's revolving restaurant and the panoramic view of the city and the nearby Rockies.

Following lunch we'll visit the Glenbow Museum. Colorful displays trace the history of the settlement of Western Canada.

We'll continue to Shelby where we will spend the night at the Best Western Shelby Inn & Suites. Dinner tonight will be "on-your-own." **B & L**

Day 14: En Route

This morning we'll transfer to the Shelby Amtrak Station and board Amtrak's Empire Builder's 11:43 a.m. departure for Chicago. You'll enjoy the same accommodations and amenities you experienced on the westbound trip. All full-course meals are included beginning with lunch. Go to the Sightseer Lounge car for excellent viewing of the passing scenery. **CB, L & D**

Day 15: En Route

We pass through Minneapolis-St. Paul this morning and then head south along the west bank of the Mississippi River. The Empire Builder is scheduled to arrive in Chicago's Union Station by late afternoon.



CALGARY TOWER

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$200 per person, of which \$100 per person is non-refundable, is required to finalize registration. The balance is due 75 days prior to departure. If payments are not received by the due date(s) specified, reservations may be cancelled without notice.

TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

If cancellation is received by America by Rail more than 75 days prior to departure, \$100 of your deposit will be retained. For cancellations received within 75 days of departure, the following per person cancellation fees apply:

- 46-75 days prior to departure: 25% of total tour cost.
- 15-45 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost.
- 14 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours. All pricing is per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour.

TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains.

Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a single cost.

SIGHTSEEING / ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

MEALS

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants / trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at

overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. An overnight bag is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sightseeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities for the America by Rail Tour Directors are at your discretion; \$3-\$10 per person per day is the industry standard. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender; passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

America by Rail will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. Any type of disability requiring special provisions must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. America by Rail is not required to provide participants with personal devices, such as wheelchairs or individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses, or to provide services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting or dressing. Accordingly, all participants are responsible to participate without assistance of the America by Rail Tour Director or other attendant. Tour Directors are prohibited from providing physical assistance or accommodations (beyond normal civil courtesies, such as holding doors open for passing). It is recommended that participants requiring assistance, including those requiring the use of a mobility device, be accompanied by a travel companion who will be responsible to provide required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour.

Those travelling with oxygen are required to advise America by Rail at least two weeks prior to departure. Amtrak requires all equipment, including oxygen concentrators, must be able to operate a minimum of four hours without available onboard electrical power (in the event of a power disruption onboard). Oxygen equipment must be Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) listed. The total weight of all tanks may not exceed 120 lbs. Within this limit, no more than 2

tanks 50 lb each, or no more than 6 tanks 20 lbs each

SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed.

It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and / or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A.

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