

25 BURNS LAKE
Mile: 35 **Population:** 2,107

Centre for Lakes District, popular fishing and boating region. Lake of same name east of village, south side, miles 24 to 35. Decker Lake to the west, miles 40.3 to 48.

26 ROSE LAKE
Mile: 51.3

Amid rural community of same name. Watershed for Upper Bulkley (Skeena system) to west and Endako (Fraser system) to east. Railway crosses Bulkley river 11 times.

27 HOUSTON
Mile: 85 **Population:** 3,163

Centre for recreational lake and river fishing in area. Biggest fly-fishing rod in world and sculpture of steelhead trout in gardens, south side.

28 TELKWA
Mile: 116 **Population:** 1,295

Wet'sewet'en name for "Where the rivers meet"; junction of Telkwa and Bulkley rivers. Service centre for area until Smithers founded.

29 SMITHERS
Miles: 125 and 0 **Population:** 5,800

Founded by railway in 1913. Recreation destination; service centre for forestry, mining and agriculture. Railway station built in 1918.

30 HUDSON BAY MOUNTAIN
Mile: 4

(2,560 metres), Kathlyn Glacier and Twin Falls, mile 4. One of best views of a glacier from a passenger train in Canada.

31 MORICETOWN
Mile: 22 **Population:** 227

Wet'sewet'en settlement. A vital fishing site for at least 5,000 years.

32 Bridges up to 48 metres high: **Boulder Creek**, mile 28.4, **Porphyry Creek**, mile 31.3, **Mudflat Creek**, mile 36.1

33 BULKLEY CANYON
Miles: 39 to 44

Three tunnels take train past canyon; Bulkley River churns below. Eastern tunnel, mile 40.8, longest on route (630 metres).

34 NEW HAZELTON
Mile: 46 **Population:** 627

One of several communities clustered near junction of Bulkley and Skeena rivers (to north, miles 49.5 to 50). Valley curves around large mountain to south named Stegyawden by Gitksan people and Rocher Debole by 19th-century miners (2,438 metres).

35 SEELEY GULCH BRIDGE
Mile: 50.5 **Height:** 59 metres **Length:** 275 metres

View north.

36 SKEENA CROSSING BRIDGE
Mile: 62.3 **Height:** 50 metres **Length:** 288 metres

The train crosses Skeena river. Village of Gitsegukla across river to west.

37 KITWANGA
Mile: 73 **Population:** 465

Locally called Gitwangak, a Gitksan village. On south side is one of many totem poles for which area is famous.

38 SEVEN SISTERS
Miles: 74 to 90

Row of sawtooth peaks to south. Tunnel 200 metres long at mile 78.9.

39 REMOTE SETTLEMENTS
Miles: 85.9 to 119.3 **Population:** 1,618

Cedarvale, mile 85.9; **Doreen**, mile 101; **Pacific**, mile 106.9. At **Usk**, mile 119.3, are orange-and-white towers of rare water-powered car ferry across Skeena River.

40 KITSELAS CANYON AND TUNNELS
Miles: 121 to 123

Skeena River tumbles among jagged rocks (south side), rail line skirts canyon through four close tunnels (miles 121.9 to 122.8). Best seen from dome or back of train.

42 SKEENA RIVER
Miles: 40 to 60

Translated from native Tsimshian as "Water of the clouds" and from the Gitksan as "River of mists." Trading route and fish source for thousands of years. Many trackside waterfalls, miles 40 to 60. Pacific Ocean tidal zone begins as river widens out. Snow from avalanches often seen near tracks in winter and spring.

43 KWINITSA
Mile: 48 **Population:** 37

Original site of station; now a railway museum at Museum of Northern B.C. in Prince Rupert.

44 NORTH PACIFIC CANNERY VILLAGE MUSEUM
Mile: 81.9 west side

Oldest cannery village on coast of B.C. Now a national historic site.

45 PORT EDWARD
Mile: 86 **Population:** 577

Fishing boats dock at this village. Pulp mill, east side. Cross bridge onto Kaien Island.

46 RIDLEY ISLAND
Mile: 87.3

Grain and coal trains empty cargoes here; ocean freighters load up at massive terminals built in 1980s.

47 PRINCE RUPERT
Mile: 93 **Population:** 12,815

VIA station located in the B.C. Ferries terminal. End of rail line; gateway by air and sea to Pacific coast. Forestry, fishing and tourism support the city's economy. Museum of Northern B.C. displays 10,000 years of coastal history. Visitors can tour harbour to see ancient village sites and watch carvers at work.

RAILWAY SIGNS TO WATCH FOR

One of the railway traditions – the milepost – provides the key to locating a train's current position. Mileposts may be on either side of a track, and are usually rectangular white signs with black numbers. Though Canada now uses the metric system, the original markers for railroads were, and still are, in miles. Each line is subdivided at Railway Division Points; these subdivisions are not a standard length, they were based on the distance a steam locomotive could travel in a day.

Mileposts
Milepost numbers rise from east to west and reset to zero at the start of each subdivision. Subdivisions are 43 to 146 miles (69 to 235 km) long.

Siding and Station Name Boards
Newer siding and station name boards are white with a black name. Older station name boards are also white with a black name but the lettering is all capitals and the sign is mounted on a building.



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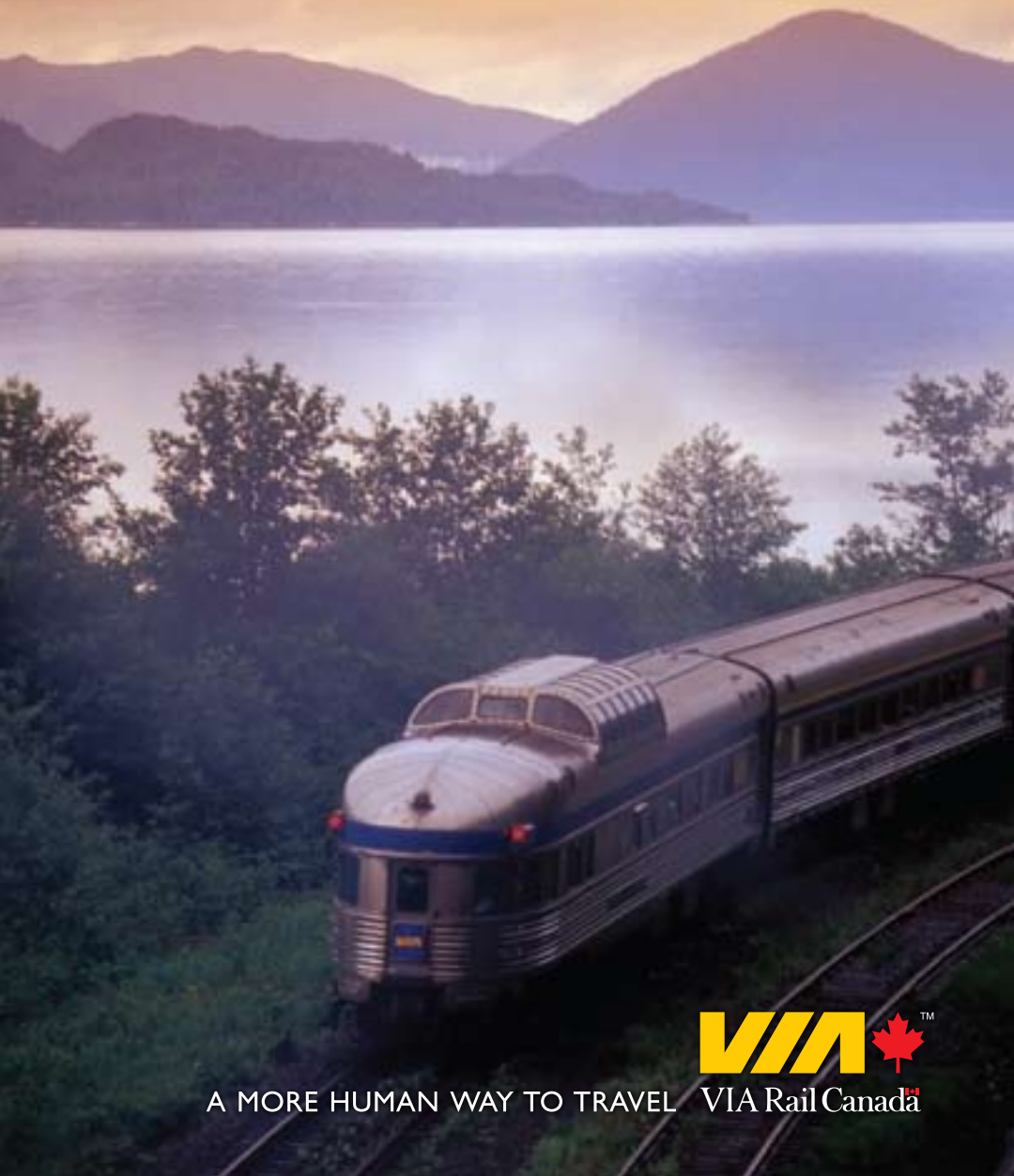


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YOURS TO KEEP

ROUTE GUIDE

Jasper-Prince Rupert



A MORE HUMAN WAY TO TRAVEL VIA Rail Canada

Client:	VIA Rail Canada
Format:	16,309" x 8,5"
Couleurs:	CMYK
Publication:	Guide Skeena - EN
Dossier:	3151-08A

Itinerary

This train travels 1,160 km between the Rockies and the north Pacific coast through remarkable and varied landscapes.

Great stretches of wilderness, lakes and rivers punctuated by settlements, farms and sawmills span this section of Canada's northern transcontinental rail line, completed in 1914 by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

The ancient traditions of the native peoples, the not-too-distant pioneer days of sternwheelers, steam trains and panning for gold and modern history have all left their mark alongside the tracks.

Many villages and towns along the line were surveyed and named by the railway. Important industries across the region include forestry, agriculture, mining, tourism and commercial fishing.

Canadian National trains carry coal, grain, lumber and mixed freight, and weigh as much as 14,000 tonnes. (Try counting the rail cars in passing trains!)

Wildlife such as bear, moose, elk, deer, wolves, coyotes, eagles, hawks and seals may be seen during the trip, depending on season and chance.



1 JASPER
Mile: 0 **Population:** 4,265

World-famous for skiing, hiking and outdoor sports, Jasper attracts tourists from around the world and is said to be among the country's most-photographed places. Because Jasper National Park is a wildlife sanctuary, it is common to see all sorts of wild animals in their natural habitat. Elk and mule deer often wander the main street of the town.

2 YELLOWHEAD PASS
Mile: 17.6 (elev. 1,131 metres)

Crest of Yellowhead Pass marks Alberta-B.C. border, change between Mountain and Pacific time zones and continental divide, from where all water systems flow either east of west of this line. From there, Miette River flows eastward. Westward, water flows into Yellowhead Lake (miles 20 to 24) en route to Fraser River and Pacific Ocean. Yellowhead Pass is also the highest part of this route. Southeast across Yellowhead Lake is Mount Fitzwilliam (2,911 metres).

3 FRASER RIVER
Mile: 25 westward

Visible for most of journey to Prince George as it grows manifold. Major salmon stream and longest river within B.C. borders, flowing over 1,300 kilometres to Pacific Ocean. Named after explorer Simon Fraser.

4 MOOSE LAKE
Miles: 36 to 43.7

Thunder Falls south across lake, mile 38. Fraser River re-emerges by the tracks at railway junction of Red Pass, mile 44.

5 MOUNT ROBSON
Miles: 12 to 14

Robson subdivision; miles 52 to 62 Albreda subdivision (3,954 metres). Highest mountain in Canadian Rockies. Height and horizontal strata make it easily recognized. Indian name Yu-hai-has-hun, "Mountain of the Spiral Road." Surrounded by 2,172 sq. km Mount Robson Provincial Park, founded 1913.

6 TETE JAUNE CACHE
Miles: 0 to 4.7 **Population:** 1,000

Railway construction town of over 2,000 people and head of navigation for Fraser River sternwheeler travel from 1911 to 1913. Railway enters Rocky Mountain Trench: Rockies to north, Cariboo Mountains to south. Train may loop south 22.5 km at junction.

7 DUNSTER
Mile: 23.4 **Population:** 90

Rare general store and post office, north side, serving rural community. Station built in 1913.



8 RAUSH RIVER BRIDGE
Mile: 32.7

Second-longest of this train route, 315 metres. Eddy Bridge, mile 39. Rest of train visible (north side) on unusual curved concrete bridge.

9 MCBRIDE
Miles: 43.4 and 0 **Population:** 680

Established as railway divisional point, 1913. Station, built 1919, is reminder of elegant railway architecture once common on line.

10 TUNNEL
Mile: 18.1 **Length:** 250 m

11 MOUNT RIDER
Mile: 22

Peak to the north (2,513 metres) named after writer Sir Henry Rider Haggard (1856-1925), who rode on that train in 1916.

12 CRESCENT SPUR, LOOS, DOME CREEK
Miles: 30 to 56

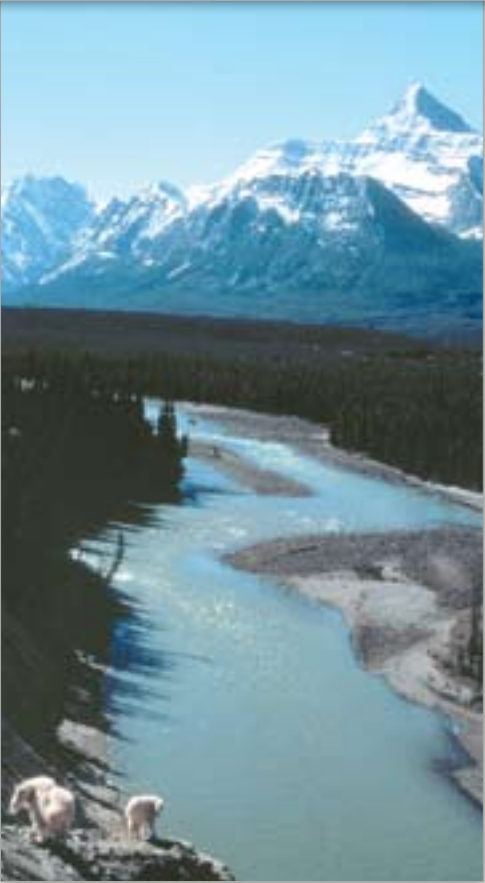
Sawmills and stores have long since closed, but farming and logging continue. Helicopter hiking and ski lodge by tracks at Crescent Spur.

13 PENNY
Mile: 69.5

Once a bustling sawmill settlement, now one of most remote stretches of line. Chinook salmon hatchery makes use of clear spring water.

14 HANSARD BRIDGE
Mile: 99.1

Railway bridge over Fraser River also as public road. Traffic controlled by signal operator working in cabin on bridge.



15 BOWRON RIVER
Mile: 101

Large tributary of Fraser River.

16 UPPER FRASER
Mile: 104

Train passes through sawmill yards. Track heads away from Rockies past Hansard, Aleza and Eaglet lakes.

17 GISCOME
Mile: 122

Once had largest sawmill north of Vancouver. Concrete foundations near track show where it stood. Greenish igneous rock quarried here for railway ballast.

18 WILLOW RIVER
Mile: 127

General store visible near track, north side.

19 PRINCE GEORGE
Miles: 140 and 0 **Population:** 70,981

Three pulp mills and an oil refinery, north side of Fraser River. Largest city in northern B.C.; major manufacturing and service centre, transportation crossroads and seat of University of Northern British Columbia. Railway bridge at east side of city is over 800 metres long. Next to CN rail yards is Central Interior Railway Museum.

20 NECHAKO RIVER
Mile: 0

Major tributary of Fraser River. The train follows it more than 80 km and crosses at mile 95. Upstream, Nechako waters are used to generate electricity for one of world's largest aluminum smelters, at Kitimat.

21 VANDERHOOF
Mile: 69 **Population:** 4,064

Geographic centre of B.C.; local centre for dairy farming and forestry.

22 FORT FRASER
Mile: 94.3 **Population:** 1,000

Near site of fur-trading post built in 1806 by explorer Simon Fraser. Last spike to complete Grand Trunk Pacific Railway driven at mile 93.3 on April 7, 1914.

23 FRASER LAKE
Miles: 98 to 109

South side: columns of volcanic rock near mile 99; Mouse Mountain, mile 107.

24 FRASER LAKE
Mile: 108 **Population:** 1,113

Village founded by railway. Now supported by sawmills, tourism and molybdenum mine south of Endako. Railway crosses Endako River eight times, miles 10 to 21.



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