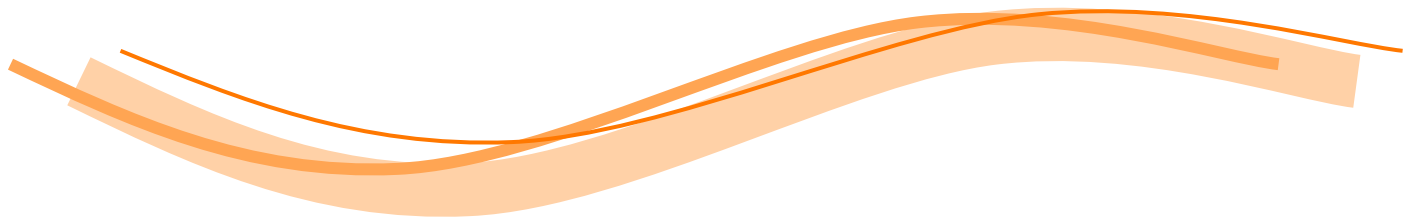




THE CALGARY STAMPEDE 2016





CALGARY STAMPEDE

The Calgary Stampede July 8 – 17, 2016

One of Canada's biggest and most flamboyant festivals, this year's Stampede will take place between July 8 – 17, 2016. The Calgary Stampede draws around a million visitors every year for this ebullient celebration of Western culture, values and heritage. And it's absolutely packed with high-spirited, foot-stompin', people pleasin' Western hospitality!

The success of the Stampede is in part due to the sheer diversity of attractions and entertainment. From Country Singers to Rodeo Riders, from First Nations displays to Agricultural displays and from Chinese Acrobats to Fireworks to Deep Fried Cookie Dough on a stick. It doesn't get any more Canadian than The Calgary Stampede!

The Calgary Stampede boasts the **richest outdoor rodeo in the world** - the best cowboys and the toughest stock go head-to-head for over \$2 million in prize money. Each afternoon of the 10 day festival brings an action-packed display of skill and grit as you watch bareback horseback riding, bull riding, saddle bronc, ladies barrel racing and more.

Following after the rodeo - pounding hooves and trembling ground can only mean the **GMC Rangeland Derby** chuckwagon races - a key "must-experience" event at the Stampede. It's been described as "NASCAR for cowboys". During nine nightly heats, featuring a new Semi-Final Saturday, you'll witness all the heart-stopping action as 36 drivers, 216 horses and their teams of outriders vie for over a million dollars in prize money! Chuckwagon Racing is an amazing contest of nerves and horsepower - a challenge that ignites thousands of fans each night.

The nightly **TransAlta Grandstand Show**, Barnburner, will celebrate the heritage and stories of chuckwagon racing by inviting the audience to come home to the excitement and celebration of a distinctly western party. History meets excitement in Barnburner each evening for the 10 days of the Stampede. It is the most technological show ever created by the Calgary Stampede, right down to the biggest fireworks display that the Stampede has ever blown up.

Hundreds of singers, dancers, and musicians will dazzle and delight audiences of all ages. Alongside International Artists, the Grandstand Show also gives a talented group of Young Canadians a chance to become involved in the performing arts. And the youngsters do a fabulous job!

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There is also so much to see and do in **Calgary** when you are not Stampeding – from zip lining at the Olympic park to shopping the eclectic neighbourhoods. Famed for juicy Alberta steak, Calgary offers diverse culinary delights. It has vibrant arts and culture, and over fifty Summer Festivals. And it's close to the Rocky Mountains for outdoor adventure.

Calgary has a thriving **culinary scene** with award winning chefs almost literally on every corner. Of course, it's famous for Alberta beef – or venture on the daring side and try some locally raised bison, elk or venison featured at several Calgary dining establishments. But don't stop there, as Calgary's cultural diversity shines through with fabulous Italian and French restaurants. And for nightlife, the Ranchmans is the place to be for a truly authentic western experience, where you can learn how to line dance every week or jump on the mechanical bull – if you dare.

The Calgary Tower is a landmark that many people will remember from the 1988 winter Olympics where the flamed burned – making the tower the world's largest Olympic torch. The torch is still lit today for special occasions, like Canada Day and during the Calgary Flames race for the Stanley Cup.

Calgary offers local **theatre, the Calgary Philharmonic, and the Alberta Ballet**. For a western experience, how about horseback riding – or dare to take a turn on the back of a bull! For adrenalin junkies, how about a trip on the zip line at Canada Olympic Park – or if you visit in the winter, you can feel like an Olympian with a turn on the bobsleigh track.

Calgary Zoo is a must see. Visitors can discover the Canadian Wilds animals (grizzly, cougar, wolf, and more) – it's a great preparation ahead of a trip to the Parks for the wild adventure in the Banff. Butterflies return to the Calgary Zoo in the ENMAX Conservatory – you will find them all through the summer... there will be 12,000 butterflies over the course of time. And Dinosaurs Alive! brings the dinosaurs to life, with 20 realistic, scary animatronic dinosaurs!

Discover "How the West was Once" at **Heritage Park Historical Village**, Canada's largest living history museum. It includes the newly-opened "Gasoline Alley" – a hands-on, interactive museum that features a collection of one-of-a-kind vintage vehicles and oil and gasoline related artifacts. **Fort Calgary** is the original site where in 1875 the North West Mounted Police constructed a palisade fort with the aim of suppressing whiskey traffic along the Bow River.

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<p>Planning Your Visit</p>	<p>Plan your Calgary Stampede like you have never planned before! Thanks to new and expanded technology at calgarystampede.com, you can design every step of your visit to The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth.</p> <p>The online planning tool makes it easy to find Stampede's hidden gems. It digs deep, covering every inch and every attraction Stampede Park has to offer. This handy feature allows visitors to plan their activities by selecting a specific date, interest or venue from more than 180 attractions and events daily. The tool filters activities to help visitors plan their own personalized itinerary to The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth.</p> <p>Go online to www.calgarystampede.com for more details.</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>In 1912 the great Stampede was born from the vision of Guy Weadick. Guy was a famous working cowboy and vaudeville entertainer featured in the traveling wild-west shows that were popular world-wide in the early 1900s. He was a man with a dream of celebrating the romance and authentic culture of the old west.</p> <p>The Stampede we enjoy today has evolved from Guy's vision. He was successful because he understood that as much as things change, we need to believe in the way things were. Here's a chronology:</p> <p>1884 Calgary was incorporated as a town and was home to 500 people. The Calgary and District Agricultural Society was formed.</p> <p>1886 The first fair was produced by the Calgary and District Agricultural Society on October 19 and 20.</p> <p>1888 The Agricultural Society purchased 94 acres of land from the Dominion of Canada and shortly thereafter began to improve the site with a race track, cattle sheds and an exhibition building. This land on the Elbow River has continued to be the site of Calgary's exhibition since then.</p> <p>1889 The Exhibition lands were christened Victoria Park.</p> <p>1908 Calgary was the host for the Dominion Exhibition. Government funds supported the construction of an exhibits building, the roofed grandstand, the livestock exhibits building and several barns.</p> <p>1911 Parimutuel betting (a system in which all bets of a particular type are placed together in a pool) was introduced at the horse races. A new livestock and horse show arena was built.</p> <p>1912 Guy Weadick produced the first "Frontier Days and Cowboy</p>

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Championship Contest” soon to be known as the Calgary Stampede. The Big Four – Pat Burns, George Lane, A.E Cross and A.J. Maclean – provided financial backing.

1919 Guy Weadick returned to Calgary to produce the second Stampede, called the Victory Stampede in honour of the end of World War I. The original Agriculture Building with the Victoria Pavilion was completed.

1923 The “Calgary Stampede” merged with the “Calgary Industrial Exhibition” to form the “Calgary Exhibition & Stampede.” Guy Weadick moved to Calgary to produce an annual Stampede at the same time as the Exhibition. He invented chuckwagon racing, downtown attractions and the other community activities that brand the Stampede today.

1950 The Stampede Corral was completed.

1954 Fifteen acres between the east boundary of Stampede Park and the Elbow River were added to the lease. Stampede Park’s total land base was then 114 acres.

1959 The Big Four Building officially opened and included exhibition space and a curling rink.

1965 The Calgary Exhibition & Stampede considered several expansion options, including Lindsay Park, Lincoln Park and Victoria Park but remained in its Victoria Park location.

1968 City Council approved Stampede Park expansion north to 14 Avenue S.E. Under the agreement, no houses could be removed without city approval and not until alternative accommodation was found for the residents. Community studies and consultation began.

1974 A new larger grandstand with a 5/8th mile racetrack and infield was built. The Indian Village was relocated, Suntime Park was completed and the Kinsmen Elbow River Park initiated.

1977 An independent study reflected the rising power of the tourist and entertainment industry and recommended large versatile facilities based on a grand, themed western motif, renewing interest in Stampede Park expansion.

1980 Olympic organizers recognized that a major arena was a prerequisite for the city’s bid for the 1988 Winter Olympic Games; the Coliseum (Saddledome) was built.

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1981 The original Roundup Centre was completed.

1983 The Saddledome was officially opened.

1990 Calgary Exhibition & Stampede released its "Horizon 2000" expansion plan.

1991 Results of the community-initiated Spirit of Stampede workshop supported growth and development of the Stampede as a year-round tourist attraction in conjunction with redevelopment of the surrounding Victoria community as a high-density mixed-use residential, office, retail, and entertainment precinct.

1998 Council agreed to a Park expansion proposal developed by the VPRC and the Stampede to revitalize the Victoria Park area and to encourage the Stampede's future growth. The eight-block expansion area extended north to 12 Avenue S.E., between Macleod Trail and the Elbow River.

2000 The Roundup Centre addition was completed (the City added eight acres of land to the lease, bringing the total to 151 acres).

2001 Stampede Park invested \$7 million in a state-of-the-art Grandstand Stage, and more than \$1 million in Park and Elbow River bank beautification.

2004 Calgary Exhibition & Stampede released an updated and detailed expansion and development plan—a 15-year, \$550 million package of projects.

2005 An environmental committee was formed to address growing need to minimize the organization's environmental footprint through recycling, reducing and adopting operational practices that respect our land, water, and air.

2006 The Stampede announced plans to transform Stampede Park from a parking lot into a park over the course of several years. The greening project will replace asphalt with trees and reclaim the riverbanks towards the creation of a green oasis right in the heart of Calgary. Stampede Park Development Plan projects begin with the construction of a new and relocated Stampede Casino. This marked the first major step in fulfilling the vision of developing a world-class, year-round gathering place for Calgarians and visitors.

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	<p>2007 The Government of Canada announced a \$25 million grant in support of Calgary Stampede's greening project. Work began on the \$50 million expansion of the Roundup Centre, fully funded through Government of Alberta grants.</p> <p>2008 The Public Art program was launched with a mandate to create 10 heroic-sized bronze sculptures for Stampede Park and possible locations in downtown Calgary. A \$65-million investment was announced to build a state-of-the-art agriculture facility and redevelop up to 50 acres of Stampede Park. The new Stampede Casino was sold to an outside partner, allowing the Calgary Stampede to reinvest revenue into other development projects.</p> <p>2009 The Roundup Centre was renamed BMO Centre when BMO Financial Group acquired the naming rights to the building in the largest corporate sponsorship in Stampede history. "Christie Crossing" is completed as an environmentally friendly structure, and the first vehicular cable-stay bridge in Alberta.</p> <p>2010 An Animal Care Advisory Panel of leading experts is established to help identify new ways to enhance animal care.</p> <p>2011 Prince William and Catherine, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, visit the Calgary Stampede as part of their Canadian tour.</p> <p>2012 The Calgary Stampede celebrates its 100th anniversary, with a community-wide celebration of The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth. Bill Siebens donates the OH Ranch to the Calgary Stampede Foundation. By the Banks of the Bow statue is installed and unveiled</p> <p>2013 On June 21, two weeks before the annual 10-day Stampede, southern Alberta suffers massive flooding, leaving nearly all of Stampede Park under water. By Sneak-a-Peak on Thursday, July 4, the Infield and track have been completely rebuilt, 63 buildings (or parts of buildings) have been remediated and Stampede opens its gates on time to welcome 1.1 million guests over the next 10 days.</p>
<p>The Stampede in a Nutshell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dates for this year's Calgary Stampede are July 8 – 17, 2016 • The Calgary Stampede is a celebration of western values and heritage that boasts the richest outdoor rodeo in the world, thrilling chuckwagon races, a spectacular theatrical presentation known as the Evening Grandstand Show and world-class agricultural attractions and competitions. It is this western spirit, the people and their stories that make the Calgary Stampede a unique visitor destination.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Calgary Stampede is one of Canada’s largest music festivals with some of the hottest entertainers on the charts performing on several stages in Stampede Park including the Pengrowth Saddledome. • The Calgary Stampede hosts the world’s richest outdoor rodeo where the best cowboys and the toughest stock go head-to-head for ten days and over \$2 million in prize money. • The GMC Rangeland Derby chuckwagon event is a key must-experience event at the Stampede. During nine nightly heats, you’ll witness all the heart-stopping action as 36 drivers, 288 horses, and their teams of outriders compete for over one million dollars. • The Calgary Stampede is a city-wide celebration, not just a great event on Stampede Park. • The Stampede also includes fascinating agriculture events throughout the 10 days. There can be as many as 4,000 animals on Park at any time during the Stampede. • The Stampede’s Indian Village offers a wide range of opportunities for visitors to get an insight into first nations’ culture. The Indian Village represents the five tribes of the Treaty 7 – the Siksika, T’suu Tina, Nakoda (Stoney), Piikani (Peigan) and Kainai (Blood) of Treaty 7. • The Calgary Stampede, a volunteer-supported, not-for-profit community organization, celebrates its 104th year anniversary this year.
<p>2016 Rodeo</p>	<p>How do you get rodeo’s roughest champions and the ranch’s toughest stock together? Only by invitation. That’s the Calgary Stampede Rodeo. The world’s best rodeo athletes. Famously tough stock. Head-to-head for ten days leading into Wildcard Saturday and Showdown Sunday – the biggest one-day prize in pro rodeo.</p> <p>Six major events – Bareback, Bull Riding, Barrel Racing, Saddle Bronc, Steer Wrestling and Tie-Down Roping are the backbone of the Stampede Rodeo. Add in Novice Bareback, Novice Saddle Bronc, Junior Steer Riding and Wild Pony Racing for the youngsters and you’ve got the best rodeo in the world.</p> <p>Tournament-style Rodeo In 2006, The Calgary Stampede Rodeo roped new ground by introducing the new tournament-style rodeo and this year, for the first time ever, prize money will top the \$2 million mark. First, the contestants</p>

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	<p>are divided into two pools. It's a new rodeo every day as these talented contestants compete for \$60,000 in prize money - \$10,000 in each event. The top four money winners in each pool advance to Showdown Sunday. The remaining six competitors in both pools will compete on Wild Card Saturday, with the top two in each event advancing to Showdown Sunday. It's a one shot go for broke performance.</p> <p>Rodeo's Richest Afternoon With over \$1,000,000 to be given away, Showdown Sunday is truly "Rodeo's Richest Afternoon". This progressive final sees all 10 qualifiers compete once, with the four highest scores or fastest times to advance to the Showdown round. These top-four contestants will let it all hang out for the top prize of \$100,000 and the Calgary Stampede Championship. It's straight-up rodeo, an exciting format, top dollars, elite athletes and superstar stock.</p>
<p>Evening Shows</p>	<p>Every night at 8:00 p.m., one of the world's great entertainment extravaganzas unfolds in front of you. Not only do you get two shows for the price of one, but each show is a unique experience that thrills audiences from around the world.</p> <p>The GMC Rangeland Derby The GMC Rangeland Derby isn't just something you watch, it's something you feel. When the klaxon blares, four wagons, 32 horses and 128 thundering hooves roar by with a rumble so intense it shakes 17,000 cheering fans right out of their seats and to their feet, the excitement building with every single race.</p> <p>The Grandstand Show After the chuckwagon races get your adrenaline pumping, what does The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth do for an encore? They finish the night with a bang, of course. The Grandstand Show, featuring The Young Canadians, caps off the night with the spectacular TransAlta Lights Up the Night fireworks— it's an extravaganza you won't want to miss.</p>
<p>2016 TransAlta Grandstand Show</p>	<p>The Grandstand Show follows the ChuckWagon Races every day – and this year The Grandstand Show, Barnburner, will celebrate the heritage and stories of chuckwagon racing.</p> <p>For over a hundred years, Calgary Stampede has been one spectacular dream: to bring the world together to be amazed, entertained and to celebrate in a way you wouldn't find anywhere else. The dream became reality, and the world came. For 2016, this vision comes to brilliant, shimmering life with Grand Spectacular.</p> <p>Through the decades of the Calgary Grandstand Show, if there was one phrase that captured the evening, it was "Wait till you see this." And this</p>

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	<p>year is no different. Gorgeously intricate and exceptionally stylish, Grand Spectacular goes far beyond the limits of history with a marvelous combination of nostalgia and contemporary.</p> <p>The Young Canadians modernize classic choreography and showcase Canada's next generation of vocal talent. An ever-changing stage combines living flames, fireworks, dynamic water effects, and digital impossibilities. Precision high-flying motorcycle stunts and gravity-defying acrobats create kinetic marvels. And it's all topped by a tightrope — on fire. Find out why there's nothing else like it on Earth. And why the only way to witness Grand Spectacular is with your own eyes at the Calgary Stampede Grandstand.</p> <p>An adaptable stage combines flames, fireworks, water effects and unbelievable digital displays. High-flying motorcycle stunts and daring acrobats create kinetic marvels. A new extreme act will see world-famous tight-rope walker Jade Kindar-Martin, who was recently the stunt double for Joseph Gordon-Levitt in the movie 'The Walk', walk across a tightrope that is on fire.</p>
<p>Music 2016</p>	<p>Each year, country legends, rock royalty, and rising stars grace the stages of the Calgary Stampede.</p> <p>There are three distinct venues:</p> <p>The Coca-Cola Stage is Western Canada's best outdoor summer music festival-and it's all free</p> <p>Nashville North is the place for the best country music party all-day long, with rising stars and familiar favourites.</p> <p>Virgin Mobile Concert Series in the Saddledome features world renowned music acts with an exciting lineup of top artists.</p> <p>Zac Brown Band With special guests Drake White & The Big Fire Three-time GRAMMY winners and multi-platinum artists Zac Brown Band will rock the Scotiabank Saddledome stage on Thursday, July 14. Zac Brown Band's latest album JEKYLL + HYDE, marked the band's third consecutive #1 debut on the Billboard 200 chart. Together with their three platinum-selling albums, Uncaged, You Get What You Give, and The Foundation, and their 2013 project The Grohl Sessions Vol. 1, the band has sold over seven million albums to date. On the radio, the band has earned a historic series of fourteen #1 hit radio singles and became only the second artist to top both the country and active rock formats.</p>

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	<p>Lady Antebellum With special guest Meghan Patrick Grammy Award winning Lady Antebellum will perform at the 2016 Virgin Mobile Stampede Concert Series. Lady Antebellum, the first artist in CMA Award history to receive the Single of the Year honor for two consecutive years, will be at the Scotiabank Saddledome on Friday, July 15. The group's recently released 747 Album has taken the charts by storm. The band's fifth album captures the speed and spirit of its critically-acclaimed live show in 11 new songs. Bandmates Charles Kelley, Hillary Scott and Dave Haywood may have formed the group in Nashville, with all three singers harmonizing for the first time around Haywood's piano, but they earned their stripes on the road. That's where Lady Antebellum truly came alive, mixing the rootsy stomp of forward-thinking Country music with the swooning, sweeping sound of three voices that were born to mesh.</p> <p>Jeff Dunham Hilarious comedian and skilled ventriloquist, Jeff Dunham, is coming to the 2016 Virgin Mobile Stampede Concert Series. Described by Time Magazine as, "the most popular comedian in the United States" Dunham and his entourage of characters will hit the Scotiabank Saddledome stage on Sunday, July 17. Dunham's television specials and series have been the highest rated programming in Comedy Central history, his DVD sales have reached seven million units, his videos have received almost a billion views on You Tube, and his live concerts have become mega-events played in front of sold-out arenas worldwide.</p> <p>There is also First Nations' music at the Stampede too... The Eagle Staff is traditionally carried by First Nations as their flag. When the flag is brought into an arena, the Flag Song is sung, a sign of respect that requires those attending to stand. Lots of Drumming that goes along with the dancing at the Pow Wow.</p>
<p>The Stampede for Kids in 2016</p>	<p>The Stampede is a wonderful place for those knee-high to a Clydesdale. There are tons of areas and activities geared to youngsters.</p> <p>The Great FUNtier – Kids' Midway Kid fun at its best in the Great FUNtier. Rides and games for thrill seekers of all sizes, the Kids' Midway is built especially for families with young children in mind. The Kids' Midway offers 26 rides and kid-friendly games in a smoke-free zone in its new location north of the racetrack. And there is even more to do in the Great FUNtier. Meet the men &</p>

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women of the Canadian Military, watch as the RCMP musical ride prepares for their afternoon performance, try your hand on the Kids' Pedal Tractor Pull. Be sure to visit the animals and see animal in action in the new Agrium Western Event Centre right next door to the Great FUNtier!.

President's Choice SuperDogs

The Calgary Stampede favourite, President's Choice Superdogs are back with another high-energy show. The stars of the show will bow-WOW you with their antics and athletic feats.

Location: Upper Level, Hall A, Big Four Building

Pick up your free Superdogs show tickets from the Superdogs box office located in front of the Rotary House. All tickets are free; your ticket guarantees you a seat in the show, up to 10 minutes before show time. There isn't a bad seat in the house, so don't worry about lining up for the show! (Doors open 45 minutes prior to show time).

Weadickville

Discover the best deals on the midway in this traditional town setting of Calgary in 1912! Complete with family entertainment and park like atmosphere, it's a great place to enjoy the Stampede's historic family feel. Daily: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Coca-Cola Kids' Stage Entertainment

Click here for this year's lineup of favourites - including Splash 'n Boots, Thomas & Friends, and My Little Pony.

BMO Kids' Zone

This interactive area just north of the Ag Building is filled with tons of FREE activities for kids and families. Meet one of your favourite characters, and enjoy a family show at BMO Kids Zone.

Freestyle Soccer: Daily at 2:30, 4:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Freestyle Soccer Clinics: Daily at 4:30 p.m.

HOJA: Daily at 3:30 & 5:30 p.m. on the BMO Kids' Zone Stage.

Meet your favourite characters

Watch for these popular characters from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily in the BMO Kids' Zone:

Buckaroos

Buckaroos in the BMO Centre Hall A is the place to be for kids under 12 years old! Kids will be able to enjoy many of their favourite activities like Play-Doh, button making, face painting, Plasma Cars and Speed Stacks. They'll definitely want to bounce on the giant inflatable play structures, check out the great entertainment on the Buckaroos Stage,

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	<p>or climb on the huge multilevel playground! Children's Characters: See your favourite children's television shows come to life, up close and personal on the Buckaroos Stage! Daily at 11:30 a.m., 1 and 4 p.m. Children's Character Celebration Parties Join us in Buckaroos for a daily celebration party with some of your favorite costume characters! Daily at 2 and 5 p.m.</p> <p>Kids' Chuck Challenge Be a part of the excitement as the klaxon blares and teams of youngsters between the ages of five and 10 compete as chuckwagon drivers! Location: The STEPS (in front of the Saddledome) Daily at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3 & 5 p.m.</p> <p>Kids' Pedal Tractor Pull Kids between four and 12 can test their skills at a pint-sized, pedal-powered John Deere Tractor Pull. Loaded with audience participation and education. Location: Agrium Ag-tivity in the City, South of the Agriculture Building Daily at 11:30 a.m., 1 & 6 p.m..</p>
<p>2016 Dining at the Stampede</p>	<p>The Midway is synonymous with eclectic food choices - prepare your taste buds to experience a burst of exotic flavours and textures at the Calgary Stampede. The most talked about food choice in 2015 was the Cockroach Pizza!</p> <p>Midway Foods in 2016 The final line-up hasn't been announced yet, but these are the likely contenders for 2016!</p> <p>Almost 2ft. Long Sausage This sausage takes "jumbo" to a whole new level! Just imagine being served a sausage served up on a fresh toasted French baguette that comes in at nearly two feet!</p> <p>Bacon Wrapped Corn A cowboy's corn on the cob – Corn on the cob wrapped in a piece of smoked bacon and served with sweet maple syrup butter.</p> <p>Bacon Wrapped Pork Belly – On a Stick! Delicious roasted pork belly wrapped in perfectly sizzled and crisp bacon, and conveniently served on a stick!</p>

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**Bacon Wrapped Hot Dog**

A barbecued hot dog wrapped in crispy bacon and served with grilled onions and bell peppers on a soft bun.

Big Bubba's Bad BBQ Skillet

A delicious blend of savory, onions, bell peppers, Cowboy Potatoes, and sausage with just the right amount of seasoning added then cooked to perfection on a large 48 inch paella pan.

Garlic Chicken Kebabs

Tender barbecued garlic chicken and fresh veggies served kebab style; this is a summer BBQ favourite.

Chocolate Dipped Cookie Dough – On a Stick!

Balls of rolled cookie dough, dipped in chocolate, hardened to the perfect temperature and served on a stick!

Tokyo Teriyaki & Shanghai Sweet Chili Corn Dog

This chicken corndog has returned from Asian with two corndog twists – Tokyo Teriyaki and Shanghai Sweet Chili!

Creole Cajun Chicken Po' Boy Sandwich

A traditional Louisiana submarine sandwich served with spicy creole Cajun chicken and dressed with cooling coleslaw

Crocodile Sliders

Looking for adventure? This exotic crocodile patty is served on a bite sized bun with lettuce and tomatoes. Crikey!

Deep Fried Cheezies

Take the classic crunch of aged cheddar cheezies and coat it in a light doughy batter and deep fry it.;

Deep Fried Cookie Dough

Rolled cookie dough is dipped in pastry batter and deep fried. This treat is a childhood dreams come true!

Deep Fried Donut Bacon Cheeseburgers

The name says it all. Two melt-in-your-mouth donuts stacked together with a burger, cheese and bacon served in-between!

Deep Fried Reese's Peanut Butter Cups

A deep fried snack made of Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, dipped in batter and deep fried!

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**Deep Fried Sushi**

This is a unique twist on a traditional Sushi roll. It's breaded in Japanese Panko with a drizzle of creamy Cusabi sauce and Green Onions.

Flower Cotton Candy

This cotton candy is a unique experience for everyone; watch your cotton candy be spun into a beautiful flower. Each stick is unique and considered a piece of art.

Fried Pickle Pizza

Slivers of pickles chips, deep fried, and placed on top of a bed of cheesy pizza.

Jamaican Jerk Chicken

Spicy dry-rubbed Jamaican chicken is served with traditional Jamaican style rice and freshly tossed salad.

Juicy's Full Rack Ribs

Mouthwatering full rack barbecued ribs are ready to be roped in at the Outlaw Grill.

Kawabanga Corn

This isn't your average corn dog. Take a delicious giant sausage, put it on a stick, dip it in corn batter and deep fry it.

Million Dollar Baby Mac & Cheese

Freshly made gourmet macaroni and cheese, infused with white truffle oil. Topped with sautéed crab meat and sundried tomatoes, then finished with a drizzle of balsamic glaze.

Papri Tot

An infusion of Indian and Western takes the tater tot to a whole new level. Layers of tater tots topped with pico, dates, tamarind chutney and sweet yoghurt.

Polish Poutine

These potato and cheddar cheese filled perogies are pan fried in butter, topped with loads of fresh sour cream, crispy bacon and caramelized onion. Sprinkle some freshly ground black pepper, take a bite and you're hooked.

Porcupine Corn Dog

A hotdog is skewered, deep fried in corn batter, and then rolled in

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French fries. These French fries make the corndog look just like a porcupine!

Poutine Burger

Why order a side dish when you can have it all in one? It's a juicy burger stacked with fries, drenched in gravy and cheese curds, and topped with a Kaiser bun.

Red Velvet Mini Donuts

Everyone's Midway favourite has a new twist! These mini donuts are made of moist red velvet cake batter and warm cream cheese glazing.

Scorpion Pizza

This pizza is for the most daring of foodies. Add a little crunch to your pizza topping with a few seasoned scorpions – if you dare.

Skittles Candy Apple

Get ready for a sugar rush- your favourite classic candy apple is coated with a deep red candy coating and rolled in Skittles

Tequila Fries

One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, FRIES! These fresh cut fries have a hint of zesty lime and a zap of tequila. This is one tequila decision you won't regret.

Thai Noodle

Choose from chicken, beef or vegetable protein, sautéed with a combination of fresh veggies and Thai style steamed noodles. When hot and ready, a sweet and savory Thai sauce is added and finished off with a garnish of crunchy bean sprouts and cilantro.

Turkey Dinner Poutine

The full turkey dinner- thick slices of turkey meat, mashed potatoes, cranberries, peas and delicious gravy all on a bed of poutine.

Vicious Fish – On a Stick!

They shook it up and dunked Joey's famous fish in Frank's RedHot sauce. You'll delight in the hand-battered fried fish on a stick, served a bed of fries. Extra sauces are available for those who like it extra hot.

Restaurants and Cafes

Mavericks Dining Room & Lounge, Upper Level Big Four Building
Full menu and children's menu available.

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The Range, Lower Level Big 4 Building

Stampede favourites: Fish and Chips, Italian Panini, Perogies & Sausage, Pizza, Montreal Smoked Meat, Spaghetti, Pocket Dawg, Souvlaki, Hamburgers, BBQ Beef on a Bun, Fries, Smoothies, Cold Beer, Soft Drinks, Coffee, a NEW wine bar, our CS Saloon featuring our full service bar and much more....

Bull's-Eye Cookshack Across from Nashville North.

This is how you do a burger at the Stampede! Sink your teeth into a giant BBQ Burger followed by a cold beverage. Enjoy your Stampede day in the centre of all the action.

Harvest Room Café, Plus 15 level, BMO Centre

Try their signature dish, Wonton Soup and other classic Chinese food favourites.

The Clubhouse Restaurant, located on the fourth level of the grandstand the Clubhouse is open during the ten days of Stampede daily from 11:00 a.m. until the evening show is over. This family friendly venue is open to the public and features several hundred ticketed seats with an excellent view in a glass enclosed – climate controlled atmosphere.

Experience the Biggest, Baddest, Best BBQ in town!

The newest hot spot on Stampede Park is the Triple B = BBQ, Bulls, Beer.

Taste – the best BBQ in town with two new BBQ pitmasters:

Juicys Outlaw Grill (www.juicysfood.com). features the world's largest grill coming in at over 20 feet high, weighing 27 tons and covering nearly 100 feet of turf. This massive iron horse provides the utmost in outdoor dining. Step up and enjoy Juicys amazing creations, from Juicys Outlaw Burger to Juicys Giant Western Sausage. For those that are really hungry, Juicys, which holds the Guinness world record for the largest commercial hamburger and the biggest hot dog, will have the Outlaw Grill offering two unique menu items, a whopping 777 pound burger and the gargantuan 125 pound hot dog.

Big Bubba's Bad BBQ (www.bigbubbasbadbbq.com) home of the BEST Bad to the Bone BBQ you've ever tasted with delicious wood fired BBQ Beef, ribs, Bison burgers and some of the biggest Kabobs on the planet. Bubba marinates his kabobs overnight in his "secret" marinade.

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	<p>Big Bubba's is also the place where you will find some of the largest working "Skillets" you will ever see to cook up what he calls "Cowboy Potatoes": seasoned potatoes, sautéed to perfection with Bell Peppers and onions all prepared in the great outdoors.</p> <p>Ride – Try your skill on the mechanical bull! Or better yet, challenge you buddy to a bull riding dual in this head-to-head dualing bull set up! All ages welcome to test their rodeo prowess!</p> <p>Enjoy – Fun for the whole family throughout the day in Stampede's largest outdoor patio. At 8 pm, the focus shifts to adult fun within the zone. But don't worry - the great eats of Juicys and Big Bubba's Bad BBQ are still available to all park visitors along with midway.</p> <p>Meet – Stars of the rodeo will be on hand daily at 5 pm for autographs and perhaps a couple bull-riding pointers. Plan to meet your friends at Triple B to enjoy the evening fireworks show – will be a perfect spot on park!</p>
<p>Western Oasis Themed Area 2016</p>	<p>You've never discovered western culture quite like this. Stroll through this calm, cool Oasis where creativity abounds - art & artists, music & musicians, crafts and crafters and food and wine in a lush garden setting with the distinctive flavor of the West. There's something for the entire family in the Western Oasis.</p> <p>Artists Insite - offers a unique opportunity to meet and purchase art directly from the artists. Artists work in a number of diverse mediums and sometimes combine a number of these different elements to create exciting and unique works of art. The artists are on hand daily so you can learn about how that 'must have' piece of art was created.</p> <p>Western Art Gallery - The Western Art Gallery features new and emerging Western artists whose original work reflects the life and times of Western Canadians of the past and present. Each year approximately 20 to 25 artists are selected by a jury process to display and sell their work during the Calgary Stampede.</p> <p>Western Art Auction - North America's finest western art auction will be held again at the Stampede. Auction pieces may be previewed in the Western Oasis For ticket information visit www.calgarystampede.com/westernshowcase .</p> <p>Duelling Chefs Competition Join the crowds at the Calgary Co-op Kitchen Theatre to see</p>

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	<p>professional chefs face off. Also check out a live Calgary Police Service vs. Calgary Fire Department cook-off in the Calgary Co-op Kitchen Theatre.</p> <p>Wine Garden Savour a glass of wine originating from Canadian vineyards while relaxing in a garden oasis and nibbling on mini food plates.</p>
<p>Stampede Indian Village & the Indian Princess</p>	<p>The Stampede's Indian Village offers a wide range of opportunities for visitors to get an insight into first nations' music, dance and culture. The Indian Village represents the five tribes of the Treaty 7 – the Siksika, T'suu Tina, Nakoda (Stoney), Piikani (Peigan) and Kainai (Blood).</p> <p>Indian Princess Each year a young woman from one of the five tribes of Treaty 7 (Tsuu T'ina, Piikani, Stoney, Kainai and Siksika Nations) to stand as the official representative of Indian Village presented by Penn West Exploration and the Calgary Stampede. As an official Calgary Stampede ambassador, the Indian Princess will make numerous appearances locally, nationally and internationally and will educate those she meets about the rich and colourful First Nations culture. She embraces the legacy of the iconic Indian Princess title and will go forth with honor and pride as she represents the five tribes of Treaty 7, the Indian Village and the Calgary Stampede.</p> <p>Vanessa Stiff Arm is this year's Calgary Stampede Indian Princess.</p>
<p>Animal Care</p>	<p>Animals are an essential part of life in Alberta and that fact is celebrated at the Stampede each July and throughout the year. From the parade and show ring to the rodeo and chuckwagon races—the Stampede are leaders in setting the highest standard of animal care. They work closely with groups such as the Alberta SPCA and the Calgary Humane Society to continually enhance animal safety measures. Both groups are on-site monitoring events. All competing livestock are under constant veterinary care and attention.</p> <p>The Calgary Stampede pen system The extensive pen system is designed to direct and house rodeo stock quickly and safely before, during and after any infield appearances.</p> <p>Stock crew The cornerstone of their Safety First livestock policy is the Stampede stock-crew. Members are handpicked for their skill and knowledge of stock handling and are led by a senior handler with over 45 years' experience. It's their job to ensure every animal in their care is treated with dignity and responsibility, even in the rush of Stampede infield and</p>

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	<p>track action.</p> <p>Off-park accommodations For comfort and security, bucking stock is housed off-park in peaceful, spacious pens and pastures. This keeps these sensitive animals away from the bright lights, noise and bustle of the city, the Park and the nightly fireworks.</p> <p>Fitness to Compete Over the days of the Calgary Stampede they will roll out one of the most comprehensive animal care programs in North America. The hundreds of majestic thoroughbreds of the GMC Rangeland Derby and the powerful bucking and bovine stock of the Calgary Stampede Rodeo will be scrutinized as never before as part of the Stampede’s new Fitness to Compete program. The program enhances the Stampede’s position as a leader in animal care and ensures that only the healthiest and fittest of animals will compete at The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth. Veterinarians implant a microchip in every horse that is scheduled to compete in the GMC Rangeland Derby. The microchip allows veterinarians to carefully track and monitor performance days and rest days for over 500 horses competing in 90 heats. It also provides an effective tracking system for horses receiving any kind of medical treatment or therapy. The Fitness to Compete program also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Horses will be given a thorough inspection by a team of veterinarians upon arrival at Stampede Park and prior to competition. - Drivers must submit an inventory of horses for competition and the inventory of horses will be subject to ongoing veterinarian inspections. - Drivers will be asked to submit a list of horses competing daily by 4 p.m. for a thorough pre-race inspection. If a horse is found not fit to compete, it will be “scratched” for that evening. - Post-race inspections of all horses as they leave the track - Mandatory rest days for all horses – a horse can race four days consecutively, but then will require two rest days prior to being eligible to compete again. <p>The bucking and bovine stock of the Calgary Stampede Rodeo will also receive attention while on Park. Brought onto the Park each day, every animal in the rodeo will undergo a thorough veterinarian inspection prior to competition. The vet will have the authority to withdraw the animal from the day’s event should the animal’s health appear to be in question in any way.</p>
<p>Stampede Packages 2016</p>	<p>Getting to Calgary Calgary is very accessible by air with flights from Toronto and Montreal</p>

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on both WestJet and Air Canada. Stampede Park is conveniently located just southeast of downtown Calgary and walking distance from a number of hotels. As well, the Stampede is accessible by Calgary's C-train transit system, making it easy to get to hundreds of hotels, motels and more.

Planning your Stampede visit

There is so much going on at the Calgary Stampede you have to plan your time well to get the most from your visit. There is lots of great information at www.CalgaryStampede.com – and you can also download a smartphone app available for iPhone & iPad , Android and Blackberry.

Packages

There are a number of great value packages to consider as you plan your Stampede visit. All the details are on the Stampede website here: <http://www.calgarystampede.com/stampede/tickets/packages>

2016 TWO-DAY THRILL

A wild west double-header that needs two days to fit it all in.

This package includes:

One Main Level Afternoon Rodeo Ticket

One Balcony Evening Show Ticket

Souvenir Program for both events

Two WestJet Sky Ride Tickets

Golf Shirt

Tote Bag

20% Discount at Stampede Store

20% discount voucher at all Lamble's Western Apparel locations

Package Price - \$293 per person (includes all fees and taxes)

Tickets admit to Stampede Park

2016 CHAPS AND CHUCKS

Enjoy two great days on the Park.

This package includes:

One Main Level Afternoon Rodeo Ticket

One Main Level Evening Show Ticket

Souvenir Program for both events

Two WestJet Sky Ride Tickets

Two \$5 Food Vouchers

20% Discount at Stampede Store

20% discount voucher at all Lamble's Western Apparel locations

Package Price - \$213 per person (includes all fees and taxes)

Tickets admit to Stampede Park

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Agricultural Events 2016	<p>The Stampede also includes fascinating agriculture events throughout the 10 days. There can be as many as 7500 animals on the Park at any time during the Stampede. The Stampede began as a way to preserve the ideals and values of the western way of life. True to its roots, agriculture is showcased in fascinating ways that will educate and entertain young and old. Thrill to the skill and speed of a cutting horse competition, the World Championship Blacksmith's Competition or the World Stock Dog Championship. Or admire the majestic Heavy Horse Show presented by Halliburton. A multi-faceted world of agriculture opens up to you during 10 days in July.</p>
2016 Stampede Royalty	<p>The Stampede Royalty act as official ambassadors of the Stampede by promoting western heritage and values within the community and around the world. The winning three contestants must embody the Stampede values of integrity, pride of place, western hospitality and commitment to community.</p> <p>The 2016 Stampede Royalty are: Stampede Queen Maggie Shortt; Princess Bailee Billington; Princess Chelsey Jacobson</p>
Admission 2016	<p>Stampede Park is open from 11 a.m. to midnight during the Calgary Stampede.</p> <p>With admission to Stampede Park, you have access to hundreds of exhibits, activities and entertainment options, including the ENMAX Corral Show and free concerts at the Coca-Cola Stage.</p> <p>Admission costs for 2016 are:</p> <p>General (13 to 64) \$18 Seniors (65 & over) \$9 Child (7 to 12) \$9 Child (6 & under) Free</p>
For More Information	<p>Website: www.calgarystampede.com</p> <p>Enquiries: 1-800-661-1260</p> <p>Ticket Office: 1-800-661-1767</p> <p>Facebook https://www.facebook.com/calgarystampede</p> <p>Twitter https://twitter.com/calgarystampede</p> <p>See my board of photographs covering my recent experience at the Stampede on Pinterest: https://www.pinterest.com/TravelShow/calgary-stampede/</p>

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CALGARY

There is so much to see and do in Calgary – from zip lining at the Olympic park to shopping the eclectic neighbourhoods. Famed for juicy Alberta steak, Calgary offers diverse culinary delights. It has vibrant arts and culture, and over fifty Summer Festivals. And it's close to the Rocky Mountains for outdoor adventure.

Calgary has a thriving culinary scene with award winning chefs almost literally on every corner. Of course, it's famous for Alberta beef – or venture on the daring side and try some locally raised bison, elk or venison featured at several Calgary dining establishments. But don't stop there, as Calgary's cultural diversity shines through with fabulous Italian and French restaurants. And for nightlife, the Ranchmans is the place to be for a truly authentic western experience, where you can learn how to line dance every week or jump on the mechanical bull – if you dare.

The Calgary Tower is a landmark that many people will remember from the 1988 winter Olympics where the flamed burned – making the tower the world's largest Olympic torch. The torch is still lit today for special occasions, like Canada Day and during the Calgary Flames race for the Stanley Cup.

Calgary offers local theatre, the Calgary Philharmonic, and the Alberta Ballet. For a western experience, how about horseback riding – or dare to take a turn on the back of a bull! For adrenalin junkies, how about a trip on the zip line at Canada Olympic Park – or if you visit in the winter, you can feel like an Olympian with a turn on the bobsleigh track.

Calgary Zoo is a must see. Visitors can discover the Canadian Wilds animals (grizzly, cougar, wolf, and more) – it's a great preparation ahead of a trip to the Parks for the wild adventure in the Banff. Butterflies return to the Calgary Zoo in the ENMAX Conservatory – you will find them all through the summer... there will be 12,000 butterflies over the course of time. And Dinosaurs Alive! brings the dinosaurs to life, with 20 realistic, scary animatronic dinosaurs!

Calgary features over 40 festivals and events from May through September. Major festivals include, of course – the Calgary Stampede, and Globalfest which takes place in August which is an international fireworks competition that takes place over 8 evenings. Spruce Meadows in an international icon in the show jumping community - they host a variety of international show jumping events including the Spruce Meadows National in June.

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	Discover “How the West was Once” at Heritage Park Historical Village, Canada’s largest living history museum. It includes the newly-opened “Gasoline Alley” – a hands-on, interactive museum that features a collection of one-of-a-kind vintage vehicles and oil and gasoline related artefacts. Fort Calgary is the original site where in 1875 the North West Mounted Police constructed a palisade fort with the aim of suppressing whiskey traffic along the Bow River.
Location	In Southern Alberta
Geography	Straddling two mountain rivers, the Bow and the Elbow, the city of Calgary rests in a deep river valley where the great plains to the east start to buckle and toll on their way to the Canadian Rockies.
Name	Originally named Fort Brisebois, after NWMP officer Éphrem-A. Brisebois, it was renamed Fort Calgary in 1876 by Colonel James Macleod. It was named after Calgary on the Isle of Mull, Scotland. While there is some disagreement on the naming of the town, the Museum on the Isle of Mull explains that kald and gart are similar Old Norse words, meaning 'cold' and 'garden', that were likely used when named by the Vikings who inhabited the Inner Hebrides. Alternatively, the name might come from the Gaelic, Cala ghearraidh, meaning 'beach of the meadow (pasture)'.
Population	The population of the City of Calgary is 1.1 million.
Language	English
Currency	Canadian Dollar
Tipping	In restaurants and bars with table service, a tip of about 15% is customary if service is cheerful and efficient. If service is exceptional, a 20% tip shows strong appreciation.
Government	Calgary citizens vote for members of the Calgary City Council every three years. City Council consists of the mayor and 14 ward aldermen. The mayor is Naheed Nenshi.
Documentation	None required for Canadian citizens.
Time zone	Mountain Time, two hours behind Toronto and Montreal
Health	Canadian travelling out of their own province should ensure that they have appropriate travel insurance.
Safety tips	Calgary is considered a very safe city.

CLIMATE	
General climate	Calgary and area has a moderate four-season climate, with large variations in temperature between seasons and from one locale to another. Summer days in the city of Calgary are usually warm and dry with cool evenings because of the altitude and proximity to the mountains. However, a summer day in Drumheller is often very hot and dry, approximating desert-like conditions. A summer day in the mountains can be hot but the evenings are always cool.

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	<p>Alberta has more hours of sunshine in a year than any other province in Canada and Calgary is known for its blue skies. A unique phenomenon called a Chinook wind can raise temperatures more than 20 degrees in one day, turning winter days into spring. A strong wind and an arch of clouds form over the mountains, heralding the Chinook.</p> <p>Calgary and area is typically dry with the largest amount of rainfall during the spring months. Although the mountain areas receive significant amounts of snow in the winter, Calgary often receives only a very moderate snowfall.</p>
Today's weather	17 C and sunny in Calgary (April 30 th 2016)
Best time to visit	Calgary is very much a four season destination with winter thrills in the cold months and so much to see and do in the warmer seasons.

GETTING AROUND	
Getting There	<p>Air Canada and WestJet have frequent service from Eastern Canada to Edmonton and the flight duration is approximately 4.5 hours.</p> <p>Cab fare to downtown hotels is around \$30. Several downtown hotels provide shuttle service from the airport.</p>
Distances	Calgary is 300 km south of Edmonton; Vancouver is 11 hours by car; and Toronto is a 35 hour drive!
+15	<p>The "Plus 15" system is a series of enclosed walkways connecting downtown buildings, 15 feet above street level. These walkways enable you to shop in living-room comfort, regardless of the weather. Watch for the little "+15" signs on the streets for access points. All the downtown malls are connected, as are several office towers.</p>
LRT	<p>Many of Calgary's attractions and shopping experiences are only a short ride away using Calgary's transit system of buses and/or the light rail train (LRT). The LRT is free in the downtown core and very reasonably priced outside the core. Visit attractions, shops and restaurants without the hassles of driving and parking.</p>
Trains	<p>The Rocky Mountaineer and Royal Canadian Pacific operates railtour service to Calgary; VIA Rail no longer provides intercity rail service to Calgary. More information is available on the Rocky Mountaineer elsewhere on this site at:</p> <p>http://www.chrisrobinsontravelshow.ca/Destinations/WESTERNCANADA/RockyMountaineer.aspx</p>
Car Rental	<p>Car-rental firms include Avis (211 6th Ave. SW; tel. 403/269-6166); Budget (140 6th Ave. SE; tel. 403/226-0000); and Hertz (227 6th Ave. SW; tel. 403/221-1681).</p> <p>Each of these has a bureau at the airport.</p>
Buses	Calgary transit's buses are efficient and good value, with a day pass costing \$9.50

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<p>ACCOMMODATION TYPES</p>	<p>Downtown offers a full complement of international business-class brands like Sheraton, Westin, and Delta, with few independents and little to distinguish between them, save location. A couple of boutique hotels have emerged in the core in recent years: the Kensington Riverside Inn (www.kensingtonriversideinn.com) and the Hotel Arts (www.hotelarts.ca) where I stayed on my most recent trip, both sleek, modern, and unique.</p> <p>Less expensive rooms tend to cluster around the motel strips: Macleod Trail S, or 16th Avenue NW, which is what the Trans-Canada Highway becomes as it passes through the city. A few deals can be found downtown at value chains like Best Western (www.bestwestern.com), Sandman Inn (www.sandmaninn.com), or Travelodge (www.travelodge.com).</p> <p>If you like B&Bs, try the Bed and Breakfast Association of Calgary (www.bbcalgary.com), which has several dozen listings for the city. The many hotels in Motel Village, which link to the city centre via the C-Train, are another option; you can often find these rooms at discount hotel websites.</p> <p>The Calgary West Campground (tel. 403/288-0411), on the Trans-Canada Highway West, allows tents and pets. Facilities include washrooms, toilets, laundry, a dumping station, hot showers, groceries, and a pool.</p> <p>Hotel Arts Hotel Arts is a 175-room, full-service boutique hotel. For business or pleasure, it offers a travel experience of luxury, art, service, and cuisine. Located in the heart of downtown Calgary, it is steps away from the city's emerging arts and entertainment district and vibrant business centre. Hotel Arts places you on the red carpet of fabulous shopping, theatre, spas, dining, convention facilities and the world-famous Calgary Stampede.</p>
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<p>LIFESTYLES</p>	
<p>Kids</p>	<p>Suggestions: Calgary Zoo (especially the dinosaurs!); the Midway at Stampede Park; Heritage Park; Calgary Science; Fort Calgary Historic Park and the Canada Olympic Park</p>
<p>Teens</p>	<p>The Calgary Stampede would be enjoyed by any red-blooded teen and the outdoorsy activities in the city such as mountain biking and canoeing would also be liked.</p>
<p>Romance</p>	<p>For a romantic dinner try the hidden courtyard at Mescalero, a Spanish style tapas restaurant at 1315 1st Street SW.</p>
<p>Honeymoons & Weddings</p>	<p>For weddings and honeymoons, lovers may wish to go to the mountains for a unique setting such as Banff and the famous Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel.</p>

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Zoomers	Whilst Calgary is a very young city both by history and demographics, it is also a very civilized city and perfectly suitable for senior citizens. The mix of excellent hotels and restaurants with a lively arts scene and accessible nature is difficult to replicate elsewhere.
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UNIQUES	
Surprising	For adrenalin junkies, how about a trip on the zip line at Canada Olympic Park – or if you visit in the winter, you can feel like an Olympian with a turn on the bobsleigh track.
History	<p>Before the Calgary area was settled by Europeans, it was inhabited by Pre-Clovis people whose presence has been traced back at least 11,000 years. In 1787, cartographer David Thompson spent the winter with a band of Peigan encamped along the Bow River. He was the first recorded European to visit the area, and John Glenn was the first documented European settler in the Calgary area, in 1873. The native way of life remained relatively unchanged until the late 1870s, when Europeans hunted the buffalo to near-extinction.</p> <p>With the buffalo gone, the natives began trapping beaver and other fur-bearing mammals for the Hudson's Bay Company and North-West Company, who set up trading posts in the Bow Valley and at Rocky Mountain House to the northwest.</p> <p>The site became a post of the North-West Mounted Police (now the RCMP). The NWMP detachment was assigned in 1875 to protect the western plains from U.S. whiskey traders, and to protect the fur trade. When the Canadian Pacific Railway reached the area in 1883 and a rail station was constructed, Calgary began to grow into an important commercial and agricultural centre. The Canadian Pacific Railway headquarters are located in Calgary today. The Calgary town site had the good fortune to be built at the entrance to the Kicking Horse Pass, one of the few passages through the sheer eastern wall of the Rocky Mountains. The 10,000–12,000 foot-high peaks denied access to a railway all along their thousand-mile length, except for a narrow valley which led from Calgary into the heart of British Columbia. This meant that the railroad had to be routed through Calgary, which became a major supply station during the construction process.</p> <p>Calgary was officially incorporated as a town in 1884 and elected its first mayor, George Murdoch. In 1894, it was incorporated as "The City of Calgary" in what was then the North-West Territories. After the arrival of the railway, the Dominion Government started leasing grazing land at minimal cost (up to 100,000 acres for one cent per acre per year). As a result of this policy, large ranching operations were established in the outlying country near Calgary. Already a transportation and distribution hub, Calgary quickly became the center of Canada's cattle marketing and meatpacking industries.</p>

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	Between 1896 and 1914 settlers from all over the world poured into the area in response to the offer of free "homestead" land. Agriculture and ranching became key components of the local economy, shaping the future of Calgary for years to come. The world famous Calgary Stampede, still held annually in July, grew from a small agricultural show and rodeo started in 1912 by four wealthy ranchers to "the greatest outdoor show on earth".
Books	Lonely Planet's Canada is an excellent guide to all the region has to offer.
1000 Places to See Before You Die	The Calgary Stampede is noted as the "Wild West, Canada-style".
Must Sees	<p>The Calgary Tower is a landmark that many people will remember from the 1988 winter Olympics where the flamed burned – making the tower the world's largest Olympic torch. The torch is still lit today for special occasions, like Canada Day and during the Calgary Flames race for the Stanley Cup, sparking fond memories as well as a certain civic pride in all Calgarians.</p> <p>Reaching 762 steps or 191m (626 ft.) into the sky, this enduringly touristy landmark was once far and away the tallest structure in the city. Dwarfed now by the ever-climbing office towers of this bustling oil-driven metropolis, this tower still offers brilliant views from its observation terrace, from which you can take in the city, the mountains, and prairies beyond. The elevator whisks you to the top in just 63 seconds. A stairway from the terrace leads to the cocktail lounge, where you can enjoy drinks and a panoramic vista. Photography from up here is fantastic. Kids will no doubt enjoy the rotating restaurant as the outer floor slowly passes by the stationary inner ring at the Panorama Restaurant. www.calgarytower.com</p>

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	As part of the wider Battle of Alberta, the city's sports teams enjoy a popular rivalry with their Edmonton counterparts, most notably the rivalries between the National Hockey League's Calgary Flames and Edmonton Oilers, and the Canadian Football League's Calgary Stampeders and Edmonton Eskimos.
Golf	The Calgary area has around 40 golf courses with modest par 3 courses at one end and exclusive and gorgeous championship courses at the other end. There are a number of wonderful courses with Rocky Mountain backdrops to the west of the city such as Wintergreen Golf and Country Club and the Silver tip Golf Resort .
Fishing	In the summer, the Bow River which flows through Calgary is very popular among fly-fishermen. If you're planning to fish, either in the city or outside of it, you need to obtain a license. They're available at most sporting goods stores, convenience stores, and gas stations. Under 16 and over 65 are free.

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<p>Horse riding</p>	<p>Spruce Meadows is an internationally renowned equestrian facility hosting five major show-jumping championships a year - The National, Canada One, North American, Masters and Continental. Open year-round to visitors.</p> <p>For a real western experience, how about horseback riding or for those of you who dare – care to take a turn on the back of a bull?</p>
<p>Hiking</p>	<p>Fish Creek (www.tprc.alberta.ca/parks/fishcreek ; tel. 403/297-5293), at the city's southern end, is the only urban provincial park in Alberta. At 1,400 hectares (3,460 acres) it's also among the largest urban parks in all of North America. Fish Creek hosts about 2 million visitors every year, many of them drawn to the 50km of trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding.</p> <p>This is my personal favourite spot for getting away from it all in Calgary: walking, running, biking, however you want to go.</p>
<p>Cycling</p>	<p>Calgary has an extensive bicycle path system that connects the central core to some of the far-flung suburbs, and everything in between. All in, Calgary had about 635km of devoted bike paths throughout the city - the most of any city in North America - with even more planned. Ride alongside the Bow River, through downtown, and off and around the Glenmore Reservoir without ever seeing a city street.</p> <p>Sports Rent at 4424 16th Ave. NW; tel. 403-292-0077; www.sportsrent.ca is a reliable bike rental option. They rent basic mountain bikes for \$30 per day, with leisure bikes at \$25 per day in 2016</p>
<p>Wintersports</p>	<p>In large part due to its proximity to the Rocky Mountains, Calgary has traditionally been a popular destination for winter sports. Since hosting the 1988 Winter Olympics, the city has also been home to a number of major winter sporting facilities such as Canada Olympic Park (luge, cross-country skiing, ski jumping, downhill skiing, snowboarding, and some summer sports) and the Olympic Oval (speed skating and hockey). These facilities serve as the primary training venues for a number of competitive athletes.</p>

<p>CULTURE</p>	
<p>Arts</p>	<p>The city has local theatre, the Calgary Philharmonic, and the Alberta Ballet that feature regular performances in the city.</p> <p>Art Gallery of Calgary Housed in a historic building, the gallery's constantly changing program features prominent contemporary artists from all over the city and around the world in virtually every discipline - you will see well-curated photography, painting, and avant-garde sculpture, all with a smart, contemporary edge. It also offers a cafe with a lovely sidewalk patio for people watching.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>The Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts (205 8th Ave. SE; tel.</p>

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	<p>403/294-7455) - now called the Epcor Centre, after its corporate sponsor - is the catch-all venue for live theatre, symphony, and opera. Calgary has a vibrant theatre scene, with three major companies, Alberta Theatre Projects (tel. 403/294-7402; www.atplive.com), Theatre Calgary (tel. 403/294-7440; www.theatrecalgary.com), and the avant-garde, internationally celebrated One Yellow Rabbit (tel. 403/264-3224; www.oyr.org) all working out of the Epcor Centre. Epcor is also home to the excellent Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra (tel. 403/571-0270; www.cpo-live.com), an international-class ensemble. Calgary's country music scene is also notable.</p>
Films	<p>The Calgary area draws filmmakers and numerous motion pictures have been filmed in the general area. The Tom Selleck picture Crossfire Trail was shot on a ranch near Calgary though the stated setting of the film is Wyoming.</p>
Museums	<p>Several museums are located in the city. The Glenbow Museum is the largest in western Canada and includes an art gallery and first nation's gallery. Other major museums include the Chinese Cultural Centre at 6,500 m2, the largest stand-alone cultural centre in Canada, the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame and Museum (at Canada Olympic Park), The Military Museums, the Cantos Music Museum and the Aero Space Museum.</p> <p>Telus World of Science: Push, pull, open, look, talk and listen in an exciting hands-on science playground that features one of North America's newest and best multi-media theatres.</p> <p>Grain Academy Museum: Learn about the grain industry at this interpretive centre. Includes model train and elevator displays, grain varieties, educational films and artifacts.</p> <p>Heritage Park and the Gasoline Alley are Canada's largest living history museum – it's a very authentic historical experience taking the visitor from the 1860's to the 1940's.</p>
Festivals	<p>Calgary features over 40 festivals and events from May through September. Major festivals include, of course – the Calgary Stampede, and Globalfest which takes place in August which is an international fireworks competition that takes place over 8 evenings. Spruce Meadows in an international icon in the show jumping community - they host a variety of international show jumping events including the Spruce Meadows National in June.</p>

ATTRACTIONS	
Wildlife	<p>Calgary Zoo is one of the finest in North America and an absolute must-see, especially with kids. Their research initiatives and</p>

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	<p>successes, outreach programs worldwide and their commitment to conservation are exemplary.</p> <p>They offer a wide range of programs from the avid gardener, to children of all ages with sleepovers, birthdays, animal encounters, behind the scenes, camps, and special guest speakers on travel adventures and animal expertise.</p> <p>There is a special focus to introduce visitors to the Canadian Wilds animals, such as grizzly, cougar, wolf, prior to a trip to the National Parks. The Zoo's natural history can prepare the visitor for the wild adventures in the Banff area.</p> <p>And the butterflies return to the Calgary Zoo in the ENMAX Conservatory. All through the summer over 12,000 butterflies will emerge to enchant visitors young and old.</p> <p>Website is www.calgaryzoo.com</p>
Parks	<p>The city has a large number of urban parks including Fish Creek Provincial Park, Nose Hill Park, Bowness Park, Edworthy Park, the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, Confederation Park, and Prince's Island Park. Nose Hill Park is the largest municipal park in Canada.</p> <p>Connecting these parks and most of the city's neighbourhoods is one of the most extensive multi-use (walking, bike, rollerblading) path systems in North America.</p>
Gardens	<p>At 2.5 acres (1 ha), the Devonian Gardens is one of the largest urban indoor gardens in the world, and it is located on the 4th floor of TD Square (above the shopping).</p>
Historical Sites	<p>On the occasion of the city's centennial in 1975, Fort Calgary became a public park of 16 hectares (40 acres), spread around the ruins of the original Mounted Police stronghold. In 2001, volunteers completed a replica of the 1888 barracks using traditional methods and building materials. The Interpretive Centre captures the history of Calgary, from its genesis as a military fort to its 20th-century beginnings as an agricultural and oil boomtown. Kids can do time in the 1875-era jail, or dress up as a Mountie. There are a number of interesting videos and guided displays; always in focus are the adventures and hardships of the Mounties a century ago. The rigors of their westward march and the almost unbelievable isolation these pioneer troopers endured now seems incredible. If all this history whets your appetite, cross the Elbow River on 9th Avenue and head to the Deane House. This historic home was built by a Fort Calgary superintendent nearly 100 years ago and is now the Deane House Restaurant, operated by Fort Calgary.</p> <p>www.fortcalgary.ab.ca</p>

OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Shopping	Calgary has everything from eclectic neighborhood shopping districts to

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	<p>big box malls.</p> <p>Chinook Centre is one of Calgary's largest shopping centre with more than 200 stores and services. The Bay, Sears, Zellers, Famous Players Paramount Theatre, 3D IMAX.</p> <p>Market Mall with 229 stores is Calgary's largest shopping centre and recently undergoing \$90 million dollars in renovations, Market Mall is the destination for all your fashion and lifestyle needs. Located in the heart of northwest Calgary, it's a bright, open and friendly shopping centre featuring over 200 shops and services.</p> <p>Willow Park Village is a walk-about outdoor mall with more than 60 merchants. Fashion, western, accessories, home décor, leisure, beauty, restaurants.</p>
Markets	<p>The Eau Claire Market (200 Barclay Parade SW; tel. 403/264-6450; www.eauclairemarket.com) was envisioned as a fresh food market modeled after Granville Island in Vancouver. The intervening years have seen it morph into a warehouse for crafts, which could consume an entire afternoon. Some of the stalls and stands here feature imported fabrics and objects from Asia and South America, as well as local artisan-made goods.</p> <p>Calgary Farmers' Market Web Site: www.calgaryfarmersmarket.ca This Alberta-approved market has 100 direct producers covering agriculture, meat, fish, dairy, prepared foods and specialty item vendors, including a food court. Located at Flanders Ave S.W. in Currie Barracks.</p>
Nightlife	<p>If you're looking for a truly western experience, the Ranchmans is the place to be, where you can learn how to line dance every week or jump on the mechanical bull – if you dare.</p> <p>The popular cocktail strips, which reach critical mass around the 17th Ave. SW/4th St. SW axis, are always busy, and on the weekend jam full to near-overflowing.</p>
Casinos	<p>Calgary has several casinos whose proceeds go wholly to charities. None impose a cover. Located across from the Stampede grounds, the Elbow River Inn Casino (1919 Macleod Trail S; tel. 403/266-4355; www.elbowrivercasino.com) is the largest and most central; it offers Las Vegas-style gaming plus a poker variation called Red Dog. It has a 24-hour poker room.</p>

CUISINE	
Food	<p>Calgary has a thriving culinary scene with award winning chefs almost literally on every corner. Of course, they're famous for their Alberta beef – so if a steakhouse is what you're looking for, you have a wide range of options. But it doesn't stop there, the cultural diversity of the city shines through with fabulous Italian and French restaurants, and</p>

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	<p>don't forget the fare at the local pubs.</p> <p>For a specialty dish associated with Calgary to try when were you're in town, try some locally raised bison, elk or venison featured at several Calgary dining establishments.</p>
Beer	<p>Calgary International Beerfest is held in May and is the perfect venue to sample the local beers.</p>
Restaurants	<p>The city has a vibrantly eclectic, cosmopolitan dining scene. As is the case with most things here, a fresh, contemporary take dominates most menus, and the emphasis on organic and local ingredients seems to grow by the day. Don't be shocked to find local bison and elk on a great many menus around town, if accompanied by such cutting-edge culinary trends like molecular gastronomy.</p> <p>The city's most vibrant dining districts can be found either in or on the edge of the city core. The handful of blocks around 17th Avenue SW, between about 8th Street and 2nd Street, and 4th Street SW, between 17th Avenue and 25th Avenue (also known as the Mission) are the most dense eating and drinking destinations in the city. Just north of downtown, Kensington offers an eclectic array of choices as well. Downtown, power lunch spots are the order of the day, and many of them are excellent as well - and particularly useful for before or after theatre-going at the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts, on Stephen Avenue. Here's some suggestions:</p> <p>A Calgary icon since 1980, Buzzards Restaurant is an authentic cowboy restaurant serving genuine Alberta beef and chuckwagon recipes adapted for modern tastes. Their unique concept has attracted local, national, and international attention such as The Financial Times, FFWD, Occasions, and Bon Appetit Magazine. The award-winning western décor, along with the authentic cuisine makes Buzzards a destination you are not soon to forget! Personally recommended.</p> <p>Ranchman's: there is no other place so steeped in Alberta Pioneer Western Heritage. Ranchman's is home to the professional rodeo cowboy. Their legacy is displayed in the walls and in the soul of the Ranchman's; a museum of rodeo memorabilia and photographs; Displaying over 90 Trophy saddles of World and Canadian Champion Cowboys. They pride themselves on being a great place to enjoy high quality food in a fun-filled, lively atmosphere at an affordable price. A Family Dining environment until 8pm, and a dancehall after 8pm. They serve up thick steaks, fall-of-the-bone ribs, Hearty Texas Chili and Homemade fixin's all at great value.</p>

MORE INFO	<p>Stop by one of the Visitor Information Centres to get more information: Calgary International Airport at Arrivals Level</p>
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	Telephone: 403-735-1234 Calgary Tower at the base of the Calgary Tower Telephone: 403-750-2362 Southcentre Mall ~ 100 Anderson Road S.E., Lower level between The Bay and Centre Court Telephone: 403-271-7670
Brochures	Request a Visitor Planning Guide: 1.800.661.1678
Contacts	Website: http://www.visitcalgary.com/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tourismcalgary Pinterest: https://www.pinterest.com/tourismcalgary/ Twitter: https://twitter.com/TourismCalgary

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES	<p>I have been fortunate enough to experience the Calgary Stampede twice; you can see my board of photographs covering my experience at the Stampede on Pinterest: https://www.pinterest.com/TravelShow/calgary-stampede/ And here is my Travel Blog from my last visit to the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth:</p> <p>The 99th Calgary Stampede – Travel Blog I’m broadcasting the Travel Shows live from the 99th Calgary Stampede – the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth. And what a show! Here’s a normally serious and industrious city of over a million people that just goes nuts for ten days every July in celebration of Cowboy Culture. Everyone wears cowboy hats and boots and is intent on having a good time. Half an hour after flying in, I have my cowboy hat in place and I’m ready to go....</p> <p>Will & Kate at the Calgary Stampede Parade A perfect day for a Parade...And to kick things off in right Royal style, we get a glimpse of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (Will and Kate to you and me) as they travel the route of the Parade. Then comes a cavalcade of hundreds of floats, marching bands, horses, heroes and more that takes two hours to pass by and is watched this year by 425,000 cheering aficionados – the Will and Kate factor! It’s all entertaining fun and a great launch into the first day of the Stampede this afternoon.</p> <p>Cowboys... Rodeo – this is how it all began in 1912: cowboys competing in awe-inspiring events of courage and skill based upon their cowboy lifestyle. I’m watching six major rodeo events: Bareback; Bull Riding; Barrel Racing; Saddle Bronc; Steer Wrestling; and Tie-Down Roping. Each one is a breath-taking display of man and beast, where often the horse or bull is awarded as many points as the rider. With \$2 million in prize money to be won, the athletes take the competition pretty</p>
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seriously. I am fortunate to have the subtleties of rodeo explained to me by a real cowboy: Jim is a Cowboy Hall of Famer who has ridden the broncs to glory in the past and we go behind the scenes to the pens where the riders are released for their 8 seconds of adrenaline rush. As the long evening light fades to twilight, I watch the thrilling Chuckwagon Races, topped off by a rollicking outdoor stage show, “Volte”, and fireworks that light up the Alberta sky.

...And Indians

It’s heartening to see the First Nations participating as enthusiastically as everyone else in this western party. The Stampede is an excellent way of learning more about First Nations culture. Proud Elders in ceremonial dress add colour to the Parade. In Stampede Park, the Indian Village represents the five tribes of the Treaty 7: the Siksika, T’suu Tina, Nakoda, Piikani and Kainai. Each day they open their tipis to visitors and stage performances of dance and song.

Prairie Oysters and Cowboy Sundae

The Calgary Stampede is also a celebration of Western Cuisine. And it’s all right here on Stampede Park. Leave all notions of dietary self-restraint behind and just enjoy the fun of heart-clogging creations like “turkey-tini” (a micro turkey dinner in a martini glass); mac and cheese pizza (yummy double comfort food); “Cowboy Sundae” (pretty beef and mashed potato looking like dessert); and doughnut burgers (maple dip, no less). I was tapped to be a Media Judge in the 2011 Stampede Best New Food Competition and so got to try them all. The winner? Kubie Korn Balls – corn fritters with Ukrainian sausage. But my most memorable Stampede cuisine was perhaps at Buzzards Restaurant where I sampled Prairies Oysters – bulls’ testicles. They were surprisingly tasty...

Midway Magic

Stampede is so much more than the richest rodeo show. Stampede Park is a vibrant collage of Midway attractions, kids’ events, food vendors (don’t forget those Kubie Korn Balls), Western art exhibitions (the photography exhibit was inspirational), agricultural attractions (my favourite: a sow with umpteen squealing piglets suckling) and great shows. This year the stars include Kate Perry, Kenny Chesney, New Kids on the Block, Backstreet Boys, Kevin Costner, Sale and Pelletier and even a human cannonball fired across Saddledome Plaza twice daily! Another attraction I find strangely compelling: the World Championship Blacksmiths’ Competition. There is such a potpourri of events and attractions here – there’s something for everyone...which is exactly what a Midway should be all about.

Stampede Friends

My Stampede experience has been facilitated and enhanced by some wonderful people in Calgary. Lindsay Jardine is the Stampede Tourism

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Sales Manager who set up my visit and radio broadcasts and who looks magnificent in a Fascinator. Sally Leung, Tourism Sales Coordinator, worked hard on all the details of my trip and still managed to be perky on almost no sleep. Jennifer Booth, Publicity Manager, was my effervescent guest on both my radio shows – knowledgeable and entertaining. And Hala Dehais, PR Manager at Tourism Calgary, seduced me into experiencing bulls' balls, but was kind enough to let me escape the rigours of the mechanical bull. To all: my grateful thanks. And I can hardly imagine the excitement of next year's 2012 Centenary Calgary Stampede!

And lastly, a Travel Show Magic Moment...

"I have arrived at a normally serious and industrious city of over a million people that just goes nuts for ten days every July in celebration of Cowboy Culture. Everyone wears cowboy hats and boots and is intent on having a good time. I'm not through the airport before I find myself wearing a cowboy hat myself and a little while later I'm in the heart of it all at the Stampede Park. I am on a 'behind-the-scenes' tour with Jim, a Cowboy Hall of Famer, who has ridden the broncs to glory in the past. We go to the pens where the riders are released for their 8 seconds of adrenaline rush. We watch six major rodeo events: Bareback; Bull Riding; Barrel Racing; Saddle Bronc; Steer Wrestling; and Tie-Down Roping. Each one is a breath-taking display of man and beast, where often the horse or bull is awarded as many points as the rider. With millions in prize money to be won, the athletes take the competition pretty seriously and the atmosphere in the pens is electric. But amidst all this tension, I am struck by the tenderness that exists between man and beast behind the arena and the care taken of all the animals that take part in this unique spectacle."

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