

LOUIS RIEL TRAIL

6 Days | Canadian Prairies Student Tour

BrightsparkSM



TOUR SNAPSHOT

This 6-day student tour of Saskatchewan, following the trail of Métis leader, Louis Riel, will take your class on a grand tour of a unique period in Canadian history. Travel from Saskatoon via Moose Jaw to Regina; from Boomtown to the Remail Modern Art Museum; from the site of the first battle of the North-West Rebellion to the site of Riel's final defeat; from Moose Jaw's connection to Capone and bootleggers to the Snowbirds and the Mounties. Learn of the hardships faced by pioneer settlers, the Indigenous peoples of the plains, both historically and currently, and the Métis peoples in the aftermath of the uprising. Visit the first University in Canada specializing in Indigenous programmes. Your class will learn how far we have come as a society and how far we have still to go. Inspire a love of history and of travel on this school trip!

WHAT'S INCLUDED:



Sites & Activities: Tour of Saskatoon, Remail Modern Art Museum, Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Batoche National Historic Site, Duck Lake Regional Interpretive Centre, Fort Carlton Provincial Park, Chicago Connection, Passage to Fortune Tunnel Tours, Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre, Trolley Tour of Moose Jaw, Western Development Museum, First Nations University of Canada, Legislature



Brightspark Exclusives:
The Adventure



**Your Brightspark
Tour Leader**



Accommodations
5 nights hotel



Transportation
Flights, private motor
coach



Meals
5 breakfasts, 5 dinners





WHY BRIGHTSPARK?

PUTTING YOUR EXPERIENCE FIRST

- **Our Tour Leaders Make All The Difference:** They are experts in fun and are equipped with educational content and interactive games that keep your students engaged. Extensively trained and masters in logistics, they deal with all the details to ensure a stress-free class trip!
- **Always Something Fresh:** Brightspark Exclusive activities encourage participation through experiential education. Whether it's a Mystery Heist in Ottawa or Escaping the Port in Montréal, these activities add a WOW factor to your tour.
- **The Best Support:** Our team is with you every step of the way from itinerary planning to board paperwork, online payment collection and 24/7 on-tour assistance. We are dedicated to making the planning process simple and easy.
- **Go. Discover. Inspire:** You are not a tourist but a traveller; we will expose you and your students to the soul of the destination and ignite your sense of wonder.

EXPERTS IN STUDENT TRAVEL

We have 40+ years of travel experience, exceptional supplier relationships, and an impeccable safety record, you can rest assured your tour will be sparktacular!

95%
OF TEACHERS
LOVE OUR
TOURS

40+
YEARS OF
TRAVEL
EXPERIENCE

33K+
PASSENGERS
TRAVELLED
LAST YEAR



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

THE BEST INSURANCE

Feel safe with the knowledge that your students are fully protected with cancellation insurance provided by Travel Guard, which includes school board cancellation for **ANY REASON.**



"Overall experience from start to finish was fantastic. The kids had a great time and will have memories that will last a lifetime/our tour leaders, Phillipe & Adriele went above and beyond getting to know the students and helping us with special requests. Thank you for everything!"

Gatestone Staff & Students, HWDSB

LOUIS RIEL TRAIL - 6 Days | Canadian Prairies Student Tour

DAY 1

- 12:00 p.m. **Arrive in Saskatoon.** Your Tour Leader will meet you at the airport. Board your motor coach and depart for downtown.
- 2:00 p.m. **Visit the largest of the four Western Development Museums.** A visit to Boomtown lets you walk through time. Saskatchewan-inspired stories unfold everywhere as you journey from 1910 to the present.
- 4:30 p.m. **Hotel check-in**
- 6:00 p.m. **Dinner**
- 7:00 p.m. **Orientation Tour of Saskatoon.** View the historic Bessborough hotel, the Tribute to Youth Monument, and walk along the boardwalk on the banks of the South Saskatchewan River. Visit the Broadway District; this five-block district is recognized as the birthplace of arts and culture in the city of Saskatoon.

DAY 2

- 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 10:00 a.m. **Highlights Tour of the Remai Modern Art Museum.** Remai Modern, a museum of modern and contemporary art, opened in October 2017 in Saskatoon and is a direction-setting art museum and gathering place for culture and community.
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 2:00 p.m. **Wanuskewin Heritage Park.** Learn about the rich history of the park and the Plains Indigenous people who have lived on the land for thousands of years. Explore some of the artifacts before watching a demonstration of drumming and dancing in the Visitors Centre. Participate in storytelling and learning the cultural knowledge of the Bison which were brought back to the centre in 2019.
- 6:00 p.m. **Dinner**

DAY 3

- 7:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 9:00 a.m. **Batoche National Historic Site.** The peaceful village of Batoche became the final battlefield of the North-West Rebellion and resulted in the defeat of Louis Riel and his Métis forces. The 1885 church and a few other historic buildings have been preserved in this National Historic Site; talk to Métis settlers and view the bullet holes in the rectory wall as you explore a time that changed the face of Canada.
- 11:00 a.m. **Guided tour of Duck Lake Regional Interpretive Centre.** Site of the first battle of the North-West Rebellion, Duck Lake was deemed a national historic site in 1924. Today, the interpretive centre portrays the history and culture of the Willow Cree, Métis and pioneer societies of Saskatchewan. Learn of the everyday struggles of pioneer life, the devastating impact that the near extinction of the buffalo had on First Nations and the harsh aftermath of the North-West Rebellion.
- 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 3:00 p.m. **Fort Carlton Provincial Park.** A trading post for the Hudson Bay Company from 1810 to 1885 and important negotiation site for Treaty 6 in 1876, Fort Carlton

Provincial Park features a reconstructed palisade, fur and provisions store, trade store, clerk's quarters and tepee encampment. Students can see, touch and smell artifacts such as bison hides, beaver pelts and more.

6:30 p.m. **Dinner**

DAY 4

- 7:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 7:30 a.m. **Check out of your hotel**
- 8:00 a.m. **Board your motor coach and depart for Moose Jaw**
- 10:30 a.m. **Chicago Connection.** You're bootleggers in 1929. You've come to Moose Jaw to buy booze from the Capone organization. You've got to learn the ropes and stay out of the way of the local police chief. You start out at Miss Fanny's club and end up in a tunnel, somewhere underground. And the only one who knows the way out is Gus, one of Capone's goons.
- 11:30 a.m. **Passage to Fortune Tunnel Tours.** The Passage to Fortune tells the story of early Chinese immigrants to Canada. You become an immigrant and follow in their footsteps through Burrows and Sons Laundry, in darkened tunnels under the streets and in the kitchen of Mr. Wong's cafe. Your passage to fortune is just around the corner.
- 12:30 p.m. **Drive by: 15 Wing Moose Jaw CFB.** Officially known as 431 Air Demonstration Squadron, but better known as the Snowbirds, these are the military aerobatics team of the Royal Canadian Air Force. The Snowbirds' official purpose is to "demonstrate the skill, professionalism, and teamwork of Canadian Forces personnel".
- 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 2:30 p.m. **Visit the Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre.** Created in 1997 to help promote the conservation of the endangered Burrowing Owl and its prairie habitat through education, stewardship and eco-tourism, the centre will allow you to see not only the owls, but neighbouring wildlife.
- 4:00 p.m. **Tales of the Jaw: 1 Hour Historic Trolley Tour of Moose Jaw.** This historic tour is full of stories of the people and places that have made Moose Jaw notoriously awesome! Learn about the infamous characters, the founding citizens and some wonderful people who have contributed to the area's history.
- 5:00 p.m. **Board your motor coach and travel to Regina**
- 6:00 p.m. **Dinner**
- 7:30 p.m. **Hotel check-in**

DAY 5

- 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 9:30 a.m. **Campus Tour of the First Nations University of Canada (Regina Campus).** Come explore a unique Canadian institution that specializes in Indigenous knowledge. As one of the oldest First Nations education centres in the country, FNU provides post-secondary education for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students alike within a culturally supportive environment.

START PLANNING NOW!



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- 11:00 a.m. **Guided Tour of the Legislature Building of Saskatchewan.** Your guided tour focuses on the architecture and history of the Legislature Building, provincial government, the Westminster Parliamentary tradition and more.
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. **Orientation drive through downtown Regina.** Your Tour Leader will point out the sites of interest on this driving tour of downtown Regina; the highlight being the site of the courthouse where Louis Riel was tried and sentenced to death.
- 3:00 p.m. **Visit the Royal Saskatchewan Museum.** Established in 1906, after Charles Noddings found a large boulder with a carved face on it in the Beaver Hills area on December 25, 1905, the RSM focuses on furthering an understanding of Saskatchewan's natural history and Indigenous cultures, past and present.
- 6:00 p.m. **Dinner**
- DAY 6**
- 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. **Check out of your hotel**
- 9:30 a.m. **Visit the RCMP Heritage Centre.** Located on the grounds of an active training site, the museum houses artifacts related to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Through a combination of interactive exhibitions and rare artifacts, students can explore over a century of RCMP history; from the formation of the North-West Mounted Police in 1873, to the modern-day Mountie.
- 12:00 p.m. **Depart for the airport for your flight home.**
- 8:00 p.m. **Welcome Home!**

START PLANNING NOW!



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