

Welcome to the Hamlet of Lake Louise. We hope you enjoy your self-guided tour of our Cultural Heritage sites located in Upper and Lower Lake Louise. Your role in helping to protect the heritage values of this area is very important. Please keep to the main paths and roadways and deposit your litter and re-cycling in the bins provided. For information on trail conditions, wildlife considerations and equipment recommendations, visitors are advised to check with the Visitors Reception Centre next to the Samson Mall.

**Both the Chateau Lake Louise and Deer Lodge have interpretive photographic displays of historical importance inside their buildings. The Lake Louise Inn, Post Hotel and the Railway Station display several historical pictures on their walls throughout their buildings.*

1. RAILWAY STATION* We begin our tour with the restored Lake Louise Railway Station now serving as a restaurant. Vintage rail cars and a traditional Station Garden provide a snapshot of Lake Louise Station in the early 1900's. The Station, called Laggan until 1914, was constructed by the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1910 replacing the first small log station built in 1890. Designated a Heritage Railway Station by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1990, heritage features include rustic log architecture, tripartite leaded glass windows, the agent-operator's bay window and a three hearth fireplace. On historic garden tracks adjacent to the Station stand "Killarney", a 1906 business car, "Laurentian", a 1921 business car and "Delamere", a 1925 dining car. The architecturally designed gardens celebrate the achievement of Canadian Pacific and the Government of Canada in completing the railway line from sea to sea and establishing with certainty Canada as a nation.

2. POST HOTEL* Access is easy from the Samson Mall to the Post Hotel across the Pipestone River. Built by guide and packer, Jim Boyce of Banff, the Lake Louise Ski Lodge opened in 1942 but closed during the war reopening in 1948. Sir Norman Watson bought the hotel as part of the Lake Louise ski development in 1947. Renamed the Lake Louise Lodge in 1951.

Named the Post Hotel in 1957 because of the many Post Hotels well known in the Alps and also because of one building on the property at one time was leased to the Post Office. Expanded with the addition of the Pipestone Motel and new cabins in 1968. In 1978, Watson sold the hotel to the Schwarz family who still own it today. In 1987, the motel was demolished and replaced by today's main structure. Subsequently, in 1991, the hotel was admitted to the prestigious International organization Relais & Chateaux.

3. LAKE LOUISE INN TEA COTTAGE* Across the street from the Post Hotel, at the back of the Lake Louise Inn property, on the right hand side is a log building that was formerly the Banff Information Bureau, located

beside the museum in the town of Banff. Moved to Lake Louise to form part of a warden compound located here in the 1950's and 60's. A good example of a small public building with log walls, French windows, eyebrow eave and wood shingle roof. Take a look inside the Lake Louise Inn* to see many historical photographs on the walls throughout.

4. GENERATOR BUILDING "HOBBIT HOUSE"*** Walking on the Bow River Loop Trail west from the Campground, one is caught by surprise at a little stone shed nick-named the "Hobbit House"; an isolated building of character which was formerly the generator building for Temple View Bungalow Camp or later, the Motel Lake Louise circa. 1950's.

5. TRAMWAY ROADBED The tramway was used between 1912 and the mid-1930's as a means of transporting folks between Laggan Station and the chalet on the lake. If you're in for walking/biking/skiing this tour, the tramway is a good route to reach the upper village.

6. FAIRVIEW PICNIC AREA Site of the original campground established in the late 1920's until the new campground was built in 1964. Two 1952 kitchen shelters are typical of the mountain parks campground. Enjoy your picnic but remember it is illegal to feed any wildlife in national parks.

7. PARADISE LODGE & BUNGALOWS Established in 1935 by Alfred Cooper, an integral partner in the development of Lower Lake Louise with Jim Boyce and Stan Boyle. Owned and operated by the Pedersen family since 1957. In 1982, a new amenities building was added to the west of the main lodge; two lodge buildings were constructed in 1990 without losing the character and historical value. Paradise Lodge and Bungalows is well known for its landscaped gardens. The lodge would have served the former neighbouring Lake Louise Campground.

8. ROADBED OF THE ORIGINAL TRANS CANADA HIGHWAY By 1921, motorists could travel from Banff to Lake Louise but no further. This was called Fairview junction and the first gas station in the area was located on the northwest corner. By 1928, the highway was extended west from Lake Louise to Golden by way of Field. This road is now popular in winter for dog sledding and cross country skiing.

alcohol could be had only by prescription. It was moved to the present location in 1925 and formerly used for staff accommodation/storage.

11. ROCKY MOUNTAIN TOURS GARAGE** Built in 1940 in a style reminiscent of the Arts and Crafts movement with its gabled hipped roof, exposed rafters and wood cladding. Built for Rocky Mountain Tours, a rival of the Brewster organization that provided sight-seeing tours in the area. The building housed two busses on the ground floor and accommodation for drivers on the second floor.

12. SWISS GUIDE'S COTTAGE** Walking from the lower public parking lot, one passes the Swiss Guide's Cottage situated in a treed lot beside the well-used pedestrian thoroughfare. Now used for hotel staff, it is an excellent example of log building produced by the CPR shortly after 1920, to serve as a summer residence and base of operations for the Swiss guides it employed to lead hiking and climbing expeditions for hotel guests staying at the Chateau Lake Louise.

13. VIEW OF LAKE LOUISE AND MT. VICTORIA Walter Wilcox, an early travel writer in his guide book "The Rockies of Canada" (1900) described the "long anticipation... then the breathless final approach and then the all important first glimpse". The first European to see the lake was Tom Wilson in 1882 who was packing railway supplies nearby and was attracted to the site by the sound of avalanches. His Stoney companions called the place "Lake of Little Fishes". The lake was renamed in 1884 after Princess Louise Caroline Alberta, the fourth daughter of Queen Victoria. Resting beneath the Victoria Glacier, the lake is the repository for tons of finely ground rock, called glacial silt. The silt both absorbs and reflects sunlight, giving the

lake its vivid colour. Its development as a tourist attraction was due to the publicity given it by the CPR.

14. CHATEAU LAKE LOUISE* The world famous Chateau Lake Louise dominates the lake's eastern shore. A hotel has been on this site since the 1890. The original log chalet's were destroyed by fire. The present building is actually an amalgamation of five buildings joined together. As you approach the main doors, the 1912 Painter wing is on the far right; the 1925 Barrot wing is in the centre with the far left/centre being the Glacier wing and new lobby which were all completed by 1989. The spectacular Mt. Temple was completed in 2004. The building was designed to maximize the lake view from most bedrooms.

15. LAKE AGNES TEA HOUSE A visit to Lake Louise isn't complete without a revitalizing cup of tea at one of the historic tea houses. In 1905, the CPR built the first tea house on the shores of Lake Agnes, the third and uppermost of the "lakes in the clouds". Built of vertical logs, the original tea house was replaced in 1981 with a new log building that includes original windows, tables and chairs. The lake was named after Lady Agnes Macdonald, wife of Canada's first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald. From the Lake Louise Shoreline trail in front of Chateau Lake Louise, it is 3.4km one way with an elevation gain of 385m. Open for tea and lunch in the summer months.

16. BEEHIVE SHELTER The CPR continued to expand its amenities for hikers through the 1910's and 1920's and the only surviving structure from this early period is the Beehive Shelter. A hand-lettered inscription inside this structure says: "This shelter built by Casey Jones- Aug. 1916". If this attribution is authentic, then this would be the oldest shelter in the national parks. From Lake Agnes 1.6km one way with an elevation gain 135m.

17. PLAIN OF SIX GLACIERS TEA HOUSE Built in 1924, this tea house epitomizes the Swiss chalet theme that the CPR occasionally employed for its back country tourist facilities within the national parks. Swiss Guide Edward Feuz expressed an interest in building a chalet there and in the early period, the tea house was operated by his wife. The Tea house is 5.6km one way from the Lake Louise shoreline trail and gains 365m of elevation. Open for tea and lunch in the summer months.

***For safety and privacy concerns, these buildings are NOT OPEN to the public.*



DEER LODGE



FORMER DRUGSTORE BUILDING



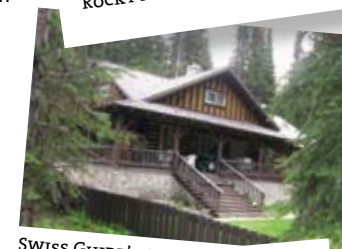
RAILWAY STATION



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VIEW OF LAKE LOUISE



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POST HOTEL



LAKE LOUISE INN COTTAGE