

MARMOT TOURS,
Box 1804, Jasper, Alberta, T0E 1E0, Canada
Email: info@marmottours.com
Phone: toll free in North America 1 888 862-7668

Jonas Pass — Brazeau Lake Loop:
5 nights & 6 days

This circuit includes one of the parks largest backcountry lakes and a spectacular alpine traverse of 13 km /8 miles. Enjoy the second highest trail accessible summits along the way. You find the views of glaciated peaks and wildflowers breath taking. Also wildlife viewing opportunities from hoary marmots to mountain caribou abound. It is the “Grand Tour” of Jasper National Park.

Trip Dates:

July 2005 (email info@marmottours.com for dates)

Itinerary:

Evening before the trip: Meet in Jasper to go over the trip with you and check to see that you are properly equipped, distribute the group equipment and food.

Day 1: Poboktan Creek trailhead to Waterfalls campground. We drive south on highway 93, the Icefields Parkway, 72 km to the trailhead. From there we follow Poboktan Creek to the Waterfalls campground through pine and spruce forests for 12 km. The trail can be boggy in places but the views of waterfalls makes it all worth while.

Day 2: Waterfalls campground to John – John campground: 16 km. One of the more challenging days as we climb Poboktan Pass (2300m). This alpine meadow is one of the more likely places to see mountain/woodlands caribou and beautiful wildflower displays. We descend into John-John Creek campground at tree line, 2020m, for the evening.

Day 3: John-John campground to Brazeau River Bridge campground: a short easy hike to the campground at Brazeau Lake the largest backcountry lake in the mountain parks. Here we spent the afternoon exploring the environs of the lake, perhaps casting a fly or two or simply enjoying a afternoon in camp catching up on our journal or photography.

Day 4: Brazeau River Bridge campground to Four Point campground-18.3 km. So, now that you are rested up , it’s time to put the boots to the trail . We climb gently, 100m over the next 18 km while following the Brazeau River through forests of pine, fir & spruce to our next evenings’ abode.

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Itinerary for Brazeau – Jonas Loop continued:

Day 5: Four Point campground to Jonas Cutoff campground: 19 km. Another spectacular day in the alpine, 13 km of it to be exact! Today the environs of Jonas Pass at 2320m will be visited as we hike to our next campsite. Excellent opportunities to view wildlife across the alpine meadows such as big horn sheep and maybe even a mountain caribou or a grizzly.

Day 6: Jonas Cutoff campground to the trailhead at Poboktan Creek, 21 km. A long but easy downhill hike back to where it all began 6 days ago. A nice trail to reflect upon the past 5 magnificent days of alpine splendor, the “Grand Tour” of Jasper National Park. After a 50 minute drive back to Jasper we will finish the tour with pizza & beer at one of the local establishments compliments of Marmot Tours.

How difficult is it? How fit and experienced do you need to be?

This trip is moderate to strenuous. The long days being easy and the short days being strenuous with a half day rest in the middle of the tour. No prior hiking experience is necessary but participants must be in good shape as they will be carrying packs of as much as 20 kg for as long as 7 hours. The trails are mostly in good condition with some boggy areas and deep ruts from horse traffic in past years. There are also some stiff climbs involved. We cannot emphasize enough that training tremendously adds to the enjoyment factor. We suggest you train by hiking in hilly terrain and or jogging. If you feel this trip is too demanding you might consider one of our 3 day trips staying in either a hut or a tent, especially if it's your first time out in the mountains.

Cost:

\$1225.00 including GST

Minimum 3 people, maximum 8

\$150.00 surcharge per person for groups of 2 or less

Included:

All backcountry gourmet meals

Backcountry camping fees

Tent, sleeping pad, cooking & eating equipment
& group camping equipment.

Professional interpreter & backpacking mountain guide.

Group emergency and first-aid kits

Transportation to and from Jasper to the trailhead

All taxes

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Jonas Pass – Brazeau Lake Loop continued:

Meals & Accommodation:

We supply all the cooking and eating equipment that you will need to enjoy our gourmet meals with. You will be encouraged to help out to learn the skills of backcountry cooking if you are interested. We supply all meals & snacks from lunch on day 1 to supper on day 6. Meals on the trails are a combination of pre-made foods with in house additions to improve the quality of taste and nutrition. Please specify any special dietary requirements you have on your initial application so that we may gladly accommodate you.

On the trail you will be staying in modern 2 or 3 person weather proof tents with Thermarest sleeping mattresses. We would be happy to recommend a private home accommodation, similar to a B&B, the best deal at \$55 to \$80 per night; a hotel or a campground.

Instructional

The guide will also be willing to teach mountain navigation skills like map & compass usage. Interpretation of the ecology, flora, fauna, geology and glaciology, as well as the cultural heritage of the area will be provided as we use only accredited and certified guides.

Booking Instructions

Please book early as to avoid disappointment. Up to 4 weeks in advance we require a deposit of \$395 CDN . Full payment is required 1 week before departure of trip.

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