



eUSTHOMASIAN

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2017

“CRUISE” OF A LIFETIME XII - CANADIAN ROCKIES

25th USTMAAA GRAND REUNION VANCOUVER

By Primo Andres, MD, Executive Director

It is never too early to prepare for the next Grand Reunion and Medical Convention especially if it is in a “foreign country”. The next annual gathering of Thomasian medical alumni will be in our northern neighbor, Canada, in the gorgeous city of Vancouver in British Columbia at the Sheraton Wall Centre atop the hill in the middle of downtown overlooking the entire city. It is one of those cities we have always meant to visit and spend some time in but never got around to doing it. Now here is our chance to check this in our bucket list and be pampered by USTMAAA as our host. Isn't that a dream come true? Mark your calendar now. The meeting and reunion days are July 1-5, 2017 but consider extending your stay if you are planning on exploring the beauty of the northwest by joining the various excursions that precede and follow the Grand Reunion.

There is so much to do in Vancouver that all efforts are being made to give more time for all attendees to enjoy the city. Saturday, July 1, 2017, happens to be a very special Canada Day, the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the country. It is a great opportunity for us to participate in this historic Canadian holiday. We have originally contracted for just enough rooms for the Officers and Board Members to use because of the early meeting the following morning. However, we have negotiated for more rooms to be released to our block to accommodate those of you who may want to take advantage of this opportunity to party with the Canadians. Meetings are limited to mornings and early afternoons and evening events are started later in the evenings except on the final night, the Gala Dinner, which is slotted to start at 6 PM. Attendees are encouraged to try the excellent International Cuisine that the city has to offer. Do your homework and look up your references and make early reservations even before arriving to ensure you have a space in the restaurants. They are very busy and are almost always full all day of the week. Plan to stay longer than the convention days, and even better, join the scheduled excursions to make the most out of your trip.

The airfare is not much more expensive than going to the West Coast if you make your reservations early, especially through the discount outlets like Expedia. If you are planning to attend the reunion and go to the Canadian Rockies, be sure to book a flight to Vancouver one way, then Calgary to home the other way as the tour will end in Calgary, Alberta on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 after 4 PM.

Here is the schedule of the Grand Reunion and the proposed excursions:

6/25 -7/1, 2017

ALASKAN CRUISE on Celebrity Infinity. Book on your own. USTMAAA will NOT arrange.



Saturday, 7/1/17

8A-12P Board Meeting 1
6P Board Reception, Canada Day

Sunday, 7/2/17

8A-12P Board Meeting 2
3P-4P Thanksgiving Mass
4P-5P Opening Ceremony
6P-12A INDIVIDUAL CLASS REUNIONS

Monday, 7/3/17

7:30- 12P CME1
12P-1P Town Hall Meeting - UST Administration
1P-9P FREE TIME
9P-12A TALENT NIGHT after dinner

Tuesday, 7/4/17

7:30A-1P CME 2
1P-6P FREE TIME
6P-12A GALA DINNER

Wednesday, 7/5/17

VICTORIA and BUTCHART GARDENS all day excursion
Price per person: CAD\$190
English Afternoon Tea: CAD \$35
Book directly with Landsea Tours:

<http://www.vancouver tours.com/ustmaaa>



Thursday, 7/6/17

VANCOUVER CITY TOUR

Price per person: CAD \$75
Book directly with Landsea Tours:

<http://www.vancouver tours.com/ustmaa>



7/7-7/11/2017

CANADIAN ROCKIES TOUR

Rocky Mountaineer Gold Leaf service scenic train ride to Kamloops for overnight stay



Saturday

Continuing train ride to Lake Louise for overnight stay at four star Fairmont Château Lake Louise or three star Lake Louis Inn



Sunday

Banff and Yoho National Park tour and Gondola ride
Overnight stay at four star Rimrock Resort Hotel



Monday

Columbia Icefield Tour and Ice Explorer
Overnight stay at Rimrock Resort Hotel



Tuesday

Banff to Calgary
Visit and lunch at Heritage Park Historical Village



Drop off at Calgary Airport
Arrange flight for home after 4 PM

NOTE: If unable to arrange for late flight on Tuesday, July 11, arrangements can be made for earlier transfer to the airport in the morning for those who choose to skip the Heritage Park Historical Village tour and lunch, or an overnight stay in a hotel close to the airport.

Rooms are available at the Sheraton Wall Centre Downtown Vancouver on July 5 and 6 for those who are joining the excursions.

A special cable car on the Rocky Mountaineer luxury train is available for group gatherings and CME at no extra charge. Volunteer faculty to give talks is hereby requested. Email primoandresmd@gmail.com for more information.

Cost of Rocky Mountain Train Ride and Tour in USD:

Occupancy	Price per person incl. tax
Group A: Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise (4 star hotel) limited to twenty five (25) rooms	
Double	USD 3713.26 (Adult)
Single	USD 4563.84 (Adult)
Triple	USD 3377.90 (Adult)
Children	USD 2929.34
Group B: Lake Louise Inn (3 star hotel)	
Double	USD 3484.58 (Adult)
Single	USD 4109.08 (Adult)
Triple	USD 3176.96 (Adult)
Children	USD 2750.97

TERMS OF PAYMENT:

- \$1000 per person upon registration.
- Second \$1000 per person by December 31, 2016.
- Third \$1000 per person by January 31, 2017.
- Full payment by February 28, 2017.
- Full refund of paid amount minus \$100 processing fee if done on or before January 31, 2017.
- Full refund of paid amount minus \$500 processing fee if the cancelled reservation is sold/transferred to somebody else by June 30, 2017.
- 50 % refund of paid amount if made on or before March 31, 2017.
- No refund will be issued after March 31, 2017.
- We highly recommend buying a travel insurance.
- Write check to USTMAAA and mail to USTMAAA Executive Office, P. O. Box 2240, Terre Haute, IN 47802