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48 hours in Calgary for the Artsy, Culturally Intrigued Traveler

Trip Summary

Day 1

Welcome to Calgary - Lindsay Gallant, Tourism Calgary

Brunch at Sidewalk Citizen Bakery in the Simmons Building

Architecture tour of the stunning Calgary Central Public Library - East Village, Central Library

Visit Studio Bell, Home of the National Music Centre - Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre

12:00 PM Take a late afternoon float down the Bow River with the Paddle Station - The Paddle Station

Dinner at Two Penny - Two Penny Chinese

Find your way into an evening speakeasy at Betty Lou's Library - Betty Lou's Library

Day 2

Weekend Brunch at Calcutta Cricket Club - Calcutta Cricket Club.

Stampede Art and the Wild West Walking Tour - CalgaryWalks & Bus Tours

Grab a bite to eat and catch a show at Lunchbox Theatre - Rosso Coffee Roasters, Lunchbox Theatre

Visit the Glenbow Museum - Glenbow Museum

Dinner at Bridgette Bar - Bridgette Bar

Day 1



Welcome to Calgary

Energetic, kind and engaging – we'd like to warmly welcome you to our city. We're eager to share the people and places that make our city unique, and help you uncover and share the best stories. Sure, we're on the doorstep of the iconic Canadian Rockies and we kick up our heels at the Stampede and numerous festivals every summer, but there's so much more to Calgary.

Great neighbourhoods. Music. BBQ. Bikes. Exhibits. Parks. Breweries. Warm and welcoming people.

Whether you've been to Calgary many times before or are still figuring out how to pronounce it, we welcome you.

(It's pronounced Cal-gree, for the record).

#capturecalgary #loveyyyc

Instagram [@TourismCalgary](#)

Twitter [@TourismCalgary](#)

Facebook [@TourismCalgary](#)



Lindsay Gallant, Tourism Calgary



Brunch at Sidewalk Citizen Bakery in the Simmons Building

Part historical landmark, part community gathering place and really big part food lovers' paradise, the Simmons Building is a unique culinary destination right in the heart of East Village, along the Bow River. Since opening in the summer of 2015, the former mattress factory has been home to three of the city's most sought-after gastronomic tenants. Find unique, globally inspired, local eats and cocktails at Charbar, have a cup of Calgary's best local joe at Phil and Sebastian Coffee Roasters and visit Sidewalk Citizen Bakery for some of Calgary's favourite lunch and sourdough bread that is to simply die for.

Sidewalk Citizen Bakery

At Sidewalk Citizen Bakery the inspiration for the menu is street food, created for hungry, working people, that is meant to be taken with you. The river is their ocean and they love the sun so they blended Mediterranean influences together with Canadian flavours.

Twitter: [@charbar_yyc](#) [@SidewalkSimmons](#) [@philandseb](#)

Instagram: [@charbar_yyc](#) [@sidewalkcitizen](#) [@philandseb](#)

Website: <https://www.evexperience.com/simmons>



Architecture tour of the stunning Calgary Central Public Library

Calgary Central Public Library

This new addition in the East Village redevelopment was named one of 2018's most anticipated buildings. There's something for everyone inside this stunning 240,000 square foot building, including on-site café Lukes, a Performance Hall, Children's Library, Teen Space, audio and video recording studios, public computers and Chromebook rentals, public art, and a collection of 450,000 items. This is a must-see piece of Calgary, offering Instagrammable photos from any angle.

General tours of the new Central Public Library begin at noon Monday through Friday. Discover the unique and innovative elements of Central Library's spaces, services, art and iconic architecture in a free public tour led by a volunteer guide. Registration is required, however there will be some drop-in spots available day of. If you are keen to attend [register here](#).

Architecture tours are offered Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday beginning at 11:30AM. This volunteer-guided tour highlights the creative construction process and iconic architecture of the Central Library, designed by the international firm Snøhetta and local firm DIALOG. Registration is require, however there will be some drop-in spots available day of. If you are keen to attend [register here](#).

Twitter: [@calgarylibrary](#)

Instagram: [@calgarylibrary](#)



East Village

Calgary, Alberta, CA



Central Library

616 Macleod Tr. SE, Calgary, AB, CA, T2G 2M2
(403) 260-2600



Visit Studio Bell, Home of the National Music Centre

Explore five floors of exhibitions that tell the story of music in Canada, celebrate music icons in the Canadian Halls of Fame, rock out with interactive instrument installations and sing along in our sound booths. Make sure to check out the restored King Eddy Hotel and take a peek at the famed Rolling Stones Mobile Studio. Music surges through ones soul while exploring Calgary's Canadian Music embassy, the first of it's kind in Canada. The building's architecture is said to be imagined as a living instrument, making every single element of Studio Bell embody all things music.

Twitter: [@nmc_canada](#)

Instagram: [@nmc_canada](#)

Website: <https://www.studiobell.ca/>



Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre

850 4 Street Southeast, Calgary, Alberta, CA, T2G
(403) 543-5115



12:00 PM - Mountain Time - 2 hr 30 min

Take a late afternoon float down the Bow River with the Paddle Station

On a warm summer day, nothing beats heading to the river en masse. The glacial fed river running through the mountains and flowing into the heart of Calgary divides the city, but unites the community. The Paddle Station will be your guide, making drifting on the river a breeze, all you have to do is show up! Offering a wide variety of kayaks and rafts, grab your friends for a fun-filled float or enjoy a relaxing solo kayak and enjoy the views of Calgary from a whole new perspective.

Instagram: [@paddlestation](#)

Twitter: [@paddlestationca](#)

Website: <https://www.paddlestation.ca/>



The Paddle Station

5227 13 Ave NW, Calgary, AB, CA, T3B 1J1
(403) 456-2418



Dinner at Two Penny

In its unique Shanghai art deco inspired space, Two Penny offers the perfect opportunity to share one of the world's favourite cuisines with an added hint of local flavour. Two Penny serves a menu of family-style Chinese dishes which pair perfectly with their inventive drink menu.

Two Penny offers an original twist on cocktails adding staple Asian flavours like sesame, ginger, soy and plum wine. Cocktails like this can't be found anywhere else in the city.

We recommend the Ginger Beef!

Another culinary creation gifted to the Canada from Calgary, ginger beef. In the 1970's Chef Wong began to push the boundaries, adding his own flare to a Northern Chinese dish here in Calgary's Chinatown. Calgarians begin fiending for the then "deep fried shredded beef in chili sauce". Word of this dish quickly caught fire and is now known across the country as an iconic dish, so iconic that it was it had even been included in the Royal Alberta Museum's *Chop Suey on the Prairies* exhibition.

Twitter: [@twopennychinese](#)

Instagram: [@twopennybar](#)

Website: <https://www.twopenny.ca/>



Two Penny Chinese

1213 1 St SW, Calgary, AB, CA, T2R 0V3



Find your way into an evening speakeasy at Betty Lou's Library

Perhaps the classiest speakeasy in Calgary is Betty Lou's Library. This secret hotspot requires a password that must be provided in order to enter the Prohibition-era and Parisian lounge hideaway. Make a reservation to reveal your password and Betty Lou's secret will reveal itself. This whole space oozes sophistication, and their cocktail list is no exception.

Instagram: [@bettylouslibrary](https://www.instagram.com/bettylouslibrary)

Website: <https://www.bettylouslibrary.com/>



Betty Lou's Library

908 17 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB, CA, T2T 0A3

(403) 454-4774

Day 2



Weekend Brunch at Calcutta Cricket Club

An East Indian restaurant and bar with vintage-style decor reminiscent of a 1960s social club meets "The Golden Girls". Bengali inspired cuisine, classic street snacks and family recipes. Dinner and weekend brunch. Located in the 17th Ave Retail & Entertainment District. Bengali inspired East Indian cuisine comes to Calgary with vintage decor that looks as good as the food tastes. The former hard-edged Bar C has been converted into a sultry Indian cafe with robust pastels of pink and green, wicker furniture and a colorful backdrop throughout. Talented artist, partner and now restaurant designer Gohill turned her hand to the job to create an engaging room that flows into a stunning alley patio. It's reminiscent of southeast Asian sidewalk and alley cafes — minus the traffic buzzing by mere centimeters away. Grab some bar snacks, try the traditional kati rolls, and stick around for brunch.

Twitter: [CalcuttaCricket](#)

Instagram: [calcuttacricket](#)

Website: <https://www.calcuttacricketclub.com/>



Calcutta Cricket Club.

340 17 Avenue Southwest, Calgary, AB, CA, T2S 0A8
(403) 719-1555



Stampede Art and the Wild West Walking Tour

Discover the harsh realities of prairie life for the first nations; experience the excitement of early settlers; and hear the "Dream" that created the **Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth**. Art found on the Calgary Stampede Grounds tell these stories and many more. Enjoy viewing these authentic pieces up close and personal while walking the grounds of the Calgary Stampede.



CalgaryWalks & Bus Tours

30 Saddlemead Way Northeast, Calgary, Alberta, CA, T3J 4J5



Grab a bite to eat and catch a show at Lunchbox Theatre

Lunchbox Theatre is recognized as one of the most successful noon hour theatre companies in the world, serving shows to downtown audiences during their lunch hour. From comedy to musicals to dramas, Lunchbox Theatre offer "one-act" plays, shorts told in a concise and creatively efficient manner, that deliver a unique experience to its audience – upbeat performances in an intimate and comfortable atmosphere.

Instagram: [@lunchboxyyc](#)

Twitter: [@lunchboxtheatre](#)

Website: <http://www.lunchboxtheatre.com/>

*Try something to go from **Rosso Coffee Roasters!***

Rosso Coffee Roasters is a community minded cafe with fresh pastries, breads, sandwiches, delicious coffee, and great hospitality. Coffee is purchased directly from producers in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Rwanda, Myanmar, Brazil, and Columbia. The Stephen Avenue location is a convenient stop along one of Calgary's most popular pedestrian pathways and walking distance to a vibrant collection of shopping, dining, and entertainment destinations.

Instagram: [@rossocofferoasters](https://www.instagram.com/rossocofferoasters)

Twitter [@RossoCoffeeCo](https://twitter.com/RossoCoffeeCo)

Website: <https://www.rossocofferoasters.com/>



Rosso Coffee Roasters

140 8 Ave SE, Calgary, AB, CA, T2G 0K6
(403) 264-7900



Lunchbox Theatre

160 115 9 Avenue Southeast, Calgary, AB, CA, T2G 0P5



Visit the Glenbow Museum

One of the largest museums in Western Canada, The Glenbow Museum is 'Where the World Meets the West' - where intriguing stories from Western Canada connect with extraordinary art and artifacts from around the world. Combining a museum, art gallery, library and archives all under one roof, Glenbow boasts over a million artifacts and some 28,000 works of art in its vast collections and is one of the largest museums in Canada. Celebrating 50 years of storytelling.

Instagram: [@glenbowmuseum](https://www.instagram.com/glenbowmuseum)

Twitter: [@Glenbow](https://twitter.com/Glenbow)

Website: <https://www.glenbow.org/>



Glenbow Museum

130 9 Avenue Southeast, Calgary, Alberta, CA, T2G 0P3
(403) 268-4100



Dinner at Bridgette Bar

Bridgette Bar is part *Mad Men* set, part re-born flour warehouse and part uptown chic. It's also the playground of chef JP Pedhirney and general manager Dewey Noordhof, both seasoned veterans of the local restaurant scene.

Pedhirney's menu revolves around Bridgette's huge wood-burning grill and oven where sausages and breads are grilled, cauliflower and ling cod are roasted and where rosemary-laced lamb sirloins are hung over the smoke to slowly absorb flavours.

Canada's Top 100 Restaurants 2019

Instagram: [@thebridgettebar](#)

Website: <http://www.bridgettebar.com/>



Bridgette Bar

739 10th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB, CA