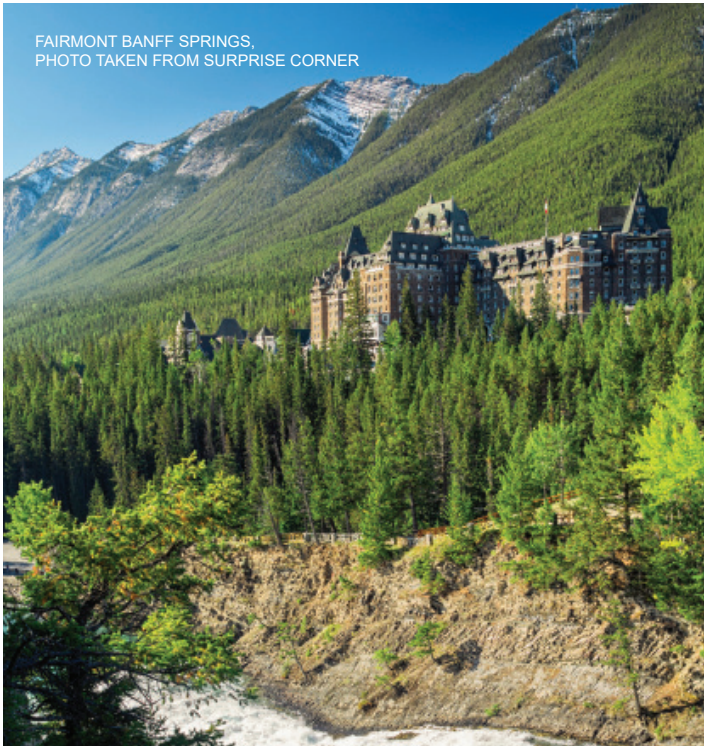


FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS.  
PHOTO TAKEN FROM SURPRISE CORNER



# 1888 CHOP HOUSE

The next chapter in the tradition of extraordinary dining at the Castle, 1888 Chop House brings the rich agricultural heritage of Alberta to the table.

Located at the Fairmont Banff Springs 403 762 6860 1888chophouse.com

## WELCOME TO THE FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS

Originally built in 1888 for the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) under the direction of Sir William Van Horne, the hotel was designed as a luxury resort to draw tourists into the wilderness of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. After the original wooden hotel was damaged by a fire, the Scottish Baronial style castle you see now was completed in 1928.

Now a National Historic Site of Canada and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Fairmont Banff Springs continues to cater to travellers from all around the world.

## ABOUT THIS TOUR

This tour was designed by our Hotel Ambassadors to take you through the oldest sections of the hotel. For more information about the history of the Fairmont Banff Springs, you will find books on the subject in the Fairmont Store located on the Lobby Level.

We invite you to explore the hotel at your leisure, and we thank you for being respectful of any groups or events that may be occupying the noted rooms.

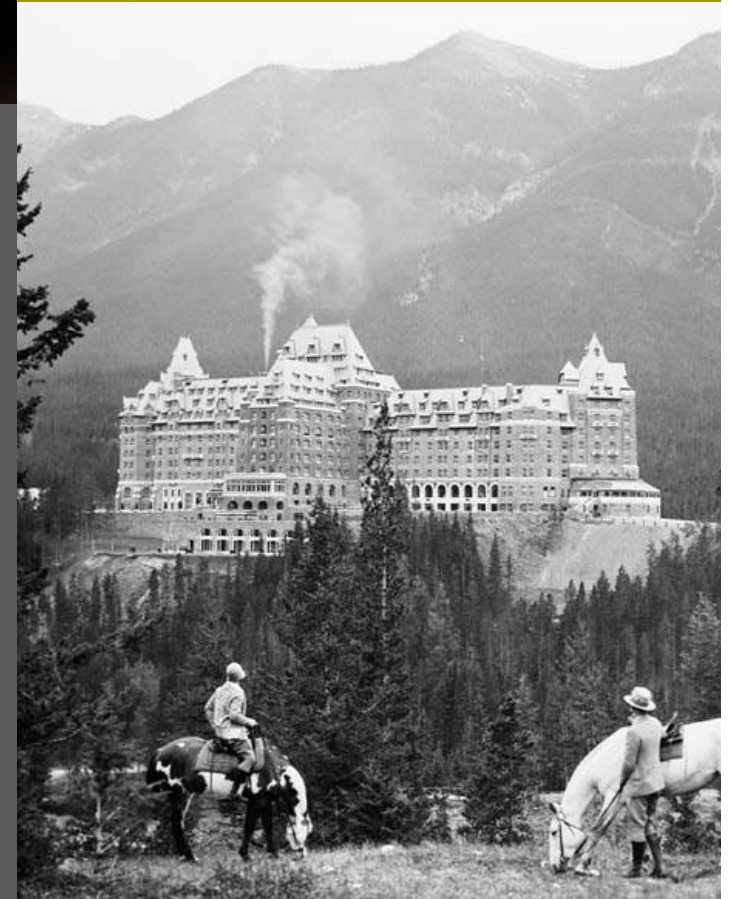
*Fairmont*  
BANFF SPRINGS

Fairmont Banff Springs  
405 Spray Avenue, P.O. Box 960  
Banff, Alberta  
Canada, T1L 1J4  
T 1 403 762 2211  
fairmont.com/banffsprings  
@FairmontBanff | #BanffSprings



SELF-GUIDED  
HISTORICAL TOUR

FAIRMONT  
BANFF SPRINGS





MT. STEPHEN HALL

### 3. SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Once you have walked to the end of Mt. Stephen Hall, make your way up the spiral staircase to the Alhambra foyer. This staircase is made of Tyndall stone from Garson, Manitoba. It is commonly used in parliamentary buildings throughout Canada.

While you ascend the stairs, note the lampshades which were bought from Tiffany's in 1928. Also, look for some prominent fossils in the steps which are over 450 million years old.

### 4. ALHAMBRA FOYER

The Alhambra was originally used as a dining room and ballroom for the hotel. In the foyer of the room you will see a relief of the Santa Maria above the fireplace. The brass doors leading to the Ballroom are replicas of the doors to the Alhambra Palace in Granada, Spain. Made in Montreal and installed in 1928, each door weighs one ton.

When you leave the Alhambra foyer, walk straight ahead down the Spanish Walk. At the far end of the Spanish Walk you will notice a painting of an Ontario landscape by Sir William Van Horne who chose to sign his name backwards. Below the painting is an example of a steamer trunk that hotel guests commonly used prior to World War II when travelling on steamships and railways. Guests often stayed at the hotel for 2-3 months, and often travelled with 8-10 of these trunks on a single voyage.



ALHAMBRA DOORS

### 1. HERITAGE HALL

To begin the tour, make your way up to Heritage Hall on Mezzanine Level 1 (above the front desk.) Take some time to browse through the photo gallery and display cases which touch upon the history of the hotel from 1888 up to the present day.

When you are ready to continue, turn right out of Heritage Hall and follow the hallway past the elevators to Mt. Stephen Hall.

### 2. MT. STEPHEN HALL

Mt. Stephen Hall was named after the first president of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) from 1881 to 1888. He was from the county of Banffshire, Scotland which is how the town of Banff was named. Renovated in 1928 after fire damaged the initial structure, there are five original elements in this room that remain to this day:

- The floor is Bedford Limestone from Bedford, Indiana.
- The windows have the stained glass coat of arms of the President and General Managers of the CPR at the time of construction. The center coat of arms on each window is that of the Dominion of Canada.
- The moulding of Lord Mount Stephen's coat of arms on the far wall.
- The ceiling is made of oak beams from Michigan, U.S.A.
- Attached to the beams are angels holding the provincial crests of Canada. Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut are missing as they were not part of the confederation at the time.

### 5. GRAPES WINE BAR

What is now Grapes Wine Bar was the original writing room of the hotel. This space was also used as a shop before the grape etchings were discovered during some renovations.

Between the elevator doors, you will notice the original mail chute that is still in use today!

### 6. RIVERVIEW LOUNGE

The Riverview Lounge is aptly named for its fantastic view of the Fairholme mountain range and Bow River. The windows were made in Czechoslovakia, weigh 300 pounds each and required custom made box cars to ship from Europe.

Towards the end of the hall is the hotel's largest wood burning fireplace which is faced with Tyndall stone and still operational to this day. Continue down the hallway to the Cascade Ballroom.

### 7. CASCADE BALLROOM

The Cascade Ballroom has played host to many weddings and dances over the years. It is the original ballroom for the hotel and was refurbished in 1997. The Conservatory, to the right of the Ballroom, was once a greenhouse and tea room.

(For some insight into the haunted history of the hotel, descend the spiral staircase in the oval room and look for the framed legend of the Ghost Bride.)

