# **SEVENTEEN GREAT REASONS TO GET ON A MOTOR COACH!**

## Reason Number One – Safe!

A motor coach is the safest form of travel for many reasons, outlined below, but given the current reality, the most important reason to travel motor coach is to allow customers to travel again while reducing the risk and spread of COVID19.

Motor coach operators from across Canada have come together to identify and adopt stringent cleaning protocols that go over and above the measures that were already in place to ensure that the vehicles you ride in are clean, disinfected and safe! As much as possible, all passengers are encouraged to wear face coverings prior to boarding and for the duration of the trip. To see the measures being taken by the motor coach industry to enhance customer confidence in a clean and safe travel experience, click here. Compared to air travel, where the capacity of an airplane can be hundreds of people, on a coach, there is never more than 55 other passengers in your shared space. If traveling with companions, the number of people that are unfamiliar to you drops even more. If traveling with a tour operator, the tour operator will conduct regular temperature checks and ensure anyone who not feeling well is checked against Public Health guidelines, and possibly even removed from the trip if found COVID symptomatic. Working with motor coach operators, tour operators have also adopted COVID measures to enhance customer safety. Click here to see the measures being taken by tour operators. (This needs to be confirmed with tour ops)

Along with our COVID countermeasures, coaches are economical, relaxing, reliable, and good for the environment.

A quick scan of media outlets shows a silver lining that has emerged with global lockdown. All over the world there are claims of the earth “healing”. Foliage growing where it previously had not, animals coming out of hiding and taking over city streets, smog lifting in extremely populous areas. As we move to recovery, it would be irresponsible to do so at the expense of the environmental progress that has occurred. Motor coaches are the most environmentally friendly way to travel and if mother earth is healing, do we really return to our old ways?

There are so many other good reasons to rethink motor coach travel and consider it as your first choice as travel resumes.

## Reason Number Two – Luxury!

This is not your grandmother’s bus. Coaches on the road today are true luxury vehicles. Some are equipped with hardwood floors and luxury seats. All coaches have comfortable reclining seats and moveable arm rests. For your comfort, there are individual air-conditioning vents, extra leg room and an onboard washroom. For your convenience, coaches are equipped with USB ports, electric outlets and WIFI.

## Reason Number Three – Relax!

You get to relax. For many people driving can be stressful and airline travel has its own stressors. Riding on a coach is truly a relaxing way to travel. There’s no need to stow your personal electronic devices at any point in your trip. Sure, our seats recline, but not so the passenger in front of you is in your lap. You don’t need to worry about traffic and aggressive drivers that cut you off or tailgate. No need to rely on your GPS or attempt, dangerously, to look at your smartphone to determine where to turn next. Simply get on board, sit back and relax.

## Reason Number Four – Reliability!

Hate being stuck at the airport or having to deal with lost luggage? There’s no chance of that when you travel by coach. Have you ever had to show up to a meeting with yesterday’s clothes on? Do you get frustrated by extensive flight delays, missed connections or, worse yet, flight is cancelled? Take a coach!

## Reason Number Five – Convenience!

You get to see the sites! Heading to a new destination? Motor coach day trips are the most efficient, cost effective and stress-free way to see all the best sites while maximizing your time. No need to plan your itinerary, worry about parking and time allotments to enjoy each venue. Your coach and tour operator will know all the greatest sites to see and just how long is needed to truly appreciate each one! See the top attractions and landmarks in the least amount of time by taking a coach!

## Reason Number Six – Appreciate the Journey!

Enjoy the journey. Fly and miss all the great sites out the window. Drive and you have to focus on the road. Take life a little slower, sit back relax and look out the large tinted window. Perhaps now more than ever, we should all take time to truly enjoy our surroundings.

## Reason Number Seven – Personal Touch!

Our drivers are the best in the industry! Not only are coach drivers highly trained to operate a coach safely on all roads and highways, but our drivers are the ambassadors of the industry. They will help you with your luggage, if you’d like, and offer safety information for your ride. Drivers are service agents on behalf of the group travel sector, and while they may not talk with you while operating the vehicle (for safety reasons), they are always there to lending a helping (glove covered) hand!

## Reason Number Eight – Rest!

Catch up on those much needed “zzzzz’s”. Life is so fast paced and much of your health depends on quality sleep. In fact, studies have shown that even a short nap can leave you feeling refreshed, re-energized, and ready to focus on tasks. So, go ahead, recline your seat and refresh yourself.

## Reason Number Nine – Productivity!

After a recharging nap, power up your laptop, tablet or smartphone and catch up on emails, homework, or that project you have been putting off. With WIFI on our coaches, we make it easy to stay connected. Take the time to reach out to someone and let them know you’re on a coach with plenty of time to chat and catch up!

## Reason Number Ten – Escape!

Perhaps catching up on social obligations, work, projects or homework has got you feeling fatigued. Escape with a movie you’ve been meaning to see. Perhaps the latest Hollywood action film that your spouse refuses to watch with you, or a love story that you decidedly want to enjoy alone, go ahead and enjoy the latest movies on our coach, and if you need it, we have tissues!

## Reason Number Eleven – Economical!

As a result of the COVID19 pandemic, Canadians are facing financial pressure unlike any other time in history. The cost shouldn’t stop you from getting away. Coach travel is more affordable than nearly every other form of travel, second only to driving, and with all the other benefits, you simply can’t go wrong choosing a motor coach. Not to mention, avoiding the added costs of getting to and from the airport, or paying for costly parking at the terminal. How about baggage fees? Passengers can pay upwards of $50 a bag when traveling by air, and if you’re bag is over the limit, those charges continue to increase. With a motor coach, there is no need to worry if you bought a few extra souvenirs!

As an added benefit, some motor coach and tour operators have bundle pricing to events and attractions.

## Reason Number Twelve – Low Risk!

Not only are motor coaches the safest way to travel, second only to air, but accident statistics maintained by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicate that a person is 1,097 times more likely to experience a fatal accident in your own car than aboard a motor coach. Additionally, motor coaches undergo the highest inspection checks on a regular basis, and drivers are highly trained professionals.

## Reason Number Thirteen – Secure!

Coaches will take you exactly where you need to be. No need to worry about ending up in a less than friendly neighborhood or arriving at the wrong hotel. You don’t have to wonder about the safety of parking areas or wait for airport shuttles in sketchy, unoccupied (and in winter, COLD!) “huts”.

## Reason Number Fourteen – Social!

With social distancing measures starting to ease and groups able to convene once again, motor coach travel is an ideal way to get social while you travel! Perhaps you have considered traveling with your extended family? Perhaps your parents want to travel with you and spend time with the grandkids? How about a group of college friends looking to get away on a group trip? Perhaps your siblings have same aged kids that get along and play well together. Plan a group trip! You won’t have to coordinate multiple plans and meet-ups of multiple vehicles and you can all sit close together.

## Reason Number Fifteen – Environmental Responsibility!

You care about Mother Earth! You recycle, you take public transit or ride your bike in the nicer weather. You’ve traded in your eight seat SUV for a compact, or perhaps you’ve decided against car ownership altogether. More and more millennials are abandoning the once revered “right of passage” associated with getting your license and owning your first car. A reduction in personal vehicle ownership is helping to reduce our carbon footprint, but it shouldn’t hinder travel. Motor coaches are the most environmentally friendly mode of transportation. For every full coach on the road, potentially up to 56 passenger cars are removed from the road, which means less green house gas emissions. Motor coach engines are designed to work more efficiently using less fuel and helping our environment.

Here is an analysis of the average carbon dioxide emissions per passenger-mile:

• Motorcoach – 75 grams

• Heavy Rail – 160 grams

• Passenger Car (4 people) – 100 grams

• Passenger Car (3 people) – 140 grams

• Passenger Car (2 people) – 180 grams

• Domestic Air – 190 grams

• Passenger Car (1 person) – 230 grams

## Reason Number Sixteen – Accessible!

Not everyone has the ability to get around with ease. More and more Canadians face mobility challenges or disabilities that pose challenges with traditional travel options. However, motor coach operators have supported the efforts by the Canadian Transportation Agency to regulate and mandate accessible transportation for all. Motor coach operators already adhered to a voluntary “Code of Practice” developed by Transport Canada as a means to ensure that passengers with needs requiring assistance are able to travel. Whether wheelchair or walker, visual or audible challenge, in need of a support person or other, you will find that the motor coach sector is prepared to meet your needs and ensure a safe and enjoyable travel experience for all.

## Reason Number Seventeen – Trip Planning!

Many tour operators work with coach operators to conduct multi day motor coach tours. These can include sites and attractions or destinations within Canada or beyond. Taking a motor coach tour avoids all the added hassles of care rentals, fuel costs, booking hotels and dealing with vehicle breakdowns (which do happen, of course, but we are prepared for that too!). Taking a motor coach tour provides the added benefit of a tour director on the coach to resolve any issues that may arise, stick to the scheduled itinerary and provide insight on the places and things you will see along the way.