



CULTURAL EXPLORER

You seek constant opportunities to embrace, discover, and immerse yourself in the entire experience of the culture, people and settings of the places you visit. Not content to just visit historic sites and watch from the sidelines, you want to participate in the modern-day culture as well. You often attempt to converse with locals, attend local cultural festivals, or go off the beaten track to discover how people truly live.

BAR U RANCH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA

Founded in 1882 in the foothills of Alberta's Rocky Mountains, the ranch has tons of stories to share. Can you believe that its famous visitors ranged from the Prince of Wales – who liked the cowboy lifestyle so much that he bought his own ranch next to Bar U – to the infamous bankrobber and horsebreaker the Sundance Kid?

You hop aboard a wagon pulled by a team of Percheron horses to get a special tour of the site. As the driver hands you the reins, he tells you about the history of this breed of draft horse. Did you know that Bar U was a world-famous Percheron breeder at the turn of the 20th century?

You get off at the harness shop and spend a moment with Lewis the Poet. As you stamp a decorative design on a belt, he tells you a poem that describes the eccentric personality of Fred Stimson, the first manager of the ranch.

After a roping session with one of the ranch hands, you head toward the roundup camp. Around the open fire, you enjoy the simple pleasure of thick cowboy coffee. You could spend hours here listening to stories about life on the open range, when cowboys spent months away from home. At night, after the animals were secured in their corral, the men would remove their dusty chaps and their bandannas, and would gather round the campfire for some coffee and bannock bread – just as you're doing now!

Speak to our Visitor Experience Advisor to make the most of your visit!

www.canada.travel/en

FOR THE CULTURAL EXPLORER WE SUGGEST...

Gentle Giants - Hop aboard a wagon pulled by a team of Percherons and feel the strength of these massive – but gentle - horses. The driver will tell you more about this breed and why it was bred at the ranch. He might even let you drive the wagon for a while!

Leather and Poems - At the harness shop, learn how to stamp a belt with a decorative pattern. If Lewis is here, he might tell you a couple of poems about life on the open range or at the ranch.

Roundup Camp - Around the fire, guides tell stories about famed ranch hands who worked on the open range. Listen to them while you enjoy the simple pleasure of cowboy coffee and bannock bread.

Famous – and infamous – characters - Ask a guide to tell you about the Prince of Wales' visit in 1919. The ranch he purchased next door to Bar U was called the EP Ranch. Bankrobber Harry Longabaugh – aka the Sundance Kid – also spent some time here. He worked as a horsebreaker before he embarked on his outlaw journey in the USA.